

<b>Incident Report</b>	:	08/2014
<b>Name and Type of Ship</b>	:	V.L. 14 / Oil product tanker
<b>Date/Time of Incident</b>	:	28 Aug 14 at or about 2040 hrs (local time)
<b>Location of incident</b>	:	03° 24' N, 104° 04.80' E
<b>Area Description</b>	:	Approximately 30 nm north of Pulau Tioman, Malaysia

## Details of Incident

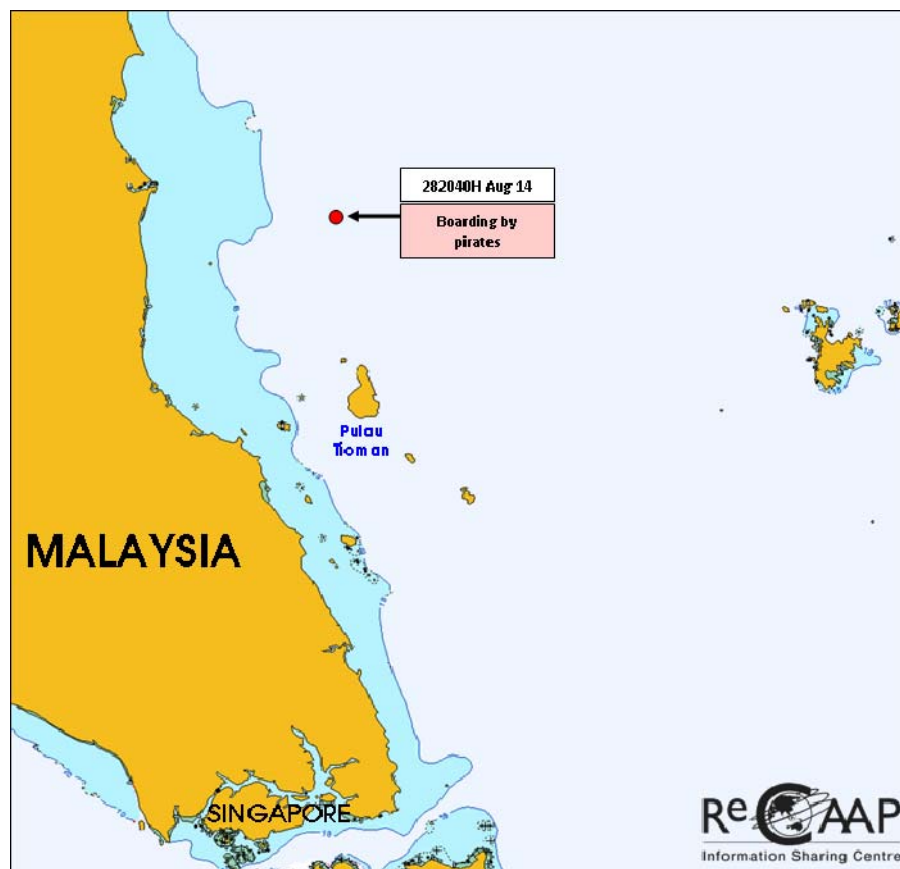
1. On 28 Aug 14 at or about 2040 hrs, six pirates armed with guns boarded a Thailand-registered oil product tanker, V.L. 14 at approximately 30 nm north of Pulau Tioman (03° 24' N, 104° 04.80' E). The vessel of 1074 GT was enroute from Singapore to Bangkok, carrying 1,296 tonnes of lube oil. The pirates came alongside in a wooden speed boat, approached the vessel on the portside, and boarded from stern. They broke the bridge glass, gained access to the crew cabins and gathered the crew in the engine room.



2. The pirates took control of the vessel, sailed about 10 nm away from the location of boarding. They ordered the crew to open all cargo valves, activate the cargo pump and transfer the lube oil to two tankers which came alongside. The pirates also stole the crew's personal belongings, damaged the navigational and communication system before they left V.L. 14 at or about 0400 hrs on 29 Aug 14. The crew repaired the windlass back to service temporarily, heaved up the anchor, sailed towards Pulau Tioman and reported the incident to the company. The crew was not injured.

3. Upon receiving report about the incident from the ship owner on 29 Aug 14, the ReCAAP ISC alerted the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) and triggered the ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand) to follow up with the investigation of the incident.





*Approximate location of incident of boarding*

## Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand), ship owner

## Comments by ReCAAP ISC

4. The ReCAAP ISC urges all ship master and crew to exercise enhanced vigilance, keep a sharp look-out for suspicious boats while operating in the vicinity; and report all incidents to the nearest coastal State and flag State immediately. This is the eighth incident involving siphoning fuel/oil in 2014. The ReCAAP ISC is concerned and had published a Special Report on “Incidents of siphoning of fuel/oil at sea in Asia” in July 2014. The report features the modus operandi of pirates/robbers involved in these incidents, shares lessons learned and recommends appropriate countermeasures to be adopted by the authorities and the shipping industry collectively. The report is available at the ReCAAP ISC website at [www.recaap.org](http://www.recaap.org).

