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Thread: [Opsec oopsie: Dutch navy frigate location outed by mailing it a Bluetooth tracker](#)

MadScientist - May 14, 2026, 6:29 pm

Militaries around the world spend countless hours training, developing policies, and implementing best operational security practices, so imagine the size of the egg on the face of the Dutch navy when journalists managed to track one of its warships for less than the cost of some hagelslag and a coffee.

The security snafu was reported by Dutch regional broadcaster Omroep Gelderland. In a Thursday report, Omroep Gelderland journalist Just Vervaart said the broadcaster was able to track HNLMS Evertsen, a Dutch air-defense frigate deployed to help protect France's aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle against missile threats, by mailing a Bluetooth tracker concealed in a postcard to the ship.

Per Vervaart, the Dutch Ministry of Defence makes it easy to send mail and packages to soldiers and sailors in the Dutch armed forces and posts full instructions online. It's that freely available open-source intelligence data that Vervaart was able to use to send the tracker to the Evertsen.

The report says the tracker remained active for about 24 hours, showing HNLMS Evertsen leaving port in Heraklion, Crete, and sailing first west along the island's coast before turning east toward Cyprus. The tracker finally went offline a day later when the ship was near Cyprus, and hasn't come back online.

Read More -

<https://www.theregister.com/security/2026/04/17/dutch-navy-frigate-tracked-by-mailing-it-a-bluetooth-tracker/5223476>

DramaKing - May 14, 2026, 7:00 pm

Militaries need to have a rule: Turn off Find My on your smartphone.