

Korean Register calls in port state control 'flying squads'

Class society keen to improve its international credibility, writes Mike Grinter in Hong Kong

THE new boss of the Korean Register, Oh Kong-gyun, has announced a package of emergency measures to reduce the number of vessels certified by the national classification society that fall foul of port state control.

A KR spokesman said: "We are redoubling our efforts to reduce port state control detentions of our classed fleet, particularly in the Paris Memorandum of Understanding region."

While KR's record is comparable with other members of the International Association of Classification Societies, newly elected chairman and chief executive Mr Oh is determined to eliminate substandard ships under its class at all costs.

The spokesman added: "There were a total of seven class-related detentions in various port state control regimes around the world — four in Tokyo MoU, three in Paris MoU, no detentions in US Coast Guard and other MoUs."

Defending the society's record, the Korean Register said it had recorded no class-related detentions by the US Coast Guard over the past four years.

"As for the Tokyo MoU, we have one of the lowest class-related port state control detention records among IACS member societies," it continued. "But we do have a problem with the Paris MoU, the reason being that we do not have many ships visiting

European ports, so one or two detentions always put us over the edge in terms of the average rate."

But now the register is fighting back. As part of its drive to minimise detentions, KR has established a "flying squad" of 23 experienced surveyors dedicated to assisting vessels categorised as requiring "special attention" during port state control inspections.

In addition, pre-inspection services for its classed vessels scheduled to enter a port where port state control inspections are expected are now being offered.

"Owners are actively being encouraged to use the new service, particularly those whose vessels are operating in European waters," the spokesman said.

"The new initiatives will require more experienced staff to be allocated to surveying ships that are considered to be more prone to port state control detentions such as older ships or ships known to have poor maintenance record in the past.

"There are about 100 ships that we consider as prime candidates for our port state control pre-inspection service. The notifications have been sent to owners and managing companies of these ships to encourage them to use the pre-inspection service."

Mr Oh said the focus on improvement was a direct attempt to improve the class society's standing. "The positive records obtained in various MoUs are usually linked to the credibility of a classification society," he said. "It is necessary to initiate stronger measures to improve records to solidify our status as a leading classification society."

One-day strike called in Corsica ferry dispute

writes Andrew Spurrier in Paris

A LEADING French seafarers' union has called on its members to stage a one-day strike on Corsican ferry services operated by SNCM and Compagnie Meridionale de Navigation today.

The CGT union is pressing the government to take steps to prevent further delays in awarding the subsidised public service ferry concession for services between the island and the French mainland to the two companies.

Award of the seven-year concession, which had originally been due to come into effect at the start of this year, has twice been delayed by legal action taken by rival operator Corsica Ferries.

Most recently the Corsican authorities announced they were ready to award the concession to SNCM and CMN jointly with effect from May 1. But they were prevented from doing so by a Corsican court of commerce ruling which found there had been irregularities in the award procedure.

Now CGT has said it wants the French government to "call an end to the party", notably by making it clear to Corsica Ferries that it has no chance of obtaining the concession for itself on the grounds that its financial situation is insufficiently open to scrutiny.

"The state should tell Corsica Ferries that it cannot obtain the Corsica service because the financial source of the structure of this company is unknown," said local CGT seafarers' secretary Jean-Paul Israel.

He claimed that the company did not meet French legal requirements with regard to financial disclosure by companies seeking to obtain public service concessions, adding: "This company is totally opaque. It is a big nebula."

Seven vessels operated by SNCM and CMN are thought to be involved in the union's strike call.

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Summary of Major Cases in this week's issue of Lloyd's Casualty Week

Vessel	Type	Flag	Class	GT	DWT	Bit	Casualty
<i>ADVANCE</i>	general	VCT	GL	1,939	2,890	1982	Towed in Rotterdam by tug Smit Clyde following engine problems May 20. Still in port May 22.
<i>APL MIAMI</i>	container	ATG	GL	5,850	6,770	1999	Had engine problems off Fowey Rock in lat 25 35N, long 80 06W, May 17. Towed into Port Everglades by tug Hercules May 18. Arrived Puerto Cortes about May 21.
<i>ELLEN KNUITSEN</i>	chem/oil tanker	NIS	NV	11,433	17,071	1991	Contacted with the Botlek bridge, Rotterdam, May 22. Towed off the pilings and proceeded to Rotterdam. Some starboard side damage.
<i>EURO SQUALL</i>	container	GBR	GL	6,191	7,979	2002	Reported May 24 adrift in lat 39 01.54N, long 09 42.36W. Taken in tow of tug <i>Svitzer Leixoes</i> bound for Leixoes
<i>HONG SUCCESS</i>	general	VCT	ABS	13,228	19,403	1981	Towed into East London May 21 after sustaining heavy weather damage and cargo loss. Repairs and cargo resecuring under way.
<i>KANG NAM 1</i>	general	PRK	—	702	2,036	1989	Docked at Thilawa May 20 to effect repairs to damaged engine. Sailed May 23.
<i>LANGELAND</i>	general	DEU	GL	1,832	2,341	1985	In collision with bunker boat <i>Leda</i> at Leer May 14. Minor damage at the stern on the starboard side. Arrived Rostock May 16.
<i>MAGDALENA</i>	fishing	ARG	—	328	—	—	Reported May 23 in lat 46 27.1S, long 66 58W, under tow of fishing <i>Victoria</i> , bound Puerto Deseado.
<i>MARIAM TRANS</i>	general	SLE	—	1,199	2,296	1966	Sank about 150 nautical miles south of Karachi May 21. All 11 crew rescued.
<i>SAM JIN NO.1</i>	tanker	KOR	KR	864	2,023	1994	In collision with barge <i>Cheonbu No.1</i> off Ulsan May 22. Punctured and leaked 64 tons of oil. Ten pollution control vessels mobilised.
<i>UMIAVUT</i>	general	CAN	LR	5,998	9,653	1988	Had a fire in engine-room north north-west of Ushant, France, May 18. Towed to Brest by fire-fighting tug <i>Abeille Bourbon</i> May 19. Main engine No.2 cylinder damaged. Repairs effected and sailed May 21.
<i>VARANDEY</i>	ro-ro	RUS	—	1,491	1,322	1985	Broke down 40 miles off Ituruo Island in stormy weather May 23. Drifting. In tow of tug <i>Atlas</i> bound Korsakov.
<i>ZIM ITALIA</i>	container	ISR	ABS	37,209	47,230	1991	Reported May 23 in collision with a fishing boat near Qingdao. Investigation under way.

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The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



ACCORD (Philippines)

Manila, May 19 -- Pumping out of seawater and liquefied rice, in the cargo hold of general cargo *Accord* is on its fifth day today. The pumping out operation is taking much longer than expected because of several holes in the hull. With a substantial portion of the ship's interior above water, several holes in the vessel's portside have been revealed. These will be patched up once all the water has been emptied from the vessel's interior, Matsya Shipping officials said. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 22 -- Patching work on holes on port side hull of general cargo *Accord* had started, Matsya Shipping officials said. -- Correspondent.

ACTIVE (Marshall Islands)

Cape Town, May 18 -- Crude oil tanker *Active* called at Cape Town on Mar 24 for change of ownership. During the handover inspection the tolerance level of the rudder was noted to be out of specification and arrangements were made to send the vessel to East London for repairs. The vessel returned to Cape Town on Apr 24, with the change of ownership taking place on Apr 27, along with the vessel's name being changed to *A. Dragon*. During the classification survey, excessive movement was noted on the rudder and approval was not given by the attending surveyor. Discussions are currently under way to determine a suitable option for repairs. The vessel will not sail until the repairs are completed. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ADVANCE (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, May 21 -- General cargo *Advance* (1939 gt, built 1982) was towed into Rotterdam by tug *Smit Clyde* on May 20. The vessel had experienced engine problems. (Note -- *Advance* arrived Rotterdam 1530, local time, May 20 from Bremerhaven.)

Maassluis, May 22 -- General cargo *Advance* was towed into Rotterdam with engine trouble. The vessel is currently berthed and waiting for repairs to commence. No completion date of same is available at present. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

AFRODITE S. (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Antalya, May 21 -- The dispute between the salvors of general cargo *Afrodite S.* and other parties have been resolved. Following completion of minor engine repairs, the vessel sailed Marmaris May 21 for Licata. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

AL BARAKAT 1 (Bolivia)

Chittagong, May 21 -- Chemical tanker *Al Barakat 1* shifted from Dry Dock 2 to River Mooring 8 on May 19

for further repairs. It is still under repair and the owners agents Mohammadi Trading have advised that repairs are expected to be completed during the first week of June. -- Lloyd's Agents.

AL-DANA

Manama, May 24 -- The owner of dhow *Al-Dana*, which sank off the coast of Bahrain in March last year, has been sentenced to 10 years in jail for the manslaughter of 57 people, the man's lawyer said today. Abdul Rahman Al Ghoneim said his client Abdulla Al Kobaisi was on 10,000 Bahraini dinar (\$26,525) bail pending an appeal ruling due in about 45 days, adding that the ship's captain, Rajendrakumar Ramjibhai, was sentenced to three years. Ramjibhai was imprisoned shortly after the disaster, and has served almost half his sentence. "The boat was under the administration of another company that was renting it. At the time, it was not under the supervision of Abdulla Al Kobaisi. That's our defence," Ghoneim said. -- Reuters.

ANDROMEDA LEADER (Panama)

Yokohama, May 21 -- Vehicle carrier *Andromeda Leader* (62195 gt, built 2004) while at anchor waiting for cargo work at the Toyota Motor Corporation private berth, Mikawa, dragged its anchor due to strong wind at 1730, May 15. Vessel tried to regain control by utilising both anchors but the anchors got entangled. During the operation to untangle the anchor chains an anchor fell onto the vessel's bulbous bow. As a result the bulbous bow was holed causing water ingress. The vessel will be temporarily repaired at Mikawa. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 22 -- Vehicle carrier *Andromeda Leader* sailed Toyohashi May 18.

APL MIAMI (Antigua & Barbuda)

Miami, May 18 -- Container Carrier *APL Miami* (5850 gt, built 1999) was towed into Port Everglades by tug *Hercules* this morning with an engine problem. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 18 -- Following received from Coast Guard Miami, timed 1730, UTC: Container Carrier *APL Miami* reported a faulty piston 16 miles off Fowey Rock Light (lat 25 35N, long 80 06W) yesterday evening. The vessel was subsequently taken in tow by a local tug and arrived Port Everglades this morning.

London, May 21 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS Container Carrier *APL Miami* was reported stationary at Puerto Cortes at 0931, UTC, today.

Miami, May 22 -- Repairs to Container Carrier *APL Miami* were completed and vessel sailed Port Everglades May 18. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ASPOE (Cyprus)

Poznan, May 22 -- Local agents of general cargo *Aspoe* have advised that the vessel is being repaired at the Naval Shipyard, Gdynia. The repairs are expected to be completed on May 31. -- Lloyd's Agents.

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ATLANTIC ERIE (Canada)

Troy, Mich., May 8 -- Canada Steamship's bulker *Atlantic Erie* was loading a cargo of petroleum coke early yesterday at KCBX Terminals (Chicago) on the Calumet River. After attempting to de-ballast the port side forward tank, water was discovered entering the ballast tank. A diver was called to find the source of the leak. The diver found a three to five foot crack in the outer shell plating. A temporary repair was under way early afternoon and loading was expected to resume later in the evening. -- Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping.

London, May 23 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, bulker *Atlantic Erie* was located 9.1 nautical miles from Sorel, in lat 46 06 19.07N, long 72 58 28.98W, at 1040, UTC, today, course 218 deg, speed 8.7 knots.

AURELIA M (North Korea)

Bucharest, May 21 -- An explosion occurred on board general cargo *Aurelia M* (2816 gt, built 1978), which has been at Midia Shipyard since Apr 29 for repair works. The explosion occurred about 1515 today in a double bottom tank in way of No 2 hold and it reportedly caused damage to the double bottom tank, tank top plating and frames. No fire was reported subsequent to the explosion and there were no injuries and/or loss of life. -- Lloyd's Agents.

AVANTAGE (Canada)

London, May 23 -- A crack was observed in the rubbing strake of tug *Avantage* (365 gt, built 1969) at Three Rivers on May 17.

BADRINATH (Liberia)

Falmouth, May 21 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Badrinath* is still under repair. Vessel's ETS is unknown at this time. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BANGLAR SHOURABH (Bangladesh)

London, May 21 -- According to Chittagong Port Authority in port list, crude oil tanker *Banglar Shourabh* is under repair at DDJ-1, Chittagong. Vessel berthed Jan 8 and is expected to leave May 25. (Note -- *Banglar Shourabh* had explosion at Chittagong outer anchorage Jun 24, 2006.)

BOW SANTOS (Panama)

London, May 18 -- Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1315, UTC: Chemical tanker *Bow Santos* remains anchored 4 nautical miles off Houston.

London, May 20 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, chemical tanker *Bow Santos* was located stationary 4.1 nautical miles from Houston, in lat 29 43 32.52N, long 95 16 11.64W, at 1822, UTC, today.

BUNGA RAYA SATU (Malaysia)

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* (39582 gt, built 1998) broke free from its berth and ran aground on the opposite side of the

container basin during last Saturday (May 19) due a heavy storm over the port of Cape Town.

London, May 22 -- Following received from Cape Town Port Control, timed 0735, UTC: Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* broke mooring at approximately 1500, May 19. Vessel's bow touched ground and the vessel was reberthed shortly after. The vessel is still in port and being inspected for any damage.

Kiel, May 22 -- After Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* was pushed back to its berth in the container terminal of Cape Town on May 19 the channel buoy was still attached to its starboard anchor. The ship had broken off its moorings in a Northwest gale and had drifted across the basin before touching ground on the other side thereby taking with it the buoy. Several tugs refloated the ship and towed it back to its berth. -- Correspondent.

London, May 23 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* was still at Cape Town at 1125, UTC, today.

BUTUAN BAY 1 (Philippines)

Manila, May 17 -- The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has determined that the explosion in the engine room of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1* that killed three crew members was caused by mechanical failure and not a terrorist act. MARINA is the regulatory agency for the domestic shipping industry. MARINA Chief Investigator Arnie Santiago, who led a team to investigate the incident, explained that the explosion occurred because a malfunction in the ship engine's exhaust manifold system caused carbon monoxide to accumulate. The trapped hot gas then ignited causing an explosion. Mr. Santiago said that they would also determine if the ship had the proper air ventilation system and if this was in working order. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 18 -- The Philippine Coast Guard is set to convene a Special Board of Marine Inquiry in the central Philippine city of Cebu to determine the cause and responsibility for an explosion in the engine-room of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1* that killed three crew members. Commodore Alejandro Flora said the marine inquiry would determine if the vessel's owner and operator had been negligent and should be held liable for the blast. *Butuan Bay 1* is owned and operated by Cebu-based Carlos A. Gothong Lines. The Board of Marine Inquiry would be made up of Coast Guard and Maritime Industry Authority officials. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 18 -- The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Enforcement Division disclosed Friday (May 18) that an operational error caused a malfunction in the exhaust manifold system which led to an explosion in the engine-room of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1*. "The engine-room crew did not follow proper procedure in operating the engine which resulted in a mechanical failure and the subsequent explosion," MARINA Enforcement Division

Director Arnie Santiago said. Mr. Santiago also noted that apart from the failure to operate the engine properly, there were also shortcomings by other crew members in following certain safety procedures contained in the vessel's ISM manual. Because of these serious lapses, Mr. Santiago said that he has recommended the suspension of the entire crew pending a formal investigation by the MARINA and the Special Board of Marine Inquiry. The MARINA, the regulatory agency for the domestic shipping industry, can impose administrative sanctions against shipowners and crews. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 19 -- The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has allowed the 16-ship fleet of Carlos A. Gothong Lines to resume operations after conducting safety inspections on all vessels. The MARINA ordered a safety inspection of all Gothong Lines vessels on Wednesday (May 16) following the death of three crewmen on board Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1* when there was an explosion in its engine-room May 15 as it was leaving Cebu Port. The MARINA, however, has ordered all Gothong Lines vessels to undergo a re-audit of their ISM procedures. MARINA inspectors have discovered that several Gothong vessels, including the *Butuan Bay 1*, had been remiss in following safety procedures as outlined in their ISM manuals. *Butuan Bay 1*, in the meantime, remains docked at Pier No 7, Cebu port. The vessel is expected to remain at the pier until maritime regulatory agencies have completed their investigations into the accident. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 24 -- The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) will be conducting a second inspection of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1* after receiving reports that its engine had just undergone repairs the day before it's engine exploded on May 15. The inspection team will focus on the engine's cylinder No.4 which was repaired. "We are looking at every angle," MARINA Enforcement Division Director Arnie Santiago said. "While there was lapses by the ship's engine personnel, we are also trying to determine if improper repairs also contributed to the engine explosion," he added. -- Correspondent.

CAPE CORDELL (Canada)

London, May 23 -- Fishing (general) *Cape Cordell* (102 gt, built 1988) was reported disabled 82 nautical miles east-north-east of Cape Freels, Newfoundland, in lat 49 43N, long 51 31W, at 1205, UTC, May 21, due to a lost rudder.

CASTEL COZ (France)

London, May 22 -- Following received from Gris Nez MRCC: Fishing (general) *Castel Coz* (102 gt, built 1985) was taken in tow by fishing *Jonathan* at 2232, UTC, May 15. The convoy arrived Boulogne 1232, UTC, May 16. (Note -- Understand salvage services were rendered to *Castel Coz* under Lloyd's Open Form by Union de Remorquage et de Sauvetage SA.)

CG K79 (U.S.A.)

Bilbao, May 22 -- Barge *CG K79* is still at Princesa Pier, Bilbao. Understand no decision has yet been made by the owners regarding repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

CHEONBU NO.1

See *Sam Jin No.1*.

CHINOOK (Marshall Islands)

London, May 21 -- Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 1355, UTC: Product tanker *Chinook* (24252 gt, built 2000) lost its port anchor while manoeuvring at Stapleton Anchorage, New York, May 19. (Note -- *Chinook* arrived New York May 18 and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was at anchor in lat 40 38 26N, long 74 02 47W, at 1350, UTC, today.)

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, product tanker *Chinook* was located stationary at New York at 1051, UTC, today.

CLIO (Bahamas)

London, May 23 -- Bulker *Clio*, Quebec for Cartagena, passed Gibraltar at 0928, May 21.

COMMANDER (Panama)

London, May 21 -- Bulker *Commander*, Preveza for Diliskelesi, passed Dardanelles May 19.

CUTTY SARK

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated today, states: A fire which severely damaged the famous 19th Century ship *Cutty Sark* (built 1869) is being treated as suspicious by police. The ship, which was undergoing a £25m restoration project, is kept in a dry dock at Greenwich in south-east London. An area around the 138-year-old tea clipper had to be evacuated when the fire broke out in the early hours. A Cutty Sark Trust spokesman said 50% of the ship was removed for restoration work. The decks of the ship are said to be unsalvageable but much of the vessel, including the masts, had already been taken away as part of the restoration project. Chris Livett, chairman of Cutty Sark Enterprises, speaking at the scene, said: "We had removed 50% of the planking, so 50% of the planking wasn't on site and that is safe and secure. And from where I stand there is not a huge amount of damage to the planking that was left on. There are pockets of charred planking and some have gone but it doesn't look as bad as first envisaged." Police are analysing CCTV images which are thought to show people in the area shortly before the fire started. Insp Bruce Middlemiss, from the Metropolitan Police, said detectives were looking into the possibility that the fire had been started deliberately and would like to speak to some people seen in the area last night. "There is indication that there were people in the area at the time when the fire initially started, that's come from the local borough CCTV," he said. "There's no indication at this stage that the people that are on that CCTV footage are actually involved in the incident but

may merely be witnesses." Firefighters were called to the scene at 0345, UTC, and the flames were put out by 0600, UTC.

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: Police are treating the blaze on clipper *Cutty Sark* as suspicious and are waiting for the wreck to be made safe before continuing their investigations. Richard Doughty, chief executive of the Cutty Sark Trust, called for help in raising the funds to restore the ship. More than half the vessel, including the masts, had been taken apart and moved off site as part of the refurbishment and was therefore not affected by the fire. However, the restoration costs will increase substantially following the blaze and the Trust still needs to examine the hull of the vessel to determine the extent of the damage. Mr Doughty said: "We are appealing for help to close the funding gap and to get us through the crisis and return the ship to its former glory." Police have appealed for people who were in the area close to the vessel in the early hours of yesterday morning to come forward.

DALMACIJA (Croatia)

See "Germany" under "Port State Control".

ELLEN KNUITSEN (NIS)

London, May 23 -- Combined chemical and oil tank *Ellen Knutsen* (11433 gt, built 1991) was in contact with the pilings of the Botlek bridge in Rotterdam yesterday morning. It was pushed against the bridge with its starboard side which sustained some damage. Kotug tugs were called to tow the ship off the pilings. After having being freed the vessel proceeded to Rotterdam under own power. (Note -- *Ellen Knutsen* arrived Moerdijk 0640 yesterday and, according to Lloyd's MIU AIS, was still in port at 0757, UTC, today.)

EMPRESS OF THE NORTH (U.S.A.)

London, May 21 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger ro/ro *Empress of the North* was located 42 nautical miles from Kake, Wash, in lat 57 36 11.64N, long 133 44 02.05W, at 0907, UTC, today, course 160.8 deg, speed 7.3 knots.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated May 22, states: Passenger ro/ro *Empress of the North* is headed to Ketchikan for repairs, accompanied by two tugs. The vessel left Juneau Sunday (May 20) and is expected to arrive at Alaska Ship and Dry Dock in Ketchikan this morning. An inspection will be completed there, to determine if the vessel needs to travel further south to complete the repairs. The vessel hit a charted rock about 45 miles from Juneau. The impact ripped several holes in the vessel's hull. The National Transportation Safety Board and Coast Guard are investigating. (See issue of May 22.) (Note: According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, *Empress of the North* latest position, at 0435, UTC, May 23, in lat 55 21.19N, long 131

41.58W, 2.2 nautical miles from Ketchikan, speed one knot, course 321.3 degrees.)

EURO SQUALL (U.K.)

London, May 24 -- Following received from Lisbon MRCC, timed 0930, UTC: Container Carrier *Euro Squall* (6191 gt, built 2002) was reported by a passing vessel adrift in lat 39 01.9N, long 09 42.6W, at 2315, local time, yesterday. Understand the vessel is now being towed by tug *Svitzer Leixoes* to Lisbon. (Note -- *Euro Squall* sailed Rotterdam 1425, May 18, for Leixoes and Lisbon.)

EVIAPETROL I (Greece)

Piraeus, May 22 -- Product tanker *Eviapetrol I* completed repairs May 18 and sailed same day for Piraeus. -- Lloyd's Agents.

FAR SOVEREIGN (Norway)

London, May 17 -- Anchor handling tug/supply *Far Sovereign* was refloated by tug *Felix* yesterday afternoon after it grounded at Hundvag. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Far Sovereign* was in lat 58 45 55N, long 05 07 59E, at 1451, UTC, today, speed 15.3 knots, course 197.7 degrees.)

London, May 23 -- A report from the owners of anchor handling tug/supply *Far Sovereign* states: Regarding the grounding of *Far Sovereign*, the company has initiated an internal investigation in order to find the complete background and reason for the incident. It appears that during DP system maintenance and testing, the vessel deviated from its intended position and drifted on to a sandbank. Fortunately, there were no injuries and only minor material damage was sustained. The vessel is currently back in operation for Saipem, and is planning a docking in order to take care of the damaged thruster on the foreship.

Kiel, May 23 -- A search is underway for a missing propeller at the grounding site of anchor handling tug/supply *Far Sovereign* after the incident on May 16. Divers went down to search for the propeller May 21. -- Correspondent.

FINJA (Germany)

Kiel, May 21 -- Combined chemical and oil tank *Finja* (1102 gt, built 2000) experienced machinery problems on the River Elbe, off Gluecksstadt, on May 9. The vessel was towed to Cuxhaven by the Bugsier tugs *Bugsier 14* and *Bugsier 19*. In Cuxhaven, tugs *Wulf 3* and *Wulf 8* assisted towing *Finja* to the Gluesing Quay which could not be reached by the bigger tugs due to their depth. On May 14 *Finja* moved to the Helgoland Quay after completion of repairs. -- Correspondent.

London, May 21 -- Combined chemical and oil tank *Finja* arrived Brunsbützel 0500, May 14, sailed 0755, May 15, and arrived Hamburg 1243, same day.

FINNMARKEN (Norway)

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Seventeen passengers on board passenger ro/ro *Finnmarken* (15690 gt, built 2002) have

fallen ill from the norovirus, which causes stomach pain, vomiting and diarrhoea in the past 24 hours, according to NRK (Norwegian Broadcasting) reports. Contagion prevention doctor Glenn Severinsen was meeting with Hurtigruten management in Tromsø this afternoon to decide what measures should be taken on board. Nurses and a doctor are on the vessel.

FOREST 1 (St. Kitts-Nevis)

Kiel, May 18 -- Two sailors died during a rescue boat exercise on the detained, Russian owned, general cargo *Forest 1* (2608 gt, built 1993) in the port of Emden on May 16. A third sailor was hurt and was still not stable in the evening of May 17. The drowned sailors come from the Ukraine and Russia. The crew of *Forest 1* was undergoing safety training and tried to launch the lifeboat. Seven sailors entered the enclosed boat. When trying to lower it, one of its ropes broke. The boat crashed onto the ship's deck and then into the harbour basin. Four of the sailors managed to escape from the boat when it was resting on the deck. A Russian officer, an engineer and a deck hand were trapped inside the boat which some moments later plunged into the water and sank within seconds. Forty-five minutes later divers had reached the boat in a depth of 14 metres and took the victims to the surface. All were taken to hospital where the officer and the engineer died. According to the police the boat had not been closed when being lowered so that it could on the one hand sink and on the other hand allow four persons to escape. *Forest 1* has been detained at Emden for about two weeks due to severe deficiencies. It had been underway from Papenburg to Turkey with logs, but sustained machine damage shortly before passing Emden and had to be towed into the harbour where it was detained after inspections. -- Correspondent. (Note -- *Forest 1* arrived at Emden on May 8.)

FRAU NANCY (North Korea)

Valetta, May 22 -- General cargo *Frau Nancy*: Cargo is still being transhipped. This operation is expected to be completed by tomorrow. -- Lloyd's Agents.

GAS SHANGHAI (Marshall Islands)

London, May 17 -- A press report, dated today, states: Five bodies have been recovered as of today after general cargo *Hoang Dat-36* was struck by Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Gas Shanghai* Tuesday in canal waters off the Lotus Wharf in Ho Chi Minh City. Three others are missing and presumed dead. *Hoang Dat-36* now sits under 15-20 metres of water, and a 350-ton crane is to be mobilized tomorrow from Vung Tau to salvage the ship. *Gas Shanghai* is being detained by Ho Chi Minh City authorities. Local police are looking into the accident. Early this morning, the city environment department said oil began to leak from the hull of *Hoang Dat-36*, as it was also carrying some

2,000 litres of oil. Hoang Van Loc, director of Dai Minh, a private salvage company, said most of the leaked oil has been absorbed by special sponges, and that the leak is under control. Doan Thanh Cuong, another Dai Minh executive said the salvage will probably take over two weeks because the cargo is cumbersome and there are heavy currents in waters around the crash site.

London, May 17 -- A report, dated today, states: Seven bodies in total have now been recovered from general cargo *Hoang Dat-36*. One is still missing and presumed dead. The body of master Truong Quang Thieu was recovered this morning, around 10km from the crash site. Earlier, second in command Nghiem Xuan Suy was found 7km away. Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Gas Shanghai* is being detained by Ho Chi Minh City authorities. Local police are looking into the accident and have suggested criminal charges be laid against those responsible.

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: HCMC Police on Wednesday (May 16) set up an investigation team to conduct an inquiry into the collision near Lotus Port in the city's Nha Be River on Tuesday that caused a local vessel to sink and numerous deaths. The Division of Criminal Investigation on Social Safety and Order under the HCMC Police, commonly known as PC14, was also about to issue a warrant on the accident in District 7, after the Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Gas Shanghai* crashed into the local general cargo *Hoang Dat-36*, causing eight people dead and missing. Investigators also asked the District 7 Police to hand over all documents to PC14 for serving the investigation. As of the night, only three bodies of the deceased sailors had been found and taken ashore. The rescue was suspended later because of strong currents in the river although other five were still missing. Relatives of the local crew, who are from the northern cities of Nam Dinh and Hai Phong, arrived in HCMC on Wednesday to identify the victims. Besides putting more efforts in the rescue operations, HCMC's relevant agencies also tried to recover oil that spilled out from the wreck, and cleaned up the river yesterday. Dai Minh Company, a private firm providing rescue service, was named to salvage the sunk vessel and prevent the oil spill. Dai Minh fished out two cubic metres of diesel oil from the river and managed to keep the oil from spreading.

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: The last body from general cargo *Hoang Dat-36*, which was struck by liquid petroleum gas carrier *Gas Shanghai* several days ago, has been retrieved, bringing the final death toll in the mishap to eight. Twenty-two-year-old Nguyen Van Do of northern Nam Dinh province, a mechanic on *Hoang Dat-36*, was found dead in the vessel's engine-room early yesterday. Authorities said they had discovered a breach in the vessel's hull on the same

day, measuring 2.4 metres in height and 1.2 metres in width. The vessels were in collision on Tuesday (May 15) at Ho Chi Minh City's Lotus Wharf as *Hoang Dat-36* was about to anchor with 2,000 tons of corrugated iron sheets on board. *Hoang Dat-36* was thrust into the wharf bank and sank 10 minutes later. Eight crew members were rescued. The vessel was left submerged in 15-20 metres of water. Work to recover the vessel and cargo has been continuing and should last another 20 days, authorities said. A 350-ton crane was dispatched yesterday from Vung Tau town to help salvage the vessel. *Gas Shanghai* is being detained in HCMC and its master, Miguel Salvador, is being questioned over the incident.

GIANT I (Panama)

Antalya, May 22 -- Yacht *Giant I*, fire on board Apr 26: No news or update on vessel's situation. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

GOLDEN ROSE (South Korea)

London, May 17 -- A team of South Korean divers is expected to start searching the accommodation block tomorrow of general cargo *Golden Rose*. Sixteen crew, seven Koreans, one Indonesian and eight from Myanmar, from *Golden Rose* are missing. A South Korean coast guard official said the group of 10 divers will initially limit their search to the accommodation block, which is lying in about 40 metres of water, because that is where the missing crew are most likely to be located. The coast guard indicated that *Golden Rose* had split into at least two sections because the rest of the ship is in water reported to be about 50 metres deep. The divers arrived onboard two South Korean coast guard ships which were finally allowed by Chinese authorities to help with rescue efforts on Tuesday after Chinese officials initially refused Korea's help. The cutters included *Taepyeongyang-5* which was barred from Chinese waters because it was carrying a helicopter, but Chinese officials later relented and allowed the ship to participate. At a news conference today, maritime search and rescue centre executive director Liu Gongchen said more than 200 vessels had been involved in search and rescue efforts. So far only two liferafts, four life rings and other debris had been recovered. Rescue efforts have been hampered by rough seas and bad weather. A visit by families of the missing to the accident site was postponed yesterday because of bad weather.

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: China is still searching for the 16 missing sailors of general cargo *Golden Rose* that sank off east China's coast, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu said in Beijing yesterday. The investigation into the accident is still going on, Jiang said. Jiang said the Chinese government attached great importance to the incident and the Foreign Ministry has co-ordinated with the Ministry of Communication and Shandong provincial government in

carrying out search-and-rescue work. China has informed the ROK embassy the latest development of the research work and agreed to allow the ROK side to join in the search-and-rescue work, she said.

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: Chinese authorities today dispatched eight more divers to find general cargo *Golden Rose*. Twenty-nine divers were now involved in the search, a spokesman with China's Ministry of Communications said. Divers failed to find the vessel yesterday evening due to strong winds and waves, and were waiting in the area to dive again when conditions permitted, the ministry spokesman said. More than 300 Chinese vessels and three aircraft have joined the search for the missing sailors and China has invited the Republic of Korea to send rescue boats and Coast Guard vessels. Searchers have found two liferafts, four life rings, traces of fuel oil and other debris from the *Golden Rose* but no sign of the crew.

London, May 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: Deep-sea divers searched the sunken general cargo *Golden Rose* off the north-eastern coast of China but found no signs of its 16 missing crew members today, more than a week after the collision which sank the vessel, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. The divers, from the Chinese Government's Ministry of Communications, combed the cabin of the *Golden Rose* and the surrounding seabed to no avail, Xinhua reported. The May 12 collision between the *Golden Rose* and Chinese Container Carrier *Jin Sheng* has drawn criticism from South Korean media, which has accused China of reacting slowly to the collision. The Chinese vessel was lightly damaged while the *Golden Rose*, with its crew of seven South Koreans, eight Myanmarers and one Indonesian, sank quickly.

London, May 21 -- China sent an extra eight divers on Friday (May 18) to join in the underwater search for 16 crew missing from general cargo *Golden Rose*, which sank off Yantai following a collision nine days ago. The communications ministry said 29 were currently involved in the search, which has been hampered by rough seas and poor weather conditions. A team of 10 divers from South Korea has also started searching for the missing crew. The focus of the search is the accommodation block of the vessel, which is lying in 40 metres of water, as that is where the missing crew are likely to be located. The Coast Guard indicated the vessel had split into at least two sections, because the rest of the vessel is in water reported to be about 50 metres deep. The divers arrived on board two South Korean Coast Guard vessels.

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated today, states: South Korea's Foreign Minister Song Min-soon said today his government would decide what actions to take after China provides the results of its ongoing investigation into a recent vessel collision that left 16 crew members of a

Korean vessel (general cargo *Golden Rose*) missing. Seoul suspects negligence from the way the Chinese container carrier *Jin Sheng* reacted after colliding with the Korean vessel, which sank in Chinese waters with no rescue effort, but will not intervene in the continuing Chinese investigation, Song said in a meeting with the National Assembly's unification, foreign affairs and trade committee. "There are indications of negligence in the way *Jin Sheng* reacted to the collision. That was wrong for sure," he said. "At this stage, what we can do is to ask for a speedy and accurate investigation," he said. China has been criticised for being slow in rescue operations after the two vessels collided in the predawn hours in dense fog on May 12. *Jin Sheng* waited eight hours before it reported the crash to Chinese maritime authorities after arriving at its destination port of Dailian. It took an additional 14 hours for the Chinese authorities to notify the South Korean embassy in Beijing. All the crew of the Korean vessel -- seven South Koreans, eight Myanmarers and one Indonesian -- remain missing. "There is a clear time gap between the time of the accident and the time of the report, and Seoul is keeping an eye on the Chinese government and how it will explain it and what actions it will take," Song said. The minister ruled out diplomatic action until Beijing provides the investigation's results, while lawmakers are complaining that China has been too slow in the investigation and that Seoul has to push Beijing to expedite it. "The government will raise its claims when there are things it can do. If it intervenes during the investigation, future actions would be hampered in their efficiency and justifiability," Song said.

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: Rescuers today recovered the body of another crew member of general cargo *Golden Rose*, Chinese officials said. The body was unidentified but believed to be that of the South Korean master. Yesterday, Chinese divers recovered the first body, believed to be that of a Myanmarer crew member.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Three bodies have been found in the wreck of general cargo *Golden Rose*, Chinese state media reported today. Two of the bodies have been recovered from *Golden Rose*, while the third is still in the vessel, Xinhua news agency reported. The other 13 crew are presumed dead. The original 16 missing sailors comprised eight South Korean nationals, seven from Myanmar and one from Indonesia. Xinhua gave no details as to the identities of the two bodies that had been recovered. Chinese divers have made 18 attempts to search the sunken vessel, but their efforts have been hampered by technical difficulties, according to Xinhua.

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, container carrier *Jin Sheng* was located 7.3 nautical miles from Beiliang, China, in lat 38 50

43.2N, long 121 48 04.8E, at 0428, UTC, today, course 311 deg, speed 12.5 knots.

GOURINIS (France)

Lorient, May 23 -- The crew of the two barges *Larminaria* and *Mor Braz II* had to take the water out from the hull of ferry *Gourinis* under which could be seen the rips undergone by the contact with the rock which caused the vessel sink. Weighing about 10 tonnes, it was not possible to heave up the stem of the vessel to the berth and so it will have to wait for the arrival of the DGE Company, from Lorient, next Monday morning (May 28) to be removed by crane and be cut. The employees of the Compagnie Morbihannaise de Navigation have helped the divers, some of which have been working hard since the shipwreck took place, trying to remove the wreckage and carry on the cutting, which is under way. -- Lloyd's Agents.

GRETA KOSAN (Isle of Man)

Oporto, May 22 -- Liquid petroleum gas carrier *Greta Kosan* sailed Viana do Castelo on May 15. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HAI LIM NO.38 (South Africa)

London, May 22 -- Following navigation warning issued May 21: Fishing *Hai Lim No.38* (113 gt, built 1995) drifting in north-westerly direction in lat 32 09.67S, long 16 52.72E. All ships in vicinity requested to assist.

London, May 22 -- Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 0950, UTC: Fishing *Hai Lim No.38* is now being towed by fishing *Boetie Bert* to St. Helena Bay, South Africa, where ETA 2030, UTC, today.

London, May 22 -- Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 2103, UTC: Fishing (general) *Hai Lim No.38* is now safely alongside at St. Helena Bay.

HARPOON (Philippines)

Manila, May 21 -- General cargo *Harpoon* has been released from dry dock at Tsuneshi Heavy Industries (Cebu) Inc shipyard, in Cebu island in central Philippines. The vessel is now at anchorage off the shipyard undergoing additional afloat repairs. Owners have issued additional work orders, a Tsuneshi official said. Because of the additional repairs, the departure of the vessel from the shipyard has been reset from May to June. *Harpoon* caught fire on Mar 24 while undergoing repairs at the yard. -- Correspondent.

HELLAS ENDURANCE (Greece)

Chittagong, May 20 -- Product tanker *Hellas Endurance* (27645 gt, built 1999), which arrived Chittagong May 17 with 32,000 tonnes of crude oil, and bulker *Noora* (18882 gt, built 1975) were in collision at Chittagong outer anchorage at around 0700, local time, May 19. *Noora* reportedly dragged its anchor and came into contact with *Hellas Endurance*, sustaining damage. *Hellas Endurance* has berthed at inner harbour DOJ-5 and is presently

discharging its cargo. *Noora* is presently discharging its cargo at Chittagong outer anchorage. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Chittagong, May 21 -- Bulker *Noora* arrived Chittagong outer anchorage with a cargo of 30,600 tonnes cement clinker and is presently discharging cargo at Chittagong outer anchorage. After carrying out temporary repairs the vessel is expected to sail on May 28. Product tanker *Hellas Endurance* is continuing its cargo discharge at DOJ-5. After carrying out necessary repairs the vessel is expected to sail tomorrow. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Chittagong, May 23 -- Local agents of product tanker *Hellas Endurance* have advised that she completed cargo discharge at 1700 hrs, May 22 and sailed for Singapore later the same day. No repairs were carried out at Chittagong. Bulker *Noora* is still discharging her cargo at Chittagong outer anchorage. ETC is May 30. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HOANG DAT-36 (Vietnam)

See *Gas Shanghai*.

HONG REN (China)

Guangzhou, May 21 -- Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Hong Ren* has been refloated, but no information regarding repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HONG SUCCESS (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Heavy weather battered general cargo *Hong Success* (13228 gt, built 1981), Shanghai for Lagos, loaded, off the Eastern Cape coast so badly that the master had to seek emergency refuge in East London port. Two local tugs set out into breaking six-metre waves and howling winds after dark in a daring attempt to rescue the flailing *Hong Success* Monday evening (May 21). "When we reached it, the main deck was diving into the sea each time it pitched. Some cargo had already come off and what remained was dangling dangerously from the decks," said tug crew member Chad Bengé. Lorry trailers had been piled up in five stacks on deck. But early yesterday morning only one stack remained intact. The guardrails on the main deck were twisted and bent by the crashing cargo. The trouble on board *Hong Success* began Monday morning, according to a call from the master that was logged by Cape Town's main marine radio centre at 1100 hrs. The ship was about 80 nautical miles north-east of East London. It had already lost cargo and was dangerously out of balance, according to the report. With loose cargo on deck, the crew had been confined below. The ship needed safe anchorage or, even better, docking along the coast to allow the crew to assess the damage and re-stow what was left. Dennis Mqadi and Nontsi Tshazi, in charge at East London port, took the call. They offered *Hong Success* refuge and said that if it was safe to do so, one of them would pilot the vessel into port. Just after dark *Hong Success* arrived near the port,

stopping near Nahoon Reef to await further orders. Harbour-master Mqadi set off in a pilot boat to inspect the vessel, and at sea he assessed the ship and decided it was safe to board. Once he had assessed it was possible to bring the ship in, he called out two tugs to ride on either side of the carrier in case of trouble. With Mqadi at the helm, the vessel entered the harbour with considerable amounts of its cargo missing -- but all of its crew intact. (Note -- *Hong Success* sailed Shanghai Apr 27 for Apapa-Lagos.)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Chinese-owned general cargo *Hong Success* sought shelter in East London after encountering heavy seas off the Wild Coast. The vessel was en route to Lagos when rough seas resulted in part of the deck cargo of truck trailers breaking loose and some cargo being lost overboard. The trailers were stacked on deck up to five high, but broke loose due to the movement of the ship in gale force winds and waves of six metres and more. At that point the ship issued a radio message that was picked up by Cape Town's marine radio. Permission was given for the vessel to approach the port of East London, where two harbour tugs lent assistance. The East London harbour-master Capt Dennis Mqadi took charge of the inspection of the vessel at a point opposite Nahoon Reef outside the harbour before boarding the vessel from the pilot boat and piloting her into harbour. Yesterday morning *Hong Success* was safely in port, where the remaining deck cargo is being secured and repairs to the ship's rails and other damaged areas carried out.

IBN YOUNUS (State of Qatar)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy."

ISCHIA EXPRESS (Italy)

Naples, May 22 -- Understand from the agents of passenger ro/ro *Ischia Express* that the vessel has been repaired and is expected to return to service within the next 15 days. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *Ischia Express* partially sank at the port of Ischia, Naples, Nov 24, 2005.)

ISLAND SKY (Bahamas)

London, May 24 -- Health officials are to carry out tests on a luxury cruise liner after several passengers and crew fell ill. Several people on board the passenger (cruise) *Island Sky* (4200 gt, built 1992) suffered from vomiting and diarrhoea during a voyage from the Western Isles to Orkney. The ship berthed in Kirkwall yesterday, where environmental and public health officials boarded it. It later sailed to Leith, where City of Edinburgh Council staff plan to carry out further tests. The ship is understood to have about 110 passengers on board. Those affected by the illness were said to be recovering well.

IWASHIRO (Panama)

London, May 17 -- Container Carrier *Iwashiro* is still at Durban repair yard.

Durban, May 24 -- According to the local agent for Container Carrier *Iwashiro* the vessel is still undergoing repairs and will hopefully sail May 27 or 28. -- Lloyd's Agents.

JIN HAI KUN (China)

London, May 22 -- Bulker *Jin Hai Kun* arrived Singapore May 19.

JIN SHENG (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

See *Golden Rose*.

KANG NAM 1 (North Korea)

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: General cargo *Kang Nam 1* (702 gt, built 1989) that docked at Thilawa Sunday (May 20) was in distress and taking shelter from a storm and inspections by Myanmar authorities found no suspicious cargo on board, Myanmar's Foreign Ministry said today. In a statement sent to foreign embassies today, the ministry said a storm caused the *Kang Nam 1*, which was sailing in Myanmar territorial waters, to develop engine trouble in one of its engines and have inadequate supplies of food and water. It was allowed to dock Sunday at Thilawa for humanitarian reasons to make repairs and take on supplies, the statement said.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: General cargo *Kang Nam 1* left Thilawa this morning with its master and 18 crew members.

KIOWA SPIRIT (Bahamas)

London, May 18 -- Crude oil tanker *Kiowa Spirit* sailed St. John's May 15.

KOA MARU NO.8 (Japan)

Yokohama, May 21 -- Product tanker *Koa Maru No.8* (749 gt, built 1994), at anchor off Kanmon port for refuelling, and general cargo *Seiko Maru* (390 gt, built 1995), Kanmon for Hikari, were in contact in lat 33 53.59N, long 131 11.15E, at 0025, May 16. *Koa Maru No.8* sustained cracking/scratching damage to port bow. *Seiko Maru* sustained dent to bulwark at bow area. No water ingress or oil spill/injuries reported. -- Lloyd's Agents.

LADY MOURA (Bahamas)

London, May 20 -- Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report, today: Yacht *Lady Moura* (3914 gt, built 1990) ran aground off Cannes, on May 19, and began listing and leaking fuel. Authorities have placed a boom around the vessel.

London, May 20 -- Following received from La Garde MRCC, timed 0733, UTC: Yacht *Lady Moura* has been refloated and is now safely anchored at Cannes. The fuel leak has been halted but a boom is still in place around the vessel and an anti-pollution vessel is on scene.

Marseilles, May 20 -- Yacht *Lady Moura* grounded at 1830, local time, Mar 19. The vessel has sustained a breach in the hull and anti-pollution operations are under way. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated today, states: Yacht *Lady Moura*

ran aground within view of the Cannes Film Festival Palace, spilling fuel and forcing the closure of several beaches. Police in nearby Toulon said the yacht struck the sandy bottom on Saturday afternoon (May 19) while unloading passengers. No one was hurt in the incident but the yacht, which boasts four upper decks and a helicopter pad, was evacuated before a tug arrived that evening to pull it free. The vessel sustained minor damage to its hull near the fuel tanks. Several hundred litres of fuel spilled into the bay, but police said most of it was contained by a 200-metre-long boom set up around the damaged vessel. Three nearby beaches were briefly closed as a precaution yesterday, police said. French press reported that they included those of the Martinez and Carlton hotels, which host many festival-goers. An aerial survey yesterday confirmed that traces of fuel escaped the boom but they were expected to evaporate naturally, police said.

LANGELAND (Germany)

Kiel, May 18 -- In the midday hours of May 14, the bunker boat *Leda* (owned by Carl Bittner, Leer) was in collision with general cargo *Langeland*, homeport Wishahfen, which was loaded with fertiliser for Rhenus, in the sea lock at Leer. The master tried to avoid the accident by going full astern, but *Leda* touched *Langeland* and was slightly dented at the bow on port side. *Langeland* sustained very minor damage at the stern on the starboard side. -- Correspondent.

London, May 19 -- General cargo *Langeland* arrived Rostock May 16.

LEDA (Germany)

See *Langeland*.

LIVIA (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Gothenburg, May 17 -- Understand a vessel has had a fire in its engine-room at Falkenberg yard while there for maintenance/service. -- Westax Marine Services AB.

London, May 17 -- Following received from Gothenburg MRCC, timed 2000, UTC: General cargo *Livia* (2279 gt, built 1976) had a fire on board at Falkenberg. No other details known. (Note -- *Livia* arrived Falkenberg Aug 14, 2002, and was last reported still in port Nov 1, 2006.)

Kiel, May 18 -- A fire broke out in the machine room of general cargo *Livia* while berthed in Falkenberg at the Falkvarvet (Falk Yard) on May 17. No one was injured. -- Correspondent.

Gothenburg, May 21 -- General cargo *Livia* had a fire on board at Falkyard on May 17. The vessel had been at the yard for several years, undergoing a conversion to a bulk carrier. At the time of the fire, no work was being carried out on board the vessel. The vessel's CO2 equipment was engaged after the workers had cleared the area, and the fire was extinguished. A set of cables were blackened but the vessel's engine was not damaged by fire or smoke. The cause of the fire is not yet known. -- Westax Marine Services AB.

MAGDALENA (Argentina)

London, May 24 -- Following navigation warning issued May 23: Fishing *Victoria* towing fishing *Magdalena* (328 gt) in lat 46 27.1S, long 66 58W, line length 250 metres, speed 7.5 knots, course 130 degrees, bound for Puerto Deseado.

MANILA BAY 1 (Philippines)

Manila, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 15, states: The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) disclosed that the Carlos A. Gothong Lines, owners and operators of passenger ro/ro *Manila Bay 1* (15771 gt, built 1973) may have violated safety rules when it undertook repairs of the vessel at the Gothong Wharf, Pier No 7 in Mandaue City. MARINA Enforcement Division Director Arnie Santiago explained that port regulations prohibit repairs on vessels docked at port unless a special permit is issued by the Philippine Ports Authority. "The shipowner failed to secure a special permit," Mr. Santiago said. Despite the absence of a work permit, welding work took place on *Manila Bay 1* as it was docked at Gothong Wharf on Feb 17. Sparks from an acetylene torch accidentally caused a fire on the third deck which quickly spread throughout the vessel. Gothong Lines, on the other hand, argued that these restrictions did not apply if the vessel was docked at a private port. The shipowner noted that since *Manila Bay 1* was docked at the company's private wharf it had the right to carry out repairs on the vessel. *Manila Bay 1* is currently docked at Gothong Wharf undergoing repairs. -- Correspondent.

MARGARET ANN (U.S.A.)

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: The master of tug *Margaret Ann* that sank in Lake Michigan two years ago will serve 30 months in prison for negligence and falsifying his license, a federal judge ordered Wednesday (May 16). The tug sank Mar 31, 2005, while towing two barges near Hammond. All of the crew members survived. A grand jury in January indicted the master, Gary O. Burnham, 52, of Michigan City, on charges of forging his mariner's license, neglect of duty by a seaman and negligently causing the discharge of a hazardous substance, diesel fuel. Burnham pleaded guilty in March to the three charges. A US Coast Guard investigation found that Burnham had been using 75-ft tow lines, rather than lines longer than 400 ft as he should have, to tow two barges loaded with coke. The shorter ropes tipped *Margaret Ann* onto its side, causing it to sink. Burnham had been working on a written report at the time instead of keeping a proper watch on the operation. Holly Marine suffered losses of close to \$1 million, which included the cost of retrieving and repairing the *Margaret Ann*. Burnham must report to the Federal Bureau of Prisons on Jun 27 to start serving his sentence.

MARIAM TRANS (Sierra Leone)

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Pakistan Coast Guard aircraft was scrambled to aid the 12-member crew of general cargo *Mariam Trans* (1199 gt, built 1966) sinking in the Arabian Sea today while carrying scrap metal from Iraq to India, an official said. The Sierra Leone-flagged *Mariam Trans* made a distress call to the Maritime Security Agency and reported that it was sinking about 250 kilometres south of Karachi, said agency spokesman Lt Cmdr Attiqur Rehman. The aircraft left Karachi with a lifeboat to drop near the vessel in the hope that it could help save crew members, most of them Indians, who were unable to use the ship's own lifeboats.

Karachi, May 21 -- Understand from shipping industry sources that general cargo *Mariam Trans* of Colombo fleet carrying scrap from Iraq to India is sinking in the Arabian Sea about 125 nautical miles south of Karachi port this evening. Crew were already rescued by an unidentified American vessel. Meanwhile, officials of Pakistan Navy and Maritime Security Agency also reached the casualty side along with vessel *Defender* to assist in the rescue operation if needed. -- Correspondent.

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated May 21, states: The Pakistan Maritime Security Agency rescued the crew of general cargo *Mariam Trans*, which sank today, by dropping a liferaft from an aircraft to 11 men bobbing next to the vessel's fast-disappearing prow. *Mariam Trans* made a distress call that it was sinking about 250 kilometres south of Karachi, in the Arabian Sea, said MSA spokesman Lt Cmdr Attiqur Rehman. An agency aircraft scrambled to the area, spotted the crew near the stricken ship and dropped the inflatable raft, said Navy spokesman Lt Cmdr Salman Ali. All 11 crew members, most of them Indians, were able to clamber in and crude oil tanker *Front Maple* then picked them up.

London, May 23 -- General cargo *Mariam Trans* was reported disabled and adrift in vicinity of lat 22 38.6N, long 66 32.8E, at 0745, UTC, May 21.

MARTYN LATSIS (Ukraine)

Odesa, May 18 -- As per Captain of Reni Port information, the collision between general cargo *Martyn Latsis* and general cargo *Rzhishchiv* took place at Mile 53.5 of the channel at 1105, local time, May 12. Both vessels were in transit, they remained afloat, exchanged Letters of Claim and proceeded to their destinations. *Martyn Latsis* arrived in the roads in Vilково, carried out some insignificant repairs May 13 and 14, then proceeded to Barcelona. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 21 -- General cargo *Martyn Latsis* passed Istanbul west at 1810, May 19, and subsequently passed Dardanelles west May 20 bound Barcelona.

MARY ELLEN (U.K.)

London, May 19 -- Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC,

timed 1648, UTC: Fishing (general) *Mary Ellen* (61 gt, built 2004), B 945, reported its main engine had seized about 11 nautical miles north-west of Buckie, in lat 57 45N, long 03 17W, at 1304, UTC. Buckie lifeboat was tasked by Aberdeen Coastguard and it took the *Mary Ellen* in tow, arriving safely at Buckie at 1625, UTC.

Grangemouth, May 23 -- Fishing *Mary Ellen* was towed into Buckie with engine problems by Buckie Lifeboat on May 19. We are unable to confirm the exact engine problem, however, this was not an engine seizure and the vessel departed after several hours in port. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MIDNATSOL (Norway)

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated May 21, states: Scores of passengers on board one of the vessels that plies the coast to northern Norway have been struck by what officials are calling a stomach virus. Illness first broke out onboard passenger ro/ro *Midnatsol* (16151 gt, built 2003) when it sailed from Trondheim four days ago. On Saturday (May 19), around 50 of the 600 passengers on board were reported to be suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting. "There are now 100 persons on board who are sick," Ragnar Norum of the Coastal Voyage line known as Hurtigruten said this morning. Food and health authorities evaluated the situation on board the ship but were initially unable to pinpoint the cause of the illness, believed to be an airborne virus. Cleaning routines have been sharpened, officials said, especially hygiene in lavatories and bathrooms. The stomach ailment is said to last around 24 hours. The *Midnatsol* was due to arrive in Kirkenes today, with 200 new passengers coming on board before the vessel turns and starts its voyage south to Bergen again. Torkild Torkildsen of Hurtigruten said that, since the virus was airborne, it was not tied to the food on board. "It's such a tight community on board that infections can spread quickly," he said. "It's gone from person to person."

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger ro/ro *Midnatsol* was located 15.5 nautical miles from Tromsø, in lat 69 33 17.88N, long 18 43 07.85E, at 0011, UTC, May 23, course 267.5 deg, speed 11.2 knots.

MIGHTY SERVANT 3 (Netherlands)

London, May 22 -- Understood semi-sub HL vessel *Mighty Servant 3* has been successfully refloated.

MINERAL BEIJING (Belgium)

Antwerp, May 22 -- Bulker *Mineral Beijing* (88930 gt, built 2004) collided with a fishing vessel approximately 0330, May 19, about 120 nautical miles off the port of Wenzhou. After the collision, the fishing vessel sank and six fishermen are missing. At present, the representatives of the *Mineral Beijing's* management company are awaiting further information on the incident. *Mineral Beijing* will proceed to the port of Dalian, to discharge her cargo. -- DPS Teamhead Surveyors.

(Note -- *Mineral Beijing* sailed from Ponta da Madeira, Brazil, at 1740, Apr 9 and was ETA at Dalian May 21.)

MINERVA CONCERT (Greece)

London, May 18 -- Following received from Aarhus RCC, timed 0930, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* remains aground. Combined chemical and oil tanker *Bro Sincero* is alongside for transfer of 10,000 tonnes of oil, which should be completed by about 2100, UTC, tonight. After the transfer a refloating attempt will be made tonight by four tugs. Following refloating the vessel will go to Kalundborg Fjord for inspection.

London, May 19 -- Following received from Aarhus RCC, timed 0445, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* was refloated at 1920, UTC, May 18. Vessel is presently at Kalundborg Fjord, awaiting diver inspection. The diver is due to arrive about 0600 hrs and the inspection is expected to take three to four hours.

London, May 19 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 1104, UTC: A diver's inspection of crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* has been carried out. No details are currently available regarding damage to the vessel.

London, May 21 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 1000, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* is now at anchor in Kalundborg Fjord awaiting transfer of its cargo to another tanker, after which, the vessel will proceed to an, as yet unknown, repair yard. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Minerva Concert* was anchored in lat 55 42 14.76N, long 10 57 16.14E, at 1004, UTC, today.)

Gothenburg, May 21 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* was refloated on May 18 after transshipping 12,000 tons of crude oil to combined chemical and oil tanker *Bro Sincero*. The vessel was taken to the Kalundborg Fjord for a diver's inspection, which confirmed severe bottom damage. The decision has been taken to discharge the vessel's entire cargo bring it to a repair yard as soon as possible. -- Westax Marine Services AB.

London, May 22 -- Following received from the owners of crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert*, dated today: *Minerva Concert* remains in Kalundborg Fjord at present, with a transshipping vessel due on scene tomorrow to receive the remaining cargo. The *Minerva Concert* will then proceed under its own power to a shipyard in Hamburg or Rotterdam for permanent repairs to bottom, including the crack in No 1 water ballast tank, etc.

Copenhagen, May 22 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* was taken to the Kalundborg Fjord for a diver's inspection which revealed severe damage and the Danish Admiralty Fleet has prohibited the vessel from resuming its voyage with the cargo. Another tanker is expected to arrive in the fjord on May 23. Once the entire cargo has been transhipped, the vessel is expected to proceed to a dock for repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 23 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 0930, UTC:

Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* is still in Kalundborg Fjord waiting for its cargo to be transhipped to crude oil tanker *Minerva Alexandra*. The transshipment is expected to start tomorrow. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Minerva Alexandra* was in lat 53 41 41N, long 04 11 24E, at 0108, UTC, today, speed 16.2 knots, course 53 degrees.)

Copenhagen, May 23 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Alexandra* will arrive at Bay of Kalundborg at 1000, May 24. We expect that the transshipment from crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* will start soon after arrival and take about 48 hours. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MISTRAL EXPRESS (Morocco)

London, May 20 -- Passenger ro/ro *Mistral Express* arrived Nador May 19.

MOBRO 139 (U.S.A.)

London, May 22 -- A Coast Guard Beaufort, SC, press release, dated May 21, states: The Coast Guard issued complaints Saturday (May 19) to three of the mariners involved in the Apr 26 striking of the McTeer Bridge in Beaufort (by barge *Mobro 139* in tow of tug *Sara Kaitlin*). Charged are Wright Gres, William Van Puffelen, and John O'Linger of Savannah Marine Services Inc. Gres and Puffelen are each charged with one count of negligence and two counts of misconduct. O'Linger is charged with one count of misconduct for operating outside the scope of his Coast Guard license. Gres was in charge of navigation of the *Sara Kaitlin* at the time of the allision and Van Puffelen was the master of the *Sara Kaitlin*. These charges incur a maximum possible total penalty of 12 months suspension of their Coast Guard merchant mariner licenses for each mariner. O'Linger was serving on board tug *William Breckinridge*, which was not directly involved in the casualty. This charge incurs a maximum possible penalty of three months suspension of his Coast Guard merchant mariner license. The incident is still under investigation and the final report will not be released to the public until it is completed, which could take several more months. During the course of the casualty investigation the Coast Guard may bring additional charges, or complaints, against other mariners and may pursue civil penalties against individuals or companies that contributed to the casualty.

MOBY FANTASY (Italy)

Naples, May 24 -- Passenger ro/ro *Moby Fantasy*, in collision with ferry *Nuraghes* off Olbia Jun 21, 2006, and towed to Naples shipyard, sailed May 22 for Leghorn. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MORNING EXPRESS (Panama)

London, May 22 -- Product tanker *Morning Express* sailed Singapore May 18.

MR.LULU (Georgia)

Rijeka, May 24 -- : Derrick crane no.4 on board general cargo *Mr.Lulu* sustained mechanical failure and

collapsed onto the deck at Sipad pier, Sibenik, May 9. Five minor injuries. One seriously injured. Vessel sailed Sibenik May 23. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MSC NAPOLI (U.K.)

London, May 17 -- A press report, dated today, states: The last container was lifted of Container Carrier *MSC Napoli* at 1130 this morning. The fate of the beached ship is now uncertain, but a decision is expected within two weeks, after discussions between its owners, salvors, insurers and the Environment Agency.

London, May 22 -- A SMIT Salvage BV report, states: Container Carrier *MSC Napoli*: On May 17 the last container was discharged. This part, carried out by a salvage team of some 40 people, took about four months. Currently equipment is being mobilized and preparations are made for the dewatering of the various compartments of the vessel, so that within a few weeks from now the vessel will ultimately be refloated. Subsequently the vessel will be redelivered to the owners.

NO.1 CHEMICARRY (South Korea)

See *Yi Shun*.

NOORA (Comoros)

See *Hellas Endurance*.

NORDSTRAND (U.K.)

Zeebrugge, May 18 -- General cargo *Nordstrand* at dockyard Reimerswaal since May 14, for repairs. The estimated date of sailing is May 22. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

London, May 24 -- General cargo *Nordstrand* sailed Hansweert May 22.

NORTHERN ADVENTURE (Canada)

London, May 21 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger ro/ro *Northern Adventure* was located 15.4 nautical miles from Crofton, BC, in lat 49 05 22.78N, long 123 30 17.52W, at 0802, UTC, May 19, course 337 deg, speed 16.5 knots.

NORWEGIAN STAR (Bahamas)

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: The Norwegian Cruise Line said an engine problem occurred yesterday on passenger (cruise) *Norwegian Star* (91740 gt, built 2001) near Prince Rupert, BC. The Miami-based company said a component failure had knocked out one of the vessel's four main diesel engines. The cruise line says the vessel is safe. *Norwegian Star* is due back in Seattle at 0800 tomorrow, one hour behind schedule. Steve Church of the Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Victoria said the vessel was now in Prince Rupert, one of its scheduled stops as it returned south from an Alaskan cruise. He said investigators from the Transportation Safety Board would inspect the vessel to determine what happened.

London, May 21 -- Passenger (cruise) *Norwegian Star* arrived Seattle 0824, May 19, and sailed 1530 same day for Ketchikan.

OCEAN DISCOVERY (U.S.A.)

London, May 21 -- A Coast Guard Honolulu press release, dated May 18, states: The Coast Guard Captain of the Port for Hawaii closed the Port of Lahaina temporarily today after passenger *Ocean Discovery* (98 gt, built 2006) ran aground blocking the channel. The 65-foot *Ocean Discovery*, with 62 people on board, ran aground but was later safely removed from the channel. Lahaina harbour was closed for about two hours while *Ocean Discovery* was assessed for damage then towed to the pier; the channel was reopened before 1100 hrs. Coast Guard cutter *Ahi* was dispatched after Coast Guard Sector Honolulu received a distress call at 0810 hrs from the master of *Ocean Discovery* reporting that the vessel had run aground 50 yards offshore in Lahaina Harbour. Another tour boat in the area, *Blue Dolphin*, was able to safely transfer all of the *Ocean Discovery's* passengers and crew to the pier. The crew of *Blue Dolphin* transported the other passengers in groups of about 20 back to the pier until everyone was safely ashore. Rescue crews from the cutter *Ahi* and Coast Guard Station Maui provided a safety zone around the two vessels as the passengers were transferred between boats. A Coast Guard rescue helicopter crew from Air Station Barbers Point monitored the transfer of crew. All 62 passengers were taken to Lahaina Pier and no injuries were reported. *Ocean Discovery*, an ecotour boat from the Pacific Whale Foundation, was towed into Lahaina by another Good Samaritan vessel. There is no report of pollution. Personnel from Coast Guard Sector Honolulu will investigate the cause of the grounding.

Honolulu, May 21 -- Catamaran passenger (cruise) *Ocean Discovery*, owners Pacific Whale Foundation, grounded off the entrance channel to Lahaina Harbor, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, at approximately 0800, May 19. It was reported that the 62 people on board were rescued by the US Coast Guard, with no injuries. Vessel was pulled from the reef and towed into the harbour. -- Lloyd's Agents.

OCEAN MAID (U.K.)

London, May 23 -- Following received from Coastguard Stornoway MRCC, timed 0017, UTC: At 1717, UTC, May 22, fishing vessel *Ocean Maid* (43 gt, built 1973), with five persons on board, broken down in lat 56 51.01N, long 06 19.07W and was drifting towards shore and required immediate assistance. Weather on scene south-westerly 5-6 (moderate to fresh breeze), sea moderate. Passenger ro/ro *Lord of the Isles* responded and Mallaig RNLI lifeboat was tasked. Mallaig lifeboat towed *Ocean Maid* to Mallaig Harbour. Search and rescue operations terminated at 2136, UTC, May 22.

OCEANIC II (Bahamas)

Piraeus, May 21 -- The fore fastening ropes of Passenger (cruise) *Oceanic II* (28891 gt, built 1966) snapped due to the adverse weather conditions prevailing at that time, resulting a

collision with passenger (cruise) *Rhapsody* (16852 gt, built 1977) that was anchored next to *Oceanic II* at the port of Rhodes on May 19. The crew members of both vessels were reportedly healthy and no pollution was reported. The two vessels sustained only minor damages that, according to the local port authorities, did not affect their safety. The following day both vessels continued their scheduled voyages. -- Lloyd's Agents.

OLEN (Norway)

Sandnes, May 21 -- Roll On Roll Off *Olen* is now back in normal service between Hufthammer and Krokeide. -- Correspondent.

OLIVE L. MOORE (U.S.A.)

Troy, Michigan, May 23 -- While downbound on Lake St. Clair Tuesday afternoon (May 22) tug *Olive L. Moore* (297 gt, built 1928) and barge *Lewis J. Kuber* became stuck just outside of the shipping channel below the Crib Light above Buoy 19. The tug and barge were unable to free themselves. The upbound *Kaye E. Barker* passed the stranded tug and barge favouring the side of the channel where the pair were stuck. This pass was made in an attempt to help free the tug and barge. The suction from the passing vessel can sometimes help a stranded vessel break free. The tug was able to back a short distance but remained stuck. Following a few minutes behind *Kaye E. Barker* was the upbound *Presque Isle*. *Presque Isle* also favoured the side of the channel and this was enough to break *Olive L. Moore* free from the shallows. *Olive L. Moore* and barge *Lewis J. Kuber* pushed ahead with their engines and re-entered the shipping channel underway about 1920. It is unknown what caused the tug and barge to leave the navigation channel but they later reported experiencing sluggish steering. There was no damage reported, the bottom of the Lake in the area where the barge grounded is soft made up of gravel and clay. The barge is loaded with stone for Windsor and the pair have stopped in the Belle Isle Anchorage. --Great Lakes and Seaway Shipping.

OTM 3072 (Canada)

Kiel, May 18 -- After seven months the deck barge *OTM 3072* was finally above water on May 17, at Sandy Beach Wharf in Gaspe Harbour, Quebec. Work to turn the vessel on even keel started May 1 and has now been completed by Miller Shipping. -- Correspondent.

OZAMIS BAY 1

See "Philippines" under "Port State Control."

OZERSK (Russia)

Busan, May 21 -- Owners of refrigerated general cargo *Ozersk* placed permanent repairs in hand with Sunjin Engineering Co, Busan, while vessel was lying afloat moored at Jangchun Pier, Jinhae. Repairs commenced Apr 19 and are expected to be completed by the end of June. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

PADOVA (Panama)

London, May 18 -- Following received from Singapore Port operations, timed 0511, UTC: Refrigerated general cargo *Padova*: Situation remains unchanged.

London, May 21 -- Following received from Singapore agents of refrigerated general cargo *Padova*, dated May 11: The fire incident on board the vessel occurred on May 10, lat 01 58.6N, long 104 49.3 E.

London, May 21 -- Following received from the managers of refrigerated general cargo *Padova*, dated today: *Padova*, with a portable generator on board, has now left its anchored position off Singapore and is proceeding at slow speed for the Far East, where permanent repairs will be effected.

PIONEER BAY (Liberia)

Maassluis, May 22 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Pioneer Bay* was towed to D. van de Wetering Shiprepairs, where it is currently under repair. Expectancies are that repairs will be finished within one week. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

PORT LOUIS (Marshall Islands)

London, May 22 -- Product tanker *Port Louis* sailed Bremerhaven May 20.

PROPONTIS (Greece)

London, May 22 -- Crude oil tanker *Propontis* sailed Hamburg May 20 for Hound Point.

QING ZI HAO (Taiwan)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy."

REGINA BALTICA (Latvia)

Kiel, May 22 -- A fire broke out on the Tallink passenger ro/ro *Regina Baltica* (18345 gt, built 1980) on May 21, while on passage from Stockholm to Riga. The fire was reported at 0336 hrs, in a cabin on Deck 5. Inside were two men who were allegedly drunk and had caused the fire. The crew successfully extinguished the flames and the fire was under control at 0348 hrs. All passengers on the Decks 4, 5 and 6 had to be evacuated. There were 535 passengers and 135 crew on board. After the vessel berthed in Riga the two men were handed over to the local police. -- Correspondent.

RESERVE (U.S.A.)

Troy, Michigan, May 20 -- Bulker *Reserve* departed Duluth this morning with a cargo of pellets from CN Dock 6, in West Duluth. *Reserve* has spent several weeks in Fraser Shipyard for turbine repairs. -- Great Lakes and Seaway Shipping News.

RHAPSODY (Panama)

See *Oceanic II*.

RIVER ALN (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, May 17 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1505, UTC: General cargo *River Aln* was taken in tow by tug *Kingston* at 1335, UTC, and is proceeding towards Falmouth at 6.5 knots, with ETA 0600, UTC, May 18.

London, May 18 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1100, UTC: General cargo *River Aln*, under tow of tug *Kingston*, reported anchored in Falmouth Bay at 0741, UTC, and preparing to enter port. Vessel is now alongside.

Falmouth, May 18 -- General cargo *River Aln*, with engine problems, arrived Falmouth in tow of tug *Kingston* and berthed at Queens Wharf, Falmouth Docks, at 1000 today to effect repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Falmouth, May 22 -- General cargo *River Aln* sailed Falmouth at 0900 today for Liverpool, in tow of tug *Taktow*. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, general cargo *River Aln* was located 41.9 nautical miles from Milford Haven, in lat 51 48 52.32N, long 05 45 06.69W, at 1238, UTC, May 23, course 17.4 deg, speed 6.7 knots.

ROMMEL (Philippines)

Manila, May 20 -- The operator of tug *Rommel* reported yesterday that hull and engine repairs were still in progress. -- Correspondent.

RZHISHCHIV

Odessa, May 23 -- General cargo *Rzhishchiv* was not damaged in the collision with general cargo *Martyn Latsis*. However, the dry cargo barge *P-3032*, which was towing her, has undergone minor repair work. *Rzhishchiv* has sailed to a Ukrainian port (probably Izmail). -- Lloyd's Agents.

SAM JIN NO.1 (South Korea)

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: Tanker *Sam Jin No.1* (864 gt, built 1994), Onsan for Busan, cargo gasoline and light oil, and barge *Cheonbu No.1*, 94 gt, Busan for Onsan, were in collision off Ulsan last night, causing gasoline and light oil to leak from one of the vessels, maritime police said today. No injuries or property damage to offshore fish farms have been reported, they said. After the collision, the oil tank of *Sam Jin No.1* was punctured and leaked 64 tons of oil. Ten decontamination ships were mobilised to deal with the leaked oil. Police are investigating the cause of the accident.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: The National Maritime Police worked to clean an oil spill in the waters of Ulsan. A transport vessel (tanker *Sam Jin No.1*) with petroleum products collided with a barge in front of Ulsan spilling 51 tons of light oil and 12 tons of gasoline. There were no casualties, but the maritime police placed an oil boom around the transport vessel and worked to clean the oil spill.

SAMOTHRAKI (Greece)

London, May 24 -- Product tanker *Samothraki* passed Dardanelles at 0005, May 19 and subsequently passed Istanbul east at 0235, May 20 for Batumi. (Note -- *Samothraki* according to Lloyd's MIU AIS in lat 41 57 54.42N, long 38 22 16.02E, 62.9 nautical miles

from Tirebolu, speed 13.8 knots, course 278.3 degrees at 0133, today.)

SAMSUN MERIEL (Panama)

Port Said, May 21 -- Bulker *Samsun Meriel* (35583 gt, built 1986) was under way to enter the Suez Canal with the southbound convoy of May 20 when it went aground, due to sudden engine trouble, at 0845 hrs. Suez Canal Authority tugs succeeded in refloating vessel at 1045 hrs and towed it to Port Said Pilot Station. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *Samsun Meriel*, Odessa for China, passed Dardanelles in a westerly direction at 0005, May 18.)

Port Said, May 24 -- Bulker *Samsun Meriel*: Understand that there is some trouble between the crew and ships master. The vessel has completed repairs but is still in Port Said solving problems. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SARA KAITLIN (U.S.A.)

See *Mobro 139*

SARA MAATJE VIII (Netherlands)

Kiel, May 21 -- Until the afternoon of May 18, supply *Sara Maatje VIII* (162 gt, built 1978) was berthed in the new fishing harbour in Cuxhaven, after it had experienced an engine-room fire some days ago, the damage of which was repaired in the recent days. The vessel was then moved as the quay was needed for other purposes. -- Correspondent.

SEA DIAMOND (Greece)

London, May 17 -- A press report, dated today, states: The Hellenic Centre of Maritime Research yesterday completed collecting data on the position of sunken passenger (cruise) *Sea Diamond* off the island of Santorini, some 40 days after the vessel's sinking. The owner of the cruise ship, Louis Hellenic Cruise Lines, requires the data in order to put together a plan to pump out some 430 tons of diesel believed to still be in the ship's fuel tanks at a depth of 150 metres. Sources said that an operation to remove the fuel is not expected to take place until midsummer. Despite the fuel tanks not being damaged, experts believe the oil has been gradually leaking from the vessel since the Apr 5 accident.

London, May 18 -- A report in today's issue of "Newsfront", states: Greece is said to be set to file a E1bn (\$1.35bn) damages claim against Louis Hellenic Cruises over the sinking of passenger (cruise) *Sea Diamond* off Santorini on Apr 6. Marine minister Manolis Kefaloyiannis said the Greek state will file a civil lawsuit against the vessel's operators. It's not known where the figure E1bn came from but it is now being bandied about as fact. What Kefaloyiannis did reveal May 17 was that he has already contacted nine different ministries to ascertain the amount of damage caused to the economy under their authority when the 22,412gt *Sea Diamond* grounded and sank, with two people still missing presumed dead. A four-member committee is to be set up to compile a report by Jul 10 into the damage

caused. The report will be sent to the Marine ministry's legal department for a decision on what legal action will be taken against LHC, a part of the Louis Group of Cyprus. Kefaloyiannis said any damages recovered from the vessel's operator would be transferred to a special fund set up by the government to improve the facilities available in Greece to fight against sea pollution. The lost vessel had insurance cover with the West of England P&I Club. News of the government's plan came as experts were still analysing information from the vessel's VDR ('black box') in an effort to work out what led to the vessel's sinking. Authorities on Santorini have already threatened legal action against the Marine ministry and LHC over the sinking of the Greece-flagged vessel which saw up to 2,000 people successfully evacuated. Two French tourists are still missing. Santorini authorities are questioning why some 400 tonnes of diesel fuel still remains in the sunken vessel.

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated May 18, states: The Greek government intends to sue the company behind passenger (cruise) *Sea Diamond*, which sank off the island of Santorini last month. Greek Merchant Marine Minister Michalis Kefaloyiannis said the government would soon file a civil lawsuit against Louis Hellenic Cruises to compensate for damage sustained in April when the vessel grounded and sank, it was reported today. While the minister confirmed a lawsuit was imminent, the amount the government would seek in damages was still being determined. Nine Greek ministries will work at assessing how the vessel's sinking directly affects the region's economy and that figure could reportedly surpass \$1.3 billion, the paper said. Santorini authorities also have threatened legal action against the company and the Merchant Marine Ministry. Nearly 400 tons of diesel fuel is in the sunken vessel and Santorini officials said they were frustrated with the inactivity on the matter by government and cruise officials.

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: The operation to clean up fuel that has seeped from the sunken passenger (cruise) *Sea Diamond* off the island of Santorini is continuing, the Merchant Marine Ministry said yesterday in an attempt to ease fears over the threat to the marine environment. The Merchant Marine Ministry has said that it had sought help from a private company to help pump out the fuel on board but the contractor had been slow in acting. The ministry added yesterday that it was keeping a close eye on the area and that less fuel had been leaking from the vessel. "Under the supervision of the coast guard, work on cleaning up the affected sea and coast region is continuing," the ministry said. Engineers believe that although the fuel tanks were not damaged in the accident, oil is leaking from different parts of the ship. Santorini authorities have been urging the ministry to speed

up efforts for the removal of the fuel and has even threatened taking legal action against it. Meanwhile, the Hellenic Centre of Maritime Research (ELKETHE) has placed 10 buoys at points around the sunken vessel to measure levels of pollution in the area. Mussels have also been placed in cages nearby to determine whether marine life is being harmed. Initial results are not expected for another month. Separately, the government said it was pressing ahead with legal proceedings against Cyprus-based Louis Hellenic Cruises, the owner of *Sea Diamond*.

SEA EXPRESS 1 (U.K.)

London, May 23 -- Passenger ro/ro *Sea Express 1* is still moored at Birkenhead, unrepaiored.

SEABOURN PRIDE (Bahamas)

Kiel, May 21 -- Passenger (cruise) *Seabourn Pride* (9975 gt, built 1988) entered port of St. Nazaire, on May 20, with a list. The access ramp at the stern was damaged and could not be closed. -- Correspondent.

SEIKO MARU (Japan)

See *Koa Maru No.8*.

SEVEN ISLAND AI (Japan)

London, May 22 -- Twenty-seven people were injured when high-speed ferry *Seven Island AI* (279 gt, built 1980) was struck by a huge wave off Kanagawa Prefecture on Saturday afternoon (May 19), the Japan Coast Guard said. Water poured in through two windows at the bow of the ferry that were smashed by the wave at 1705 hrs when the vessel was about 13 kilometres south of Jogashima island in Miura, in the same prefecture, according to the Yokosuka Coast Guard Office. The hydrofoil ferry operated by Tokai Kisen Co. arrived Kurihama Port at 1755 hrs. Twenty-three passengers were taken to hospital for minor injuries to their faces and legs, and four received medical treatment at the port. According to the office, *Seven Island AI* had 207 passengers and five crew on board, and was cruising at 40 knots from Izu-Oshima island to Kurihama Port. The smashed windows measured 90 centimetres by 90 centimetres. Water gushed into the first-floor cabin, and was up to knee-high deep. All the passengers were told to wear life jackets.

SHLUZOVY 140 (Russia)

St. Petersburg, May 18 -- Tug Shlyuzovoy 10, not *Shluzovoy 140* as previously reported, grounded at 2059, local time, May 12. The vessel was holed in the starboard side engine room. On May 13 an inspection of the hull was performed and five holes were found. Operations have commenced to stem a leak. No pollution was noted. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SICHEM MAYA (Marshall Islands)

London, May 23 -- Product tanker *Sichem Maya* (10948 gt, built 1988) had to remain at its berth at Section 103, Quebec, May 21 due to starting-air problems while preparing to depart.

SIDER SUN (Malta)

Piraeus, May 18 -- Repairs to bulker *Sider Sun* are not completed yet. It is to be noted that although the completion of repairs was scheduled for this week, this was not feasible owing new problems occurring. According to the local ship agent it is unknown when the repairs will be completed. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 22 -- Bulker *Sider Sun* sailed Piraeus May 19.

SPIRO F. (Malta)

London, May 23 -- Sludge carrier *Spiro F.* has resumed normal trading around Valletta.

STADIONGRACHT (Netherlands)

London, May 23 -- Verreault Navigation press release, dated May 18, states: Verreault Navigation has completed repairs recently to general cargo *Stadiongracht* (16639 gt, built 2000) at its shipyard in Les Mechins. The vessel was dry-docked after ice damage was sustained on the east coast of Newfoundland. The necessary work included the replacement of the vessel's four propeller blades, plus an assortment of other repairs. During its time at Verreault, the shipyard made an all out effort in order to ensure that the client could meet its trading schedules and pick up its next cargoes on time. (Note -- *Stadiongracht* sailed Fairless Hills 1610, Apr 22 for Canada and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was in lat 47 06N, long 51 36W, at 1700, UTC, May 22..)

SUBIC BAY 1 (Philippines)

See "Philippines" under "Port State Control."

SUKARAWAN NAREE (Thailand)

London, May 18 -- Understand general cargo *Sukarawan Naree* (14880 gt, built 1985) reported turbo-blower problems in lat 49 22 30N, long 64 22 33W, at 0720, EDST, May 15 and drifting while repairs under way.

London, May 18 -- Following received from Halifax RCC, timed 1858, UTC: General cargo *Sukarawan Naree* is currently anchored in lat 48 10N, long 69 16W, carrying out repairs.

London, May 21 -- Following received from Halifax RCC, timed 1255, UTC: General cargo *Sukarawan Naree* completed repairs quickly and has experienced no further problems. Vessel's current position is lat 46 44N, long 71 16W.

SUPERFERRY 9 (Philippines)

Manila, May 24 -- Roll On Roll Off *Superferry 9* has finally been scheduled for drydocking by Keppel Cebu Shipyard on May 28. The vessel was originally supposed to have been drydocked on May 15, but because of the absence of a work order the vessel failed to enter the dry dock. The vessel is presently anchored off the shipyard. -- Correspondent.

TAHIR KIRAN (Turkey)

London, May 22 -- Bulker *Tahir Kiran* passed Istanbul east May 21.

TAHOMA REEFER (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Abidjan, May 22 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Tahoma Reefer*, stolen by machete-wielding pirates off Liberia earlier this month, is still missing despite a search involving neighbouring Ivory Coast's navy and a UN helicopter, officials said yesterday. Attackers armed with cutlasses and sticks boarded the vessel while it was docked off Monrovia on May 8, beat up the crew and then returned to tow the vessel away while they sought medical care on shore. "Right now the vessel is lost," the master, Volodymr Shteynberh, said by telephone from Monrovia, criticising a lack of co-ordination between the local authorities and the UN peacekeeping missions in Liberia and Ivory Coast. "They say they are using helicopters and ships to find it but it is not a small vessel. You can't just lose it in the sea." Security experts are concerned the vessel could be used by people traffickers offering Africans illegal passage to Europe, or by drug smuggling gangs. West Africa's Atlantic coast is increasingly a transit route to Europe for Colombian cocaine. Shteynberh, who was on board when the pirates attacked, said their motive was unclear but said the vessel was carrying some 200 tonnes of heavy fuel, worth around \$200,000 at local prices. The UN mission in Liberia (UNMIL), helping to restore order after an on-off 1989-2003 civil war, sent a helicopter to look for it as soon as it was reported missing on May 11. "The vessel was spotted being towed by two smaller boats towards Ivory Coast. UNMIL, which is not equipped with the maritime capability to intercept vessels at sea, immediately alerted the Liberian authorities," it said. An Ivory Coast navy officer said a warship had been sent towards the Liberian border but had failed to locate the vessel. "As we didn't know exactly where it was, it was just a question of patrolling in case it approached ... we don't have an exact idea if it is in our waters or not," Captain Charles Baya said. Regional officials say the case highlights the need for tighter policing of the ports and waters off West Africa and in the Gulf of Guinea further south, which includes oil producers Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Nigeria. "It brings to the fore the need for a sub-regional Coast Guard to be put in place," said Magnus Teye Addico, secretary general of the Maritime Organisation of West and Central Africa. He said ministers from West African coastal countries -- from Mauritania in the north to Angola in the south -- would meet in Luanda in July to discuss creating a joint Coast Guard. The majority of shipping coming into the United States via the Gulf of Mexico leaves from West Africa, and the US navy is also boosting its presence to combat piracy and trafficking. Two US Navy and Coast Guard vice-admirals are touring the region to build maritime cooperation ahead of the year-long trial deployment of a US navy vessel in October. -- Reuters.

TRANSMODAL (Argentina)

London, May 22 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, container carrier *Transmodal* was lying stationary 2.4 nautical miles from Niteroi, in lat 22 50 47.44S, long 43 07 57.68W, at 0827, UTC, today.

TROLLFJORD (Norway)

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS Passenger ro/ro *Trollfjord* was reported in lat 62 25.30N, long 06 02.57E, 3.6 nautical miles from Hareid, Norway, speed 13.6 knots, at 0758, UTC, today.

UMIAVUT (Canada)

Kiel, May 22 -- On May 18, a fire broke in the engine-room of the Canadian general cargo *Umiavut* (5998 gt, built 1988), Kalundborg for Corunna with 8,600 tonnes of flour, off France. The crew was able to extinguish the fire but the vessel was towed to the port of Brest by the fire-fighting tug *Abeille Bourbon*. *Umiavut* is owned by the Umialarik Transportation Canada and managed by Transport Nanuk, Montreal. -- Correspondent.

Brest, May 22 -- General cargo *Umiavut*, Kalundborg for Corunna, loaded with 8,632 tonnes of feed wheat in bulk, had fire alarm sound while proceeding in the English Channel north-north-west of Ushant approximately 1600, May 18. The alarm was determined to have activated in way of the main engine lower deck. Apparently the investigations conducted by the crew revealed no fire but only smoke. Finally damages were found in way of main engine No 2 cylinder. The vessel was drifting in a dangerous area and the assistance of tug *Abeille Bourbon* was requested. The tug arrived in the area of the vessel at 2300 same day and the convoy proceeded towards Brest, where it arrived at 1600, May 19. Repairs started immediately and were completed May 21. The vessel departed Brest at 1100 today for Corunna. -- Lloyd's Agents.

UNITED DYNAMIC (Liberia)

Port Said, May 21 -- Crude oil tanker *United Dynamic* (77823 gt, built 1990), grounded at Km 80 at the entrance to the Suez Canal Eastern branch at 1900, May 19, while clearing the canal with the northbound convoy from Port Said. Suez Canal Authority tugs succeeded in refloating the vessel at 0130 today and it proceeded on voyage to its destination. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *United Dynamic* sailed Kharg Island May 5 with an eta at Megara at 1300, May 22.)

London, May 23 -- Crude oil tanker *United Dynamic* according to Lloyd's MIU AIS, stationary at Pachi in lat 37 58 15.07N, long 23 22 53.88E at 1133, May 22.

VALPARAISO STAR (Liberia)

See under "Pollution".

VARANDEY (Russia)

Vladivostok, May 23 -- This morning, Roll On Roll Off *Varandey* (1491 gt,

built 1985) was disabled due to main engine's breakdown, suggested breakdown of lubricating oil pump. The incident happened at about 40 miles from Kunashir Island, Sea of Japan. Weather on the scene: Wind 18 metres per second, waves about four metres. A tug was sent to the scene. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Roll On Roll Off *Varandey* is in distress off the Kurile Islands. The vessel's main engine broke down 40 miles off Iturup Island in stormy weather today. The vessel is drifting in various directions at a speed of 1.5 to two knots. Salvage tug *Atlas* of the Sakhalin regional rescue centre left the port of Korsakov to help *Varandey*, the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk rescue coordination centre said. The distance to the vessel in distress is about 170 miles. The storm does not allow the rescue vessel to run at top speed. Its speed was 10 knots, and it was expected to reach *Varandey* in about 17 hours, rescuers said this morning, Moscow time. If the ship situation worsens, rescuers will send another vessel, research *Trias*, which is near the Kuriles, to the *Varandey*. It may reach it in seven hours. *Trias is loaded with a cargo*. There are 11 crew on board *Varandey*. There is no threat for their lives, according to the Sakhalin company to the owners of the ship.

Vladivostok, May 24 -- At 0600, Sakhalin time, today, salvage tug *Atlas* reached Roll On Roll Off *Varandey* and took her in tow. Destination of tow is the port of Korsakov, estimated time of arrival between late May 25 and early May 26. Speed of tow is about three knots. Weather at the scene is adverse, wind up to 17 metres per second, sea up to four metres. The reason for stoppage of main engine of *Varandey* was breakdown of fuel pump. -- Lloyd's Agents.

VICTORIA (Jordan)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy."

W.D.FAIRWAY (Netherlands)

Tianjin, May 24 -- Understand hopper dredger *W.D.Fairway* is still at Xingang and going to Shanhaiguan Shipyard for temporary repair; then complete repair will, reportedly, be carried out in Singapore. -- Lloyd's Agents.

W.D.SEVERN (U.K.)

London, May 24 -- Information received, dated May 23, states: Trailing suction hopper dredge *W.D.Severn* (1337 gt, built 1974) entered Cammell Laird No.7 dry dock (Birkenhead) on the Tuesday (May 22) afternoon tide with bow thruster problems.

WELFARE DIANA (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Port Said, May 21 -- General cargo *Welfare Diana* completed repairs and sailed for Suakin Apr 14. -- Lloyd's Agents.

WHITONIA (U.K.)

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: An investigation is

under way after product tanker *Whitonia* (4292 gt, built 2007) crashed into the jetty at Fawley's marine terminal. The *Whitonia*, a new 100m, double-hull tanker, collided with the jetty at berth nine just before 1700, yesterday. Harry Williams, the operations director at John H Whitaker, the tanker owner, said there was a light contact during a routine docking operation causing minor damage. "There were no injuries and no pollution. We are investigating the incident," he said. The tanker left under its own power and returned to Southampton docks across the water. A spokesman for the Esso refinery at Fawley said: "A small tanker, *Whitonia*, carrying marine fuel oil, collided with the jetty at Fawley's marine terminal this afternoon. "There were no injuries. The vessel sustained minor damage and no oil was released. "The jetty sustained some damage which is being assessed. "Ship loading and unloading operations are continuing normally." (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Whitonia* was still in port at Southampton at 0852, UTC, today.)

WILLEM VAN DER ZWAN (Netherlands)

Kiel, May 21 -- Fishing (general) *Willem Van der Zwan* was towed out of dock 3 of the Shipdock Amsterdam to Berth 1 by the tugs *Friesland* and *Argus*. The vessel is still not repaired and its future so far uncertain. -- Correspondent.

Maassluis, May 22 -- Fishing (general) *Willem Van der Zwan* has been towed out of dock 3 of Shipdock Amsterdam. The vessel has been announced to be a total loss. Expectancies are that the vessel will be demolished. This is however not sure. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

Maassluis, May 24 -- Today it was announced that fishing (general) *Willem Van der Zwan* will be towed to Dordrecht. She has just left the port of Amsterdam, accompanied by the tug *Arion* and is expected to arrive later this evening at the Van der Wees terminal at Dordrecht, where she will be demolished. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

WILSON EXPRESS (NIS)

London, May 19 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Wilson Express* sailed Aalesund May 18.

WILSON MUUGA (Cyprus)

Reykjavik, May 22 -- Bulker *Wilson Muuga* has been renamed *Karim*, Cambodia flag. The vessel is still undergoing repairs at Hafnarfjordur. Understand it may sail at the end of May. -- Lloyd's Agents.

WILSON TRENT (Cyprus)

Kiel, May 21 -- Bulker *Wilson Trent* (4924 gt, built 1980) was in contact with quay 4 of the Brunsbuttel locks of the Kiel Canal on May 20. The vessel sustained "severe" damage on starboard bow and was moored at the railway pilings in Brunsbuttel after the incident. On the quay lamps and railings were torn off. The accident was caused by misjudgements while

berthing. -- Correspondent. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, *Wilson Trent*, Dunkirk for Szczecin, was in lat 54 12 55N, long 09 35 14E, at 1109, UTC, today, speed 8.9 knots, course 48.5 degrees.)

Kiel, May 23 -- Following contact with the quay in Brunsbuttel, bulker *Wilson Trent* proceeded to the Nobiskrug HDW yard in Rendsburg for repairs to bow damage on May 22. -- Correspondent.

YI SHUN (Sierra Leone)

Busan, May 21 -- General cargo *Yi Shun* is still lying, sunk, at the site with no salvage operations carried out. Understand that the water depth at the site is some 50 metres and the salvage operation of the vessel is considered practically infeasible. Permanent repairs of combined chemical and oil tank *No.1 Chemicarry* are in hand with the J.Y. Shipbuilding Co Ltd, Busan; repairs commenced May 12 and are expected to be completed by May 22. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ZIM ITALIA (Israel)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: A Zim ship (Container Carrier *Zim Italia*, 37209 gt, built 1991) has been in collision with a fishing vessel near Qingdao, it is unclear whether any of Chinese fishermen were injured. The Zim vessel collided with a smaller Chinese fishing vessel on its way to Shanghai, where Chinese authorities questioned the Zim crew. Zim flew the crew back to Israel to conduct its own investigation into the accident. It remains unclear if any of the Chinese fishermen were injured. "The ship's crew was questioned over allegations that they collided with a Chinese fishing vessel. Zim is conducting an investigation into the accident," Zim said in a statement. (Note -- *Zim Italia* sailed Kingston Apr 26, passed Panama Canal Apr 29. Vessel was scheduled to arrive Qingdao May 20, sail May 21 and arrive Shanghai May 22.)

London, May 24 -- A Zim press release, timed 1800, May 23, states: A Zim spokesman has confirmed that Container Carrier *Zim Italia* has been detained in Shanghai by the Chinese authorities, for investigation of alleged collision with a Chinese fishing boat. Zim has started an investigation.



SOMALIA

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: Fishing (general) *Qing Zi Hao*, hijacked by pirates off the coast of Somalia on Wednesday (May 16), has four Taiwanese sailors and eight workers from the Chinese mainland on board, said sources from Taiwan. The Taiwan-registered *Qing Zi Hao*, whose master was identified by his surname Chen, sailed out in February 2006 from Hsiaokang,

Kaohsiung, with the 12 crew members on board, the sources said. However, it is still unclear whether the number of crew had been added to after the vessel left the port, planning to stay 912 days on the sea. The Taiwan fishery authorities said that the situation was unclear and that they were working hard to deal with the incident. On Tuesday, two fishing vessels from the Republic of Korea were hijacked off the coast of Somalia. The Korean vessels have 25 crew members on board, 10 Chinese, four from Korea, three Vietnamese, four Indonesians and four Indians. "The Taiwanese vessel is being held together with the Korean ones," said Andrew Mwangura, co-ordinator of the Mombasa-based Seafarers' Assistance Programme. Reports indicated that all hostages had been confirmed to be safe, Mwangura said by telephone from Mombasa. "The hijacked vessels have been taken to an area 400 kilometers north of Somalia but rescuers have not yet found the crew members on board," said Du Yongdong, an official with the China Maritime Search and Rescue Centre. All parties were organising rescue efforts, he said.

London, May 20 -- A press report, dated May 19, states: The World Food Programme-contracted general cargo *Victoria* (3440 gt, built 1979) had just delivered a cargo when pirates struck at Merka port, in Somalia's town of Kismayo, Andrew Mwangura, co-ordinator of the Mombasa-based Seafarers' Assistance Programme, said. The cargo vessel was attacked by Somali pirates off Merka port around 1205 today. *Victoria* sailed from Merka port for Dar es Salaam after its discharge operation of WFP relief food was completed, said Mwangura. While en route to Kismayo, pirates attacked it with small and heavy guns. It escaped the attack and returned to its original port of discharge, Merka, he added. The maritime official said the WFP and vessel owners were very concerned about the safety of the crew, whose number and nationalities, he said, had not been established. After becoming aware of the SOS signal, the local WFP contractor immediately sent two armed vessels to rescue the vessel from the pirates and return it to safe hands. During the operation, one man from the local WFP contractor was wounded and subsequently died in Merka hospital. There is no apparent damage to vessel and all the crew are safe and sound. The master of the vessel is waiting for an instruction from his company. The local WFP contractor is arranging two armed boats to escort the vessel upon departure until it reaches Kismayo and receives instructions from its company.

London, May 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: Following a deadly attack on general cargo *Victoria* in the waters off Somalia, the United Nations World Food Programme today appealed for international action against piracy, warning that it is seriously threatening relief deliveries to the country. "We urge key nations to do their utmost to

address piracy, which is now threatening our ability to feed one million Somalis," said WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran from the agency's Rome headquarters. Yesterday, a Somali guard was killed when he helped repulse a new pirate attack on the *Victoria*, which had just delivered WFP food assistance to the Somali port of Merka. As a result, the agents of a WFP-contracted vessel this morning refused to allow the ship loaded with food to sail for Somalia. "This attack underscores the growing problem of piracy off Somalia which, if unresolved, will sever the main artery of food assistance to the country and to the people who rely on it for their survival. Unless action is taken now, not only will our supply lines be cut, but also those of other aid agencies working in various parts of Somalia," she warned. The *Victoria* sent out a distress call when it came under attack yesterday from pirates on board boats about 60 nautical miles from Merka, south of Mogadiscio, en route to Dar es Salaam after discharging 4,000 tonnes of WFP food. The owner relayed the message to the Merka agent of the Somali contractor who chartered the *Victoria* to carry WFP food. He sent out guards in two boats who intercepted the pirates before they could board the vessel. One guard was wounded in an exchange of fire and later died in Merka hospital. The *Victoria* returned to Merka port after the attempted hijacking.

London, May 21 -- With pirate attacks hundreds of miles from Somalia's shores, officials believe that pirates are again using a strategy of motherships deploying speedboats to mount raids on shipping. Following a rocket attack on general cargo *Ibn Yunus*, on May 14, 180 nautical miles off the coast of Somalia, 24 crew from two Korean fishing vessels were kidnapped for ransom a day later 210 nautical miles from the coast. Both the US Office of Naval Intelligence and the International Maritime Bureau believe a larger mother vessel may be active in the area, deploying smaller speedboats to attack commercial shipping. Noel Choong, head of the IMB's Piracy Reporting Centre, said it believed a bigger vessel was involved as "for small boats to go out that far is suicidal." The ONI also said it believed, given the distance from shore and the poor weather conditions at this time of year, that the pirates were likely to be using a larger merchant vessel to launch their attacks. The IMB has extended a warning to shipping to stay at least 200 nautical miles from the Somali coast, if it is not calling at the country's ports, instead of 75 nautical miles, following the latest incidents. The ONI is additionally advising vessels to stay at least 50 nautical miles away from the position lat 01 02N, long 48 10E, until the mother ship threat can be evaluated. So far this year there have been nine pirate attacks off the Somali coast, with seven taking place since the beginning of April.

Port State Control



GERMANY

Kiel, May 24 -- On May 23, the Croatian passenger (cruise) *Dalmacija* (5619 gt, built 1965) was detained in Kiel, due to the state of the ship's infirmary. An inspection by the local authorities showed that a broken water pipe in the infirmary had not only caused damage but had also destroyed much of the medicine stored there. In addition, there was a lack of equipment. Until new medical equipment is delivered from a special pharmacy in Bremerhaven, the ship is not allowed to leave the port. The scheduled trip to Bornholm today has thus had to be cancelled and the ship will probably today head directly for Stockholm. There has not yet been any decision on refunds to the passengers. -- Correspondent.

London, May 24 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, at 0651, UTC, today, *Dalmacija* was in lat 54 20 24N, long 09 55.25E, 8.8. nautical miles off Eckernforde, proceeding on a course of 113.3 degs, at a speed of 8.8. knots.

PHILIPPINES

Manila, May 23 -- The Philippine-registered passenger ro/ro *Ozamis Bay 1* (3872 gt, built 1981) and passenger ro/ro *Subic Bay 1* (8884 gt, built 1975) were impounded on May 17 by the Maritime Industry Authority for safety deficiencies. The two vessels were part of a fleet inspection of Carlos A. Gothong Lines by MARINA safety investigators following an explosion on board the *Butuan Bay 1* on May 15. All three vessels are owned and operated by Gothong Lines. Marina inspectors said that the two vessels were confined to Cebu Port because of the "absence of several sea safety equipment and improper documentation." The two vessels were allowed to operate the following day after the owner supplied each vessel with a fire pump and emergency generator. The MARINA is the state regulatory agency for the domestic shipping industry. -- Correspondent.

Seizures & Arrests



ALIOTH (Sierra Leone)

Seville, May 21 -- General cargo *Alioth*: Following the resolution of the problems and an agreement being reached by the lawyers of both parties, the vessel was ready to sail when an international order of arrest arrived from the Netherlands. The vessel therefore remains in port. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BRITT (Belgium)

Zeebrugge, May 22 -- Chemical tanker *Britt* is still lying in the Albertkanaal. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

FIESTA CASINO (Belize)

Veracruz, May 23 -- Roll on roll off *Fiesta Casino* anchored off Veracruz in September, 2006, and is presently docked at TNG Shipyard, Veracruz, undergoing repairs. The shipowners owe money to the shipyard and the immigration and port authorities, and salaries to the crew members. -- Lloyd's Agents.

POLAR ONE (Belize)

London, May 17 -- Understood fish factory *Polar One* (4042 gt, built 1987) has been under arrest at Nouadhibou since the beginning of 2006.

SENTINEL (Comoros)

Genoa, May 17 -- General cargo *Sentinel* is still under arrest at Genoa. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SUNGAI JULAN 2 (Malaysia)

Manila, May 17 -- Philippine Customs Bureau District Director Edward Baltazar reiterated Wednesday that tug *Sungai Julian 2* is no longer under detention by Customs authorities and left the Philippines several months ago. "*Sungai Julian 2* has not been part of the confiscation proceedings taken against its barge *Sungai Julian 1*. Our investigations showed that the tug was not involved in the *Sungai Julian 1* crew's attempt to illegally sell fuel oil while docked at Poro Point Port," he explained. "We have thus released from custody *Sungai Julian 2* in January. I understand the vessel and its cargo of logs resumed its voyage to China," he added. Mr. Baltazar said that he was clarifying the issue because of persistent reports that *Sungai Julian 2* was still being held in the Philippines. -- Correspondent.

TALAVERA

(St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Venice, May 22 -- General cargo *Talavera* sailed from Chioggia for Tartous on May 9, after being renamed *CPT Ahmad*, under the flag of Sierra Leone. The vessel has a new call sign: 9LYG10. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TE HSING (Panama)

London, May 23 -- Bulker *Te Hsing* (16507 gt, built 1977), which arrived at Hong Kong at 1459 hrs, May 22, was today reported at South West Lamma Anchorage, Hong Kong, under Bailiff's Office, Admiralty & High Court arrest.

London, May 24 -- Bulker *Te Hsing* sailed from Hong Kong at 0049 hrs, today.

Pipeline Accidents



SHAMOKIN AREA, PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: About 25,000

gallons of gasoline escaped from a broken Sunoco Logistics pipeline in Coal Township, Northumberland County, this week. The state Department of Environmental Protection thinks the fuel seeped into the ground and into abandoned underground coal mines in that part of the township. "We don't know how far it went," DEP spokesman Daniel T. Spadoni said yesterday. The 14-inch line that carries 1,500 barrels of gasoline an hour between Reading and Buffalo, NY, was severed late Wednesday afternoon (May 16) by a contractor doing grading with a bulldozer near Our Lady of Lourdes High School. Homes nearby were evacuated and the high school, as well as Northumberland County Vo-Tech and Shamokin schools, was closed Thursday. Everything was back to normal yesterday, officials said. As soon as a pressure dropped in the pipeline, the flow of gasoline was stopped, said Sunoco spokesman Gerald Davis in Philadelphia. The pipe was repaired Thursday and back in service about 2330 that night, he said. According to Spadoni, test pits will be dug to try to determine how far the gasoline spread, then contaminated soil will be removed. Several monitoring wells will be drilled and discharges into Shamokin Creek will be checked, he said. There are no safety concerns, but air inside Our Lady of Lourdes school may be tested again Monday since the building will be closed over the weekend, Spadoni said. Similar tests were done in several homes before residents were allowed to return, he said. Davis and Spadoni said it was too early to discuss the possibility of sanctions against the contractor who broke the line.

SUISUN MARSH, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated May 22, states: The owner of a pipeline that spilled nearly 124,000 gallons of diesel fuel into Suisun Marsh in 2004 has agreed to pay nearly \$5.3 million to state and federal agencies for that and two other spills since, federal officials announced yesterday. Houston-based Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP entered into a consent agreement to pay a \$3.7 million civil penalty and \$1.3 million to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state Department of Fish and Game. The settlement will fund restoration in Suisun Marsh and Donner Lake and prevention projects and extra employees to monitor pipelines, according to the federal Environmental Protection Agency office in San Francisco. The settlement was entered in San Francisco federal court Monday and has a 30-day comment period, said EPA spokesman Mark Merchant. Kinder Morgan said in a statement that the company also agreed to enhance spill prevention, response and reporting practices. "We've taken a number of actions to improve operations and accountability," said Kinder Morgan spokeswoman Emily Mir-Thompson. The company is pleased with the settlement and with

an improved operations initiative begun two years ago, according to a statement by Tom Bannigan, president of the company's products pipelines. A year after the Suisun Marsh spill, a subsidiary of the company pleaded guilty to state criminal charges and agreed to pay a \$5 million fine. Federal regulators ordered Kinder Morgan to revise its procedures for preventing spills and analyse dozens of spills and ruptures, including an explosion in Walnut Creek that killed five workers in November 2004. Kinder Morgan is paying out millions in settlements to families of survivors and those killed in the explosion. The company had 44 spills in a 31-month period that indicated "a widespread failure to adequately detect and address the effects of outside force damage and corrosion," according to an order issued in August 2005 by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. All three spills in the consent agreement occurred on Kinder Morgan's 3,000-mile Pacific Operations Unit. Besides the Suisun Marsh spill, the settlement covers the February 2005 spill of 76,902 gallons at Oakland Inner Harbour in Alameda and a 300-gallon spill into Summit Creek in April 2005 that fouled waters in the Donner Lake watershed in the Sierra Nevada Range in Placer County. The pipeline that failed and fouled the 224-acre Suisun Marsh was replaced in 2004 in an expansion project and was routed outside of the marsh, according to Kinder Morgan. The Suisun Marsh is the largest saltwater wetland in the western United States; it is a sensitive habitat that is a breeding area for water fowl and is home to the salt marsh harvest mouse, according to the EPA. The April 27, 2004, spill of 123,774 gallons tarred shorelines and affected or killed mammals and birds, including the salt marsh harvest mouse. It also sparked concerns from U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer and others about the company's response. Kinder Morgan did not notify emergency responders or various agencies for 18 hours after pressure dropped in a rusting Concord-to-Sacramento pipeline. The company responded that the flow was immediately shut off and that agencies were notified when the break was discovered, a response backed by the U.S. Office of Pipeline Safety.



VALPARAISO STAR (Liberia)

Portsmouth, UK, May 17 -- The U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania has filed a six-count indictment charging the operator and crew of refrigerated general cargo *Valparaiso Star* (8945 gt, built 1989) with failing to record illegal discharges of waste. The government charged that

water contaminated with oil was released directly into the ocean by the vessel. It claims that while the ship was docked in Philadelphia in January, the vessel presented a false record book to Coast Guard inspectors in an attempt to conceal the illegal discharges. The vessel is operated by Fleet Management Ltd. of Hong Kong. The company, master and another crewman are charged with conspiracy, failure to maintain an accurate oil record book on *Valparaiso Star* in violation of the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, false statements, and obstruction of agency proceedings. The indictment charges that the defendants conspired to conceal illegal discharges of oily-based waste, including oil-contaminated sludge and oil contaminated bilge water from the ship by failing to record them in the vessel's oil record book. "The indictment also alleges that the ship's management company (Fleet) and master obstructed the investigation by attempting to influence witness testimony," said U.S. Attorney Patrick Meehan. According to the charges, the ship's chief engineer ordered members of the crew to use a flexible hose to bypass pollution control technology on the ship and to dispose of untreated oily waste, sludge and bilge water directly overboard. The crew also manipulated the pumps and valves associated with the internal, hard-piped bilge/ballast system, also known as the emergency dewatering system, discharging water contaminated with oil from the ship's bilge holding wells directly into the ocean and failed to record such discharges in the ship's oil record book, a document required to be maintained by the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships, a U.S. law created to prevent such pollution. -- Correspondent.

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: The operator and crew of refrigerated general cargo *Valparaiso Star* have been charged with failing to disclose illegal discharges of oil-contaminated sludge and bilge water into the ocean. Coast Guard inspectors boarded *Valparaiso Star*, in Philadelphia on Jan 24. They reported that the crew had falsified records to conceal that they used bypass hoses to dump oily waste directly into the sea, according to a federal indictment. Fleet Management of Hong Kong; ship captain Parag Raj Grewal, 34, of India; and chief engineer Yevgen Dyachenko, 53, of Ukraine, are charged with conspiracy, failure to maintain an accurate oil record book, false statements and obstruction. International and U.S. laws prohibit such discharges without treatment by an oil-water separator, and then require that all discharges be recorded in an oil record book. The indictment also alleges that Fleet Management and Grewal obstructed the investigation by trying to pressure a crew member to retract the truthful statements he provided to investigators, U.S. Attorney Patrick Meehan said in a statement. The

indictment did not specify the amount or the location of the illegally discharged waste. It did say that the vessel left Tampa, Fla., around Nov 7 and travelled to Central America, through the Panama Canal to Europe, back through the canal to Chile, and back again to Philadelphia.

Weather & Navigation



AUSTRALIA

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: Flights have been disrupted and ferry services cancelled for the second time this week in Sydney due to heavy fog shrouding the city. A statement from Sydney Airports said numerous international flights had been diverted to Melbourne and Brisbane. "Widespread disruptions are expected to international and domestic airline flight schedules," the statement said. Passengers were advised to contact individual airlines for information about their flights. Sydney airports spokesman Michael Samaras said some services were still operating. "Some flights have taken off and some of them have landed so it is a bit variable," he said. All Sydney Harbour and river ferry services have been cancelled until the fog clears, and buses will replace service between Manly and Circular Quay. Sydney Ferries said visibility at Circular Quay was down to 50 metres. Similar conditions on Monday morning also forced international flights to be diverted from Sydney and ferry services to be cancelled.

BANGLADESH

Chittagong, May 20 -- The Meteorological Department, Chittagong, have advised that a cautionary signal No 3 has been hoisted due to steep pressure in the sea, accompanied by gusty and squally winds. All fishing vessels and trawlers have been asked to remain nearer to coastal areas, from this morning until further advice. Chittagong Port Authority have advised that the loading and unloading of goods at Chittagong Port is continuing. -- Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of May 16.)

Chittagong, May 21 -- The Meteorological Department, Chittagong, have advised that the weather conditions locally remain unchanged to that reported yesterday. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TROPICAL CYCLONE "PIERRE"

London, May 18 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office: Tropical cyclone "Pierre" 996 hpa was centred within 40 nautical miles of lat 10.5S, long 153.5E moving west at six knots at 0600, UTC, May 18. A low pressure system with a central

pressure of 1002 hpa was located near lat 7.5S, long 152.5E and was near stationary. Area affected within 80 nautical miles of the centre of cyclone "Pierre" and within 60 nautical miles in the northern semicircle of the low. Forecast clockwise winds 34 to 40 knots around "Pierre" and south west to north west winds to 35 knots north of the low. Maximum winds within 30 nautical miles of the centre of cyclone "Pierre" increasing to 40 knots in the next 12 hours. Forecast position at 0600, UTC, May 19, tropical cyclone "Pierre" predicted to be within 60 nautical miles of lat 10.9S, long 151.0E central pressure 994 hpa. Winds to 40 knots near centre.

TYPHOON "YUTU"

London, May 18 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office: Severe tropical storm "Yutu" warning at 0900, UTC, May 18. Severe tropical storm "Yutu" at lat 12.3N, long 134.4E sea east of Philippines moving northwest at 14 knots. Maximum winds 55 knots near centre. Radius of over 50-knot winds: 20 miles. Radius of over 30-knot winds: 120 miles. Forecast position for 0900, UTC, May 19 in lat 16.6nN, long 132.9E with 90 miles radius of 70 percent probability circle. 975 hpa, maximum winds 60 knots near centre.

London, May 21 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of typhoon "Yutu" was located near lat 22.8N, long 139.1E, approximately 165 nautical miles south-west of Iwo Jima, and has tracked north-eastwards at 17 knots over the past six hours. The position is accurate to within 40 nautical miles and is based on the eye being fixed by satellite. Present wind distribution: Maximum winds 115 knots with gusts to 140 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds 45 nautical miles in the north-east and south-east quadrants and 40 nautical miles in the south-west and north-west quadrants. Radius of over 34-knot winds 135 nautical miles in the north-east quadrant, 125 nautical miles in the south-east quadrant, 110 nautical miles in the south-west quadrant and 105 nautical miles in the north-west quadrant. The maximum significant wave height is 39 feet. At 0600, May 22, the centre is predicted to be near lat 28.2N, long 146.7E with maximum sustained winds of 50 knots and gusts to 65 knots.

London, May 22 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0001, UTC, today, the centre of typhoon "Yutu" was located near lat 26.2N, long 144.5E, movement past six hours 65 degrees at 20 knots. The position is accurate to within 40 nautical miles and is based on the eye being fixed by satellite. Present wind distribution: Maximum winds 65 knots with gusts to 80 knots. At 0001, May 23, the centre is predicted to be near lat 31N, long 154.4E with maximum sustained winds of 40 knots and gusts to 50 knots.

Natural Disasters



INDONESIA

Jakarta, May 24 -- There was a strong undersea earthquake today off central Indonesia's Nusa Tenggara island chain, but there were no reports of casualties or major damage. The quake struck near Sumbawa island at a depth of 19 km, Fauzi, head of seismology at Indonesia's meteorological and geophysics agency, told Reuters. The United States Geological Survey said the quake was of magnitude 5.5 and at a depth of 50.4 km and was 1,380 km east-south-east of the Indonesian capital, Jakarta. Thailand's Disaster Warning Centre said the quake measured 5.6 there and no tsunami warning had been issued. Malaysia's seismology agency reported much the same. -- Reuters.

KLYUCHEVSKAYA SOPKA VOLCANO, RUSSIA

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: The Klyuchevskaya Sopka volcano on Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula has spewed a major ash column reaching up to eight kilometres above sea level. The plume is moving to the south-east. Sergei Serdyukov, a specialist of the Kamchatka branch of the Geophysical Service of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAN), said there was no danger to nearby populated areas. He said growing steam and gas activity began in the crater at 0500, local time, and the volcano began to spew ash at 0830 hrs. The ash column rose to a height of about eight kilometres and the plume began to spread to the south-east. It was drifting away from the Klyuchi settlement, located 32 km from the volcano, and no fallout of volcanic dust had been registered there. Two lava flows over two kilometres in length were observed on the volcano's slope. The volcano began erupting on Feb 15 and its activity had increased considerably since then, specialists said. The volcano spews ash clouds that spread in plumes to a distance of hundreds of kilometres. Experts from the Kamchatka response group said: "There is a danger in the area of the volcano for international and local flights caused by possible ash and aerosol plumes." All the organisations concerned have been warned about the hazard.

Political & Civil Unrest



ISRAEL-LEBANON

Beirut, May 22 -- A press report, dated May 19, states: Black slime coats

beaches and oozes into rock pools in North Lebanon, nine months after an oil spill led to international pledges to clean this stretch of coast. Oil clings to beach after beach north of Byblos, an ancient fishing port that is one of Lebanon's main tourist attractions. Israel bombed the storage tanks at the power station in Jiyeh, south of Beirut, during the summer 2006 war. The attack caused an estimated 10,000-15,000 tons of fuel oil to spill into the Mediterranean. "Summer is coming and this oil is melting," said Mohammad Sarji, the head of the Lebanese Divers Union and in charge of the clean-up operation along the Southern coastline conducted by the non-governmental organization (NGO) Bahr Loubnan (Sea of Lebanon). "Temperatures will rise, and we could end up with a river of oil going into the sea." Sarji said oil that liquefies could form a film on the sea, threatening marine life, or it could wash back onto the shore. Environmentalists also urgently want the government to remove at least 3,000 tons of oil collected in plastic bags and barrels along the coast. In summer it will liquefy, they say, and the containers may split, contaminating the sea or the soil. Environment Ministry official Ghada Mitri said that those who cleaned up the spill should transport the oil, with ministry support where needed. Bahr Loubnan has cleaned underwater along the whole coast from Byblos to the South, including around Jiyeh. Sarji said this painstaking manual clean-up, which has so far cost the NGO \$400,000, was mostly finished but was ongoing where changing tides exposed oily patches. The US Agency for International Development (USAID) awarded a \$5 million contract to the US company Seacor Environmental Services to clean roughly 60 kilometres of shore north of Byblos. The ministry oversaw the work. In January, a USAID press release said that the job was done, but the ministry clarified that "phase one" was completed -- the removal of free-floating oil and oil in danger of going back into the sea. "It is planned by the Environment Ministry that phase two -- the clean-up of rocky platforms and walls of wharfs and revetments to a higher level of cleanliness in some sites along the coast, if resources are made available to Lebanon -- be initiated as soon as the sea and weather permit," the government statement said. In Byblos today, clumps of oil still stick to a public beach, and barrels of oil, greasy sand and pebbles are piled next to a hill of dirty sand. USAID's Sana Saliba said the ministry had asked them to wait for an April coastal survey to be completed before starting the next phase, which would be subcontracted to Lebanese companies. "The idea was also to let nature do some of the work, mostly on the rocky beaches," Saliba said. "This is normal clean-up practice." Bahr Loubnan clean-up supervisor and local resident Raif Nader said many beaches in the area had not been touched. -- Lloyd's Agents.

NIGERIA

London, May 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: Royal Dutch Shell PLC has resumed production at a 170,000 barrel-per-day Nigerian export facility shut down during the week because of community protests, a spokesman said yesterday. "We have resumed operation at the facility since the protesters have vacated the place. But the optimal level is yet to be attained. It is a gradual process," the spokesman said. Local youths had closed down an oil pipeline intersection known as a manifold at Bomu on Tuesday (May 15), preventing the pipeline from feeding in to the Bonny export terminal in southern Nigeria. Some 137,000 barrels of the output lost during the crisis directly belonged to Shell, while the remaining 33,000 belonged to third parties operating alongside the Anglo-Dutch oil group, officials said. Shell, Nigeria's largest oil operator, accounts for around half of the country's daily output of 2.6 million barrels but unrest in the oil-producing south has cut production by a quarter.

Port Harcourt, May 22 -- Four gunmen seized a Lebanese worker in Nigeria's western delta oil city of Warri today, the military and security sources said. The armed men also snatched the Lebanese man's car, security sources said, adding that a gun was recovered at the scene. The man was a financial controller at oil service company, Nigercat. The latest abduction takes to 15 the number of foreign workers being held by different militant groups in the Niger Delta. More than 100 foreigners have been taken hostage in the Niger Delta since January, but most of them were freed after their employers paid ransoms. Militants also attacked a residential compound with dynamite and machine guns in Port Harcourt on Saturday (May 19) and abducted two Indian employees of a petrochemical firm. The Indian government said contact has been established with the abductors and that the hostages are safe and their release is imminent, Indian media reported today. Officials said the negotiations were conducted by private parties and they expect a positive outcome within the next 24 hours. -- Reuters.

SRI LANKA

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: Maldives Coast Guard today fired upon and sank an unidentified vessel named *Sri Krishna* believed to be carrying arms for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighting for a separate state in Sri Lanka, Maldives Foreign Minister Ahmed Sayeed announced today. The vessel which was traced last afternoon did not carry a flag of any country and did not respond to the communication of the Maldives Coast Guard. The vessel was shot and sunk after a 10-hour standoff in the dawn today. Five persons suspected to be linked to the LTTE on board were rescued and taken into custody. One of them were reported an Indian. The vessel is believed to be transporting mortars for Tamil Tigers. However, the Tigers have

denied involvement. A Sri Lankan military official said that they have asked permission to question the detained suspects as the vessel was heading towards Sri Lanka.

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: An explosion hit a bus in a commercial area near Sri Lanka's main port in the capital Colombo on Thursday (May 24), the military said, but there were no immediate details of any casualties. "We are confronting the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) on land and at sea. There were 15 boats, including three suicide boats, off Delft island in Jaffna," said navy spokesman Commander D.K.P. Dassanayake. "We have destroyed one boat." He said it was unclear how many Tiger rebels had landed on the island. There were no details of any casualties or damage. Fighting is now focused on the north after the military captured the Tigers' eastern stronghold in recent months, but analysts say there is no clear winner on the horizon and fear the protracted conflict could rumble on for years. "There is an explosion on a bus in the Fort area," said Navy spokesman Commander D.K.P. Dassanayake. The incident came just hours after a flotilla of Tamil Tiger rebel boats attacked a navy detachment off the island's far northern Jaffna peninsula before dawn, killing several sailors.

Labour Disputes



ARGENTINA

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated May 22, states: Employees of LAN Argentina airlines walked out for four days last week to protest contract violations by the airline's management. The strike included stewards, pilots and technicians. The violations cited by the strikers included management using workers outside their job title and the denial of required rest time. The strike ended last Thursday (May 17) in the wake of a new agreement between LAN management and the airline unions. LAN is mainly a domestic carrier, with some international flights.

BERMUDA

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated May 18, states: Some commuters were left stranded as ferry workers went on strike this morning but others received special service from marine and port workers who disregarded the no-work order. Passengers at the Belmont and Darrell's Wharf, who called the Hamilton ferry terminal when the 0715 hrs ferry did not arrive, were told: "No ferries are running." An hour later a Hamilton Ferry terminal worker said: "Two ferries left Hamilton minutes after 0700 hrs to pick up passengers from Dockyard, Watford Bridge, Cavello Bay and Rockaway. Those stops have the greatest number

of passengers in the morning and I suppose the ferry drivers just did not want to leave them stranded." A government spokesperson told Bermuda Sun that senior management employees wanted to assist commuters where the largest numbers were during rush hour, and so they made the single morning trips. Notice of the strike was first broadcast at 0615 this morning. Ferry workers "refused to work because of an internal administration matter between staff and management," the government spokesperson said. Ferry services resumed later in the day at 1300 hrs.

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: The issue that brought ferry services to a halt last Friday (May 18) and left peak-hour morning commuters stranded, is still unresolved. Yesterday afternoon a government spokesperson said that the matter was still "being dealt with internally" and no other details could be revealed. Ferry workers pulled their services early on May 18 because of an "internal administrative matter between staff and management," the government spokesperson said on Friday. Passengers at the Belmont and Darrell's Wharf, who called the Hamilton ferry terminal when the 0715 hrs ferry did not arrive last Friday, were told: "No ferries are running." However, a few ferry workers had disregarded the no-work order. A Hamilton ferry terminal worker said: "Two ferries left Hamilton minutes after 0700 hrs to pick up passengers from Dockyard, Watford Bridge, Cavello Bay and Rockaway. Those stops have the greatest number of passengers in the morning and I suppose the ferry drivers just did not want to leave them stranded." A government spokesperson said that senior management employees wanted to assist commuters where the largest numbers were during rush hour, and so they made the single morning trips. Notice of the strike was first broadcast at 0615 that morning. Ferry services resumed around noon on Friday.

CANADA

Troy, Mich, May 18 -- Three Great Lakes bulkers are sitting empty at a Sarnia dock after the crews left the vessels last week because of a labour dispute. *Wolverine*, *David Z.* and *Earl W.* are in the North Slip in Sarnia, south of the Blue Water Bridge. Members of the American Maritime Officers, a marine officers and stewards union, left the vessels on May 10. The vessels are owned by the Wisconsin & Michigan Steamship Company of Lakewood, Ohio, a subsidiary of Sand Products Co in Toledo. A statement on the on the American Maritime Officers' website states that the company did not sign a contract agreed to by three other Great Lakes operators. The president of Wisconsin & Michigan Steamship Company said companies that have approved the new agreement deal with larger-capacity vessels. "Our vessels do not have the capacity to compete with larger vessels carrying two to four times the cargo with nearly

identical crew costs," he said in a statement. -- Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping.

INDIA

London, May 17 -- A press report, dated today, states: A strike by the employees deployed on the ground by state-owned Indian Airlines (IA), demanding payment of ten-year wage arrears, affected the services of the airlines today. The schedule of Indian Airlines and Air India were hit due to the strike. The carrier had already made alternative arrangements in view of the strike. About 12,000 airport workers, under the banner of Air Corporation Employees' Union (ACEU) are demanding payment of ten years' arrears on wages, which will cost the management five billion rupees. ACEU accounts for 14,000 of Indian Airlines's 18,000 employees. The workers decided to go on strike to press their demands after talks between the union and the IA management broke down.

ITALY

London, May 22 -- Thousands of travellers were left stranded today because of a strike by Italian air traffic controllers and Alitalia flight attendants that forced the cancellation of hundreds of domestic and international flights. The Italian civil aviation authority said it had supplied a list of the affected Athens-bound flights to the air traffic controllers' agency, saying they had to depart to "prevent possible public order problems." Italy's national carrier Alitalia alone canceled 394 flights Tuesday because of the 1000 hrs to 1800 hrs strike. Alitalia flight attendant unions are trying to keep up the pressure on the struggling national carrier over contract negotiations. Other international carriers also cancelled flights because of the walkout by air traffic controllers. German airline Lufthansa AG said it had cancelled all flights into and out of Italy. A total of 80 flights and 5,000 passengers were affected, the airline said, adding that it would increase its capacity after the strike ended. Russia's Aeroflot also said it had canceled flights to Rome and Milan, the Interfax news agency reported. Air travel in Italy has been disrupted for a week because of wildcat walkouts by Alitalia SpA flight crews over demands that the company adhere to rules regulating the number of crew members and hours of rest between flights. About four percent of the 800 flights in the past few days were affected, the statement said.

NEW ZEALAND

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Air Nelson staff walked off the job for four days this morning, as part of industrial action that has seen a withdrawal of overtime and other extra services over the past month. Strachan Crang from the Engineers, Printing and Manufacturing Union said staff have been required to significantly increase their level of productivity lately, as the company has

become far busier since the collapse of Origin Pacific. The union is claiming a 10.6% pay rise, over two years, and improved leave conditions. Mr Crang said staff are disappointed the airline keeps coming back with low pay offers. He believes it is the perfect time for the company to reward employees for their hard work. Air Nelson's general manager John Hambleton is confident the contingencies in place will work. Two aircraft a day have been rescheduled.

SPAIN

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: The management and unions of the Naval industry in Vigo reached an agreement in the early hours of this morning and this has led to the calling off of indefinite strike action, which started on May 3 and has seen violent street protests over the past 10 days. The agreement is understood to consist of making 45% of the contract workers into fixed contracts. The unions say that this will bring stability to the workforce. The pre-agreement still has to be referred to the workers for approval.

Miscellaneous



PIPE RUPTURE, PRUDHOE BAY, ALASKA, UNITED STATES

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Prudhoe Bay oil production is down by almost a quarter due to a ruptured pipe, and BP workers and state inspectors are checking to see whether corrosion is again to blame. The affected pipe doesn't run overland. It is part of the plumbing inside a key processing plant called Gathering Centre 2 on the field's west side, said BP spokesman Daren Beaudou. The carbon steel pipe, 12 inches in diameter, is used to drain water out of a large tank that separates the mix of oil, natural gas and water coming in from dozens of wells, he said. At approximately 0145 hrs, Monday (May 21), workers discovered a leak coming from a weld in the T-shaped piece of piping, Beaudou said. About 840 gallons of water leaked, but the water went into a sump and none escaped the building, he said. The pipe rupture forced BP to idle Gathering Centre 2, cutting Prudhoe oil output by about 100,000 barrels per day or roughly 12 percent of total North Slope production. Investigators won't know whether corrosion is to blame for Monday's pipe rupture until workers can remove the faulty piece and examine it, Beaudou said. The plant is expected to be down "a few days" while workers replace the piping, he said. BP didn't publicly announce the production cut because the company considers it a routine event that inevitably happens in a major oil field, Beaudou said. World oil traders noticed the Prudhoe production loss, but it wasn't significant enough to

drive up prices. North Slope crude oil for delivery to West Coast refineries closed at \$66.32 a barrel yesterday, down \$1.30 from Monday's finish.

Fires & Explosions



PORT CRANE, IQUIQUE, CHILE

Santiago, May 22 -- A Liebherr crane owned by ITI Iquique International Terminal had a fire on May 2 while working at the quay alongside a vessel. The fire caused severe damage to the control cab. The loss is estimated at US\$1,000,000, and the crane is not expected to return to service for several months. Understand the crane is insured locally by R&SA. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Aviation



CRASH IN CUDJOE KEY BAY, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: Moments before a Cessna 182Q (N422G) crashed, killing all three people on board, air traffic controllers alerted the pilot that he was in a restricted area, officials said. Mark Chase was warned just before his Cessna 182Q struck a cable tethering a military blimp and crashed shortly after 2300, Apr 20, according to a preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board. Witnesses reported seeing the left wing of the aircraft fly off when it struck the cable, tethering a blimp used by the federal government to monitor suspected drug flights and other potentially harmful activity. A camera near the scene captured the crash. "The video record showed the aircraft's left wing striking the tether, and the aircraft entering a spin, and descending seemingly uncontrolled, departing the camera's field of view," the report stated. The wreckage was found near Cudjoe Key in about three or four feet of water, according to the report. NTSB said the crash would remain under investigation for several more months.

CRASH, ALBERT WHITTED AIRPORT, ST. PETERSBURG, UNITED STATES

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: A small aircraft has crashed at Albert Whitted Airport in St. Petersburg. It appears that when the aircraft was attempting to land, the pilot missed the runway and hit a sea wall. According to St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue, two people were on board the aircraft. They say the pilot was taken to Bayfront Medical Centre as a

trauma alert. The passenger escaped the crash with minor injuries. The Coast Guard and St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue are at the scene.

London, May 19 -- Maule MXT-7-180A N1044M crashed on landing at St. Petersburg, Florida, at 2154, May 17. The aircraft was destroyed. The two persons on board were injured.

CRASH, DUNKIRK AIRPORT AREA, UNITED STATES

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: A small aircraft crashed in a field just outside the Dunkirk Airport this morning, killing the three men on board. The twin-engine aircraft took off early this morning from Oshawa, Ont. en route to New Castle County Airport in Wilmington, Del., said James Peters, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration based in New York City. The pilot communicated with air traffic controllers at Buffalo Niagara International Airport, and wanted to land at the Dunkirk airport because the aircraft's left engine was "running rough," Peters said. The pilot was cleared to land at Dunkirk, but the aircraft overflew the runway by 1,700 feet and crashed in a field about a half mile south-west of the airport at around 0830 today, Peters said.

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: A Canadian-registered Beechcraft Baron has crashed in western New York state, killing all three people aboard. Officials say the aircraft was en route from Oshawa to Wilmington, Del. They say the pilot reported trouble in the left engine and received permission to land at the Lake Erie community of Dunkirk. The aircraft apparently overflew the airport and crashed in a wooded area less than a kilometre away.

London, May 19 -- Beechcraft Baron B55 C-FDJP crashed near Dunkirk, New York, at 1336, May 17. The aircraft was destroyed. The three persons on board were killed.

CRASH, EL PASO AREA, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated May 22, states: The pilot was killed and a passenger critically hurt in today's crash of a small Customs and Border Protection American Eurocopter Astar helicopter in the El Paso area. Authorities say Robert F. Smith was pronounced dead at a hospital after the crash in a residential part of San Elizario. CPB official Michael Wimberly says Border Patrol observer Steven Takacs is in the intensive care unit in stable condition. The cause of the crash is sought, although a witness reports hearing a snapping popping noise and a boom. The chopper had been on a routine patrol of the border about ten miles east of El Paso.

London, May 23 -- Eurocopter AS 350 B3 (Ecuireuil) N851BP crashed near El Paso, Texas, at 1255, May 22. One of the two persons on board was killed and the other was seriously injured.

CRASH, EL TIGRE AREA, VENEZUELA

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Cessna plane loaded with 480 kilograms of cocaine crashed in eastern Venezuela on Monday night (May 21). Venezuelan media have reported. The two people on board died on spot. The record drug shipment was seized by troops. National Guard soldiers confiscated the 480 kilograms of cocaine from the Cessna, the attorney general's office said in statement today. The wreckage was found near the town of El Tigre, about 400 kilometres south-east of Caracas. The bodies of the pilot and another person were found in the Venezuelan-registered plane. Authorities did not give details about the suspected causes of the crash, nor details about where the plane departed from or was headed. According to the attorney general's office, National Guard troops found a compartment in the plane holding 480 packages, each of which held a kilogram of cocaine.

CRASH, GARNERVILLE, NEVADA, UNITED STATES

London, May 21 -- Siai-Marchetti FN-333 N95DR crashed at Garnerville, Nevada, at 0130, May 21. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH, HILLTOP LAKES, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated May 20, states: A Leon County man and woman were injured today when the plane in which they were flying crashed during take-off from a small airport in Hilltop Lakes, authorities said. The Grumman American AVN plane, which was registered to a Bryan company, had climbed between 125 and 200 feet when the aircraft experienced engine trouble, Texas Department of Public Safety reports state. Pilot Albert Joseph Hooper, 67, of Hilltop Lakes tried to return to the airport, but crashed about a quarter-mile short of the runway, according to DPS officials. The plane then careened into a line of trees. Hooper and passenger Dolores Mardis, 62, of Hilltop Lakes were taken to St. Joseph Regional Health Centre in Bryan with cuts and bruises. Both Hooper and Mardis were retired, according to DPS reports. The crash happened about 1515 hrs, today. It was unclear later that day what caused the engine trouble. Troopers notified the Federal Aviation Administration. The plane was owned by Cyrus Aviation Services, a plane rental and flight training company at Coulter Field in Bryan.

London, May 21 -- Grumman AA-5B (Tiger) N28730 crashed near Hilltop Lakes, Texas, at 2000, May 20. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board suffered minor injuries.

CRASH, KALISPELL AREA, MONTANA, UNITED STATES

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated May 18, states: Federal

investigators have found no apparent mechanical problems with a Cessna 182C (N8771T) which crashed in Marion, Montana. The crash killed five people, including the pilot who was from Onalaska. The National Transportation Safety Board released its preliminary report on the crash today. It said the aircraft made a 180-degree turn just after take-off and was only 500 feet high before it crashed. Troy Norling of Onalaska was the pilot of the aircraft, which was also carrying four skydivers when it crashed May 12. Investigators say all of the aircraft's parts were found at the crash site, which suggested nothing fell off during the flight. A final report could take up to a year to complete.

CRASH, MILLER LAKE, ONTARIO, CANADA

London, May 18 -- Cessna 180J, C-FDNZ, operator Peter Hagedorn Investments Ltd, was en route from Millar Lake, Ontario, to Roderick Lake for camp re-supply and maintenance work. The aircraft was reported as missing at 2130, CDT, yesterday. When it did not arrive at Roderick Lake, RCC Trenton was advised and a Hercules aircraft was dispatched. C-FDNZ was located in a wooded area near Miller Lake. TSB investigators have deployed to the site.

CRASH, SHERIDAN, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: A small aircraft on its way to Lawrence County crashed today in New York. Three people onboard were killed. The aircraft took off from Canada and was headed to New Castle when the pilot reported problems with the left engine. The pilot received permission to land when it crashed in a wooded area in Sheridan, New York.

CRASH, TORRES STRAIT, AUSTRALIA

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Four people have survived a light aircraft crash in the Torres Strait, off Cape York Peninsula in Far North Queensland. The single-engine aircraft ditched into the sea near Warraber Island, north of Thursday Island, at 1100, AEST. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority says the crew of a rescue helicopter winched the four to safety and all of those rescued were wearing life jackets. Peter Gibson from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority says the aircraft experienced engine problems. "A Piper Cherokee on the way from Horn Island to Warraber Island ditched about 15 nautical miles south-west of Warraber Island," he said. "Luckily, it was a successful ditching. The people have been picked up and taken back to hospital on Thursday Island."

EMERGENCY LANDING, IRKUTSK AIRPORT, RUSSIA

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Tu-154 made an

emergency landing at Irkutsk airport at 0145, local time, Thursday (May 24). The aircraft was being transferred to Irkutsk and there were no passengers on board. No one was hurt in the incident, a source from Irkutsk Airport management told Tass. The aircraft crew detected a malfunctioning of one of the engines and made a decision to switch off the damaged engine and fly on to Irkutsk, where the aircraft was to refuel, using the remaining engines that operated normally. There were four crewmen and three engineers, who accompanied the aircraft, on board. The pilots radioed Irkutsk ground services at around 0700, Moscow time, asking for emergency landing. All the airport services were on alert when the aircraft touched down.

EMERGENCY LANDING, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: An Aeroflot Ilyushin Il-96 passenger airplane on a Moscow-Hanoi flight had to make an emergency landing at Sheremetyevo Airport, sources in the Russian Transport Ministry said today. "One of the Il-96 plane's hydraulic systems failed when the plane was gaining height after take-off from Sheremetyevo Airport at 2249 hrs, on May 21. The crew decided to return to the airport. The airplane dumped fuel and successfully landed at 2345 hrs." The plane was carrying 133 passengers and eight crew members. There were no reported injuries.

EMERGENCY LANDING, OKINAWA, JAPAN

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Japan Airlines jet made an emergency landing at Naha Airport on Thursday afternoon (May 17) with only one of its engines running, government officials said. At about 1515 on Thursday, an alarm in the cockpit of a JAL Boeing 767-300 indicated that the amount of lubricant in its left engine had declined while it was flying at an altitude of some 10,000 metres near Miyako Island, Okinawa Prefecture. The pilot shut down the left engine and the aircraft made an emergency landing at Naha Airport at 1619. None of the 108 passengers or 10 crew members was injured. The passengers on the aircraft, which was on Flight 723 bound for Kuala Lumpur from Narita, subsequently left for their destination on another aircraft. Mechanics examined the Boeing 767 and found that the amount of lubricant in its left engine had declined to 20 percent of normal levels. Ministry officials pointed to the possibility that lubricant leaked from the engine while it was airborne, as airline officials said it was full at the time of departure from Narita.

EMERGENCY LANDING, SCHOENEFELD AIRPORT, BERLIN, GERMANY

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Experts conducted

an examination Wednesday (May 23) of an Israeli aircraft that made an emergency landing in Berlin after smoke spread through the aircraft. The Israir Airlines aircraft with 170 people on board touched down at Schoenefeld airport on the outskirts of the capital at 2240, local time, on Tuesday evening. The 162 passengers, six crew and security personnel left the aircraft via the emergency exits. One woman injured her arm sliding down an emergency chute and was taken to hospital for treatment. Immigration officials checked the documents of all the passengers after they left the aircraft. The aircraft was on its way from Tel Aviv to the German capital when the pilot alerted the airport shortly before the aircraft was due to land after noticing smoke in the cockpit and cabin area. Israeli officials were at the airport Wednesday morning as airport technicians and other experts examined the aircraft.

EMERGENCY LANDING, WESTERN SIBERIA, RUSSIA

London, May 22 -- A Boeing 737 passenger plane belonging to air carrier GTK Russia made a safe emergency landing at an airport in western Siberia after experiencing engine failure, a spokesman for Russia's emergencies ministry said today. "The aircraft with 29 passengers and eight crew was on a flight from St. Petersburg to Novy Urengoi," Viktor Beltsov said. "The left engine failed during the flight, but the pilots managed to land the aircraft at 7.15. Moscow time (0315 UTC)." No injuries have been reported, the official said.

INCIDENT AT ISLAMABAD AIRPORT, PAKISTAN

London, May 18 -- A press report, dated May 17, states: A Pakistan International Airways jetliner aborted its take-off on a flight to Britain today, after sustaining an engine problem and is blocking the runway at Islamabad Airport, an airline official said. Emergency brakes were applied to the Airbus during the middle of its final run for take-off for Birmingham at around 0900 hrs, which caused the aircraft's tyres to burst. All 135 passengers and the crew were unhurt, said PIA spokesman Nasir Jamal. About five hours after the accident, the runway was still blocked. Six flights have so far been diverted to the airport at the eastern city of Lahore, he said.

INCIDENT AT TORONTO AIRPORT, ONTARIO, CANADA

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated May 20, states: An airline official said there are no injuries after the front landing gear collapsed on a Jazz airliner that arrived today at Toronto's Pearson airport from Moncton, N.B. Spokeswoman Manon Stuart said that after the CRJ-100 regional jet aircraft landed, the main landing gear buckled while the plane was moving from the active runway onto a taxiway. The 37 passengers and three crew

members aboard Flight AC8911 were not injured, Stuart said. She said everyone was released following medical examination at the airport, and some passengers continued on to connecting flights. This is the first time an incident like this has occurred involving this aircraft, a 50-seat Canadian regional jet, Stuart said. The incident is under investigation. Toronto television station Cable Pulse 24 reported the jet touched down on runway 6 and was parked on a nearby taxiway. CP24 said that both the runway and the taxiway were closed, pending an investigation by the Transportation Safety Board. Jazz is a regional subsidiary of Air Canada.

London, May 23 -- Bombardier CL-600-2B19 C-FRIL, operated by Air Canada Jazz, had main landing gear collapse on landing at Lester B. Pearson International Airport, Toronto, at 1230, EDT, May 20, following a flight from Moncton. The 40 persons on board were not injured.

MID-AIR COLLISION, CINCINNATI, OHIO, UNITED STATES

London, May 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: Federal investigators are looking at human error as the cause of last week's collision of two small aircraft over the Cincinnati suburb of Sharonville which killed three people, the National Safety Transportation Board said today. Both aircraft were mechanically sound, according to the agency's preliminary report on the May 11 crash, which rained debris onto roads and suburban backyards but missed those on the ground as rush hour approached. A witness in an office building told investigators that the aircraft rolled towards each other just before their wings collided, the report said. David Woeste Jr, 31, and Edward L. Hitchens, 65, both of Cincinnati, were on board a Cessna 172. It is not clear who was piloting the aircraft, officials have said. Niels Harpsoe, 64, of suburban West Chester, was the pilot of the other aircraft, a Beechcraft Bonanza. He was killed. Autopsy and drug-testing results of the two pilots would not be available for months, a spokesman said. The NTSB's full investigation of the collision could take more than a year.



AUSTRALIA

London, May 21 -- A press report, dated May 18, states: The queue of coal vessels anchored off Newcastle, Australia, has started to decrease, as a result of a coal capacity balancing (quota) system reintroduced at the beginning of Apr. Today the queue stood at 66 vessels, down from a peak of 78.

CANADA

London, May 22 -- A press report, dated May 21, states: Cargo operations at the Nanaimo Port Authority's Duke Point deep sea terminal could be curtailed indefinitely, depending on the extent of fire damage to the facility's containment crane, according to the harbour-master. Andrew Pitcher, who attended at the terminal as soon as he heard about the fire late this afternoon, said the 58-metre-high crane is used to lift containers off vessels and barges and onto trucks at the facility, south of Nanaimo. "Right now, we have no idea how much damage there is," he said as he surveyed the 40-tonne crane. Looking at where the fire appeared to have done the most damage, Pitcher said he believes the blaze started in the engine area. "The fire seems to have been contained mainly in the mechanical room where the engine is and where all the electrical controls are," he said. Fire department crews are expected to inspect the crane tomorrow to try to determine the cause of the fire. The crane's operator had gone home for the day by the time Pitcher received the call about the fire. "We had been shut down for at least two hours before the fire," he said. "Thankfully, there were no injuries and the fire didn't spread." It could be quite costly for the port if the crane is out of operation for an extended period of time because container traffic will have to unload at a different port and if the crane is so severely damaged that it cannot be repaired, Pitcher estimated the cost of a new one to be in the \$20-

million range. The Port of Nanaimo's 26-hectare Duke Point site has a deep-sea berth, a large all-purpose loading ramp, a container crane and licensed one-acre sites.

GERMANY

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated May 22, states: The Kiel Canal Authorities have announced that due to maintenance work, the small south lock chamber in Holtenau will be out of service until further notice. This may cause further transit delays.

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: The Kiel Canal Authorities have announced that both new lock chambers at Holtenau will be in operation until the morning of May 29. In addition, the small lock chamber at Holtenau will be in operation again by tomorrow or Friday (May 25) at the latest. Maintenance work on the south lock at Holtenau will start on May 29 and continue until Jun 24.

KENYA

London, May 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: Two container depots which have been approved by the Kenya Ports Authority will commence operations in June, it has been announced in Mombasa. The two depots, Mombasa Container Terminal and Consolbase, each with a capacity of 3000-TEU, are situated within close proximity of the port and have been licensed by the port authority to act as satellite terminals and help reduce mounting congestion within the port's container terminal. The port is currently handling about double its design capacity of 7,000 boxes a month. A process of tendering for the two freight stations was entered into before the two successful container depots were shortlisted. One of the requirements was that the depot had to be within an eight-km radius of the port, which ruled out at least one of the other companies that entered bids. Kenya is currently experiencing container congestion at the port of Mombasa and is under threat of surcharges by shipping lines. The newly privatised railway, Rift Valley Railway has so far failed to increase dramatically the number of containers carried to inland addresses while Kenya's road system is proving equally unable to cope with the demand.

Port Delays

Information received from BIMCO, Denmark and the Indian Ports Association

Country/Port	Date of report	No. of vessels waiting and/or days delay
Colombia		
Barranquilla	29-May-2007	Max. permissible draft: 9.14 m fw. Shore cranes operational; 4 vessels berthed (1 containers, 2 general cargo, 1 bulker), no vessels anchored; 8 vessels due (3 containers, 2 general cargo, 2 bulkers, 1 coal), with no delays expected.
Buenaventura	29-May-2007	Shore crane out of service. Terminal has arranged 1 shore crane for repair of gantry crane over the next 2-3 months which can be used for discharge if required. Two new shore cranes are being installed, the first expected end-June will be in operation during the second half of July. Nine vessels berthed (3 containers, 1 general cargo, 4 bulkers, 1 PCC), 10 anchored (7 containers, 2 bulkers, 1 PCC); 22 vessels due (15 containers, 3 general cargo, 3 bulkers, 1 PCC), with 2 days delay expected for containers, 1 day for bulkers/PCC.
Cartagena	29-May-2007	SPRCTG: shore cranes operational; 2 container vessels berthed, no vessels anchored; 25 vessels due (22 containers, 3 passenger vessels), with no delays expected; MEB: shore crane operational; 2 vessels berthed (1 containers, 1 general cargo), no vessels anchored; 3 vessels due (2 containers, 1 bulker), with no delays expected; CONTECAR: shore crane operational; 1 container vessel berthed, no vessels anchored; 4 vessels due (2 containers, 2 general cargo), with no delays expected.
Sanata Marta	29-May-2007	Shore cranes operational; 2 vessels berthed (1 tanker, 1 coal), 1 coal vessel anchored; 18 vessels due (6 containers, 5 general cargo, 1 bananas, 3 tankers, 2 coal, 1 PCC), with 2 days delay expected for coal vessels.
Cyprus		
Larnaca	29-May-2007	Five conventional vessels discharging at berth; 2 conventional vessels due 30/5; no delays expected.
Limassol	29-May-2007	Six container vessels discharging/loading at berth, 6 conventional vessels discharging at berth; 4 container vessels, 3 conventional vessels, 1 Ro/Ro, 3 passenger vessels due 30/5; no delays expected.
Egypt		
Adabiya	29-May-2007	Four vessels berthed (loading/discharging), all general cargo.
Alexandria	29-May-2007	Forty-three vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 30 general cargo, 4 bulk carriers, 4 tankers, 5 container vessels; 7 vessels at outer anchorage, 19 at inner anchorage.
Damietta	29-May-2007	Twenty-two vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 15 general cargo, 1 bulk carrier, 1 tanker, 6 container vessels; 5 vessels at outer anchorage, 2 at inner anchorage.
Dekheila	29-May-2007	Eleven vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 1 general cargo, 4 bulk carriers, 3 tankers, 3 container vessels; 6 vessels at outer anchorage.
Port Said	29-May-2007	Two vessels berthed (loading/discharging), both general cargo.
Suez	29-May-2007	Six vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 3 general cargo, 3 passenger vessels; 4 tugs, 3 vessels dry-docked.
Suez Canal	29-May-2007	Twenty vessels transiting Northbound, 24 Southbound.
Estonia		
Tallinn	28-May-2007	Paljassaare (formerly Kopli): 1 coal vessel loading at berth, 1 cocoa bean vessel discharging at berth; no vessels anchored; 2 vessels due, with 7 days berthing delay expected.
India		
Kolkata	28-May-2007	9 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel loading Containers, 6 vessels discharging (Edible Oil-3, Pules-2, Containers), 1 vessel loading and discharging General Cargo, 1 vessel waiting to load General Cargo; 2 vessels working at midstream discharging (Pulse, Logs); 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge; 4 vessels under repair; 1 vessel under dry docked; 1 vessel under arrest; 2 vessels waiting to sail; 4 vessels due (Container-3, Passenger).
Haldia	28-May-2007	16 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Iron Ore-2, POL), 9 vessels discharging (Coking Coal-3, Soya, Met Coke-2, CBFS, More, General Cargo), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers, 3 vessels waiting to load Iron Ore; 6 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (5 to discharge, 1 to load), 2 vessels waiting berth at anchorage to load; 3 vessels due (Crude, POL, Container).
Paradip	28-May-2007	13 vessels operating at berth of which 8 vessels loading (Iron Ore-2, Thermal Coal-2, Chrome Concentrate), 5 vessels discharging (A. Coal-2, C.P. Coke, N. C. Coal, Rock Phosphate, S. Acid); 12 vessels awaiting berth to anchorage (6 to discharge, 6 to load); 30 vessels due.

Port Conditions

Vizakhapatnam	28-May-2007	16 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading (Iron Ore-2, Steel-2, Thermal Coal), 11 vessels discharging (Coking Coal-2, Steam Coal-2, Rock Phosphate, Yellow Peas, Crude Oil, Steel Pipes, Urea, Chemical-2); 13 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (7 to discharge, 6 to load); 1 vessel under arrest; 27 vessels due (Iron Ore-4, Mill Scale, Granite-3, Container (Export), MOP, Coking Coal-3, Containers-2 (Import), Caustic Soda, A. Coal, P. Acid, General Cargo-2, Met Coke, Pet Coke, DBM, Steam Coal, POL Tankers-3).
Chennai	28-May-2007	19 vessels operating at berth of which 6 vessels loading (Granite Block, Met Ore, P. Iron Ore, Molass, IOL, Iron Ore), 6 vessels discharging (Log, Steel Plate/ Baux, J.Bag/ Project/ Baux-Bulk-2, S. Coil, Steam Coal, C. Oil), 7 vessels loading and discharging (Steel Pipe/ Flou/J. Bag/Granite Block, Granite Block/Project Cargo, LSHS/F. Oil, Containers-3); 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to load, 6 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (2 to load, 2 to load, 2 to load and discharge); 1 vessel under arrest; 12 vessels due (Containers-2, General Cargo, Research, Supply-3, Iron Ore, Repair, Project/Granite Blocks, SFO, Pulses).
Tuticorin	28-May-2007	7 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (S. Acid, General Cargo-4), 4 vessels discharging (MOP, Rock Phosphate, Logs-2); 2 vessels not ready to work at anchorage (1 to load, 1 to discharge), 1 vessel awaiting order at anchorage to discharge; 1 vessel under arrest.
Cochin	28-May-2007	3 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels discharging (Rock Phosphate, Clinker), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers; 23 vessels due (Crude-3, Domestic Passenger-5, Containers-8, POL-4, Chemicals, Coal, Zinc).
New Mangalore	28-May-2007	8 vessels operating at berth of which 6 vessels loading (Iron Ore Fines-4, POL Product-2), 2 vessels discharging (LPG, Coal); 7 vessels waiting berth at anchorage (2 to discharge, 5 to load); 18 vessels due (Fertilizer, Pig Iron, POL Product-3, Granite Stone-2, Iron Ore Fines-2, Container, LPG-2, POL Crude-3, Coal, S.B. Oil).
Mormugao	28-May-2007	3 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels loading Iron Ore, 1 vessel discharging Met Coke; 3 vessels working at midstream loading Iron Ore; 3 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage to load, 4 vessels waiting berth at anchorage to load; 4 vessel under dry docked; 8 vessels due (Met Coke, Coking Coal, Steel Coils, Cranes, Iron Ore-4).
Mumbai	28-May-2007	15 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading, 7 vessels discharging (Rubber Processed Oil, Steel Equipment-2, Bulk Peas, Bagged Pulses Logs, POL-2), 3 vessels loading and discharging (Containers/Steel/ General/Vehicle); 3 vessel awaiting order at anchorage to discharge, 3 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge; 12 vessels under repairs/dry docked; 10 vessels under arrest; 1 vessel under laid up (Berths not required for cargo operations); 42 vessels due (Containers-3, Oil, Fertilizer (RM), General Cargo-37).
J.N.P.T.	28-May-2007	7 vessels operating at berth loading and discharging Containers.
Kandla	28-May-2007	14 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Rice-2, Cement, Mill Scale-2), 10 vessels discharging (Timber Logs-4, Coal, Gantry, DAP, CDSBO, PFAD, High Speed Diesel); 5 vessels not ready to work at anchorage (4 to load, 1 to discharge).
Ennore	28-May-2007	1 vessel working at berth discharging Thermal Coal, 1 vessel working at inner anchorage loading Iron Ore; 3 vessels due (MV Good Season (Coal), MV Gem of Ennore (Coal), MV Apj Sridevi (Coal).
Israel		
Ashdod	29-May-2007	No labour problems. Two general cargo vessels loading at berth, 7 vessels discharging at berth (5 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 7 vessels loading/discharging at berth (6 containers, 1 tanker); 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 4 general cargo vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge, 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to load/discharge (4 bulkers, 1 containers); 17 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Eilat	29-May-2007	No labour problems. One general cargo vessel discharging at berth; 1 car carrier waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; 2 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Haifa	29-May-2007	No labour problems. Five vessels discharging at berth (4 general cargo, 1 bulker), 7 loading/discharging at berth (2 containers, 5 tankers); 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge, 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to load/discharge (3 containers, 2 tankers); 4 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 16 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Slovenia		
Koper	28-May-2007	Port working normally. Eleven vessels berthed of which 1 discharging/loading containers, 1 tanker discharging liquid cargo, 3 vessels loading general cargo/sawn timber, 2 discharging general cargo, 1 loading bulk cargo, 3 discharging bulk cargo; 2 vessels waiting at anchorage, of which 1 to discharge/load containers, 1 to load general cargo/sawn timber; 15 vessels due over the next 2 days of which 2 to discharge/load containers, 1 tanker to discharge liquid cargo, 2 car carriers to discharge/load vehicles, 1 car carrier to discharge vehicles, 3 vessels to discharge bulk cargo, 3 to load bulk cargo, 2 to load general cargo/ sawn timber.

Port Conditions

Spain

Bilbao	29-May-2007	Thirty vessels operating (7 tankers, 23 other vessels), of which 6 loading, 16 discharging, 8 loading/discharging.
Sagunto	29-May-2007	Twenty-eight vessels in port operating, of which 2 loading steel products, 21 discharging (17 steel products, 2 gas, 1 fruit, 1 anhydrous ammonia), 5 loading/discharging (4 steel products, 1 vehicles); no vessels outside commercial wharf; 3 days berthing delay at present.

Published by Lloyd's MIU, Telephone House, 69-77 Paul Street, London, EC2A 4LQ.

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ISSN 0047 4908

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