

Incident Report: 23/2010

Date/Time¹ of Incident: 30 Aug 10 at or about 0254 hrs

Location of incident: 2° 59.7' N, 105° 12.2' E

Area Description: Approximately 24.3nm southwest of Pulau Mangkai

Name and Type of Ship: *Ideal Bulker*, Bulk carrier

Details of Incident

On 30 Aug 10 at or about 0254 hrs, a Hong Kong-registered bulk carrier, *Ideal Bulker* was underway at position 2° 59.7' N, 105° 12.2' E (approximately 24.3nm southwest of Pulau Mangkai) when six pirates in a small craft boarded the vessel from the stern. The pirates, who were armed with long knives, took control of the bridge; and tied up the bridge duty crew and anti-piracy watch with ropes. The pirates then forced the electric engineer to bring them to the Master's cabin, where they attempted to enter the cabin. The Master raised the alarm and escaped through the porthole. The crew was mustered and they approached the Master's cabin. Upon seeing the crew being alerted, the pirates escaped with two binoculars and two sets of walkie talkies stolen from the bridge.

The Master suffered injuries while escaping through the porthole and the electric engineer suffered head injuries when the pirates assaulted him. The Master reported the incident to the Hong Kong MRCC.

Reported by

ReCAAP Contact Point (Hong Kong)

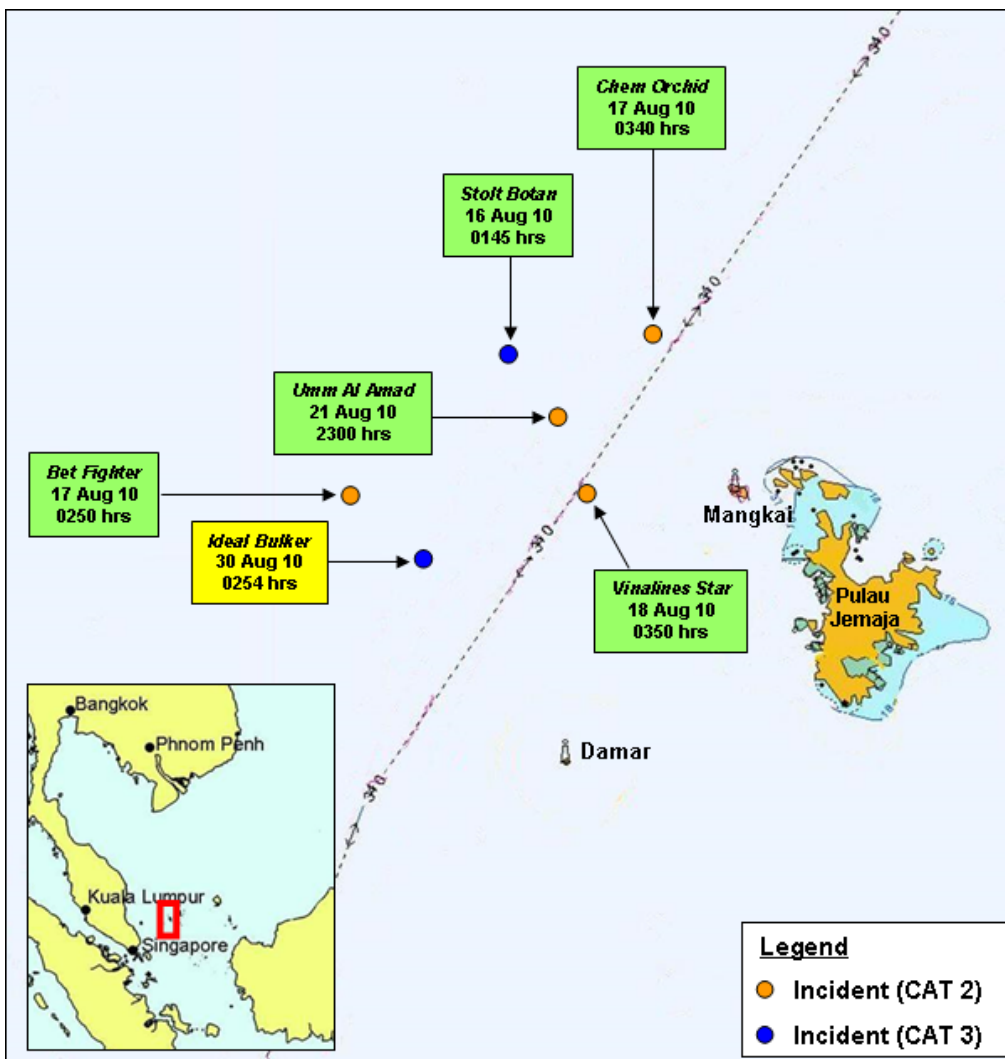
¹ All timings of incidents in this Incident Alert are expressed in local time.

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

This is the sixth incident that has occurred off Pulau Mangkai involving ships while underway in August 2010. The previous five 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; product tanker, *Chem Orchid* on 17 Aug 10 at or about 0340 hrs; bulk carrier, *Vinalines Star* on 18 Aug 10 at or about 0350 hrs; and LNG tanker, *Umm Al Amad* on 21 Aug 10 at or about 2300 hrs. (Refer to ReCAAP ISC Incident Alert 21/2010 and 22/2010 published on 18 Aug 10 and 19 Aug 10 respectively for detailed description of the incidents involving *Stolt Botan*, *Bet Fighter*, *Chem Orchid* and *Vinalines Star*.)

The ReCAAP ISC observed that incidents occurring in the vicinity of Pulau Mangkai tend to occur on consecutive days. Therefore, ship masters operating in the vicinity, especially for the next 72 hours, are advised to exercise vigilance and take necessary precautionary measures to avoid boarding by pirates/robbers. Ship masters are also advised to report all actual and attempted incidents to the nearest coastal State immediately.





Approximate location of incidents

