

COURT OF MAGISTRATES (MALTA) AS A COURT OF CRIMINAL JUDICATURE

MAGISTRATE DOREEN CLARKE

Sitting of the 14 th May, 2007

Number 99999/2007

The Police

(Inspector Alfred Mallia)

-VS-

Frank Schmidt

Today the 14th May, 2007,

The Court,

Having seen the accused Frank Schmidt 46 years old, son of Martin and Birgit nee' Schultz, Danish Nationality, Born Kolding on the 10th July 1960, residing at the Diplomat Hotel, Sliema, holder of Danish Passport number 101852788.

Was charged, as master of the vessel MT 'Erria Maria', IMO No. 9217333 with having on the 11th May 2007 at about 21:16hrs when in the territorial waters of Malta:

- a) navigated through a zone wherein navigation is prohibited in terms of the Berthing Regulations;
- b) failed to comply with directions given by the Malta Maritime Authority in exercise of its powers under the Maritime Authority Act and with having failed to comply with the provisions of the said Act and Regulations made there under.

Having heard the accused plead guilty to all charges, not withstanding the fact that the Court warned him of the consequences of his plea and having afforded to him sufficient time within which to withdraw his guilty plea.

Having seen the acts of the proceedings including the statement released by the accused.

Having heard the oral submissions made by the parties.

Considered:

That the accused replied guilty to the charges brought against him consequently the charges are sufficiently proved.

That the accused co-operated with the competent authorities in their investigation and admitted the charges brought against him in the initial stages of the procedures.

That the accused has offered to make good for any damages caused and this to the satisfaction of the prosecution and the competent authorities which have also declared that this incident did not cause any considerable danger within the port.

Finds the accused Frank Schmidt guilty of the charges brought against him, and after having seen sections 78 of Chapter 352 of the Laws of Malta as well as regulations 3,4 and 6 of Legal Notice 117 of the year 1975, condemns to a fine (multa) of one thousand Maltese Liri (Lm1,000).

< Final Judgement >
END