

Tanker hijackers escape in ship's rescue boat
The Malaysian Insider
Jun 19, 2015

The hijackers of MT Orkim Harmony have escaped with the ship's rescue boat, national news agency Bernama reports.

Quoting navy chief Admiral Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Jaafar, it also said the ship's crew would be escorted to Kuantan port and were expected to arrive at 2am tomorrow.

It also reported that all of the ship's crew were freed at 2.30am today, according to the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency.

But added that one of them sustained light injuries.

The Star reported today that there were four navy ships and two Super Lynx helicopters tailing the tanker on Thursday night.

It said that the vessel, first reported to be adrift in Cambodian waters, changed course to the east towards Natuna Island, Indonesia.

Aziz earlier said the pirates, dubbed as "part-timers on a maiden voyage", appeared to have no more interest in the RM21 million worth of RON95 petrol (6,000 metric tonnes) cargo, but were more concerned with their escape.

Some 15 assets were used in the search and rescue effort involving authorities from Malaysia and Australia to find the tanker, which was reported missing at 8.57pm last Thursday while on its way to Kuantan port from Malacca.

The tanker was spotted at 3.45pm on Wednesday by Australian's anti-submarine and maritime surveillance aircraft P-3C Orion at the 210nm off Pulau Redang near the Gulf of Thailand.

MT Orkim Harmony, owned by Magna Meridian Sdn Bhd, was also carrying a crew of 22 comprising 16 Malaysians, five Indonesians and a Myanmar national, when it lost contact.

The hijacking incident last Thursday is the fifth incident reported this year in Malaysian waters. – June 19, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/tanker-hijackers-escape-with-ships-rescue-boat#sthash.nLdfJIuO.dpbs>