

Sabotage against Japanese Research Whaling Vessels
by Sea Shepherd on 6th February

8 February 2010
Embassy of Japan
Canberra, Australia

The Bob Barker, a Sea Shepherd anti-whaling sabotage vessel, collided with the Yushin-Maru No.3 at approximately 15:00 (AEDT), 6 February 2010. It happened after it attempted to disrupt, from the morning of the same day, the Nisshin-Maru, a Japanese research vessel conducting research whaling in the Antarctic Ocean.

- The Bob Barker chased the Nisshin-Maru from the morning of 6th February, then repeatedly fired a high-powered green-laser device against the Nisshin-Maru.
- At approximately 15:00 (AEDT), the Bob Barker suddenly approached the Yushin-Maru No.3, which had navigated along the Nisshin-maru to guard it, and threw bottles containing butyric acid-like liquid toward the Yushin-Maru No.3. Although the Yushin-Maru No.3 tried to avoid, the Bob Barker collided with the stern of the Yushin-Maru No.3.
- The Yushin-Maru No.3 was not badly damaged (although it suffered minor damage to its hand rail) and no one on board was injured.
- While the Bob Barker was a Togo-registered vessel, it flew a national flag of Norway.

The Japanese Government is making appropriate inquiries to ascertain further details.

The Japanese Government has requested the Government of Togo to take appropriate measures against the Bob Barker. It will also notify the Government of Norway of the fact that the Bob Barker flew a national flag of Norway.

Japan's research whaling is conducted in accordance with relevant international laws and the repeated and reckless disruptive actions by the Sea Shepherd against Japanese vessels are totally inexcusable as they place the lives of crew in extreme danger.