

Incident Report: 15/2009

Date/Time of Incidents: 19 September 2009 at 0020 hrs

Location of incidents: 03° 20.01' N, 105°19.50' E

Area Description: Off Anambas Island, South China Sea

Name and Type of Ship: *Prospect* /LPG tanker

Details of Incident

At about 0020 hrs (local time) on 19 September 2009, a Singapore-registered LPG tanker, the *Prospect* was underway in the South China Sea when six pirates boarded the tanker at position 03° 20.01' N, 105°19.50' E, off Anambas island.

The pirates armed with knives and machetes were sighted at the navigation bridge. They hit the duty officer on his head and forced him to bring them to the cabins of the Captain and Chief Officer who handed over cash and their personal effects to the pirates.

Subsequently, the pirates left the tanker, and the crew activated the ship security alert. Apart from the duty officer who suffered some bruises, the other crew was not injured. The ship was carrying a full complement of 21 crew consisting of 11 Indian nationals, nine Filipinos and one Sri Lankan.

The shipping company reported the incident to Singapore's Port Operations Control Centre (POCC) who initiated a broadcast about the incident on NAVTEX to warn ships in the vicinity. The Singapore's POCC who is also the ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore) reported the incident to the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC), all the ReCAAP Focal Points, the Singapore Coast Guard, the MRCC Putra Jaya, Malaysia and the Baden SAR Nasional (BASARNAS), Indonesia.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

Ship masters and crew are advised to maintain vigilance when operating in the vicinity at all time.

