

Grounded Supertanker Could Take a Month to Free -Indonesia Navy

Reuters

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JAKARTA, Nov 7 (Reuters) – Indonesian authorities said on Monday it could take up to a month to free a crude oil tanker stuck in its waters, while the United States slapped sanctions on the vessel for alleged links to Hezbollah and a branch of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards.



The Indonesian navy has been trying to free the Djibouti-registered vessel, *Young Yong*, which ran aground off Indonesia’s Riau Islands on Oct. 26.

The U.S. last week [issued sanctions](#) against an international oil smuggling network it said supports Hezbollah and Iran’s Quds Force, targeting dozens of people, companies and tankers as Washington sought to mount pressure on Tehran. The *Young Yong* was [among the vessels sanctioned](#).

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Rear Admiral Arsyad Abdullah of the Indonesian navy said an operation was underway to free the ship.

“We need to be careful with the process because there are (natural gas) pipes, so it may take about a month,” he told Reuters on Monday.

The ship ran aground in the Singapore Strait near a key pipeline that supplies natural gas to Singapore. No injuries or leaks have been reported. It typically loads crude oil bound for China from floating storage at the Singapore-Malaysia Straits.


The ship is owned by Technology Bright International Co Ltd and managed by East Wind Ship Management Ltd. The companies could not be reached for comment.

(Reporting by Stanley Widiyanto in Jakarta, Chen Lin and Muyu Xu in Singapore; Writing by Kanupriya Kapoor; Editing by Ed Osmond)

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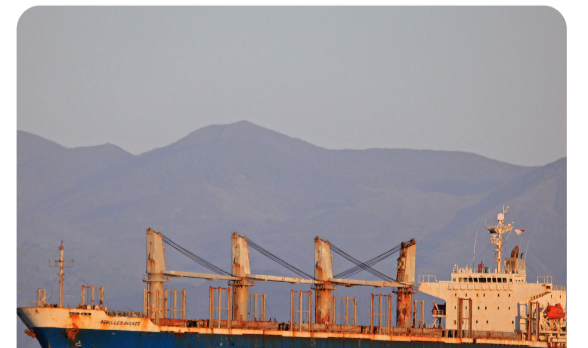
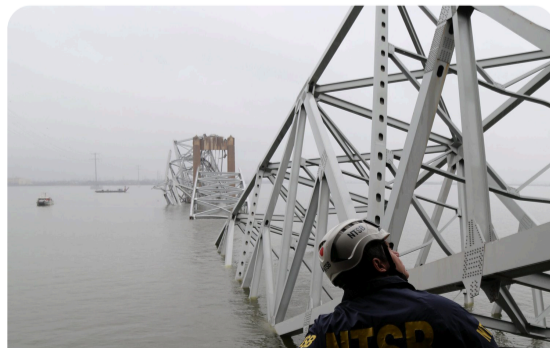
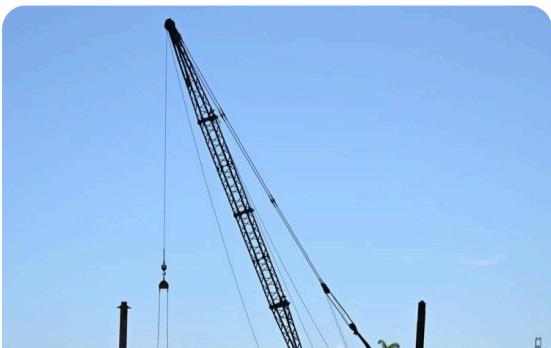


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