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MEDIA RELEASE

MALAYSIA COAST GUARD DETAINED THREE VIETNAMESE FISHING VESSELS FOR ENCROACHMENT

KUALA TERENGGANU, 19TH FEB - Malaysia Coast Guard crippled an encroachment attempt of three (3) Vietnamese fishing trawlers in the Malaysian waters at 123 nautical miles off from Kuala Terengganu. Initial investigation found that the three boats were carrying 1.5 tonne of high quality fish which was captured illegally.

Deputy Director of MCG Maritime District 9 Kuala Terengganu, Commander Maritime Simon Templer said, "the three illegal fishing trawlers were seized within three hours between 12.00 p.m to 3.00 p.m. The Vietnamese trawlers have just reached the Malaysian waters from their country."

The fishing trawlers carried Terengganu and Malaysia flags as a disguised as being local fishing trawlers.

When approached by the MCG, 40 crews including three (3) skippers aged between 18 to 52 years old failed to produce their fishery licenses and valid identification.

Commander Maritime Simon added, the seized trawlers were towed back to MCG jetty in Kemaman for investigation and the crews are remanded for 14 days for investigation under Fisheries Act 1985 and Immigration Act 1959.

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