



Incident Update

Product Tanker, *Orapin 4*

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Incident Update

Name of vessel : *Orapin 4*
Type of vessel : Product tanker
Flag of vessel : Thailand
IMO number : 8210027
GT : 1924

Orapin 4
(Photograph courtesy of shipping company)



Background

1. On 30 May 14, the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) issued an Incident Alert 04/2014 (as attached) following a report from the shipping company that he lost contact with his product tanker, *Orapin 4*. The Thailand-registered product tanker, *Orapin 4* departed Singapore on 27 May 14 at or about 1500 hrs for Pontianak, Indonesia with 3,975¹ metric tonnes of Automative Diesel Fuel (ADF) onboard. The vessel was scheduled to arrive in Pontianak, Indonesia on 29 May 14 at or about 1300 hrs (local time).

Last communication and latest position of *Orapin 4*

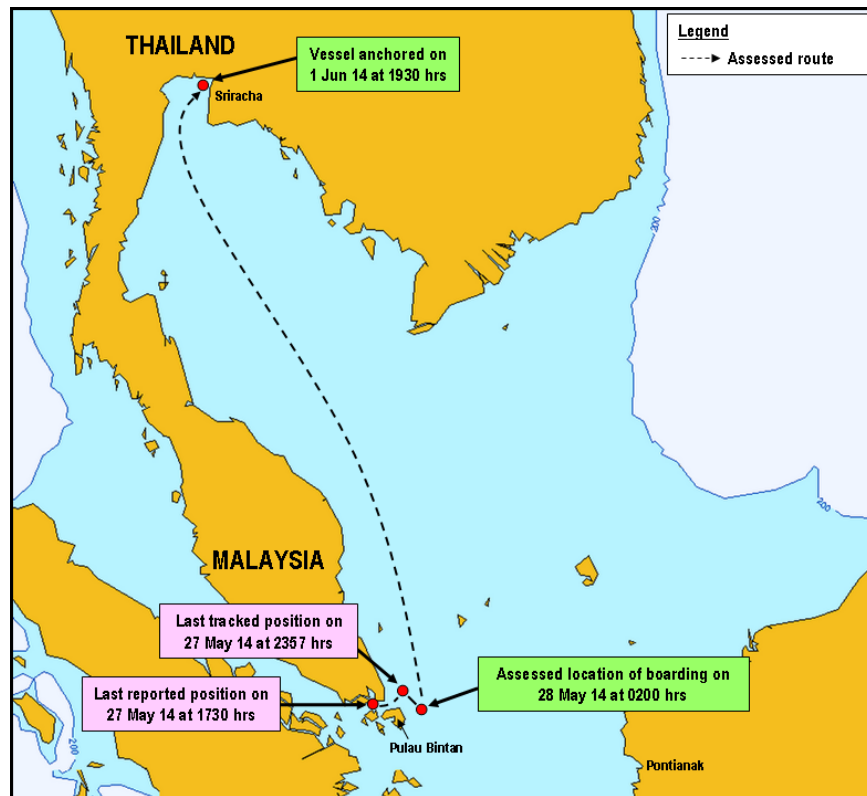
2. On 28 May 14 at or about 1200 hrs (local time), the shipping company contacted *Orapin 4* via email but did not receive a reply. The tanker did not arrive in Pontianak on 29 May 14 as scheduled. The company last contacted the tanker on 27 May 14 at or about 1730 hrs (local time) when the tanker was approximately 3.64 nm north of Pulau Batam, Indonesia. The last tracked position of *Orapin 4* on 27 May 14 at or about 2357 hrs (local time) was approximately 19.47 nm north of Pulau Bintan, Indonesia on a course of 053.5° and speed 9 knots. On 1 Jun 14, *Orapin 4* arrived at Sriracha Port, Chon Buri, Thailand at or about 1930 hrs (local time). All 14 crew of Thai nationality was safe, and the master upon arrival reported the incident to the local police station.

What happened to *Orapin 4* at sea?

3. The shipping company informed the ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand) who in turn reported to the ReCAAP ISC that at or about 0200 hrs (local time) on 28 May 14, 10 pirates armed with guns and knives boarded the tanker from a speed boat at a location which was about 19 nm off Indonesia in the South China Sea (exact location was not mentioned). The pirates painted the ship name from *ORAPIN 4* to *RAPI*, and destroyed the communication equipment onboard, with intention to mask the identity of the tanker and cut off all communications while at sea. The pirates tied the crew and proceeded to the bridge to control the tanker. Another tanker came alongside and approximately 3,700 metric tonnes of ADF was siphoned from *Orapin 4*. The pirates took about 10

¹ Previously reported 3,377 metric tonnes

hours for siphoning before leaving the tanker and crew with enough fuel to sail back to shore. Refer to map on the approximate positions and assessed location of boarding.



Approximate positions and assessed location of boarding

Comments by the ReCAAP ISC

4. The modus operandi of this incident was similar to the incident involving Thailand-registered oil tanker, *Sri Phangnga* on 17 Apr 14 when 16 pirates armed with guns and swords boarded *Sri Phangnga* at about 18 nm off Tanjung Sedili, Malaysia. The pirates painted over the ship name and logo, damaged the ship communication system, and siphoned 450 metric tonnes of MOGAS to a small-sized tanker which came along *Sri Phangnga*.

5. The ReCAAP ISC commends the relevant authorities, governmental organisations, enforcement agencies and shipping company for their efforts in information sharing and operational follow-ups. The ReCAAP ISC continues to be a conduit for the stakeholders by providing timely situation update, sharing lessons learned and recommending countermeasures to adopt to avoid similar incident from recurring. To do this, the ReCAAP ISC reiterates the need for timely reporting and information sharing by ship master and ship owner/operator with ReCAAP Focal Points and coastal States; and the relevant authorities and enforcement agencies to enhance cooperation in information sharing and increase in surveillance and patrols in areas of concern.

Incident Alert

Annex A

Incident Report : 04/2014

Name and Type of Ship : *Orapin 4* / product tanker

Date/Time of Incident : 27 May 14 at or about 1730 hrs (local time)

Location of incident : 01° 14.68' N, 104° 03.10' E (last known position)

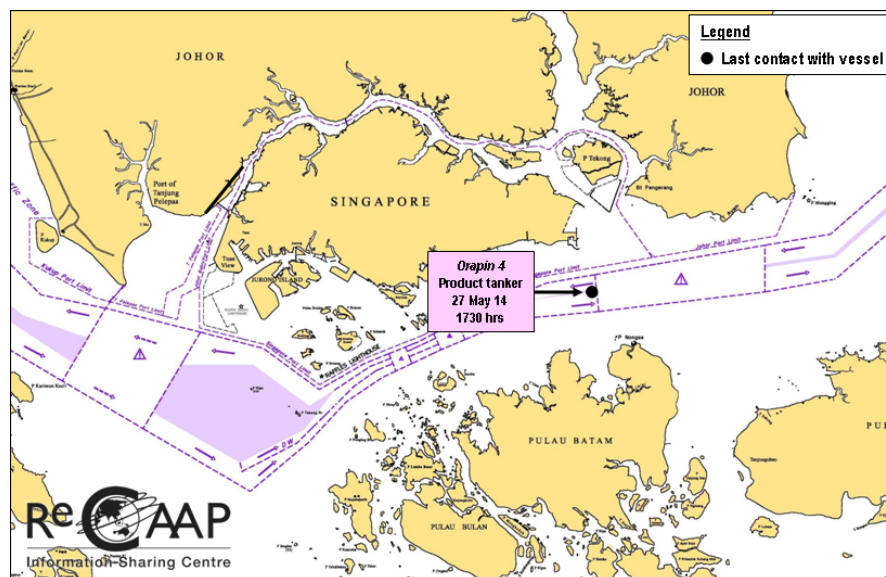
Area Description : Approximately 3.64 nm north of Pulau Batam, Indonesia

Details of Incident

1. On 27 May 14 at or about 1500 hrs (local time), a Thailand-registered product tanker, *Orapin 4* departed Singapore for Pontianak, Indonesia with 3,377 metric tonnes of Automotive Diesel Fuel (ADF) onboard. The vessel was scheduled to arrive in Pontianak, Indonesia on 29 May 14 at or about 1300 hrs (local time).



2. On 28 May 14 at or about 1200 hrs (local time), the shipping company had tried to contact *Orapin 4* via email but did not receive a reply. The tanker did not arrive in Pontianak on 29 May as scheduled. The last known position of the product tanker on 27 May 14 at 1730 hrs was approximately 3.64 nm north of Pulau Batam, Indonesia (01° 14.68' N, 104° 03.10' E). See approximate location below.



Approximate location of last contact

3. There were 14 crew, all Thai nationals onboard *Orapin 4*. The ReCAAP ISC had alerted the ReCAAP Focal Points and maritime authorities in the region, including the Malaysian and Indonesian authorities to look out for the missing vessel.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (Thailand)
Shipping company

Comments by ReCAAP ISC

4. The ReCAAP ISC urges vessels in the vicinity to look out for *Orapin 4* and report sightings of the missing vessel to the Royal Thai Navy Maritime Information Sharing Centre (RTN MISC) at T: +6624755432, F: +6624755477 (miscdutyofficer@misc.go.th) and the nearest coastal State.