

General National Maritime Transport Company

Date: 24.12.2018

Messrs. Crisis committee of General National Maritime Transportation Company

This is to inform you that on Friday dated 21.12.2018 at 12:20 PM we were notified by Bourgas Traffic via V.H.F radio channel 11 that a boat carrying the police and Harbor master will be coming to the vessel. At the same time, the boat, a blue & white police boat No.531, was very close to the vessel and at the front of the boat there were two policemen wearing the official uniforms and carrying their weapons. I tried to contact the insurance department (Mr. Mohamed Dana) to no avail since no signal was available (all communications were jammed). When the policemen boarded the vessel it was found that they were over ten police officers. Simultaneously, there was another boat approaching the tanker which was the boat of the Harbor master, from which other large number of personnel wearing military uniforms boarded the vessel. It was later found out that they were the personnel of a private security company named BASHEN SECURITY & TEAM as written on their caps. Additionally, Two policemen of the Bulgarian border police and several persons wearing civilian clothing board the vessel.

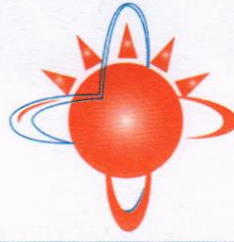
The policemen assembled the crew in the dining hall, and I was taken to the vessel control cabin accompanied by about 4 policemen, 4 personnel of the security company and persons wearing civilian clothing. I was then informed by the commanding officer that they will change the crew as per the orders issued to them, so I asked them to allow

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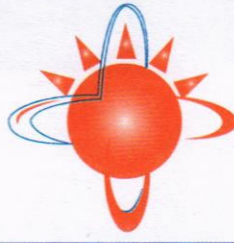


me to contact the vessel owner to inform them of this issue, but he refused and told me that communications are prohibited and that I could not use any type of communication with any person or entity whatsoever, taking into consideration that they brought with them communications jamming device.

When I insisted that I must make a contact,, the commanding officer told me that the personnel of marine authority will be coming shortly and that they are the ones who solely decide whether I can make a contact or not.

After about twenty minutes, two persons wearing civilian clothing boarded the tanker and identified themselves at one time as being the marine authority and another time as the vessel owner, so I asked them to show me any papers or documents to prove his claim and he refused and told me that he was not obligated to give any paper. So I asked him to allow me to contact the owner or the lawyer to inform them but he refused and after several attempts he allowed me to make contact (thinking that the communications were not working) and I used my personal mobile phone but I found there was no signal (and then I knew what was that black device they placed in the control cabin) so I automatically took vessel satellite phone while they were looking thinking that it will not work either or due to their lack of knowledge of such phone. I managed to contact Mr. Mohamed Dana and told him that the police were onboard the tanker and that they will take the tanker by force. Then a personnel of the security company came to me hurriedly, pushed me and unplugged the communication cable and proceeded to rebuke the police officer who stood silent(and then I knew that policemen were for coverage only; they



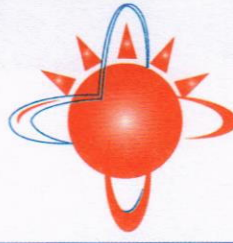


were powerless and that the personnel of the security company had all the power). They made sit on a chair, talked to me loud and prevented me from even drinking water.

They continued to talk to me loudly for a while asking me to leave the vessel, which I refused to do. After a while, the second officer (from the crew) entered the control cabin with two persons because he wanted to take an object of his which was in the control cabin so I asked him to inform the crew not to leave the vessel unless order by the vessel Master, and then a commotion happened between the protection personnel and the civilian person. I later found out that they took the second officer and isolated from the crew and they allowed to disembark only after all the other crew descended so as to prevent him from communicating the instruction of the vessel Master to the crew.

The conversation was continued, sometimes quietly, for a while by the person who identified himself as the owner. He said that he prepared everything for us in terms of accommodation, transport, air tickets and even pocket money, and I when I refused what he said he began to talk aggressively in a threatening tone saying that I was a criminal because I was staying in his property without his legal permission, that he will transport me to jail and that I have no right to speak; but I did not heed his words and told him not to speak to me and that I wanted the police or the marine authority officer to speak with me. At this point a civilian person stood up and told me that he is marine authority officer so I asked him for his identification which he gave me written in Bulgarian which I did not understand. After a while, a policemen began calling me saying "Captain! Come and see your crew" so then I stood up and went to the glass panel of the control cabin and I





saw the crew gathered with their suitcases and there was with them a large number of the security company personnel and the policemen; I kept looking at them for a while until I noticed that a number of them were looking in the direction of the control cabin so I signaled to them with my hand not to leave, and then two personnel of the security company attacked me, pushed me away from the glass, made me sit on the chair and asked not to move nor speak. Thereafter, the civilian person who said that he was the owner came to me and whispered to me in a threatening and aggressive voice (Captain, I you lie to see your family, do not do stupid things and get out of my vessel) while he was making a gun gesture with his hand at me.

After a while, the police officer told me that I had to leave within minutes otherwise they would remove by force, so I told him that I would not leave and if he wanted to remove me he had to cuff me and I asked to do so several times but he said that I would leave the way they wanted and after awhile the police office told "are you stupid to stay here with this crazy person and I told him that I'm staying and would not leave, then I notice that there were several side conversations in a low voice among the security company personnel, the civilian persons and the policemen and I noticed that they began to get closer to me with an increasing threat and hostility especially after one of the police officers, who was not previously present in the control cabin, entered and he was more nervous and aggressive.

Then I decided to go to my room, especially as I remembered that the vessel certificates' file was still on the table next to the bed, so I told them that I was going to collect my

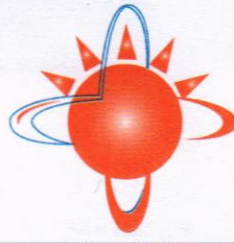




clothing. About six policemen, security company personnel and a civilian went with me and when I reached my room I found a civilian person standing in front of its holding several keys and trying to open the room. When I entered the room the persons accompanying me sat in the office and I entered the room and managed to put the certificates file in my suitcase and I went out to the office and took the crew's certificates and contracts and handed them to the policemen to give them to the crew. The civilian person inspected those certificates and contracts and they agreed to give them to the crew, and then I took the vessel seals in front of them as well as cash amount which was in the safe (of which the company was notified) and then I sat in the office trying to delay them as much as possible in the hope that something would happen that would cancel their plans, especially after I notified Mr. Mohamed Dana.

While I was sitting, the aggressive police officer came behind me and kicked me in my back and when I stood up he kicked twice with his leg while he was mumbling words in a language that I did not understand, but it was obvious that he was nervous and aggressive. Then I took my suitcase and exited the room where I met two persons in the hallway whom I did not know and I asked them who they were, one of them said that he is a first sailor and the other said that he is a second officer and that that are from the Ukraine. When I reached the vessel deck I found a large number of the security company personnel near the vessel stairs and asked to wait a little. Then a police officer came to me and told me to keep quiet and a civilian person said that If I wanted money he would give me some but I refused his offer. After ten minutes they asked me to descend and as I

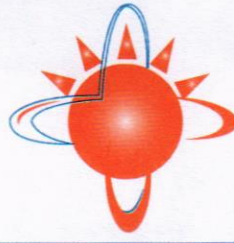




was descending I stood and looked back at the vessel and then I stopped so the aggressive office forcibly dragged me and pushed to descend the stairs with my suitcase in hand and another bag on my shoulder. After I descended into the boat (which was an orange, closed speed boat known to be the boat of Harbor master) several personnel of the security company, two persons wearing civilian clothing and two of the border police descended with me and after few minutes the boat sped away. We reached the harbor after about ten minutes where we disembarked next to the harbor control building and we found the border police car waiting for us and I got into it with the personnel of the border police and they took me to the border police station. The security company personnel boarded private cars one was Grey Audi with plate number CB4907KT. When we entered the border police station they made me sit the hall and after several minutes they brought in the reaming crew (although they left before me approximately 45 minutes to one hour) and they prevented from taking to each other. We had with us several of the security company personnel and there were only two chairs and everyone were standing and he who wanted to go to restroom had to be frisked and his phone taken from him.

At about 19:30 the remaining crew of Indian nationality were taken out and I stayed alone with two and sometimes personnel of the security company. At 21:30 an office came with a soldier of the border police and they took me to an adjacent building (accompanied by a personnel of the security company) where he asked me to hand over my phone to him but I refused and gave it to a personnel of the border police (but he gave it to said personnel of the security company, which proves that their authority is higher than the personnel of



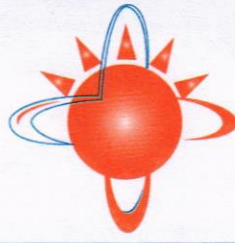


the border police) and they photographed me and took my fingerprint to process the departure visa. Thereafter we returned to the same first building and at 22:30 the border police officer came holding my passport and said I that I would not be able to leave, so the security company personnel left the premises with me since there was a bus waiting outside with the remaining crew and when I boarded they told me that I had to switch off my mobile phone. While we were on the road they prevented us from talking or even whispering and in about one hour we arrived in Varna city where they made us descend in front of Adamo Hotel. When I descended the bus a personnel of the security company came to me and told me that his superior wants to talk to me over the phone. He gave the mobile phone and I heard the voice of the same person who was on the tanker who claimed to be the owner and he told that” This is business, Don’t trouble us, Before you think about it, you have to think about your life and family”.

Then he hung up the phone and then when we received the keys to our rooms we were informed that the air tickets will be ready at the reception at eleven AM, and then the security personnel left.

In the morning one of the crew brought me an air ticket in my name which he received from the reception and at 11:30 AM the Libyan Consul in Sofia came to the hotel and took me with him. We went to Bourgas city to file a complaint at the police station prove the incident. When reached Bourgas city a person came to us and said the he was the representative of the protection club and he went with us to the harbor police station where they sent that took us to the main police headquarters which is not far from the





harbor. When arrived there an office came out and said that he was not authorized to process the police report and that the authorized person was not present but he would come shortly. He told us that there was no place inside where we could wait and asked us to go to a nearby cafe and that he would contact us. After we entered the nearby café he contacted the representative of the protection club and told him that the person in charge would not come and that he did not agreed to processing the police report which should done through the Foreign Ministry. Then we decided to return to Sofia according to the instructions of the Chargé d'affaires there. When I arrived to the embassy I filed a complaint of the incident and submitted it to the Libyan Chargé d'affaires in Sofia.

On 23.12.2018 I Left Bulgaria returning to my homeland.

This is for your information

The vessel Master

Abdallah Mohamed Abdujalil

Date: 24.12.2018

