# Bulk carrier Tutor sinks in Red Sea following Houthi attack, leaving one mariner dead



A bulk carrier named Tutor sank in the Red Sea following an attack by Yemen’s Houthi rebels, resulting in the death of one Filipino mariner. This event, reported on June 20, 2024, marks the second sinking of a vessel attributed to Houthi actions in the region.

The attack involved drone boats carrying explosives, which hit the ship from different sides, reminiscent of the 2000 attack on the USS Cole in Yemen. The Tutor, a Liberian-flagged vessel owned and operated by a Greek company, was targeted in a maritime corridor crucial for global shipping. This is part of an ongoing escalation linked to the Israel-Hamas conflict, despite U.S. Navy efforts to protect commercial vessels and warships in the area.

The incident has heightened concerns over safety in the Red Sea, heavily patrolled by international naval forces due to frequent Houthi assaults. Since November, the Houthis have executed over 60 attacks, including missile and drone strikes, sinking two vessels and seizing another. They claim their actions target vessels associated with the U.S., Israel, or Britain, although many affected ships have no apparent ties to the conflict.

Efforts to counteract these attacks have included significant U.S.-led airstrikes against Houthi positions in Yemen. Recent strikes have targeted their drone and command facilities, leading to casualties among both fighters and civilians, according to Houthi reports. Meanwhile, container shipping through the Red Sea has declined sharply, impacting global maritime traffic.

The broader conflict between Israel and Hamas and the ensuing naval battles in the Red Sea reflect the complex geopolitical tensions in the region, with substantial human and economic costs.