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農曆春節前私梟蠢動 南部地區巡防局 查獲私菸 2000 萬元

With illicit smugglers itching to make a move prior to the Chinese Lunar New Year, Southern Coastal Patrol Office nails illicit cigarette stash valuing at \$20 million





海巡署南部地區巡防局屏東機動查緝隊於1月15日下午1時30分會同岸巡第五總隊中和安檢所查獲高雄籍「順天發」(CT4-0921)漁船船長郭○○走私未稅洋菸乙批，數量初步估計約500箱，市價超過2000萬元。

南巡局屏東機動查緝隊接獲情報指稱，不法集團將利用農曆春節前，伺機於高雄港闖關走私未稅洋菸上岸販售牟利。由於查證情報確實，屏東機動查緝隊會同岸巡第五總隊中和安檢所成立專案小組，加強執行安檢作業，先利用岸際雷達監控發現準備進港的「順天發號」形跡可疑，報關進港時又發現該船隻吃水過深，果然在漁船的油櫃密窩內，搜出將近五百箱的未稅洋菸，市價超過2000萬元，當場逮捕嫌犯船長郭○○與吳○○、莊○○等兩名船員，全案移送高雄地檢署依法偵辦，並持續追查其來源。

此次遭查獲的高雄籍漁船「順天發號」原打算在過年前夕走私洋菸來台，以賺取不法利益。1月31日下午一點多，「順天發漁船」從高雄港一港口檢查哨報關進港，查緝人員發現漁船行跡可疑，而且吃水很深，於是登船檢查，果然在漁船的油櫃密窩裡面查獲大批走私洋菸，船長郭○○供稱，走私的洋菸有「大衛杜夫」、「七星」和「峰」總共490箱。由於這些菸都藏在油櫃的密窩裡面，查緝人員在搬運時，每隔十五分鐘就要到外頭透透氣，免得吸入太多的油氣而昏倒。

由於港口船舶進出、貨櫃運輸一向是重要的走私管道，而高雄港是台灣最重要的商港又兼具漁港功能，長期以來走私猖獗。近年來，走私手法尤以貨櫃私運、虛報蒙混進口、漁船走私為主，私貨又以洋菸、農漁產品、毒品為大宗，而自90年迄今，進口走私都以洋菸為最大宗，每年查獲的走私洋菸價值高達上億元。

由於海巡署近期正執行「防逃專案」及「鎮海專案」，為有效遏止不法走私、偷渡情事，已通令所屬單位加強港口安全檢查及海岸線巡邏、搜索等各項勤務強化作為，呼籲私梟等不法集團不要以身試法。(作者任職於南部地區巡防局人事室)

The Pingtung Reconnaissance Brigade of Southern Coastal Patrol Office has intercepted, as joined by Chung Ho Inspection Office of the Coast Patrol Corps 5, Kuo XX, the captain of a Kaohsiung-based fishing vessel, Shuen Tien Fah, bearing vessel registration CT4-0921, to be allegedly involving in smuggling in a lot of untaxed foreign cigarettes at 1:30PM on January 15, where the initial estimation put the stash at 500 cases, carrying a market value in excess of \$20 million.

The Pingtung Reconnaissance Brigade of Southern Coastal Patrol Office has lodged in a report citing that illicit rings have attempted to smuggle in untaxed foreign cigarettes by pushing through the Kaohsiung Port for profiting during the Chinese New Year span. Thanks to the truthful information, the Pingtung Reconnaissance Brigade, as joined by the Chung Ho Inspection Office of the Coast Patrol Corps 5, heads a project team to step up executing the security inspection work, where the coastal radar surveillance monitoring has come across the Shuen Tien Fah preparing to enter the port acting suspiciously, and appeared with an excessive draught during its inbound customs declaration, which leads to uncovering a stash of close to 500 cases of untaxed foreign cigarettes contained in the ship's fuel tank, valuing in excess of NT\$20 million in market value. The brigade places the captain, Kuo XX and two crewmen, Wu XX and Tsuang XX, under arrest, and the case is referred to the Kaohsiung D.A.'s Office pending further investigation, and subsequent tracing of the source of illicit goods.

The busted Kaohsiung fishing vessel, Shuen Tien Fah, has intended to smuggle in foreign cigarettes to Taiwan on Chinese New Year's eve in gaining illicit profit. At a little past 1:00PM on January 31, Shuen Tien Fah enters the Kaohsiung Port's harbor one checkpoint, where the inspectors has discovered the fishing vessel to be acting suspiciously, besides its excessive draught, which have led to an onboard inspection. And lo and behold, a large stash of illicit foreign cigarettes has been uncovered in the ship's concealed fuel tank, which the captain Kuo XX confesses that the stash contains Davidoff, Mild Seven, and Mine, totaling 490 cases. As these cigarettes were stashed in the concealed chamber inside the fuel tank, the crackdown personnel need to come up for air during transporting every fifteen minutes to avoid passing out due to inhaling excessive fuel vapor.

As containerization have been used as a vital means of trafficking in the coming and going of ships entering and leaving the port, the Kaohsiung Port, being an important harbor and a fishing port in Taiwan, has long been marred by rampant illicit smuggling. In recent years, the means of trafficking are taking to smuggling via containers, making bogus import declarations, and smuggling using fishing boats, where the illicit goods are largely dominated by foreign cigarettes, agricultural and fishery products, and narcotics; from 2001 up to now, inbound trafficking finds foreign cigarettes taking up the bulk, and the value of foreign cigarettes confiscated every year mounted to close to staggering one hundred million N.T. dollars.

Following the Coast Guard Administration's recently launched "Escape Prevention Project" and "Sea Eradication project" in a move to effectively curtail illicit trafficking and human smuggling, it has ordered all of its subordinate units to step up various duty enforcement in harbor security inspection and coastline patrol and search, and rally the illicit rings to refrain from testing the determination of the law enforcement agency.

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