



Recovery of *Orkim Harmony*

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Incident Update

Name of vessel : *Orkim Harmony*
Type of vessel : Oil product tanker
Flag of vessel : Malaysia
IMO number : 9524671
GT : 5081

Background

1. On 12 Jun 15, the ReCAAP ISC promulgated an Incident Alert about the loss of communication of a Malaysia-registered oil product tanker, *Orkim Harmony*. The company had last received *Orkim Harmony*'s hourly position update on 11 Jun 15 at or about 2054 hrs (local time). Subsequent attempts to contact the vessel on all available communications were not successful.



Orkim Harmony
(photo courtesy of shipping company)

Orkim Harmony's last known position was at approximately 17 nm southwest of Pulau Aur, Malaysia (02° 08.90' N 104° 27.30' E). Refer to the ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert 05/2015.

2. The Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) and the Indonesian Navy has reportedly deployed patrol boats to search for *Orkim Harmony*. *Orkim Harmony* was carrying 6,000 metric tonnes of ULG 95 (petrol) and 22 crew comprising 16 Malaysians, five Indonesians and one Myanmar national.

Sighting of *Orkim Harmony*

3. On 17 Jun 15, the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG), which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Vietnam), informed the ReCAAP ISC that they had been notified by MMEA that an Australian patrol aircraft had localized a vessel at 09° 21' N 102° 44' E, approximately 84 nm southwest of Phu Quoc in the Gulf of Thailand on 17 Jun 15 at or about 1446 hrs (local time). The vessel renamed '*Kim Harmon*' matches the description of *Orkim Harmony*. Unconfirmed reports indicate that the vessel was loitering in the area waiting for another vessel to transfer the cargo *Kim Harmon* was carrying.

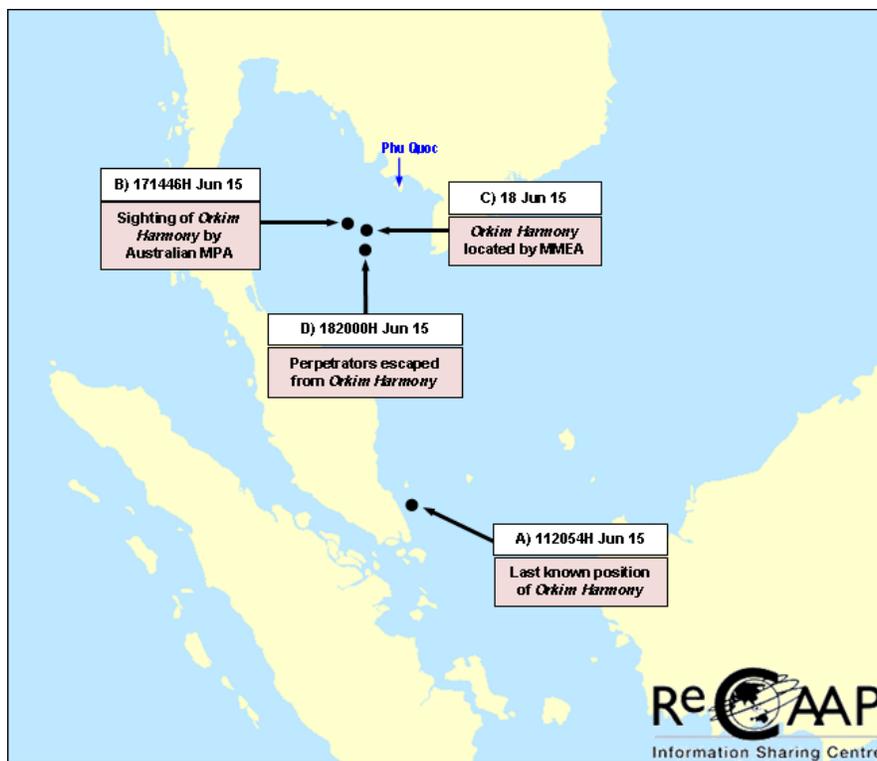


Photograph of vessel taken by Australian patrol aircraft

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4. Upon receipt of the information, the VCG despatched two patrol ships to the area to search for the tanker. The Royal Thai Navy (RTN) which is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand) and the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) had also standby with their assets to be deployed. The VCG reported that an MMEA aircraft had flown over the area, and the vessel was reported to be located at 09° 10' N 103°10' E. Two Malaysian ships, *KD Terengganu* (RMN) and *KM Amanah* (MMEA) were deployed to the area to take over *Orkim Harmony*.

5. Reportedly, the perpetrators managed to escape and the authorities were tracking their whereabouts. At or about 0050 hrs on 19 Jun 15, the crew was reported to be safe except for one crew who was injured. *Orkim Harmony* and crew are currently on the way back to Kuantan, Malaysia.



Approximate locations of the *Orkim Harmony* on 11, 17 and 18 Jun 15

Comments by the ReCAAP ISC

6. The ReCAAP ISC commends the timely information provided by the VCG, the cooperation among the regional authorities and their respective responses that brought about the recovery of the hijacked vessel. The ReCAAP ISC is working closely with the VCG and MMEA to determine what had happened to *Orkim Harmony* since 11 Jun 15.