

# Capt. Daley's Sea Stories

**Gubert Tide  
Abidjan  
Côte D'Ivoire**

15 August 2009



After the 8,800 nautical mile delivery from Singapore to Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire, I commanded the Gubert Tide based in Abidjan to support Anadarko drilling an exploratory well off the coast of Sierra Leone, Africa. The well successfully discovered commercial hydrocarbons.



The Desoto Tide is the sister ship to the Gubert Tide. They were both fabricated in the same shipyard in China at the same time. Here she appears with Abidjan in the background.



The Gubert Tide is alongside a bunkering tanker offshore Côte D'Ivoire. This is the method for receiving fuel in the area. There must be a very large tax on fuel in Abidjan to justify this kind of operation.



A canoe carries fishermen at dawn in the Lagoon. The old contrasted by the new.



As modern as Abidjan is, many people still live in this style housing. Another old contrasted by new photo.



Mooring so close to other vessels is good practice, especially if you are 2308 tons and electric Z-drive.



Desoto Tide is actually coming in to moor alongside us. There is not enough room to turn around at this dock.



Sister ship Desoto Tide is alongside. Desoto Tide is light. Gubert Tide is loaded.



The fishing fleet is huge and very active. They are very religious about their work as well as colorful.



We watched a UN helicopter land and be disassembled for transport on a ship.



The channel into Abidjan is very narrow. A set of lights and port control directs the one way traffic.



We are alongside a different tanker for more MGO (diesel). This captain wanted to give us less fuel and pay for half of the difference in cash. This is very common in Africa. We refused to participate in his scheme.



Here is a photo of a cash drop for a ship that did participate in his scheme.



This is the famous Golf Hotel where the newly elected president had to wait months for the defeated president to vacate the official buildings. I'm sure security was very tight during the time frame of the disagreement.



Here is the front desk of the hotel. I'm glad I was not there during all of the fighting.



This is a typical road side stand of vendors you see in many places in Abidjan.



Can you guess what kind of company owns the tallest, most modern building in Abidjan? If you guessed a cell phone company, you are right.



There is an art to carrying loads of stuff including a baby on your back and a bowl full of wares on your head.



Here is another local who obviously has practiced this art for years. Notice the man next to her carries nothing!



It was hard to believe just how much volume and weight can be carried on a person's head.



I found the expressions on their face interesting.



Elephants greet you as you enter and depart the airport at Abidjan, Côte D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).