

# Oops! #2



## A. Read the article and choose the best alternative

The Coast Guard's RCC/TSS was notified that a Greek Navy minesweeper was badly damaged after grounding / colliding with a 50,000dwt container ship off Piraeus port at about 0730 local time on Tuesday 27 October 2020.

The incident involved the Navy vessel *Kallisto* and the *Maersk Launceston*, a 2005-built Portuguese-flagged container ship of 4,533 TEU capacity / speed, according to data from MarineTraffic.com, which had been heading to the Turkish port of Canakkale with 22 crew on board.

Photos taken after the collision / explosion appear to show that *Launceston* struck *Kallisto* amidships on the left/port side and cut her in half. *Kallisto's* back deck and stern / bow drifted away and sank, and the surviving forward half of the ship took a heavy list / foul to right / starboard.

The coast guard stated a rescue / casualty operation was launched with three coast guard patrol boats, a coast guard special forces unit, a navy ship and helicopter and four tug boats / motor tankers. All 27 crew members / passengers of the minesweeper are safe. Two suffered relatively minor injuries / deaths and were taken to VTS / hospital.

The *Kallisto* (ex name *HMS Berkeley*) is a former Royal Navy Hunt-class mine countermeasures vessel built in 1987. Like many minesweepers, she was constructed of non-metallic material (fiberglass) in order to reduce her magnetic signature. She has since been towed / flown to Salamis Naval Base.

*Maersk Launceston* was not badly damaged / injured and is being detained by the Central Port Authority of Piraeus while a preliminary investigation is being made. The Polish master / helmsman of the ship was arrested.

Sources: the Associated Press, military.com, e-kathimerini.com, marine-executive.com, gcaptain.com (Mike Schuler's article)

## B. Select the best answer.

1. The *Maersk Launceston* is registered in
  - a) Greece
  - b) Poland
  - c) Portugal
2. The *Kallisto*
  - a) used to be called *Berkeley*
  - b) was built in 2005
  - c) was taken to Piraeus port
3. The *Kallisto* was damaged so badly because
  - a) she was not properly maintained
  - b) she was very old
  - c) she was not made of steel
4. *Maersk Launceston*
  - a) was heading to Turkey
  - b) is a cruise ship
  - c) is capable of sweeping and hunting mines
5. Which would NOT be a good title for the article?
  - a) Container Ship *Maersk Launceston* and Greek Minesweeper Collide off Piraeus
  - b) Turkish Vessel Attacks Greek Navy Ship
  - c) Greek Navy Minesweeper Damaged After Cargo Ship Collision

