

SECURITY UPDATE – 057/19

THEFT/BOARDING

AUGUST 2019



IVORY COAST
Abidjan anchorage

05°19.317'N
004°01.817'W

25-08-2019

Offshore
Accommodation Barge

EVENT DESCRIPTION // On August 25th around 0400 LT, at Ebrie Lagune Abidjan port, the Saint Vincent and Grenadines-flagged multipurpose offshore accommodation barge MAGDA (IMO: 9480693) was successfully boarded by unknown number of men.

The perpetrators were discovered by the AB while he was performing routine rounds. They managed to escape after stealing one rope. Port authorities were subsequently informed. No further information available.

The multipurpose offshore accommodation barge is managed by ABC Maritime, Nyon, Switzerland.

ANALYSIS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION // The self-propelled accommodation barge was operating in Port-Gentil around December 2108 before relocating in proximity of ANTAN terminal around March 2019 and finally in Abidjan in early April of this year.

Although this is only the second reported incident occurred in Abidjan in 2019 (last was the boarding of the Liberia-flagged product tanker NORD VALOROUS in January) proper attention needs to be applied when operating in the area. Generally, perpetrators will escape once discovered as they tend to avoid confrontation. Use of weapons is uncommon but in some circumstances the presence of knives or rudimental blades was reported. All ships calling West African ports must keep vigilance high while at anchorage areas or alongside. Specific light policy should be implemented, and crew assigned to watch duties carefully instructed on the correct procedures to be applied for their task.

Finally, the Swiss based company also manages the SAN PADRE PIO, the Swiss-flagged tanker who was seized by Nigerian authorities in January 2018 and later attacked by pirates while at anchor in Bonny River (April 2019).



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