**MMEA’S REPORT ON THE ROBBERY & HIJACKING**

**OF TANKER MT SCORPION 132300H SEPTEMBER 2012**

MMEA’s patrol boat KM MARUDU while on patrol Tanjung Piai, Johor waters, approached two vessels suspected of conducting ship to ship transfers at 140215H September 2012. As the ship came close, masked men was seen fleeing in a high powered wooden boat towards neighbouring waters, gave chase but was unable to intercept.

Investigation revealed the victim, tanker MT SCORPIO while at anchor in position 01 13.27 North 103 34.46 East ( 4.2 nm SE Tanjung Piai, near the Off Port Limit (OPL) area, close to the Malaysia-Singapore border) was boarded and hijacked by 6 masked robbers/hijackers at around 132300H September 2012. All the crews were tied and the Captain was ordered to weigh anchor and proceed towards Tanjung Piai. The hijacked tanker was commandeered west of Tanjung Piai and anchored in position 01 14.84 North 103 27.94 East ( 3.0 nm SW of Tanjung Piai, Johor) between 140100H and 140130H (exact time not determined). The tanker MT SEA JADE was reported by the crews approaching and coming alongside soon after.

A crew member of MT SCORPIO was ordered to assist the marine fuel oil (MFO) transfer to MT SEA JADE (700 tons was reported transferred by MT SCOPIO) while the other eleven crew members were locked at the ship’s Mess Room. On sighting MMEA patrol boat KM MARUDU approaching around 0215H, the robbers/hijackers quickly disembarked and flee. Investigation revealed the robbers/hijackers were armed with a pistol and parangs, 6 parangs were found left onboard MT SCORPIO.

Two of MT SCORPIO crew members sustained minor injuries and losses were crew’s personal belongings which include cash, hand phones and laptops. Currently, the tanker MT SEA JADE and her 12 crew members are still being detained to assist further investigation.

MMEA’s investigation indicated the main aim of the robbers/hijackers to be MT SCORPIO fuel oil. The robbers/hijackers had apparently impersonated as crew members and offered to sell fuel to MT SEA JADE at below market price. The siphoning of 700 tons of MT SCORPIO fuel oil to MT SEA JADE further strengthens this suspicion.

**Details of MT SCORPIO**

Vessel Registry: TARAWA registered. IMO No. 7825112

Owner: Kingco Resources Sdn Bhd

c/o Yuantai Fuel trading Pte

TCH Tech Centre 71

Toh Guan Road East

Singapore 608598

Crew List: 12 crews, age between 20-56 years.

(10 Indonesian, 1 Chinese & 1 Sri Lankan)

Cargo: 1000 - 1200 metric tons marine fuel oil (MFO)

**Details of MT SEA JADE**

Vessel Registry: ULAM BATOR, MONGOLIA registered.

IMO No. 8626549

Owner: Mr Zhaw Oo (Myanmar national)

(No address in Myanmar available)

Agent in Singapore: Super Holding Pte Ltd

Crew List: 12 crews, age between 27- 47 years

(10 Myanmar & 2 Indonesian)

Cargo: Did not carry any at material time.