



16703/FOREIGN VESSELS
26 November 1996

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Distribution

Subj: DEFINITION OF INTERVENTION AND DETENTION

Ref: (a) Marine Safety Manual (MSM) Vol II, 24.F Reporting Obligations
(b) MSM Vol I, 4.C Definitions
(c) IMO Document FSI 3/7/3 dtd 28 Nov 94 (transmitted in cancelled G-MVI policy letter 2-95)
(d) MSM Vol II, 19.C - Definitions and Terms of Reference
(e) MSM Vol II, 24.E.1 - Detention Criteria; Casualty or Weather Damage.

1. Although there may be some minor inconsistencies between references (a) through (e), the following definitions of control actions, interventions, and detentions will be used by Eighth District MSOs:

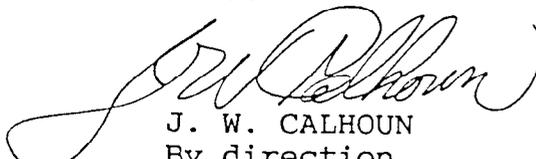
a. A control action is any action that imposes a port state's authority over a foreign-flagged vessel.

b. An intervention is any control action of a foreign-flagged vessel under the authority of any of the international conventions listed in MSM Volume II, Section 24.D. Interventions seek to bring about vessel compliance with a specific requirement and constitute the lowest form of vessel control in the echelon of Port State control actions.

c. A detention is an intervention that requires the correction of a deficiency prior to the vessel's departure from the port. Detentions constitute the highest form of vessel control in the echelon of Port State control actions.

2. Reference (a) outlines the unit's reporting obligations for port state control actions. It states that "All interventions leading to detentions shall be documented on the Intervention Report." Once the decision to detain is made, it must be reported to G-MOC and D8(m).

3. To ensure consistency in correctly reporting control actions, the last sentence of reference (e) is modified to substitute "a detention" for "an intervention." It should be taken to read: "However, should evidence indicate an intent to depart port without satisfactory repair, a detention should be conducted."


J. W. CALHOUN
By direction

Dist: All Eighth District Gulf Region MSOs, MSU, and MSDs

Copy: G-M, D5(m), and D7(m)