

Incident Alert

Incident Report: 22/2010

Date/Time¹ of Incident: 18 Aug 10 at or about 0350 hrs

Location of incident: 3° 05' N, 105° 24' E

Area Description: Approximately 11 nm west of Pulau Mangkai

Name and Type of Ship: *Vinalines Star*, Bulk carrier

Details of Incident

On 18 Aug 10 at or about 0350 hrs, a Vietnam-registered bulk carrier, *Vinalines Star* was underway at position 3° 05' N, 105° 24' E (approximately 11 nm west of Pulau Mangkai, Indonesia) when six robbers boarded the vessel via the starboard quarter. The robbers armed with knives, entered the bridge, tied up the duty officer and a member of the crew. They brought the crew to the Master's cabin and other crew's cabins, and stole cash and their valuables. The Master was held hostage until the robbers left the vessel. The crew was not injured.

Reported by

Maritime Security Task Force – Information Fusion Centre (MSTF-IFC)

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

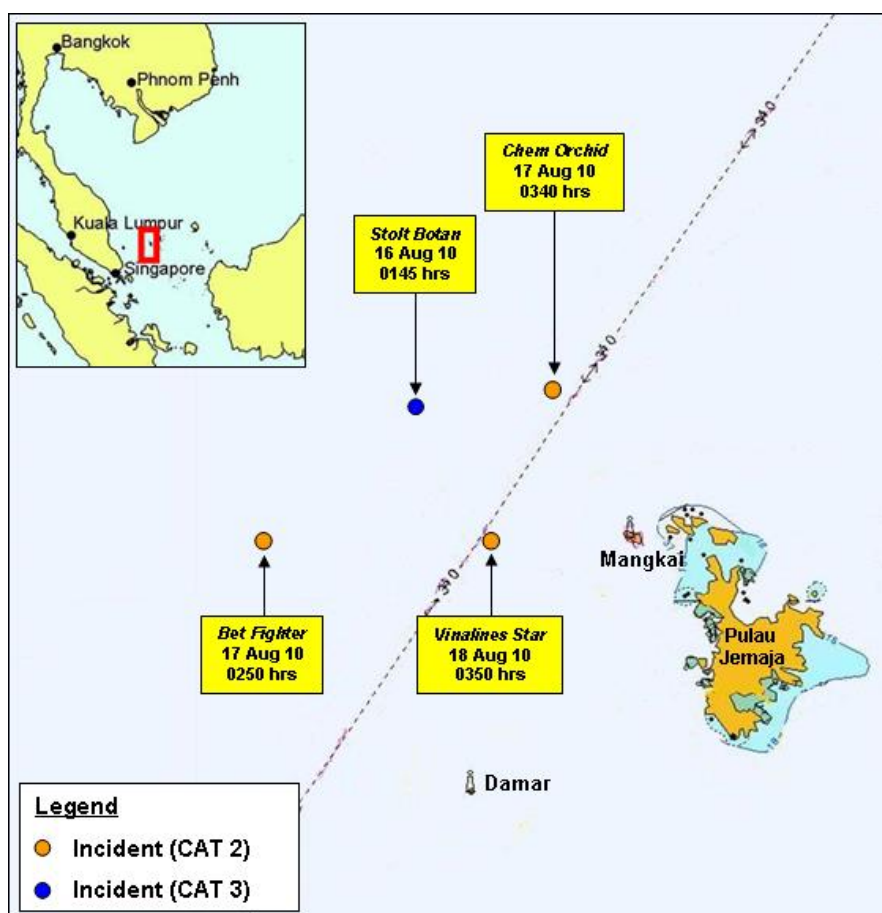
This is fourth incident occurred off Pulau Mangkai involving ships while underway during the period 16 – 18 Aug 10. The previous three incidents occurred in the vicinity involved chemical tanker, *Stolt Botan* on 16 Aug 10 at or about 0145 hrs; bulk carrier, *Bet Fighter* on 17 Aug 10 at or about 0250 hrs; and product tanker, *Chem Orchid* on 17 Aug 10 at or about 0340 hrs. (Refer to ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert 21/2010 published on 18 Aug 10 for detailed description of the previous three incidents).

¹ Expressed in local time



The ReCAAP ISC notes that the four incidents occurred on consecutive days during the period of 16-18 Aug 10. Refer to map below on the location of the incidents. This pattern of incidents occurring on consecutive days was also observed in past incidents reported in the vicinity throughout 2008 and 2009. (Refer to the ReCAAP ISC Special Report dated 18 Jun 10 on 'Situation Update off the Islands of Anambas, Natuna and Mangkai').

Given the time and space, and modus operandi of the pirates/robbers, it is possible that more than one group of the pirates/robbers was involved in the incidents, and they may strike again as they could be still lurking in the area. Ship masters operating in the vicinity are advised to exercise vigilance and take precautionary measures when transiting the area with enhanced aft lookouts.



Approximate location of incidents

