

Ship Finance International LTD
Form 6-K
July 31, 2008

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the month of July 2008

Commission File Number: 001-32199

Ship Finance International Limited
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Par-la-Ville Place, 14 Par-la-Ville Road, Hamilton, HM 08, Bermuda
(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): ____

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)7: ____

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):
82-_____.

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM 6-K REPORT

Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of the press release of Ship Finance International Limited (the “Company”), dated July 31, 2008, announcing its entry into an agreement to sell two newbuilding Suezmax crude oil tankers, currently under construction in China.

This Report on Form 6-K is hereby incorporated by reference into the Company’s Registration Statement on Form F-3 (File no. 333-150125) which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 7, 2008 with an effective date of April 15, 2008.

SFL – Sale of two newbuilding Suezmax vessels at record high prices

Press release from Ship Finance International Limited, July 31, 2008

Ship Finance International Limited (NYSE: SFL) (“Ship Finance” or the “Company”), today announced that it has entered into an agreement to sell two newbuilding Suezmax crude oil tankers, currently under construction in China. Scheduled delivery from the shipyard is in 2009, and delivery to the new owner will take place immediately after delivery from the shipyard.

The gross sales price per vessel has been agreed to \$111 million, and net of construction costs and broker commissions we expect to recognize a book profit of approximately \$68 million (\$0.94 per share), or approximately \$34 million per vessel upon delivery to the new owner.

Lars Solbakken, Chief Executive Officer in Ship Finance Management AS, said in a comment: "We are pleased to announce this very profitable sale of two newbuildings which we ordered without long term employment two years ago. The sale is consistent with our strategy to maximize returns for our shareholders, and we will book a profit of approximately \$68 million on a very moderate equity investment in this project. We see significant growth opportunities across our target segments, and the net proceeds from this sale will be redeployed as equity in new accretive projects that we expect will increase our long-term dividend capacity."

July 31, 2008

The Board of Directors

Ship Finance International Limited

Hamilton, Bermuda

Contact Persons:

Lars Solbakken: Chief Executive Officer, Ship Finance Management AS

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About Ship Finance

Ship Finance is a major ship owning company listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: SFL). Including newbuildings and announced acquisitions, the Company has a fleet of 71 vessels, including 33 crude oil tankers (VLCC and Suezmax), 2 chemical tankers, 8 oil/bulk/ore vessels, 13 container vessels, 3 dry bulk carriers, 6 offshore supply vessels and 3 seismic vessels, 2 jack-up drilling rigs and one ultra-deepwater drillship. The fleet is one of the largest in the world and most of the vessels are employed on long term charters.

More information can be found on the Company's website: www.shipfinance.org

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Statements

This press release may contain forward looking statements. These statements are based upon various assumptions, many of which are based, in turn, upon further assumptions, including Ship Finance management's examination of historical operating trends. Although Ship Finance believes that these assumptions were reasonable when made, because assumptions are inherently subject to significant uncertainties and contingencies which are difficult or impossible to predict and are beyond its control, Ship Finance cannot give assurance that it will achieve or accomplish these expectations, beliefs or intentions.

Important factors that, in the Company's view, could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in this presentation include the strength of world economies and currencies, general market conditions including fluctuations in charter hire rates and vessel values, changes in demand in the tanker market as a result of changes in OPEC's petroleum production levels and world wide oil consumption and storage, changes in the Company's operating expenses including bunker prices, dry-docking and insurance costs, changes in governmental rules and regulations or actions taken by regulatory authorities, potential liability from pending or future litigation, general domestic and international political conditions, potential disruption of shipping routes due to accidents or political events, and other important factors described from time to time in the reports filed by the Company with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

SHIP FINANCE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
(registrant)

Dated: July 31, 2008

By: /s/ Lars Solbakken
Name: Lars Solbakken
Title: Chief Executive Officer
Ship Finance Management AS