

June 8 2007

ABS fails in bid to dismiss Prestige case

By Rajesh Joshi in New York

AMERICAN Bureau of Shipping's attempt pre-emptively to overturn Spain's \$1bn Prestige case against the class society has failed, with ABS coming away only with full costs ruled payable by Spain to defray the ABS filing.

Ronald Ellis, magistrate judge at the US District Court for the Southern District of New York, disagreed in a June 1 ruling with ABS' stance that Spain's inability or unwillingness to submit emails as evidence warranted dismissal of the long-running case.

ABS said it was weighing filing for reconsideration of Judge Ellis' ruling.

The judge ruled that ABS' motion to dismiss the lawsuit failed to establish that

Spain's conduct was "intentional, wilful, or taken in bad faith".

Sources from the Spain camp, led by Holland & Knight, insisted that the ruling also specifically rejected ABS' argument that Spain violated a court order concerning the emails, finding that Spain took the necessary efforts to comply.

The ruling also imposes no adverse inference for the jury if the case ultimately goes to trial, the plaintiff stated.

An ABS statement, however, claimed the ruling found Spain was negligent in its handling of evidence that went missing.

ABS is standing by its position that the "thousands of missing emails" contain information central to its defence against the lawsuit.

The Spain camp countered that Spain "preserved records during the critical casualty period", from the time the ABS-classed Prestige vessel entered Spanish waters leaking oil, to the time of its sinking in November 2002.

The plaintiff stated: "Spain has produced over 11,000 pages of documents, including emails, to ABS covering this period. This was possible because Spain placed a hold on retaining documents at the outset of the litigation in the US.

"The court did find that some emails were negligently lost but most importantly, there was no evidence submitted that any of these emails were relevant to the points ABS asserted and that they were unfavourable to Spain's position."

ABS had interpreted a ruling from Judge Ellis in November last year as having opened the door to file a motion to dismiss the lawsuit.

ABS has been seeking to compel Spain's disclosure of email records pertaining to the Prestige casualty from November 12 to 20, 2002; and documentary evidence emanating from the Permanent Commission for the Investigation of Maritime Accidents.

ABS had asked Spain to narrow the email search to correspondence involving 98 names and 15 government email addresses. Spain disclosed some responsive documents, but stated that others did not exist or were privileged information.

Even after the latest ruling this week, ABS insisted Spain is hiding something.

CP Railway deal to end three-week strike

by Leo Ryan.

ATENTATIVE deal to end a three-week old strike by 3,200 maintenance workers at Canadian Pacific Railway was concluded early yesterday.

A spokesperson for federal Labour Minister Jean-Pierre Blackburn said details of a three-year agreement were not immediately available.

"The workers should be returning to their jobs within a few days," the spokesperson said.

The Teamsters Canada union confirmed that the strike will end "over the next few days" following a ratification vote.

The dispute had centered over salary and working conditions.

The railway has been using 1,200 staffers from its management ranks to take care of the day-to-day track and bridge maintenance tasks.

Shippers expressed concern over potential safety risks as well as interruptions in normal cargo flows.

Animosity between the two sides escalated with the recent arrest of six picketers in British Columbia by CP Rail police. The union responded by filing a civil suit against the railway — and all charges against the protesters were subsequently dropped.

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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>ASIAN BREEZE</i>	bulker	PAN	NK	5,607	7,867	1981	Reported May 25 broken down with main engine failure about 120 miles west of Colombo. Arrived Colombo May 29 in tow of tug <i>Mahanuwara</i> . Alongside repair berth.
<i>ATM 2015</i>	barge	USA	—	700	—	1979	Sank while being towed by tug <i>Riley Elizabeth</i> near Mile 83, River Mississippi, May 24.
<i>BARRI</i>	pollution control	LVA	—	191	326	1977	Had fire in engine-room and sank alongside berth at Riga May 26. Engine-room burned out.
<i>ETERNAL DAWN</i>	fishing	IRL	—	198	—	2005	Had fire in engine-room in lat 54 32N, long 09 40W, May 31. Crew airlifted off. Lifeboat standing by.
<i>FULLERTON COVE</i>	tug	AUS	LR	231	—	1975	Washed ashore on beach at Wivenhoe, Tasmania, May 31.
<i>FYKAN</i>	general	PAN	NV	1,395	1,016	1970	Had engine fire when arriving Sandnes May 25. Anchored outside harbour where fire extinguished. To moor at quay for inspection. Completed repairs May 28 and sailed.
<i>LILAC ACE</i>	vehicle carrier	PAN	NK	28,316	10,719	1086	In collision with <i>Shinline 4</i> at Yokohama May 18.
<i>MINERVA</i>	general	GBR	—	311	—	2000	Had fire in wheelhouse due electrical fault at Scrabster May 26. Extinguished by rescue services. Extensive damage to wheelhouse. Towed into Scrabster by lifeboat same day. Towed out May 29, bound Macduff for repairs.
<i>MINGO</i>	general	BHS	NV	2,693	3,703	1980	Reported May 25 drifting in lat 49 50.7N, long 03 12.8W, 28 miles SE of Start Point, with main engine fault. Taken in tow of Bay Protector and arrived Falmouth same day. Sailed May 28 after repairs.
<i>NORTHSEA</i>	product tanker	KHM	—	18,682	32,290	1976	Had fire on board in lat 04 44N, long 02 34E, May 29. Reported burned out. 22 of the 29 crew rescued. Reported May 31 to have sunk.
<i>ROYAL RAY</i>	vehicle carrier	MLT	BV	7,311	2,627	1986	Towed into Mindelo, Cape Verde May 14 and subsequently to Las Palmas, where arrived May 22.
<i>SEABULK NEVADA</i>	tug	USA	ABS	294	—	1977	Struck rock near mouth of Kenai River, Prince William Sound, at the end of Mar 2007. Reported 30 May undergoing repairs at Ketchikan shipyard.
<i>SHINELINE 4</i>	general	MYS	GL	5,615	6,682	1983	In collision with <i>Lilac Ace</i> at Yokohama May 18. Denting damage to starboard hull.
<i>TAISHO MARU NO.1</i>	crane barge	JPN	—	499	1,163	1990	In collision with <i>Courier</i> at Osaka May 16. Cracks to starboard mid-hull causing water ingress. Temporary repairs effected.

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The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



ACACIA (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Piraeus, May 31 -- Roll On Roll Off *Acacia* is still in Piraeus and there have not been any developments in its situation. According to the ship's owners it is currently unknown when repairs will commence. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ADELAIDE PEARL (New Zealand)

Wellington, May 28 -- Fishing (general) *Adelaide Pearl* is still under investigation by Maritime NZ. Report completion frustrated because of difficulty encountered in locating a witness. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ALI RIZA DENIZ (Panama)

Piraeus, May 25 -- Passenger (cruise) *Ali Riza Deniz* is still at Lavrion port. According to the local agent the vessel will have to be towed to Istanbul for repairs, but no instructions for this have been received to date. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ARADOS (Panama)

Istanbul, May 29 -- Bulk ore carrier *Arados* (5460 gt, built 1979) had an engine problem near Nara Point and dropped anchor in front of Poyraz Koyu Point at 1130, local time, today. -- TurkishStraits.com.

London, May 29 -- Bulk ore carrier *Arados*, Annaba to Berdiansk, engine trouble at Nara Point at 1055, local time, this morning. *Arados* according to Lloyd's MIU AIS, stationary in lat 40 11 43.61N, long 26 22 15.42E at 2023, UTC, today.

London, May 30 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Arados* was stationary in lat 40 11 46.67N, long 26 22 08.41E at 0658, UTC, today.

Istanbul, May 30 -- Bulk ore carrier *Arados* had an engine failure in Cape of Nara, Canakkale Strait, at 1100, May 29. In order to provide safety of navigation, life, property and protection of marine environment tug *Kurtarma 1* was sent immediately by Canakkale VTS to the place of incident. *Kurtarma 1* took *Arados* in tow at 1120 same day and vessel was anchored safely in Poyraz Bay at 1710 hrs. -- Correspondent.

London, May 31 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Arados* was still at anchor in lat 40 11 37.85N, long 26 22 07.88E at 0556, UTC, today.

ASIAN BREEZE (Panama)

London, May 25 -- Bulk cement carrier *Asian Breeze* (5607 gt, built 1981) is currently broken down with main engine failure about 120 miles west of Colombo. Anchor handling tug supply *Mahanuwara* is on scene and has offered assistance but no contract has yet been signed with the owners of the *Asian Breeze*.

London, May 30 -- Bulk cement carrier *Asian Breeze* arrived Colombo yesterday, in tow of anchor handling tug supply *Mahanuwara* and is now alongside a repair berth. (See issue of May 29.)

ATM 2015 (U.S.A.)

See *Riley Elizabeth*

AUTOPROGRESS (Madeira)

Kiel, May 27 -- The engine room damage caused by fire on the vehicle carrier *Autoprogress* is almost repaired. The vessel had arrived in tow in Emden on Feb 21. Trials are to start in the forthcoming week, the following week the vessel is to be redelivered to its owners. Both main engines had to be removed and completely repaired. -- Correspondent.

AVANTAGE (Canada)

Quebec, May 25 -- A crack was observed in the hull of tug *Avantage* in the port of Three Rivers on May 21. Understand that repairs have been carried out. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

BARGE SUNK, KENAI RIVER, ALASKA, UNITED STATES

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Attempts continued earlier this week to free a 100-ft barge that sank in the Kenai River a month ago and remains stuck in the navigable channel of the river not far from its mouth. The 130-ft, twin-screw landing craft *Arctic Wolf* has worked for three days to pump water out of the sunken barge so it can be moved to higher ground where it can be repaired and salvaged. The barge is only accessible at low tide. Huge chunks of ice breaking up in the river pushed against the barge while it was tied up at Snug Harbor Seafoods Apr 17, breaking mooring cables and chains and sending the barge downriver. "The situation is it is in the navigable portion of the river, it has to be moved out of there," said Paul Dale, who owns Snug Harbour with his wife. The barge had been used for fish receiving, tied to the Snug Harbour dock for years without incident. The ice floes that struck the barge were six to eight feet thick. Ice also pierced the hull of the barge, causing it to fill with river water and sink at a spot across from Kenai Joe's saloon. At high tide the barge is completely submerged. The barge originally had three hydraulic cranes attached to its deck as well as a small shack at one end. The shack and the cranes were torn off the barge. Dale said two of the cranes were found but were not salvable. "We've recovered some of the deck equipment," he said, including a long steel access ramp the company intends to use in the future. Also, an aluminum hopper was recovered from a sand bar near the Warren Ames Bridge, some five miles upriver from the mouth. When asked how much the salvage operation is expected to cost, Dale said: "I'm sure it'll exceed \$150,000." He said Snug Harbour plans to use the insurance proceeds from the incident to fix the

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company's fixed dock in time for summer fish buying. The barge salvage operation is being done by Alaska Divers and Underwater Salvage.

BARRI (Latvia)

Riga, May 30 -- Pollution control vessel *Barri* (191 gt, built 1977) had a fire in her engine-room and sank alongside the berth. An investigation is in progress. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: A vessel docked in Riga Port sank on May 26, after a fire broke out on board. The vessel was carrying diesel fuel, approximately two tons of which spilled out. Anti-pollution booms were set up around the accident site to try to control the environmental damage. Rescue workers have said that when the vessel is raised out of the water, more of the fuel will spill, making it difficult to predict the exact amount of diesel that spilled into the river. Police suspect that the fire was either caused by a lightning strike or by a malfunction in the engine-room.

Riga, May 31 -- Pollution control vessel *Barri*, lying semi-submerged at Riga, is heavily damaged. Her engine-room is totally burned out and she will be a constructive total loss. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BEAUTY SONG (Panama)

St. Petersburg, May 31 -- A collision occurred three miles from the Pilot Station of St. Petersburg Port at 1202, local time, today, between refrigerated general cargo *Beauty Song* (4128 gt, built 1983) and general cargo *Nevskiy 34* (2198 gt, built 1989) due to fog. Both vessels sustained damage above the waterline. *Beauty Song* has a cargo of fruit on board and according to officials she dropped anchor at the scene. *Nevskiy 34* returned to St. Petersburg. No fuel leakage was noted. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BELLRIVA

Kiel, May 26 -- The *Bellriva* from Strasbourg bound for Breisach early this morning with 208 people on board, struck a lock on the Rhine in Alsace, Eastern France, at 0630, today. More than 20 British tourists were injured when the vessel in struck the lock. Thirteen of the 22 injured tourists were taken to hospital with concussion, one also had a broken leg. The *Bellriva* struck a concrete wall designed to prevent vessels moving until the water is high enough. Rhine traffic was unaffected. -- Correspondent.

BLUE PACIFIC NO.1 (Virgin Islands, British)

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: Flames gutted the nearly 80-foot fishing (general) *Blue Pacific No.1* (103 gt) early yesterday morning at owner David Lansdowne's private dock off Tovey Crescent in View Royal, Esquimalt. "It's just horrifying to me to have all that machinery and hydraulics ... just all gone up in smoke," said Mr Lansdowne, 63, who was in Vancouver when the vessel caught fire. Mr Lansdowne had only owned the *Blue*

Pacific No.1 for a month and planned to get it checked for safety and insured by a Vancouver shipyard this weekend. He estimates that it would have been insured for at least \$400,000. He planned to use the wooden two-deck seiner to transport salmon from Alaska to Prince Rupert. View Royal Fire Department received the call at 0340 hrs and responded alongside firefighters from Colwood. Crews struggled to work their hoses down to the dock, almost 400 metres from the nearest hydrant. *Blue Pacific No.1* was tied to another of Lansdowne's trawlers. Firefighters had to cross the first, unburned vessel to get to the blaze. They were assisted by fireboats and a Department of National Defence fire tug. Later, while the fire was still going, containment booms were brought in to block diesel run-off into the harbour. View Royal Fire Chief Paul Hurst said that the impact on Esquimalt harbour was minimal. The preliminary investigation indicates the fire was probably accidental, according to Hurst. Lansdowne thinks the blaze probably started as an electrical issue in the engine-room. He said the fire could be due to a battery charger, which was the only thing he left on, or possibly the "trouble light". He doesn't think the vessel is salvable.

London, May 25 -- Fishing (general) *Blue Pacific No.1* sustained extensive damage May 24 due to a fire on board while the vessel was tied up at Esquimalt.

Vancouver, May 25 -- Our local office in Victoria were able to get the following information. According to Fire Captain Paul Hurst of the View Royal detachment: The fire on fishing (general) *Blue Pacific No.1* happened on May 23. The vessel was tied to a private dock at 55 Tovey Cres, View Royal (Victoria) The call was received at 0340. The vessel was built in 1959, it was 85 feet long with a wooden hull and a fibreglass superstructure. The owner of the boat had just purchased it for \$100,000. He planned to insure it for \$400,000, it was not insured at the time. The fire is deemed to be accidental. The owners son had worked on the boat during the day. A battery charger had been left on below the deck and it is believed that the charger caused the fire. The vessel is a probable total loss. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BRETT HUNT (U.S.A.)

London, May 25 -- A Coast Guard New Orleans press release, dated today, states: The Coast Guard rescued four people from a barge near the Chandeleur Islands early this morning. Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans received the call for assistance from Coast Guard Sector New Orleans at 2335 yesterday, reporting a tug (tug *Brett Hunt*, 99 gt, built 1976) taking on water with people on board. The men abandoned the tug just prior to it sinking for the safety of the barge they were towing. Coast Guard Air Station New Orleans launched an HH-65C Dolphin helicopter crew to rescue the people. The helicopter crew arrived on scene, hoisted all four personnel and

transported them safely to Air Station New Orleans. No medical attention was needed.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1435, UTC: Tug *Brett Hunt*, official No.574615, sank in lat 29 40N, long 88 53W.

BUNGA RAYA SATU (Malaysia)

London, May 25 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* was in lat 33 51 38N, long 18 19 24E, at 1853, UTC, May 23, speed 18.6 knots, course 244 degrees.

Cape Town, May 27 -- Container Carrier *Bunga Raya Satu* sailed from Cape Town on May 23. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BUTUAN BAY 1 (Philippines)

Manila, May 25 -- Carlos A. Gothong Lines, owner and operator of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1*, has applied with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) for a permit to repair the damage to the engine, smokestack, deck and other parts of the vessel which were damaged following the engine-room explosion on May 15. "We want to get *Butuan Bay 1* up and running as soon as possible," Gothong Shipping Lines spokesman and legal counsel Atty Francisco Mijares said. The vessel will be repaired at the Gothong Lines wharf at Pier No.7, Mandaue City. MARINA officials said that they are still evaluating the request. "We would also have to consult other maritime agencies which are conducting their own investigations on the explosion before issuing a permit," officials said. Other agencies investigating the accident are the Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine National Police. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 30 -- The Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) has deferred acting on a request by the owner of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1* to allow repairs to start on the vessel. Instead the MARINA has passed on the request to the Special Board of Marine Inquiry, the official government body tasked with investigating maritime accidents. The Board, composed of MARINA and Philippine Coast Guard officials was convened on Monday (May 28) in Cebu City. Carlos A. Gothong Shipping Lines spokesman and legal counsel Atty. Francisco Mijares said that he hoped the Board of Marine Inquiry would approve the request to repair the vessel by next week. -- Correspondent.

CAPE HATTERAS (Cyprus)

London, May 31 -- Container carrier *Cape Hatteras* arrived Lisbon May 25 and sailed the same day.

CAPO NOLI (Malta)

See "Australia" under "Labour Disputes."

CAPT. JOHN B. (U.S.A.)

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated May 29, states: Clean-up crews are mopping up diesel fuel leaking from tug *Capt. John B.* (71 gt, built 1974)

that sank yesterday at the Port of Florence (Alabama). U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Thomas M. Blue, who is based in New Orleans, said about 50 gallons of fuel leaked from the boat as of this afternoon. "A boom has been deployed to contain the diesel fuel and the spill is being cleaned up." A light sheen of diesel was visible near the public dock on the north side of the port today. The spilled fuel had little impact on fishing in the Tennessee River. Jim Lowe, director of the Florence-Lauderdale Port Authority said *Capt. John B.*, belonged to Muscle Shoals Marine of Florence. A cause for the sinking has not been determined, he said. Only the upper decks and pilothouse of the tug were visible following the sinking. Loew expects the sunken boat to be raised sometime this week.

London, May 31-- A press report, dated today, states: Clean-up crews are still working to clean up fuel leaking from sunken tug *Capt. John B.* There is no cause yet on what caused the boat to sink but workers were able to contain the fuel. Other towboats were running as usual today. The port remains open, although workers are keeping a close watch on the sunken tug. There are several water treatment plants downstream from the port, but booms have been set up around the tug to prevent the of any kind of large scale oil spill or environmental threat. Lauderdale County EMA Director George Graybryan says, "They've got a contractor out there, SWS from Decatur and Jim Lowe the Port Authority Director has made sure everything is the way it should be the coast guard has been down and looked at it as well." The Port Authority expects to have the tug removed by the end of the week.

CAROLA (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, May 27 -- General cargo *Carola* arrived at Rotterdam on May 24.

CASTEL COZ (France)

Dunkirk, May 25 -- At 0032 hrs, May 16, the master of 24 metre fishing (general) *Castel Coz*, owned by Gillon & Caloin, reported to Gris Nez MRCC in Boulogne Sur Mer, that the vessel had a problem with its engine and was not manoeuvring. A small tug came from Ostend with the intention to tow the *Castel Coz* to Dunkirk. The master, however, requested asked that the vessel be towed to the nearest port, which was Zeebrugge. During the tow the tug had a small problem with his engine, as it was not powerful enough to tow the fishing vessel. Another tug was requested and an ocean going tug took over the tow, towing *Castel Coz* into Zeebrugge. On arrival the *Castel Coz's* master requested another fishing vessel: *Jonathon* to tow the vessel to Boulogne Sur Mer. Repairs will be carried out in Boulogne by Ateliers Mecaniques Boulonnais (AMB). The vessel is already in drydock for inspection and it is estimated that repairs will take around two months. -- Lloyd's Agents.

CHINOOK (Marshall Islands)

London, May 30 -- Product tanker *Chinook* sailed New York May 28.

CITY (Malta)

Kiel, May 26 -- Bulker *City* (32474 gt, built 2007) yesterday had to do an emergency anchoring in the approach of the Kiel Canal at Brunsbuttel due to machine or rudder failure. The vessel ended up close to the entrance of the Kiel Canal locks. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, May 27 -- The Bulker *City* in now under way and has passed the Kiel Canal in the direction of Kiel, heading towards Sweden. -- Correspondent.

COLUMBIA (U.S.A.)

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 26, states: The Alaska Marine Highway passenger ro/ro *Columbia* (3946 gt, built 1974) that was originally delayed and scheduled to arrive in Bellingham Sunday (May 27) was cancelled yesterday morning. The ferry due in Bellingham this morning has been delayed while mechanics in Ketchikan, Alaska, make engine repairs. (Note -- *Columbia* arrived and sailed Juneau May 28.)

London, May 30 -- An Alaska Marine Highway System press release, dated May 25, states: The Alaska Marine Highway System has cancelled the intended Friday (May 25) sailing of passenger ro/ro *Columbia* due to a delay in repairs to its starboard main engine turbo-charger. The AMHS previously intended to send *Columbia* southbound for a Monday stop in Bellingham. Instead, the AMHS plans to keep *Columbia* in Ketchikan for repairs this weekend and have it resume regularly scheduled revenue service on Sunday where it heads northbound. *Columbia* had a failure of its starboard main engine turbo-charger on Tuesday (May 22) while the ship was in Chatham Strait on the way to Petersburg from Sitka.

London, May 31 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger ro/ro *Columbia* was in lat 54 26 04.78N, long 130 38 48.64W, at 0524, UTC, May 31, proceeding on a course of 163 deg at 17.2 knots.

COURIER (Antigua & Barbuda)

Yokohama, May 25 -- Container Carrier *Courier* (14860 gt, built 1995), which had just left wharf No.2, Osaka Nanko port, for Kobe, was in contact with crane barge *Taisho Maru No.1* (499 gt, built 1990) which shifting in Osaka port, in lat 34 38.7N, long 135 26.2E, at 2020, May 16. *Courier* sustained scratches to its bulbous bow, while the crane barge sustained cracks to its starboard mid-hull causing water ingress. The cracking damage has been temporarily repaired. There was no oil spilled by either vessel. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *Courier* arrived Osaka May 16 and sailed May 17.)

DALMACIJA (Croatia)

See "Germany" under "Port State Control".

DON RAIMUNDO (Argentina)

London, May 30 -- Following navigation warning issued May 29:

Trawler *Don Raimundo* (113 gt, built 1993) adrift in lat 38 58S, long 55 39W.

London, May 30 -- Following navigation warning issued today: Fishing *Mercea C* towing trawler *Don Raimundo* in lat 38 47S, long 55 34W, line length 500 metres, speed seven knots, course 296 degrees, bound Mar del Plata port.

ELLIDA ACE (Panama)

London, May 28 -- Bulker *Ellida Ace* arrived at Gladstone on May 25.

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

Anchorage, Alaska, May 25 -- Passenger ro/ro *Empress of the North* is in Ketchikan now and they are apparently surveying the damage today and tomorrow. No estimates of time for these repairs, as yet. -- Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of May 24)

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: Passenger ro/ro *Empress of the North* must head south for repairs to the damage done when it hit a charted rock near Juneau earlier this month. Its Southeast Alaska cruises already have been cancelled through to Jun 23. The Ketchikan shipyard, where the vessel has been in dry dock for the past week, has another obligation and cannot complete the work, Alaska Ship & Dry Dock general manager Bob Burke said today. Workers are repairing the *Seabulk Nevada*, an oil spill response vessel that serves oil tankers in Prince William Sound, Burke said. That vessel has been out of commission since it struck a rock near the mouth of the Kenai River at the end of March. "The complication is we already had a casualty here that we had to take off the dry dock in order to stabilise *Empress of the North*, but we have to finish the other casualty first and that extends the time too far out," Burke said. Burke said the shipyard will do a portion of *Empress of the North's* permanent repairs and stabilise the vessel for its passage south by the middle of next week. Built in 2003 in an old-fashioned sternwheeler style, *Empress of the North* is owned by Seattle-based Majestic America Line, a subsidiary of Ambassadors International Inc. Spokeswoman Ann Marie Ricard did not have information on the extent of repairs or whether they will be made in British Columbia, Oregon or Washington state, but said she would know more about the schedule for getting the vessel back in service in the next few days. The company has cancelled its sailings through Jun 23 so far. That's a total of six cancellations since the May 7 accident.

ERIKA (Malta)

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: The Indian master of non specific tanker *Erika*, the tanker at the centre of a major oil spill off France in 1999, on Wednesday (May 30) filed for a million dollars in compensation for income he has lost since the shipwreck. *Karun Mathur* is one of more than 15 parties facing charges in a major trial that opened in

February in Paris to pin down responsibility for the pollution to France's Atlantic coastline. Represented in court by his lawyers, Mathur asked for more than \$980,000 in damages from the ship's owners and operators, also charged in the case, on grounds he has been unable to find a suitable job since. Rejecting charges of endangering lives and of sparking pollution through negligence, the ship's captain says he is a victim in the case. Unemployed for two years after the disaster, Mathur now works in a "humble port job and will never find another ship," said one of his lawyers. He is asking for two years of his former salary, 94,128 euros, plus the difference between his former and current wage for the next 25 years, 588,300 euros, and 50,000 euros in moral damages: a total of 732,428 euros. His request targets the Italian maritime certification company RINA, a member of its board Gianpiero Ponasso, the Italian owner of *Erika*, Giuseppe Savarese, and his manager Antonio Pollara.

ETERNAL DAWN (Republic of Ireland)

London, May 31 -- Following received from Dublin MRCC, timed 1035, UTC: Fishing (general) *Eternal Dawn* (198 gt, built 2005), SO 958, had fire in engine-room off County Mayo, in 54 32N, long 09 40W, at 0849, UTC, today. The five crew on board have been airlifted off and taken to Sligo. Ballyglass lifeboat is standing by.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated today, states: Five fishermen have been airlifted from a trawler that went on fire off the Mayo coast this morning. A fire was reported on board the Killybegs-based fishing (general) *Eternal Dawn* at 0950 hrs and both the Coastguard and Ballyglass Lifeboat services were called to the scene. The fire on the vessel, which is about 20 miles north-east of Erris Head or Eagle Island, has been contained within the engine room of the 25-metre steel-hulled vessel. The Shannon-based Irish Coastguard helicopter lifted the crew of five to safety. They have been taken to Sligo hospital, but none required medical treatment. A spokesman for Ballyglass lifeboat station said: "The fuel tank is burning, and the crew are keeping a distance because there is a fear the fuel tank will explode." The lifeboat crew of seven and the Coastguard helicopter are monitoring the situation.

EURO SQUALL (U.K.)

London, May 24 -- Following received from Lisbon MRCC, timed 1739, UTC: Container carrier *Euro Squall* arrived Lisbon in tow at 1330, local time, May 24.

EXXON VALDEZ (U.S.A.)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: America's biggest oil company today lost a round in a long running court battle concerning the tanker *Exxon Valdez* disaster. A US appeals court today declined to reconsider its decision to make Exxon

Mobil Corp pay \$2.5 billion in punitive damages for the oil spill from the vessel. The punitive damages ruling against Exxon -- originally \$5 billion in 1994 -- has been the subject of a long legal battle between the oil company and 32,000 fishermen, Alaska natives and property owners who were awarded the damages. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals based in San Francisco has already looked at the *Exxon Valdez* case on three occasions, taking into account new US Supreme Court rulings in later examinations of the biggest oil spill in US history. Exxon now says it will appeal to the US Supreme Court.

FA JY MAAN (Taiwan)

Lima, May 29 -- Fishing (general) *Fa Jy Maan* (289.36 nt) was reported to have seawater ingress into its engine-room on May 21. The owners have advised that it is listing 60-70 degrees in lat 07 29S, long 80 21W and that about two-thirds of the vessel are submerged. All the crew were rescued by a sistership. Surveyors and divers of the Marconsult Group are at present looking at the damage, as well as arranging to take the 34 crew members, who are on board a sistership nearby, to shore. -- Lloyd's Agents.

FEMBRIA (Isle of Man)

Portsmouth, UK, May 26 -- Two crewmen have died after entering an unventilated cargo hold on board a ship at Ostrand in northern Sweden. The master of part containerised general car *Fembria* (5257 gt, built 2006) died after climbing down into the hold to rescue a colleague who had lost consciousness, the Scandinavian Shipping Gazette reported. The ship was unloading timber when the accident happened on Wednesday (May 23) afternoon. It is managed by Tom Worden of Germany. A third member of the crew, who used a protective face mask in another rescue attempt, had to be taken to hospital with breathing problems. When the rescue services arrived at the scene, the oxygen level in the hold was measured at only 2%. *Fembria* has a Portuguese and Ukrainian crew. -- Correspondent.

FOREST 1 (St. Kitts-Nevis)

See "Germany" under "Port State Control".

FRAU NANCY (North Korea)

Valletta, May 28 -- General cargo *Dream* completed loading of cargo from general cargo *Frau Nancy* on May 26 and sailed same day. ETA Algiers May 29. -- Lloyd's Agents.

FULLERTON COVE (Australia)

Portsmouth, UK, May 31 -- Marine and environment authorities are monitoring a tug washed ashore this morning on the beach at Wivenhoe, on the north-west coast of Tasmania. Tug *Fullerton Cove* (231 gt, built 1975) is operated by North Western Shipping and Towage and is believed to have about 20,000 litres of diesel on board. The Director of Environmental Management, Warren Jones, said there

is no immediate threat of a diesel spill. However, rough weather has prevented the deployment of a fuel containment boom as a precaution. Another North Western Shipping and Towage tug will put a line on the stranded vessel at the 1100 hrs high tide in an attempt to tow it off the sand. Mr Jones said Tasports staff are monitoring the situation and have despatched an experienced incident controller to inspect the site. Additional staff are on stand-by. "At 0900 hrs, the vessel appeared to have stabilised on sand about 80 metres west of a rocky foreshore," he said. "The Environment Division of the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment is liaising with the Burnie City Council in the unlikely event of a foreshore clean-up." -- Correspondent.

FYKAN (Panama)

Sandnes, May 25 -- At 0940 hrs, today, when arriving Sandnes from Mandal, general cargo *Fykan* (1395 gt, built 1970) had a fire break out in the engine. The vessel anchored outside the harbour for inspections and a team from the fire-brigade in Sandnes was taken on board to extinguish the fire. The vessel is expected to be moored alongside a quay for further inspections. -- Correspondent.

Sandnes May 29 -- At 2305, local time, May 28, general cargo *Fykan* completed repairs and sailed for Haugesund. -- Correspondent.

GATUN (Panama)

Balboa, May 30 -- General cargo *Gatun* is still in Balboa anchorage. -- Lloyd's Agents.

GOLDEN ROSE (South Korea)

London, May 24 -- Chinese divers recovered a third body today of a crew member of the Republic of Korea general cargo *Golden Rose*. The body was recovered from the starboard aisle on the third floor of the cabin of the vessel according to rescuers. The body has not yet been identified. So far, three bodies of the 16 crewmen of the sunken ship have been recovered. More than 300 Chinese ships and three aircraft, as well as 30 experienced divers and a diving vessel, have taken part in the search for the missing sailors. Chinese divers have made 26 diving attempts in the past four days. The recovery effort is still underway.

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: Chinese divers recovered the body today of a fourth crew member of general cargo *Golden Rose*. The body was found in a room on the third deck of the vessel, according to rescuers. The search to locate the remaining 12 bodies is still underway.

London, May 26 -- A press report, dated today, states: Chinese divers recovered a fifth body today of a crew member from the general cargo *Golden Rose* that sank off the east China coast following a collision with container carrier *Jin Sheng* more than 10 days ago. The body was salvaged from the smoking room on the third deck of the sunken vessel. The body is yet to be identified. The salvage operation is still

going on. Chinese divers have recovered five bodies since the first one was found on Monday (May 21).

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Chinese divers ended their search for the crewmen believed to have died inside general cargo *Golden Rose*, the South Korean owner of the ship said today. Bygwang Shipping Co said its Chinese partner running the operation, China Yantai Salvage, informed the company that it stopped the search yesterday as it is unlikely to find any more bodies inside the ship since 16 days have passed since the accident. Chinese divers have recovered six bodies since the first one was found early last week. Three were confirmed to be those of South Korean sailors and the rest were Myanmarese. The bodies of the three South Koreans are scheduled to be repatriated tomorrow. Three representatives of the families of the missing crew will return home on the same day, wrapping up an on-site inspection of the search operations. Although the salvage company ended its search, Chinese maritime authorities will continue their own search operations for the time being, according to informed sources.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: Chinese divers today continued their search for 10 crewmen of sunken general cargo *Golden Rose* as the authorities said the six recovered bodies have been identified. Three of the six bodies were South Korean nationals and the other three Myanmarese, according to workers of the vessel's operating company. The bodies of the three South Korean sailors were airlifted back home today and the body of a Myanmar sailor has been cremated in Yantai, the workers said. The bodies of the other two will be airlifted to Myanmar via South Korea tomorrow. More than 300 Chinese rescue vessels and helicopters have been involved in the search in the past two weeks. Thirty-four divers are still working in shifts to search for the remaining 10 sailors.

GOLDEN SKY (Cyprus)

Riga, May 30 -- Bulker *Golden Sky* is still under arrest. The P&I Club are "fighting" with Lattelecom who arrested the vessel "for damage of cable". A guarantee letter was issued, but Lattelecom wants to get money for expenses not connected with cable damage. -- Lloyd's Agents.

GRAMPIAN DAWN (U.K.)

See *Grampian Princess*.

GREAT LAKES TRADER (U.S.A.)

See *Joyce L. Vanenkevort*.

HAI LIM NO.38 (South Africa)

Cape Town, May 30 -- Fishing *Hai Lim No.38* was towed into St. Helena Bay (South Africa) May 22 due to engine problems. Subsequent to repair and refuelling the following day, it departed St. Helena Bay. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HD1 (Bahamas)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: The master of the HD Ferries passenger ro/ro *HD1* involved in a collision with a Condor vessel almost two weeks ago has been sacked. Northern Marine, who operate the ferries, have sacked the master after suspending him pending an investigation into the accident on May 11. The managing director of HD Ferries, Chris Howe-Davies, declined to name the master of the vessel or say why he had been sacked. But he said he had already been replaced, with the new master having started work on Monday. Mr Howe-Davies said that no lasting damage had been caused by the accident, which led to the cancellation of sailings and left many passengers needing to make alternative arrangements at the last minute. No one was hurt in the collision and no serious damage was caused to either vessel.

London, May 31 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger ro/ro *HD1* was located in lat 49 21 45.26N, long 02 26 41.32W, at 1055, UTC, May 31, proceeding on a course of 336.4 deg at 32.8 knots.

HONG SUCCESS (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Durban, May 24 -- General cargo *Hong Success* is still lying alongside East London, she has lost cargo and the remaining cargo has to be reset on board the vessel. No mention of repairs as yet. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HYBUR TRADER (Antigua & Barbuda)

Freeport, Bahamas, May 26 -- Roll On Roll Off *Hybur Trader* (1414 gt, built 1969) on a voyage from West Palm Beach, Florida to Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands, on May 24 encountered heavy weather in lat 23 30.9N, long 74 23W. Cargo lashings failed and approximately five containers were lost overboard. No information on the status of the lost containers. The vessel sustained some structural damages to its on-deck fittings. The voyage was continued to Providenciales where the remainder of the cargo, some extensively damaged, was discharged. Temporary repairs were done to the vessel and is now on its way back to West Palm Beach for repair and survey on May 29. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Freeport, Bahamas, May 30 -- Reported that Roll On Roll Off *Hybur Trader* instead of proceeding to West Palm Beach, has diverted to Port Everglades for survey and repair. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ISLAND PRIDE NO.1 (Canada)

London, May 29 -- Fishing (general) *Island Pride No.1* (223 gt, built 1978) in collision with fishing (general) *Western Spray* (40 gt, built 2002) east of Seal Island, in lat 43 20N, long 66 02W, May 26. Both vessels returned to port under own power.

ISLAND SKY (Bahamas)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Passenger (cruise)

Island Sky, on which several people fell ill, is expected to sail on schedule from Leith on its next trip around the Scottish coastline. About 20 people reported vomiting and diarrhoea during a Western Isles to Orkney voyage. The vessel is due to start a trip today to Portsmouth stopping at ports including Aberdeen and Dublin. A ship spokeswoman said officials were confident the virus was under control. A sanitisation process is under way. The ship berthed in Kirkwall yesterday, where environmental and public health officials boarded it. It later sailed to Leith, where passengers were due to disembark at the end of its cruise from London. The ship was understood to have had about 90 passengers on board, all of whom have now left the vessel. Those affected by the illness were said to be recovering well. *Island Sky* had been chartered by the Noble Caledonia firm, which organises cruises across Europe and North Africa. A spokeswoman for Noble Caledonia said the ship would undergo a full sanitation procedure before leaving Leith dry docks later today. She added: "Health officials have told us that, because of the incubation period, the illness is likely to have been brought on board the ship. The ship doctor did a very good job of limiting its spread by confining affected passengers to their cabins for 48 hours. All of those affected are recovering well. The passengers were due to disembark in Leith on Thursday anyway, and they are all now getting on with the rest of their itinerary." The spokeswoman said the ship's scheduled cruise from Leith to Portsmouth today would go ahead as planned.

London, May 25 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, passenger (cruise) *Island Sky* was located stationary at Aberdeen as of 0910, UTC, today.

London, May 30 -- Passenger (cruise) *Island Sky* arrived Kirkwall May 26 and sailed the same day.

IWASHIRO (Panama)

London, May 30 -- Container Carrier *Iwashiro* is still at Durban repair yard.

London, May 31 -- Container Carrier *Iwashiro* was at Durban Container Terminal today.

JO BETULA (NIS)

London, May 30 -- Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1449, UTC: Combined chemical and oil tank *Jo Betula* is still at Burnside and is currently detained by Port State Control.

JO BETULA (NIS)

London, May 27 -- Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1731, UTC: Combined chemical and oil tank *Jo Betula* (15992 gt, built 2003) went aground at Mile marker 166.5 on the Mississippi River yesterday. The vessel was able to refloat but due to the grounding the vessel sustained steering problems and anchored at Burnside, where the vessel will be inspected. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Jo Betula* was reported stationary at Burnside in lat 30 4 8.46N, long 90 53 49.62W, at 1337, UTC, today.)

JOYCE L. VANENKEVORT (U.S.A.)

Troy, Michigan, May 25 -- Pusher tug *Joyce L. Vanenkevort* (1179 gt, built 1998) and barge *Great Lakes Trader* (15823 gt, built 2000) notified the Coast Guard of discharging an estimated 200-300 gallons of diesel fuel into the Middle Neebish channel of the St Marys River, during its upbound transit to Marquette to deliver a load of limestone on Thursday morning (May 24). The fuel spill is the result of an overflow that occurred after the 835-foot integrated tug and barge completed an internal fuel transfer, near Light 39 in the Middle Neebish channel. Shortly after the transfer, crew members noticed fuel on deck. After further investigation, they determined that there was a discharge into the waterway. The vessel had been anchored in the Lake Nicolet anchorage. A Coast Guard pollution response trailer, 2 Station Sault small boats, one trailered skiff, and helicopter have been dispatched to the Neebish Island area, in response to the fuel oil spill. The Coast Guard will coordinate with the responsible party, local and state entities and the Canadian authorities to mitigate any environmental concerns associated with the spill. *Joyce L. Vanenkevort* was able to contain the spill and allowed to proceed upbound locking through the Poe Lock Thursday afternoon. -- Great Lakes and Seaway Shipping News.

London, May 27 -- A press report, dated May 26, states: Inspectors continue to probe a diesel fuel spill from a commercial vessel Thursday (May 24) in the Middle Neebish Channel. The spill happened when pusher tug *Joyce L. Vanenkevort* and barge *Great Lakes Trader*, was completing an internal fuel transfer at about 0600 hrs. An approximately 10-hour clean-up effort wrapped up late Thursday afternoon, said Lt William White of the United States Coast Guard base in Sault Ste Marie, Mich. Checks by air and water showed no residual spill effects on or along the channel. "At least 90%" of the estimated 900 to 1,360 litres of spilled fuel was evaporated by the sun, said White. A temporary safety zone, which ran the channel's five-kilometre length, caused the 647-foot *Cason J. Callaway* to drop anchor at Munuscong Lake, about 10 kilometres south of the spill area for four-and-a-half hours.

KIMIHI (New Zealand)

Wellington, May 28 -- Repairs to barge *Kimihia* are very near completion. The vessel is under Maritime NZ detention pending compliance and safety surveys. -- Lloyd's Agents.

KOMET III (U.K.)

London, May 31 -- Following received from Coastguard Dover MRCC, timed 0830, UTC: Container Carrier *Komet III* (4169 gt, built 1991), Antwerp for Belfast, loaded, reported adrift in lat 50 35.1N, long 00 14.2E, with an unknown main engine defect at 0630, UTC. Vessel reported the main engine just stopped and vessel's crew are investigating and will need to remove

cylinder head. Vessel is drifting north-east at three knots. Coastguard tug *Anglian Monarch* tasked and due on scene in approximately three hours. (Note -- *Komet III* sailed Antwerp 1822, May 30 for Dublin.)

London, May 31 -- Following received from Coastguard Dover MRCC, timed 0850, UTC: Container Carrier *Komet III* reported at 0838, UTC, that repairs are expected to take approximately seven hours.

KRISTINA REGINA (Finland)

Kiel, May 29 -- Passenger (cruise) *Kristina Regina* (4295 gt, built 1960) was in collision with the tug *Pioneer* (231 gt, built 1967), which was under way to Wismar with a barge loaded with logs, during the night of May 28-29. The hull of *Kristina Regina* was slightly damaged but the vessel was allowed to proceed to Helsinki after a survey. Some of the logs on the damaged barge slipped into the water, thereby becoming a hazard to shipping. When the *Pioneer* arrives off Wismar a decision will be made whether it and the barge are allowed to enter port. -- Correspondent. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, *Kristina Regina* was in lat 55 25 26N, long 14 44.2E, at 1044, UTC, May 29, travelling at 14 knots on a course of 59 degrees.)

Kiel, May 29 -- After the collision between passenger (cruise) *Kristina Regina*, Amsterdam for Helsinki, and the barge being towed by tug *Pioneer*, the traffic between Rostock and Gedser had to be restricted due to drifting logs. The barge listed and its cargo shifted and logs went overboard. -- Correspondent.

London, May 29 -- Following notice to mariners issued at 0300, UTC, today: Drifting logs reported last in lat 54 18.5N, long 11 37E.

Kiel, May 30 -- While passenger (cruise) *Kristina Regina* proceeded to Helsinki after its collision with a log barge, from Tallinn in tow of tug *Pioneer*, two vessels of the local shipping authority were busy collecting about 100 logs drifting in the Baltic Sea. The ship traffic in the region had to be temporarily stopped during this work. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, May 30 -- Passenger (cruise) *Kristina Regina*, collision with tug *Pioneer* and barge: The barge which was towed by *Pioneer* reached the harbour of Wismar on May 29. Here the cargo of logs is to be secured. -- Correspondent.

London, May 31 -- Following notice to mariners issued at 0700, UTC, today: Mecklenburg Bay: Numerous drifting logs (? lost from barge being towed by tug *Pioneer*) reported between Lubeck-Gedser route and Kiel-Baltic Sea route. Danger for shipping.

LADY MOURA (Bahamas)

London, May 29 -- Yacht *Lady Moura* arrived at Barcelona on May 21.

Marseilles, May 30 -- This week yacht *Lady Moura* has started to undergo a general revision at Occidental Quay with the shiprepairers (Union Naval) so it is not known at this stage when

repairs will be finished. -- Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of May 23.) (Note -- The report in issue of May 30 that the vessel had arrived Barcelona was erroneous.)

LILAC ACE (Panama)

See *Shinline 4*.

LIVIA (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Gothenburg, May 25 -- A minor fire broke out on board general cargo *Livia* on May 16, due to welding works. The fire was not very severe but the heat and soot caused considerable damage and dirt inside/on cables and electronic gear. Cleaning and repair works will go on for at least a month. -- Lloyd's Agents.

LUKORAN TRI

St. Vincent, CV, May 30 -- Fishing (general) *Lukoran Tri* is still aground and will be dismantled in the near future. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MAERSK RUNDVIK (Malta)

London, May 28 -- Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1725, UTC: At 1955, UTC, May 27, Container Carrier *Maersk Rundvik* (14072 gt, built 2006) reported not under command in position lat 52 45.9N, long 03 56.7E. Vessel anchored in lat 52 42.9N, long 03 52.3E, to attempt repairs. Crew unable to complete repairs and tug *Arion* (243 gt) was engaged and is presently towing *Maersk Rundvik* to Rotterdam, where expected to arrive at midnight, UTC, tonight. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, *Maersk Rundvik* was in position lat 52 16 47.79N, long 03 54 47.27E, 21.3 nautical miles from Europoort, at 1932, UTC, today, speed 6.4 knots, course 170.2 degrees.)

London, May 29 -- Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 0345, UTC: Container Carrier *Maersk Rundvik*, in tow of tug *Arion*, berthed at Amazonhaven, Rotterdam, at 0400, local time, today.

Maassluis, May 31 -- Container Carrier *Maersk Rundvik* is still in port with engine trouble, awaiting commencement of repairs. ETC unknown. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MANILA BAY 1 (Philippines)

Manila, May 30 -- Carlos A. Gothong Shipping Lines spokesman and legal counsel Atty. Francisco Mijares reported that repairs to passenger ro/ro *Manila Bay 1* are scheduled to be completed by June. She is presently docked at the Gothong Wharf, Pier No.7, Mandaue City, central Philippines undergoing afloat repairs. -- Correspondent.

MARIA S. (Panama)

Kochi, May 31 -- Container Carrier *Maria S.* (2614 gt, built 1977), Singapore for Greece, steel products, while 18 nautical miles off Tuticorin on May 28 observed leak in port side from 30 to 50 frame No.2, one and three meter below the water level. Size of crack about three meters and two holes about 30 x 20 cm and 30 x 10 cm. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MARIAM QUEEN (St. Kitts-Nevis)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy".

MARIAM TRANS (Sierra Leone)

London, May 25 -- Following navigation warning issued at 1001, UTC, May 24: Unmanned general cargo *Mariam Trans* dangerously listing to port and adrift in lat 22 01.3N, long 68 28.05E. Dangerous to navigation.

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated May 27, states: Eleven crew members of general cargo *Mariam Trans* that sank yesterday about 15 nautical miles south-west of the coast near Porbander, have been rescued.

The vessel, registered at Freetown, Sierra Leone, had remained adrift off Gujarat coast since May 21 after being abandoned by the crew and sank due to a technical snag. The crew was rescued by another merchant vessel on May 21 in high seas. The vessel was originally headed for Alang shipyard for breaking and had sailed from Dubai on an unascertained date. Indian Coast Guard (ICG) aircraft and vessels ICGS *Tarabai* and ICGS *Meera Behn* were continuously monitoring the movement of the abandoned vessel ever since distress messages were received by the ICG since May 21, and subsequently upon its straying perilously close to the Gujarat coastline since May 24. The continuous monitoring of the vessel was necessitated to decide further course of action. Since the listing vessel continued to pose serious threat to the strategically important and environmentally sensitive coastline of Saurashtra, the ICG vessels and aircraft spared no efforts in retrieving the ill-fated vessel. But the heavy list, compounded by severe rolling of the vessel due to rough seas, made all attempts at boarding the vessel extremely difficult. An effort to winch down ICG personnel on board the vessel had to be abandoned due to safety considerations. The towing of the vessel was also not feasible due to the heavy list and poor material conditions on board the vessel. At present the Coast Guard is closely monitoring any oil-spill that may emanate from the sunken vessel. The exact quantity and nature of the fuel on board the vessel at the time of sinking is not known. However, the ICG is prepared to deal with any contingency and continues to patrol and monitor the situation.

Mumbai, May 28 -- General cargo *Mariam Trans* was reported sinking about 15 nautical miles south west off the Porbandar coast on the west coast of India. The 11 crew members who abandoned the vessel were rescued by another merchant vessel on May 21. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, May 30 -- Following navigation warning issued at 0601, UTC, May 26: General cargo *Mariam Trans* sunk in approximately lat 21 28.5N, long 69 24.8E. Mariners to exercise caution.

London, May 27 -- A press report, dated today, states: The salvage of the semi-sub HL vessel *Mighty Servant 3* which sank into 52 metres of water Dec 6, was accomplished by the salvage firm SMIT Salvage using the sheerlegs *Taklift 7*. The process involved pressurising the vessel's own ballast tanks and other compartments with compressed air. Prior to this a full diving survey was undertaken. *Mighty Servant 3* is to be taken to Cape Town during June to undergo further survey and repair.

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MERCANTILE-3 (Bangladesh)

See *Portland Castle*.

MIGHTY SERVANT 3

(Netherlands)

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MIKHAIL DUDIN (Malta)

Riga, May 30 -- Spare parts for general cargo *Mikhail Dudin* have been delivered and repairs are in progress. However, the vessel's date of departure has not been confirmed. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MINERVA (U.K.)

London, May 27 -- Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC, timed 1119, UTC: Fishing (general) *Minerva* (311 gt, built 2000) had a fire in the wheelhouse, possibly caused by an electrical fault, while at Scrabster harbour at 1050, UTC, May 26. Fire and rescue services attended and extinguished the fire. There is extensive damage to the wheelhouse.

Grangemouth, May 30 -- Fishing (general) *Minerva*, FR147, was towed into Scrabster, Saturday (May 26) evening by Thurso lifeboat. The wheelhouse is badly damaged by fire. No injuries to crew. No indications as to cause of fire. The vessel left Scrabster on May 29 under tow of sister vessel to Macduff Engineering for repairs, which are estimated to be completed in 7-10 days. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MINERVA CONCERT (Greece)

London, May 25 -- Following received from the owners of crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert*, dated today: Transshipment of cargo to crude oil tanker *Minerva Alexandra* is expected to be completed around 1700-1800 today. *Minerva Alexandra* will then proceed to Rotterdam to discharge the cargo, while the *Minerva Concert* will sail under its own power to Blohm & Voss shipyard, Hamburg, for permanent repairs.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 1000, UTC: Transshipment of cargo from crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* to crude oil tanker *Minerva Alexandra* started yesterday and is expected to be completed late today. It is expected that *Minerva Concert* will then be permitted to proceed to Hamburg for drydocking.

London, May 29 -- A SMIT Salvage report, states: Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert*, laden with 81,000 tonnes of crude oil, grounded close to the Isle of Samsø, Denmark, while on its way from Fredericia to Rotterdam. On May 15 SMIT Salvage was contracted to refloat the vessel and dispatched a team of six from Rotterdam. In order to refloat the vessel a ship to ship transfer operation

was executed in which some 10,000 tonnes of oil was discharged. After the refloating operation a full ship to ship transfer operation was executed for which sister vessel *Minerva Alexandra* was mobilised. The vessel was redelivered to the owners on May 25. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Minerva Concert* was in the Hamburg area at 1423, UTC, today.)

London, May 30 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* arrived Hamburg 1648, May 29.

London, May 30 -- Following received from the managers of crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert*, dated today: *Minerva Concert* has discharged its slops, etc, and is now preparing to carry out drydocking repairs at Hamburg. Repairs are expected to be completed towards the end of June.

MINGO (Bahamas)

London, May 24 -- Following received from Coastguard Brixham MRSC, timed 2113, UTC: General cargo *Mingo* (2693 gt, built 1980), Le Havre for Brest with 2,800 tonnes of clinker, reported drifting 28.4 nautical miles south-east of Start Point, in lat 49 50.7N, long 03 12.8W, at 2030, UTC, due to a main engine fault. The crew are unable to effect repairs and the vessel's owners are organising tug assistance.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Coastguard Brixham MRCC, timed 0005, UTC: Work ship *Bay Protector* expected to arrive general cargo *Mingo* at 0400 hrs, to tow it to Falmouth.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Coastguard Brixham MRCC, timed 0436, UTC: At 0430, UTC, in position lat 49 51.4N, long 03 19W, general cargo *Mingo* was taken in tow by work ship *Bay Protector*. Tow expected in Falmouth at 1845, UTC.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1922, UTC: General cargo *Mingo* was released by work ship *Bay Protector* at 1817, UTC, and handed over to Falmouth harbour tugs. *Bay Protector* is returning to Brixham.

Falmouth, May 29 -- General cargo *Mingo* completed repairs and sailed Falmouth 0230, May 28, for Brest. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MONTFALCO (Spain)

See under "Miscellaneous".

NAUTICAL LEGACY (Canada)

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated today, states: Six fishermen were plucked from icy Atlantic waters today after fire consumed their longliner (fishing (general) *Nautical Legacy* (139 gt, built 2003) off Newfoundland's east coast. One of the fishermen was not wearing a survival suit, but appeared to overcome a brush with hypothermia, said Sgt. Dave Payne, who dropped into the water from a Cormorant helicopter to bring each crew member to safety. Another crew member was deemed to be at risk for hypothermia once all six were taken on board the helicopter, Payne said. The Cormorant was dispatched from Gander after a

mayday call was received at 1222 hrs. The fire on board the 19-metre vessel burned the vessel to the waterline. It had been fishing for crab about 130 kilometres north-east of St. John's. Payne said he and his colleagues were "pleasantly surprised" to find the six men in reasonable condition when they arrived at the scene.

London, May 30 -- Following received from Halifax RCC, timed 2125, UTC: A mayday was received at 1500 UTC, today, from the crew of fibre glass fishing (general) *Nautical Legacy*, reporting a fire onboard and that they were abandoning ship. The vessel's position was lat 48 09N, long 51 14W. The RCC was able to successfully execute the rescue of all six crew using a helicopter. The vessel's last reported sighting was at 1720 UTC. It had burned down to the hull. It was still on fire and was expected to burn out and then sink.

NEVSKIY 34 (Russia)

See *Beauty Song*.

NEW DELHI EXPRESS (Hong Kong)

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: Pilot error likely caused the grounding last year of Container Carrier *New Delhi Express* in a narrow waterway routinely used for commercial transport, the National Transportation Safety Board announced Wednesday. NTSB investigators said the docking pilot did not fully determine the position of *New Delhi Express* as he navigated the Kill Van Kull waterway, which lies between Staten Island and New Jersey. The NTSB said the container vessel arrived at the entrance of the New York harbour on Apr 15, 2006, after a trans-Atlantic voyage. It said a docking pilot took control of the vessel and attempted to steer it in zero visibility fog. The vessel struck a submerged ledge and breached its hull. It started to take on water and ran aground in the waterway. Two of the three tugs assisting the vessel also were damaged. There were no injuries. In the wake of the accident, the NTSB recommended that buoy positions in the Kill Van Kull waterway be verified and that docking and harbour pilots take part in training exercises.

NO.1 CHEMICARRY (South Korea)

Busan, May 25 -- After completion of permanent repairs at the premises of JY Shipbuilding Co Ltd, Busan, Combined chemical and oil tank *No.1 Chemicarry* sailed on May 22, bound for Daesan, Korea, for loading cargo. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

NOORA (Comoros)

Chittagong, May 31 -- The local agents of bulker *Noora* today advised that discharge stopped on May 24, due to the No.1 crane on hold No.1 being out of order. The owners are arranging to repair the crane and on completion of repairs the vessel will resume discharge of cement clinker. She currently has 3,600 tonnes onboard in

No.1 hold. The vessel is presently lying idle at Chittagong Outer Anchorage. -- Lloyd's Agents.

NORTHSEA (Cambodia)

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coast Guard Falmouth MRCC:

Timed 0800, UTC: A distress message was received from product tanker *Northsea*, 18682 gt, built 1976) at 0535, UTC, today in lat 04 44N, long 02 34E, following a fire on board. Seventeen of 32 crew have been accounted for. Crude oil tanker *Toledo Spirit* is in the area and crude oil tanker *Astro Phoenix* is proceeding to the area. Current condition of *Northsea* not known at the moment.

Timed 0855, UTC: *Toledo Spirit* reports they have rescued 21 persons alive from *Northsea* and there are two fatalities. The vessel which is still afloat and is believed to have been struck by lightning.

London, May 29 -- Following received from the owners of product tanker *Northsea*: The vessel is in ballast awaiting orders.

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 0910, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea*, XUF9, in ballast, is being attended by crude oil tanker *Toledo Spirit* in lat 04 44N, long 02 34E. Distress vessel is on fire. MRCC Lagos to action search and rescue and recovery. Vessel is still afloat at this time. Weather: One metre swell, good visibility, sea calm. MRCC Falmouth broadcast mayday relay to area. *Toledo Spirit* sighted vessel on fire and closed to investigate and has rescued 21 persons so far and has sighted two deceased still in the water, nine persons still unaccounted for. Oil rig supply vessel on scene searching. Crude oil tanker *Astro Phoenix* on scene shortly. Refrigerated general cargo *Adriatic* on scene 1200, UTC.

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1145, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea* is now reported to be "burnt out." There were 29 persons on board of which 22 are alive, four are fatalities and three are missing. Twenty-one persons are now on board crude oil tanker *Toledo Spirit*, while one person, alive, and the four fatalities are on board offshore vessel *Brago*. The intention is for the 21 persons on board *Toledo Spirit* to be transferred to *Brago* which will then transfer all rescued persons and the fatalities to a sistership of *Northsea*, combined chemical and oil tanker *April*, which is en route from Ghana.

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1155, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea*, in ballast, attended by oil tanker *Toledo Spirit*. *Northsea* destroyed by fire and sinking. Offshore vessel *Brago* has recovered one crew member alive and four dead; three still missing.

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1427, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea*: Crude oil tanker *Toledo Spirit* has transferred 21 survivors to

offshore vessel *Brago* who is now proceeding towards combined chemical and oil tanker *April* to transfer 22 survivors and four deceased. Three crew members remain missing, including the master. *Toledo Spirit* confirms that a thorough search has been carried out to a radius of seven nautical miles from the casualty in good weather conditions. *Toledo Spirit* and crude oil tanker *Astro Phoenix* are now resuming original tasking. The vessel remains sinking in its original position.

London, May 29 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 1817, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea*. All survivors and deceased now transferred to supply vessel *Brago* who will meet the company vessel *April* for transfer ashore. Three crew members remain missing. The search is now terminated. All remaining search vessels may proceed in accordance with their previous orders with thanks for their efforts. All vessels transiting the area are to keep a sharp lookout. At 1530, UTC, *Northsea* was still on fire and submerged to her upperdeck level.

London, May 30 -- Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 0507, UTC: Product tanker *Northsea*: All survivors and deceased now transferred from supply *Brago* to combined chemical and oil tanker *April*. Search and rescue operations terminated at 0410, UTC, May 30.

London, May 31 -- Following received from the operators of product tanker *Northsea*, dated today: *Northsea* has now sunk. Three crew members remain missing.

PATER NOSTER (Norway)

Kiel, May 27 -- Fishing (general) *Pater Noster* (164 gt, built 1979) caught fire on May 20 at Dafjord, Karlsoy county. The fire started in the engine-room. Police made sure there was no one on board. The fire brigade tackled the flames. Police have started investigations. The vessel was berthed alongside the ferry *Salangen*. -- Correspondent.

Trondheim, May 31 -- Fishing (general) *Pater Noster*: Contacted Karlsoy Police Office, who is investigating the occurrence, and they reported following: Vessel had been fishing and thereafter arrived Daafjord where she had been about one week prior to the fire. After the fire the vessel was towed to Tromso Shipyard. No further information available from the police as the matter is under investigation. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PIETARI FLAME (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Ponta Delgada, May 28 -- Understand that refrigerated general cargo *Pietari Flame* (10853 gt, built 1978) had a main engine problem 400 miles southwest of the Azores and is presently being towed by refrigerated general cargo *Aurika* towards Ponta Delgada for repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Ponta Delgada, May 29 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Pietari Flame* towed by refrigerated general cargo *Aurika* arrived Ponta Delgada outer roads last

night, May 28. At about 2330, local time, the towing line connecting both vessels broke. Local tug *Sao Miguel* proceeded to the casualty position at outer roads where it is now, about 2.5 miles off port securing *Pietari Flame* while waiting for the berthing availability alongside the pier for repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Ponta Delgada, May 30 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Pietari Flame*, assisted by local two tugs, safely berthed alongside the quay inner Ponta Delgada port at 1730 hrs, today, for the necessary inspections and repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PIONEER (Comoros)

See *Kristina Regina*.

PORTLAND CASTLE (Malta)

Chittagong, May 31 -- Bulker with container capacity *Portland Castle* (29660 gt, built 1985) reportedly sustained damage to port side while lighter vessel *Mercantile-3* was mooring alongside at Chittagong outer anchorage at 0600, May 30. *Portland Castle* arrived at Kutubdia 0700, May 29 with 44,450 tonnes of bulk sugar. Vessel shifted from Kutubdia to Chittagong outer anchorage at 0220, today. Master has lodged notice of damage to the stevedoring company. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *Portland Castle* sailed Santos at 0405, Apr 27, for Bangladesh.)

Chittagong, May 31 -- Bulker with container capacity *Portland Castle*, collision with inland coastal vessel *Mercantile-3*: Owners of *Mercantile-3* report: Vessel, Bangladesh flag, 1,800 tonnes, is presently loading cargo from mother vessel. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PRECIOUS (Panama)

Chittagong, May 29 -- General cargo *Precious* remains under repair at Chittagong Dry Dock, Jetty No 2. The repairs are expected to be completed on Jun 5. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PROGRESS II (Republic of Ireland)

London, May 31 -- Following received from Dublin MRCC, timed 1050, UTC: Fishing (general) *Progress II* (240 gt, built 1997), SO 966, reported with engine problems in lat 53 48.98N, long 12 16.08W, at 0001, UTC, today. A tug has been contracted to deliver spare parts on board to enable crew to effect repairs and it is due on scene at 1600, UTC, today.

QUEEN OF THE NORTH (Canada)

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: BC Ferries is taking the federal Transportation Safety Board to court over access to a key piece of hardware from sunken passenger ro/ro *Queen of the North*, radio station CKNW reported today. The legal tussle could delay the release of the board's final report into the sinking of the vessel last year, which claimed two lives. According to documents filed in BC Supreme Court, the Crown-owned ferry company wants the agency to turn over the computer hard drive from the vessel's electronic

chart system, which was recovered from the wreck last June. The system recorded the final movements of the vessel and is key to determining whether or not the bridge crew made any effort to alter course before the vessel ran aground on Mar 22, 2006. The vessel, with 101 passengers and crew, struck Gil Island in Wright Sound a few hours after leaving Prince Rupert. It sank in less than two hours and two passengers remain missing and presumed drowned. In its court filing, BC Ferries said it needs to analyse the data from the system in order to respond to the board's draft report into the accident. The confidential draft has been circulating among the interested parties for several weeks and the final report was expected to be made public this summer. The ferry company said in its filing that the safety board refuses to co-operate with its request. It is asking the court to order the hard drive returned and to order the agency not to release its final report until then.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: Two more passengers have filed a lawsuit against B.C. Ferries over the sinking of passenger ro/ro *Queen of the North*. Lawrence and Nancy Papineau of Vancouver are seeking damages against the company, claiming the sinking was caused by negligence by B.C. Ferries and its workers. The Federal Transportation Safety Board is expected to release its final report on the sinking later this summer. And RCMP investigation has been underway to determine whether any criminal charges are warranted.

REGINA BALTICA (Latvia)

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: Two men were detained on May 21 for starting a fire on board passenger ro/ro *Regina Baltica*. While no one was hurt, early estimates indicate the fire caused more than 1,000 lats (Euros 1,400) worth of damage.

Riga, May 31 -- Passenger ro/ro *Regina Baltica* had fire on board in a passengers cabin (on May 21). The crew successfully extinguished the fire and there were no injuries reported. Two drunken passengers were taken into custody by the police when the vessel docked in Riga. -- Lloyd's Agents.

RILEY ELIZABETH (U.S.A.)

London, May 25 -- A Coast Guard Paducah, press release, dated May 24, states: The Coast Guard was notified at approximately 1230 today that a vessel had reported striking bottom or an unknown object, resulting in one grain barge sinking in the navigable channel, in the vicinity of mile 83 on the Upper Mississippi River, near Grand Tower, Ill. The incident occurred at approximately 1215 hrs while the towing vessel, tug *Riley Elizabeth* (1079 gt, built 1982), owned by Marquette Transportation Company Inc, was pushing 25 loaded grain barges southbound. As a result of the incident the Captain of the Port Ohio Valley has closed the Upper Mississippi

River to all vessel traffic from mile marker 82 to mile marker 84. Coast Guard responders and investigators, company officials, divers and a marine surveyor are en route to the scene to investigate the cause of the incident and locate and mark the sunken barge. Once the sunken barge is located and marked, the Captain of the Port will determine if the river can be safely reopened to vessel traffic and the company which owns the barge will be required to develop a salvage plan.

London, May 25 -- Following received from Coast Guard Portsmouth, Va, timed 1415, UTC: The barge that sank while being towed by tug *Riley Elizabeth* was barge ATM 2015 (700 gt, built 1979) which was loaded with grain. The barge is still in the same position but the river is now open for navigation.

London, May 26 -- A press report, dated May 25, states: The River Mississippi was reopened Friday (May 25), one day after barge *ATM 2015*, towed by tug *Riley Elizabeth*, sank north of Cape Girardeau, Mo.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 25, states: The Mississippi River was reopened today, one day after a barge (*ATM 2015*) sank north of Cape Girardeau, Mo. The southbound tug *Riley Elizabeth*, pushing 25 barges filled with grain, apparently ran aground about 20 miles north of Cape Girardeau, yesterday, said Phillip Bradberry, chief petty officer of the Coast Guard office in Paducah. No one was hurt. "It struck bottom momentarily, resulting in four of the barges breaking away," Bradberry said. "One barge sank there in the channel." Concerned that passing tows or other river traffic would scrape the sunken barge, the Coast Guard closed the river to all traffic for about a two-mile stretch. Divers were able to find the barge, mark its location with buoys, and reopen the river this morning, Bradberry said. The cause of the accident was under investigation. A Marquette official did not return a phone call seeking comment. Bradberry said a salvage crew hired by the company was expected to arrive by Monday, but the river's depth may stall the salvage operation. The Mississippi exceeded flood stage in parts of southern Missouri earlier this month and remains higher than normal.

London, May 30 -- A Coast Guard Paducah press release, dated May 29 states: Salvage crews have arrived on scene to begin recovery efforts of the barge (*ATM 2015*) which sank May 24, promoting the Captain of the port Ohio Valley to close of a portion of the Upper Mississippi River from mile marker 82 to mile marker 83.5. The Coast Guard was notified, at about 1230, May 24, that tug *Riley Elizabeth*, owned by Marquette Transportation Company Inc, reported striking bottom or an unknown object, resulting in one grain barge sinking within the navigable channel, in the vicinity of mile 83 on the Upper Mississippi River, near Grand Tower, Ill.. The incident occurred at approximately 1215, CDT, while the towing vessel was pushing 25

loaded grain barges southbound. Once the sunken barge is removed from the navigable channel, the Captain of the Port will reopen the river to vessel traffic.

RIVER ALN (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, May 25 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS general cargo *River Aln* is now at Liverpool.

Liverpool, May 29 -- General cargo *River Aln* is at N.W. Langton undergoing repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

RMS BAERL (Antigua & Barbuda)

Kiel, May 27 -- The general cargo *RMS Baerl* (2136 gt, built 1999) hit the North pier in Bremerhaven at 1800, May 25. The damage caused was significant, police closed the area for investigations. -- Correspondent. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *RMS Baerl* was reported stationary in lat 53 30 18.6N, long 8 35 5.4E, at 1813, UTC, May 27.)

Kiel, May 29 -- General cargo *RMS Baerl* only sustained some dents in the bow when hitting the North jetty, when entering the River Geeste at 1850, May 25. The jetty, however, was severely damaged. Technical reasons are not thought to have caused the collision, most likely steering mistakes. -- Correspondent. (Note --According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *RMS Baerl* was still reported stationary in lat 53 30 18.6N, long 8 35 5.4E, (at Wesermunde) at 0615, UTC, May 28.)

Bremen, May 30 -- General cargo *RMS Baerl* is at present at Bremerhaven in the repair yard for which it was scheduled. Most probably the dent sustained when it struck the north pier will now be repaired as well. The vessel is scheduled to stay at Bremerhaven until the middle of next week. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ROYAL RAY (Malta)

Piraeus, May 25 -- Our salvage tug *Leopard* sailed from its salvage station pm, May 14, to the assistance of vehicle carrier *Royal Ray* (7314 gt, built 1986), in ballast. *Leopard* arrived at the scene of the casualty at 1545, UTC, same day and towed it to Mindelo, Cape Verde, and subsequently to Las Palmas, where arrived am, May 22. -- Tsavlis Salvage (International) Ltd.

SAM JIN NO.1 (South Korea)

Busan, May 25 -- Permanent repairs to non specific tanker *Sam Jin No.1* in hand with the JY Shipbuilding Co Ltd, Busan, are expected to be completed by May 29. Barge *Dae Sung 5001*, in tow of tug *Cheonbu No.1*, is now at Onsan Pier, Ulsan, Korea, looking for local repairers. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SAMOTHRAKI (Greece)

Piraeus, May 25 -- Product tanker *Samothraki* completed repairs on May 17 and sailed later the same day, destination unknown. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SAMSUN MERIEL (Panama)

Port Said, May 27 -- Bulker *Samsun Meriel* has completed repairs and sea trials successfully. Also her seaworthiness certificate was granted

and the vessel entered the canal with the northbound convoy on May 26. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SANDRA (Netherlands Antilles)

See "Germany" under "Port State Control."

SCL BERN (Switzerland)

Valletta, May 30 -- Repairs to part containerised general car *SCL Bern* have not yet been completed. Shaft expected to return on board by Jul 6 with ETC/S prospects mid-August. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SEA EXPRESS 1 (U.K.)

Liverpool, May 25 -- Passenger ro/ro *Sea Express 1* is at Birkenhead and repairs are under way. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SEA FALCON (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, May 24 -- Tug *Leao Dos Mares* left Brest May 22 with tug *Sea Falcon* and its barge *Falcon* (for India). The duration will be about 70 days with a bunker stop at Gibraltar.

SEA PRINCESS (Bermuda)

London, May 28 -- Passenger (cruise) *Sea Princess* sailed from Southampton on May 25.

SEABOURN PRIDE (Bahamas)

London, May 27 -- Passenger (cruise) *Seabourn Pride* arrived at Rouen on May 23 from Nantes.

SEABULK NEVADA (U.S.A.)

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: Workers at the Ketchikan shipyard are repairing anchor handling tug/supply *Seabulk Nevada* (294 gt, built 1977), an oil spill response vessel that serves oil tankers in Prince William Sound, Alaska Ship & Dry Dock general manager Bob Burke said today. That vessel has been out of commission since it struck a rock near the mouth of the Kenai River at the end of March.

SHINLINE 4 (Malaysia)

Yokohama, May 25 -- General cargo *Shinline 4* (5615 gt, built 1983) shifting from Kanazawa Timber Pier to Daikoku Wharf, in Yokohama port, struck the port bow of vehicle carrier *Lilac Ace* (28316 gt, built 1986) on the berth at 1722, May 18. *Shinline 4* sustained dent damage to starboard hull but no there was no oil spill or water ingress. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note - *Shinline 4* arrived Yokohama May 16 and sailed May 23. *Lilac Ace* arrived Yokohama May 17, sailed May 19, arrived Nagoya May 20, sailed May 21, arrived Sakai May 22 and sailed same day for Singapore.)

SICHEM MAYA (Marshall Islands)

Quebec, May 24 -- Product tanker *Sichem Maya* experienced main engine air starting problems while departure from Quebec City on May 21. Understand that permanent repair was carried out shortly after. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

SOLAR 1 (Philippines)

Manila, May 31 -- Petron Corp. reported yesterday that it had completely finished the clean-up of offshore areas in Guimaras island and Iloilo province in central Philippines contaminated by the oil spill from the sinking of tanker *Solar 1*. Petron Corp, which chartered *Solar 1*, had made a premature announcement in December last year that it had completed the oil spill clean-up. The oil company, however, was forced to redo its clean-up operations after government environmental agencies discovered that certain areas were still contaminated. This time, Petron said that itos clean-up had passed the Department of Environment and Natural Resources standards. "Everything has been removed," Petron president Khalid Al-Faddagh said. He noted that the clean up had cost Petron some Pesos 200 million (US\$4.3 million). The company would now proceed with the rehabilitation phase Al-Faddagh said they are coordinating with experts from the University of the Philippines, Silliman University, and conservation groups like the World Wildlife Fund for Nature to determine the appropriate approaches in rehabilitating the affected areas. The rehabilitation phase will involve not only the ecosystem distressed by the oil spill, but also alternative livelihood for the affected residents, he pointed out. -- Correspondent.

STORM X (Panama)

Portsmouth, UK, May 28 -- Supply *Storm X* (877 gt, built 1975) had an engine-room explosion while manoeuvring at Valletta May 26 to take bunkers. The vessel was without control and tug *Wenzina* prevented it from colliding with research vessel *Geo Mariner* and Gun Wharf. The port was closed to traffic until the vessel was secured at Magazine Wharf. -- Correspondent.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: The steering mechanism of a stand by safety/supply vessel was damaged in an explosion in the engine room at Grand Harbour, Valletta, an inspection has revealed. The explosion occurred as the 58-metre supply *Storm X* was manoeuvring inside Grand Harbour to take fuel on Saturday (May 26), maritime industry sources said. The tug *Wenzina* went to the vessel's assistance and the port was closed to traffic until the vessel was secured at Magazine Wharf. An inspection of the damage was held yesterday but, when attempts were made to steer the vessel, it was found to have a bridge control error, meaning it cannot be steered properly. The vessel is berthed at Flagstone Wharf.

SUPERFERRY 9 (Philippines)

Manila, May 29 -- Roll On Roll Off *Superferry 9* entered Keppel Cebu Shipyard graving dock at 1200 today. -- Correspondent.

SUPERSTAR GEMINI (Panama)

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated today, states: Hong Kong health

authorities are investigating an outbreak of gastroenteritis caused by norovirus that affected 92 people on passenger (cruise) *SuperStar Gemini* (19093 gt, built 1992) that arrived in the SAR Wednesday (May 30). Star Cruises' *SuperStar Gemini*, carrying 1,106 passengers and crew, is on a 22-day voyage around Asia. It departed from Singapore last Sunday (May 20), calling at ports in Thailand and Vietnam before docking in Hong Kong at 0900, Wednesday. According to the Department of Health, four crew members and 88 passengers, 44 males and 44 females, aged from three to 83 years had probably contracted a norwalk-like virus with symptoms such as diarrhoea, vomiting and fever. Chief port health officer Henry Kong Wing-ming, who boarded the vessel to conduct an initial investigation, said he was satisfied with the hygiene conditions in the kitchens and restaurants. He said none of the 92 people required hospitalization and 74 had fully recovered after treatment by the ship's doctor. The others were in stable condition. Samples were collected from several passengers and some of the high-risk foods such as salads, sandwiches and cheese had been destroyed. A Star Cruises spokesman said a doctor and two nurses on board were still treating 18 people suffering from diarrhoea and vomiting. She added the first few cases of gastroenteritis were reported last Friday while the vessel was in Ho Chi Minh City. The vessel was thoroughly disinfected before it left Hong Kong for Halong Bay in Vietnam late Wednesday. The Star Cruises spokesman said that extra precautionary measures were being taken, including the compulsory use of hand sanitizers and the constant sanitization of public areas as well as cabins. "The thorough disinfection of the ship during the cruise, and especially the frequently touched surfaces such as handrails and elevator buttons, will be carried out during the rest of the cruise," the spokesman said.

TAISHO MARU NO.1 (Japan)

See *Courier*.

TAURUS (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Mombasa, May 24 -- General cargo *Taurus*: This was a case of a minor ignition of bulk coal in the hold. We clarify that the vessel itself was not on fire. The vessel's crew experienced some difficulties putting out the fire in view of inadequate carbon dioxide. They later managed to do so after obtaining replenishments from the port authority. Vessel finished discharge on May 15, we confirmed that there was no damage to the hull caused by the fire. Vessel is presently at anchorage within Mombasa port reportedly under arrest following various unpaid bills with the port authorities and fuel suppliers. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TINKA (NIS)

London, May 27 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 1817, UTC:

Product tanker *Tinka* (2097 gt, built 1972) sustained a major break down on the main engine just after leaving Grenaa on voyage to Aarhus in the early hours of today. The vessel was anchored until 1200 today, when a contract for towage was made with the tug/icebreaker *Frigga*, presently lying at Grenaa. The towed vessel arrived Aarhus at 1600 hrs for discharge of oil to O.W. bunkers storage at Aarhus. Following the discharge the *Tinka* was removed to a repair berth and will stay there for the next 20-25 days. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Tinka* was reported in lat 56 9 1.59N, long 10 12 56.25E, at 1817, UTC, course 316.6 deg, speed 3 knots.)

UMIAVUT (Canada)

London, May 30 -- General cargo *Umiavut* arrived at Ferrol on May 26 from Corunna.

VIRTUSU (Isle of Man)

Maassluis, May 29 -- General cargo *Virtusu* is still at Reimerswaal Shipyard and is expected to finish repairs within the next week. After repairs she is expected to sail towards Rotterdam. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

W.D.SEVERN (U.K.)

Liverpool, May 25 -- All repairs to trailing suction hopper dredge *W.D. Severn* are now complete and it will be leaving Cammel Laird Shipyard tomorrow. -- Lloyd's Agents.

WESTERN SPRAY (Canada)

See *Island Pride No.1*.

WESTWOOD ANETTE (Bahamas)

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: Not enough has been done to clean up the Squamish River estuary following a bunker oil spill last August in the nearby harbour, says a local environmental group. About 29,000 litres of bunker fuel oil leaked from a freighter (bulker with container capacity *Westwood Anette*) after it ran into a pier near Squamish, creating an oil slick nearly a kilometre long. Initial clean-up efforts removed much of the fuel from the water's surface, but Edith Tobe, the executive director of the Squamish River Watershed Society, said there are still several hectares of tidal marshland contaminated with oil. "As the tide goes in and out you'll see these long oil slicks and tar balls still coming out of the ground." She said Gearbulk, the vessel's owner, didn't do enough to remove all the oil, and wants the clean-up crew to return.

WILLEM VAN DER ZWAN (Netherlands)

Kiel, May 27 -- The fire damaged fishing (general) *Willem Van der Zwan* departed May 24 to Dordrecht prior to being scrapped there. -- Correspondent.

WILSON EXPRESS (NIS)

Kiel, May 29 -- After its machine blackout and subsequent salvage by the Norwegian rescue vessel *Emmy Dyvi* on the way from Sunndalsora to Rotterdam with a cargo of 4,500 tons pf

metal on May 15, refrigerated general cargo *Wilson Express* was still berthed at Aalesund on May 28 and its machine problems seem to be unsolved. -- Correspondent. (The report of the vessel sailing from Aalesund on May 18 in issue of May 22 was erroneous.)

London, May 31 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Wilson Express* sailed from Aalesund on May 30, bound for Rotterdam.

WILSON TRENT (Cyprus)

London, May 27 -- Bulker *Wilson Trent* arrived at Szczecin on May 24 from Rendsburg.

WIN SHENG (Panama)

Stanley, May 24 -- Confirm refrigerated general cargo *Win Sheng* has returned to service. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ZIM ITALIA (Israel)

London, May 30 -- Container Carrier *Zim Italia* arrived at Hong Kong on May 28 and sailed on May 29 for Shanghai.



SOMALIA

London, May 26 -- A press report, dated May 25, states: Armed Somali gunmen hijacked an Indian dhow near the main port of Mogadiscio late Thursday (May 24) in the latest attack in a surge of piracy off the Somali coast this year, Kenya's maritime official confirmed on Friday. Andrew Mwangura, co-ordinator of the Seafarers Assistance Programme (SAP), said the pirates seized the *Al Haqeeq* merchant sailing vessel but the identity of the crew on board and their nationalities have not been established. "An Indian dhow was hijacked by pirates just outside Mogadiscio port on Thursday. The vessel appears to be a dhow, its size is still not known at this time," Mwangura said by telephone early Friday. "The number of the crew members on board and their nationalities are not yet known. Its movement is not yet clear. We also have no information about whether the dhow was arriving or leaving the port," he said.

Nairobi, May 29 -- Somali pirates have released a St Kitts-flagged vessel, general cargo *Mariam Queen* (3796 gt, built 1974) and its 16 crew after receiving a \$100 000 ransom, a Kenyan maritime official said today. Another four vessels were still held off Somalia's coast where pirates frequently hijack vessels and sometimes claim to be coastguards protecting their waters against illegal fishing and dumping of toxic waste, the official said. "The *Mariam Queen* has been released and is headed towards Mogadiscio. We hear the owners paid \$100,000," Andrew Mwangura, director

of the Seafarers' Assistance Programme in the Kenyan port of Mombasa, said by telephone. -- Reuters.

Port State Control



GERMANY

Kiel, May 25 -- Both scheduled trips by the Croatian passenger (cruise) *Dalmacija* from Kiel to Bornholm and Stockholm had to be cancelled as the medical supplies from the pharmacy in Bremerhaven were not delivered until yesterday afternoon. Shortly after delivery of same, *Dalmacija* departed from Kiel and headed directly towards its third destination: Helsinki. By this time a number of passengers already left the vessel. Those remaining will be partially refunded. The vessel's infirmary had been damaged by water flowing out of a broken pipe which destroyed equipment and also contaminated medicines with excrement. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, May 25 -- In the morning of May 24 general cargo *Sandra* (2545 gt, built 2001) was found to be crossing the traffic separation zone in the Elbe estuary without being guided. The ship came from the south-west and the autopilot was directing it straight ahead. The vessel by chance missed a buoy and threatened several other ships which alarmed the traffic control in Cuxhaven. The pilot tender *Elbe* sent a pilot on board *Sandra* who found the master and the coxswain sleeping in their beds. The ship's bridge was empty. The pilot took over control and then woke up the First Officer. The master was asleep with 2.87 promille alcohol. He was taken to a hospital in Cuxhaven on the rescue boat *Hermann Helms* where he was treated at 0030 hrs. *Sandra* was in the meantime taken into the America harbour at Cuxhaven. The vessel, with a Ukrainian crew, was underway from Bilbao, Spain, to Sweden, with a cargo of wood. At Cuxhaven the vessel was controlled by police and other authorities and detained until a new master was on board. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, May 31 -- General cargo *Forest 1* (2608 gt, built 1993) departed from its berth at the South Quay in Emden bound for the Nordseewerke (Northsea Yard), prior to getting a new lifeboat and having repairs carried out to the vessel's davits after one of its lifeboats sank during an exercise on May 16. The sole surviving sailor meanwhile is still unconscious. The vessel which was operated by the Russian North Eastern Shipping in Vladivostok, was detained on May 8, due to severe technical deficiencies. Payment of the repairs will be made by the vessel's owners, a spokesman of the Nordseewerke confirmed. Before the owners can request a new inspection by the "Seeberufsgenossenschaft" a lot of repair work will have to be carried out on the vessel. However, there is

currently no order for this at Nordseewerke. The affairs of *Forest 1* are being looked after by the vessel's broker Bera in Papenburg. The crew of the vessel will be changed in the forthcoming days. -- Correspondent.

Seizures & Arrests



AIMI (Panama)

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: The Management of the Port of Monrovia has disclosed that general cargo *Aimi* (4041 gt, built 1984) clandestinely left the pier of the Freeport yesterday. The vessel was loaded with scrap materials that were extracted from the Mount Coffee Hydro Plant outside Monrovia. Speaking at the central offices of the Freeport of Monrovia, when he made the disclosure, the Interim Managing Director of the port, Joseph K. Acqui, I, said the vessel left the port under mysterious circumstances without obtaining a clearance from the Freeport Management and even settling its financial obligation to the port. Mr. Acqui, who was flanked by his Deputy for Operations, Grace Tee-Kpan, said when the management was informed about the departure of the ship, it immediately informed the Ministry of Justice, the United Nations Missions (UNMIL) and the management of the Liberian Electricity Corporation (LEC) alerting them about the incident. He said the LEC was informed about the matter, because it had earlier received a communication from the LEC requesting the NPA management not to permit the vessel to leave until certain matters relating to the transfer of scrap materials were addressed. Mr. Acqui added that the port management directed its security detachment headed by Director Michael Williams not to allow the ship to leave until instructions were received from the port management. He said due to the prevailing situation, the port management has requested the Liberian National Police to deploy three senior officers at the port to handle the security affairs until an investigation concerning the departure of the ship is concluded within 10 days. For her part, the Deputy NPA boss for Operations, Grace Tee-Kpan, said the Director of the Port Security, Michael Williams and his two deputies for Administrations and Operations, Patrick S. Nyumah and Lorenzo E. Gbendeh, have been suspended and will face investigation in connection with the mysterious disappearance of the ship. She admitted that in the wake of the prevailing situation there are serious security lapses at the port and expressed concern that with the presence of UNMIL at the port, it is disturbing to note that the ship has left under such circumstances. Madam Kpan said despite the management's communication to the UNMIL

informing them about the matter, they are yet to let the management know, what their position is over the departure of the ship. *Aimi* was apparently hired to transport the scrap by a company called, "Monrovia Steel," which, is believed to have been operated by Mr. Jacob Elimelekh. According to the port management, Mr. Elimelekh has made himself available to the security and is assisting with the clandestine departure of the ship. Mr. Elimelekh's company got the right to transport the scrap after it entered an agreement with the Lone Holding Incorporated, a Liberian owned company, which signed an agreement with the Liberian Electricity Corporation (LEC) on Dec 13, last year to scrap mantles at the Mount Coffee Hydro Plant. Results of an investigation suggest that under the terms of the agreement with the LEC, Lone Holding Incorporated, which is owned by a Liberian business man called, Sackor, was expected to sell the scrap US\$72.00 per ton with 60% of the value allocated to the LEC. Investigation further revealed that contrary to the contractual agreement, Monrovia Steel has been transporting the scrap secretly at night without the involvement of Lone Holding Incorporated and was successful in loading about 42 trucks onboard the ship before it departed the port yesterday morning. When the Managing Director of the LEC, Mr. Harry Nyuan was contacted on the issue, he said that the Lone Holding Incorporated did not settle its obligation to the LEC as stipulated under the agreement. Meanwhile, reports suggest that the LEC has planned to institute a lawsuit against Lone Holding Incorporated today for its failure to honour the terms of the contractual agreement it signed with the company. (Note -- *Aimi* arrived Monrovia Apr 12 and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was in lat 06 25 22N, long 11 04 49W, at 0321, UTC, yesterday, speed 10 knots, course 282 degrees.)

ALEXANDER (Cyprus)

Zeebrugge, May 29 -- General cargo *Alexander* (11572 gt, built 1990) was reported under arrest due embargo placed on board at 2213, May 25. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents. (Note -- *Alexander* subsequently sailed Antwerp 0250, May 28, for Apapa-Lagos.)

BODO-INSTALLER (Germany)

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 25, states: Union leaders are fighting to win three months back pay for four Malaysian seafarers stranded in Liverpool. The men speak no English and do not even have the price of a cup of coffee, according to International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) inspector Tommy Molly. The seamen serve on research/supply ship *Bodo-Installer* (1482 gt, built 1982) which has been working in the Mersey on the Burbo Bank windfarm. But the firm went bust and the men have not been paid for

three months. The ship came into Liverpool for fresh water and was held in Huskisson Dock by Mersey Docks company who are owed port dues. Mr Molloy said that when wages were withheld the German divers, French crew and the Dutch skipper went on strike and since docking have "cut their losses and gone home." But the Malaysians are stranded. Mr Molloy said they are employed by a Singapore company who have refused to pay their wages after the German ship owner went bust. The ITF and Mr Molloy is now trying to win back pay for the stranded crew. "We are also trying to see if any of the companies involved in the windfarm can get this vessel out working again." A Mersey Docks spokesman said: "The ship is being held in port for outstanding port dues." Bjarne Haxgarg, from windfarm developer Sea Scape, added: "They are happy with what we have done for the crew. We're trying to find a solution."

GRAMPIAN PRINCESS (U.K.)

Hull, May 30 -- Standby safety vessel *Grampian Princess* and support *Grampian Dawn*, which arrived Ipswich Mar 30, 2002, are both still at Ipswich, with apparently no indications to their future. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MIGHTY DELIVERER (Panama)

See "Seawave Maritime S.A."

RIG DELIVERER (Panama)

See "Seawave Maritime S.A."

RUBY DELIVERER (Panama)

See "Seawave Maritime S.A."

SEA ALBATROSS (Ukraine)

London, May 28 -- Roll On Roll Off *Sea Albatross* sailed from Antwerp on May 26 bound for Hamburg.

SEAWAVE MARITIME S.A.

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: Three tugs, two in Cape Town and one in Durban, are expected to come under the auctioneer's hammer in the near future unless the vessels are sold out of hand. The three - anchor handling tug/supply *Rig Deliverer* (1384 gt, built 1974), which is under arrest in Durban, and tug *Mighty Deliverer* (282 gt, built 1981) and anchor handling tug/supply *Ruby Deliverer* (1356 gt, built 1974) both under arrest in Cape Town, are to be sold following a series of claims brought against the owner which includes non-payment of crew. Local ITF (International Transport Federation) representative Sprite Zungu said that the crew on board *Rig Deliverer* were owed outstanding wages extending over a long period. He said that something similar applied to the two tugs being held in Cape Town harbour although he thought that one of these vessels might already have been sold.

TAURUS

(St.Vincent & Grenadines)

See under "Marine."

Pipeline Accidents



KHAIPUR DISTRICT, PAKISTAN

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Gas supplies to Sukkur, Naushahroferoz and Nawabshah districts were suspended yesterday after a huge explosion in a gas pipeline near the village of Akber Shah in Khairpur district. Reports said that the explosion damaged a 45 foot section of the pipeline and that the blast was followed by "leaping flames". Repair work has started. However, gas supplies to the Kandhra (Sukkur) and Naushahroferoz and Nawabshah districts have remained suspended.

PAKISTAN

London, May 29 -- The main transmission gas pipeline was damaged after a blast caused by a leakage yesterday in the early hours of the desert area of Sanjaho in Faiz Ganj taluka, 35 kilometres off Khaipur. Reports said that gas pipeline ripped apart with a big bang after which it caught fire. The flames were visible from a distance of 2 to 3 kilometres. According to eye witnesses, initially damage to pipeline was to the extent of five to six feet which increased up to 25 to 30 feet as fire broke out. According to local police, bomb disposal team attended the incident and concluded that the pipeline had not been blown up as a result of blast but due to continuous gas leakage.

VITEBSK REGION, BELARUS

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: On May 22, the Latvian governmental press service reported the total amount of damage caused by the Belarusian oil spill which leaked into the River Daugava in March came to lats 324,123 (Euros 461,200). An accident at the Unecha-Ventspils oil pipeline in Belarus' Vitebsk region on Mar 23 resulted in a spillage of diesel fuel leaking into the Daugava. The fuel also made its way to the Ulla, a tributary of the Daugava, and the spill reached Latvia on Mar 26.

Pollution



BLUFF HARBOUR, NEW ZEALAND

Wellington, May 28 -- Trawler (All types) *Pantas No.1* is still under investigation by Maritime NZ, which is carrying out investigations on behalf of the Korean Authorities. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Weather & Navigation



EUROPE

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Heavy storms, landslides, flash floods and lightning killed at least 23 people in Europe and Turkey, officials said overnight. Nine people died in eastern Turkey, including six killed in severe flooding in mountainous Agri province near the Iranian border, where river waters were swollen by melting snows. Two more people were missing. In nearby Van province, a two-year-old child died when landslides triggered by heavy rain demolished a house. Two other girls also died and another person was injured after being struck by lightning. Six hikers died in Greece while trying to cross a river in the south. They were in a group of 18 people swept away by a flood wave in the rain-swollen Lousios river. Prosecutors charged the hike's organisers with involuntary manslaughter. In France, two divers and a yachtsman drowned yesterday off the western coast of Brittany in extreme weather. The yachtsman fell into the sea from his 21-metre boat in heavy seas. The two divers were part of a group of six who were caught up in strong waves. The others made it safely to shore. In northern Bosnia, two 11-year-old children, a boy and a girl, died after being struck by lightning on Saturday, local media reported. In Germany, three construction workers building a windmill in the eastern state of Brandenburg were killed yesterday when lightning hit a tractor they were sheltering under, police said. In Russia, by contrast, meteorologists said today was the hottest May day in Moscow since records began with temperatures hitting 32.7 degrees Celsius. The city's electricity system shifted into emergency mode to cope with demand, largely from people using air conditioners. Extreme weather - including drought, heavy storms, flooding and flash frost - have wreaked havoc across Europe this spring. Aside from the human toll, it has also destroyed crops and damaged infrastructure in France, Spain, Poland, Bulgaria, Turkey and other countries.

TROPICAL STORM "ALVIN"

London, May 29 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm "Alvin" was located near lat 12.5N, long 114.0W. Movement over the past six hours: 250 degs at five knots. The position is accurate to within 30 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 35 knots, with gusts to 45 knots. Radius of 34 knot winds:

50 nautical miles in all four quadrants. The maximum significant wave height is 17 feet. At 0600, UTC, May 30, the centre is predicted to be near lat 12.2N, long 115.7W, with maximum sustained winds of 40 knots and gusts to 50 knots.

London, May 30 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: Tropical storm "Alvin" has been downgraded to a tropical depression. At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical depression "Alvin" was located near lat 13N, long 114.6W. Movement over the past six hours 285 degs at four knots. The position is accurate to within 30 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 30 knots, with gusts to 40 knots. At 0600, UTC, May 31, the centre is forecast to be near lat 13.2N, long 115.8W, with maximum sustained winds of 30 knots and gusts to 40 knots.

London, May 31 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical depression "Alvin" was located near lat 13N, long 115.3W, approximately 434 nautical miles southwest of Socorro Island. Movement over the past six hours: 250 degs at four knots. The position is accurate to within 30 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 30 knots, with gusts to 40 knots. The maximum significant wave height is 14 feet. At 0600, UTC, Jun 1, the centre is forecast to be near lat 12.6N, long 117.4W, with maximum sustained winds of 25 knots and gusts to 35 knots.

TROPICAL STORM "BARBARA"

Mexico City, May 30 -- Tropical Storm "Barbara", the first Pacific cyclone this year close to the coast, formed today off Mexico and was expected to head toward the resort of Acapulco in the coming days. The U.S. National Hurricane Centre in Miami said "Barbara" was stationary about 125 miles south of the port of Puerto Angel in the state of Oaxaca. "Interests along the Pacific coast of southeastern Mexico and Guatemala should closely monitor the progress of 'Barbara'," the centre said. "Barbara" is packing sustained winds of near 40 mph and should gain strength over the next four days, the hurricane centre said. Forecasters said the storm would move slightly further away from the Mexican coast over the next two days and then turn 180 degrees and head for land. By Monday (Jun 4), it was expected to be close to Acapulco. "Barbara" was not forecast to track near the Mexican oil port of Salina Cruz, which is further to the south. -- Reuters.

Mexico City, May 30 -- Tropical Storm "Barbara", the first Pacific cyclone to form close to the coast this year, swirled erratically off Mexico today and may reach hurricane strength within four days. Mexico's Civil Protection Agency said "Barbara" was veering

slightly southwards about 190 miles south of the port of Puerto Angel in the state of Oaxaca. Barbara could convert into a hurricane within four days, the U.S. National Hurricane Centre said, and according to some models may track close to the small Mexican oil port of Salina Cruz. Experts at the centre said it was difficult to know what route loosely formed "Barbara" would take, but most likely the storm would move slightly away from the Mexican coast over the next two days and then turn and head for land. "Barbara" is packing sustained winds of near 45 mph and should gain strength over the next four days, the hurricane centre said. -- Reuters.



INDONESIA

Jakarta, May 29 -- A strong undersea earthquake has struck Indonesia's Mollucas islands, blacking out power in the town of Labuha, officials at the country's meteorology agency said today. The quake was widely felt in the remote area made up of scattered islands, but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties, Suhardjono, an official at the agency, said. The epicentre of the quake, which measured 6.1 on the Richter scale, was 40 km southeast of Labuha and was followed by a slight weaker aftershock, another official said. The U.S. Geological Survey said in a bulletin sent by e-mail that the first quake was at a depth of 10 km and struck at 0936 UTC, followed by an aftershock six minutes later. It put the magnitude of the first quake at 6.0 and the aftershock at 5.6. -- Reuters.



IRAQ

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Sabotage destroyed an oil well this morning in a field in the Hanjiera region, about twelve miles north-west of Kirkuk, sparking a raging fire that could burn for weeks. "An explosive charge went off targeting an oil field in Hanjiera region, west of Kirkuk," a police source told the independent news agency Voices of Iraq. "The blast set the field ablaze and black smoke covered the scene," he added. "The fire is the result of sabotage," confirmed an Iraqi army officer. "Insurgents planted a bomb in the well." "The insurgents took advantage of the sleeping guards," he said, adding that it could take weeks to extinguish the blaze. An official with Iraq's Northern Oil Company said the

sabotaged oil well was nonfunctioning before the vandals struck. The fields around Kirkuk could hold as much as half of the country's total petroleum resources, but frequent attacks shut the northern export pipeline to the Turkish port of Ceyhan. The Strategic Infrastructure Brigades, tribal levies who have been inducted into the army, have proven ill-equipped to prevent sabotage of Kirkuk's oil fields and pipelines.

NIGERIA

Port Harcourt, May 25 -- Gunmen kidnapped six oil workers, possibly including foreign nationals, from a pipelaying vessel off the coast of Nigeria today, oil industry sources said. Shots were fired during the abduction by suspected militants in two speed boats, which took place off the coast of the southern state of Bayelsa near the town of Sangana, the sources said. "Six people, nationalities not confirmed, were abducted by militants on two speed boats," one of the sources said, asking not to be named. They were taken from a pipelaying vessel contracted to Nigerian oil company Conoil, the sources added. It came a day after gunmen kidnapped a Polish engineer near Warri, which took the number of foreign workers being held by armed groups in the anarchic delta to 16. -- Reuters.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: Hostage takers released a Polish worker seized in Nigeria's restive southern oil region, officials and ethnic leaders said today. The Polish national, who was seized Thursday (May 24) in the southern Niger Delta, was released late yesterday, said Tunde Smoth, a leader of the Ijaw ethnic group. Smoth said he went into the region's creeks and swamps to negotiate the man's release late yesterday, after which the man was released. Government officials confirmed the account. There have been more than 100 seizures of foreign workers this year in the oil-producing Niger Delta. Some two dozen foreigners are known to be currently in captivity.

Port Harcourt, May 30 -- Protesters sabotaged an export pipeline hub in Nigeria for the second time this month and halted 150,000 barrels per day (bpd) of oil production, Royal Dutch Shell said today. Youths demanding contracts from Shell stormed the Bomu pipeline complex, which is a major artery feeding the Bonny crude export terminal, prompting the partial shutdown of the Trans-Niger pipeline yesterday, a company spokesman said. "Youths from the K-Dere community started to spoil the environment by opening some pressure indicator valves. Consequently, we had to shut in some of the oil production," he said. Shell said it had already begun to restore some of the lost production, but would not specify how much. "We are angry at Shell because they failed to honour the agreement we have with them to give us contracts. If they give us the contracts now we will vacate the premises immediately and open the lines," said Teddy Penedibebari, one of

the protesters. He said K-Dere youths had been promised contracts worth 50 million naira (\$393,000) but this could not be confirmed from other sources. Shell suspended production in Ogoni 14 years ago because of popular protests, but the area is still criss-crossed by pipelines and many residents are still aggrieved about oil spills and what they see as a history of neglect. Shell had only just resumed normal production levels at its 400,000 bpd Bonny terminal before yesterday's attack on Bomu. Exports remained under a force majeure, a legal measure exempting Shell from its contractual export obligations. The latest disruption brings to 845,000 bpd, or one-third of capacity, the volume of oil production shut by a wave of unrest in Nigeria, the world's eighth largest oil exporter. The country's new President Umaru Yar'Adua, who took office yesterday, said he would urgently address the crisis in the oil-producing Niger Delta. Militants fighting for regional control over the region's wealth have promised to release six hostages today as a sign of their readiness to talk. About 25 foreigners are being held captive. -- Reuters.

Abuja, May 30 -- Four American hostages taken from Nigeria's oil-producing Niger Delta region were released today after three weeks in captivity, authorities said. The four men were taken by gunmen from a barge working for U.S. oil company Chevron off the coast of Nigeria on May 9. "The four American hostages have been released. The militants have handed them over to us," said Felix Ofore, a spokesman for the Delta state government. The release leaves about 20 foreign hostages in the hands of various armed groups in the Niger Delta. -- Reuters.

Port Harcourt, May 31 -- A protest by villagers at a major oil export pipeline complex in Nigeria entered a third day today and no crude was flowing through the facility, a protest leader said. Villagers from K-Dere occupied the pipeline hub at Bomu, which feeds the Bonny shipping terminal, on Tuesday (May 29) and forced Shell to shut 150,000 barrels per day of output. "The lines are still shut. They are not flowing. We locked up the place and slept here last night," said Teddy Penedibebari, who is leading the protest. Shell, the biggest foreign oil operator in Nigeria, had said it was "ramping up production" yesterday, but confirmed that output was still down by 150,000 bpd today. "We are hoping the situation will change shortly," a spokesman said. The protesters will not leave until Shell gives them contracts to supply the company with goods and services, Penedibebari said. Penedibebari previously said they demanded contracts worth 50 million naira (\$393,000), but one local activist source said the protesters had modified their demand today to 200 million naira (\$1.57 million) in cash. Shell had only just resumed normal production levels at its 400,000 bpd Bonny terminal before Tuesday's attack on Bomu. Exports remain under a force

majeure, a legal measure exempting Shell from its contractual export obligations. -- Reuters.

PAKISTAN

Karachi, May 28 -- Pakistan State-owned gas utility, Sui Southern Gas Co. Ltd. (SSGS), said its 16 inch diameter main Indus Left Bank Pipeline (ILBP) near the village of Qaisar Khan Lashari, District Khairpur, in Sindh Province, ruptured after explosion at 0546 today. A spokesman of company advised that the damaged gas pipeline was carrying 15 mmcf/d gas from Nawabshah to Sukkur. Immediately after the explosion, which is clearly attributable to sabotage, SSGC's engineers had shut down the valves on the pipeline to avoid any further damage or loss of life or property. Later, SSGC repair teams rushed to the scene of the explosion, from Karachi, to undertake the repair on the damaged section of the pipeline. The repair work is expected to be completed within next 24 hours. Meanwhile the domestic and commercial customers of Lakhi, Sukkur, Pir Jo Goth, Rohri, Kahirpur, Kotdiji, Ranipur, Kumb, Setharja and Mehrabpur are being supplied gas through available line pack, whereas the industrial customers of the affected areas were disconnected immediately. - Correspondent.

Karachi, May 30 -- Understand from Pakistan State-owned gas utility, Sui Southern Gas Co. Ltd. (SSGS), that its engineering team has restored gas supply to number of cities of Sindh that were facing gas shortage after a ruptured in gas pipeline. The engineering team has repaired the 16-inch diameter main Indus Left Bank Pipeline near the village of Qaisar Khan Lashari, District Khairpur, in Sindh Province on May 29. -- Correspondent.

SOMALIA

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: Somali pirates who hijacked two South Korean fishing vessels off the Somali coast are demanding \$700,000 ransom for the release of the scores of Asian crew members held hostage, Kenya's maritime official said on Saturday (May 26). Andrew Mwangura, director of the East African Seafarers Assistance Program, said the pirates who seized the Tanzanian-flagged vessels, about 370 km off the coast of Somalia on May 15 have not made any intention of the reducing the ransom. "The pirates are demanding \$700,000 ransom to release two Tanzanian flagged South Korean fishing vessels. A mother ship has been spotted some 200 nautical miles from Mogadishu," Mwangura told Xinhua by telephone from Mombasa.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated today, states: Kismayu based tribal elders have successfully reopened the sea port after local armed militias seized control of the port for 48 hours. The elders said the port was reopened

following negotiations with the militias who demanded a large sum of extortion money. Sources closer to the elders indicate that the militias were promised payments for leaving the port and enabling work to proceed smoothly. Despite the presence of the Somali interim government forces in Kismayu, 500 km south of the capital, militias are still predominant in the port city. The military power of the government forces has been weakened following a heavy gun battle between two powerful rival clans in the area.

SRI LANKA

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: Tamil Tiger rebels in Sri Lanka have mounted two deadly attacks. In the most serious clash, Tamil Tigers attacked a government naval base on the Jaffna peninsula in the north of the country. The rebels claim they overran the base, killing 35 Sri Lankan sailors. A navy spokesman said fewer than 10 navy personnel died. In Colombo at least five government soldiers have been wounded in a suspected Tiger suicide attack on a bus in the city centre. The violence came just days after the Tigers vowed they would never return to peace talks unless the Government halted a military campaign against the rebels.



Labour Disputes

AUSTRALIA

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Stockton ferry services are back to normal this morning after yesterday's snap strike by ferry masters. The strike by members of the Australian Maritime Officers Union led to the cancellation of all peak afternoon services and buses were used to move stranded passengers. Union secretary Michael Flemming says his members have decided against any further industrial action today but want a quick resolution to their dispute.

Sydney, May 30 -- The South Coast Labour Council (SCLC) is leading a picket involving about 60 workers at Port Kembla this morning (May 30) in protest over CSL Australia's use of foreign crews as stevedores. In what is being seen as a flashpoint for coastal shipping permits, the crew of the Maltese-registered bulker *Capo Noli*, a self-unloading vessel, were being used to discharge cargo at the port when it arrived at 1630 hrs yesterday. Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) national secretary Paddy Crumlin said the decision by CSL, which chartered the 9,741 dwt vessel, to use foreign labour, was in contravention of its International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) agreement. "It's under an ITF agreement that doesn't allow for the ship's crew to do any work that

has historically been done by stevedoring labour," Mr Crumlin said. "It's complicated by the fact it's a vessel *Boral* has brought in to carry their gypsum between (the port of) Thevenard and various spots around Australia." Mr Crumlin said that the gypsum had until now been carried by two Australian vessels, *Ormiston* and *Kowulka*. *Capo Noli* had been granted a continuous voyage permit as CSL looked to replace the 25-year-old *Ormiston* in June, he said. "If they can do it, why can't every other shipping company in the country do it?" Mr Crumlin said. "Get the foreign crews to come down the gangways and climb up into the cranes at Botany. The permits are supposed to be supporting Australian shipping, not undermining it. We don't support the use of permits for the replacement of Australian ships." -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated today, states: Bulker *Capo Noli* is stranded at Port Kembla port because of a dispute over the use of crew members to unload it. *Capo Noli* is waiting at Port Kembla to unload its cargo of gypsum from South Australia. The Maritime Union of Australia has accused charter company Canadian Steamship Line of breaching an international agreement banning the use of seafarers working as stevedores. As many as 70 wharfies, union officials and local residents gathered at the port today to protest at what the MUA describes as an unlawful bid to force the sailors to do stevedoring work. CSL has denied it is acting illegally, saying the *Capo Noli* is a self-unloading vessel and its Filipino crew are employed under appropriate international labour agreements. The MUA's assistant national secretary Rick Newlyn disputes the claim that the ship is fully self-unloading. He said today the crew would be forced to use the ship's five cranes and to operate front-end loaders, which was stevedoring work. "The seafarers do not have the skills, don't have the occupational health and safety commitment and don't follow the legislation," Mr Newlyn said. "They're foreign seafarers on conditions of pay that only cater for seafaring work on the vessel, not shore-based labour." CSL Australia managing director Chris Sorensen maintained the crew was trained, paid and contracted to do the work. Mr Sorensen said today the sailors were ready to start work but had been obstructed by the union, which he said had instructed its members not to move the port equipment, known as a hopper, needed to funnel the cargo into waiting trucks. CSL was considering court action as the MUA was acting illegally, he said. The union denied obstructing CSL and said the hopper was privately owned and its operation had nothing to do with MUA members. Mr Sorensen said the company had been self-unloading gypsum at Port Kembla for four years without interference by the union. Mr Newlyn said the ship's master had acknowledged the crew's contracts did not cover the discharging of the ship.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated today, states: The company that chartered a cargo vessel stranded by industrial action at Port Kembla has launched a legal challenge against picketing stevedores. Canadian Steamship Line managing director Chris Sorensen said the Maritime Union of Australia picket of the Malta-registered *Capo Nico* was illegal and the company was seeking an injunction in the Federal Court. More than 50 dockside workers and unionists at the NSW port on Tuesday (May 29) blocked the unloading of the foreign-owned and foreign-crewed cargo vessel. The MUA claimed this was the first time a foreign-owned operation had tried to avoid employing local workers to unload a cargo.

Sydney, May 31 -- Canadian Shipping Line Australia (CSL) was in the Federal Court this morning (Thursday, May 31) trying to end a dispute that has prevented the company from unloading gypsum from *Capo Noli* at Port Kembla. The South Coast Labour Council started a picket line blocking the port's number six berth on Tuesday after learning that CSL planned to unload the 18,000-tonne shipment without Australian stevedores. CSL wanted to use *Capo Noli's* crew to discharge the gypsum, in what unions believed to be a breach of International Transport Worker's Federation (ITF) agreements. The dispute was due to be heard in the Federal Court at 1015. CSL is seeking an injunction which it hopes will end the three-day-old picket and prevent the 50-60 picketers from blocking access to the 24,794 dwt bulker. Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) officials boarded the vessel yesterday amid concerns about conditions on the vessel for the Filipino crew. MUA national secretary Paddy Crumlin said it was the first time a foreign-owned vessel had tried to avoid using local stevedores. The two customers were *Boral* and CSL. "This is a big issue that's not going to go away for *Boral*, it's not going to go away for CSL and it's not going to go away for us," Mr Crumlin said. "It's not a self-discharger, they're not just dumping straight on to the wharf and then its getting picked up by labour. They're getting the crew to discharge the cargo. You wouldn't be able to do that in wheat, or bulk or coal, someone's had a rush of blood to the head down there. Either *Boral* don't know what CSL is up to or CSL are the eternal optimists." The Port Kembla Port Corporation said it was not expecting another vessel at the berth for another two weeks. The picket was not causing any delays to the rest of the port's activity, the port corporation said. -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

CANADA

Troy, Mich, May 28 -- The three Great Lakes bulk carriers that have been sitting idle since their crews went on a labour strike May 10 have accrued a \$5,000 bill for the Wisconsin & Michigan Steamship Co. Matt Burke, editor of the American Maritime

Officers' newsletter, said contract negotiations between the union and the Lakewood, Ohio, steamship company have ceased. Burke said the crews won't go back to work without an agreement. Until then, the *Wolverine*, *David Z.* and *Earl W.*, will remain moored at the docks south of the Blue Water Bridge at a cost of \$268 a day. Chuck Canestraight, president of Wisconsin & Michigan Steamship Company, said it was logical to keep the vessels at the dock because they were not interfering with commercial trade and are close to a marine service yard. It was similar to having the vessels moored for the winter, he said, expect the company is supposed to be making money this time of year. Union members want the company to agree to the same contract other Great Lakes operators have signed. Canestraight has said those companies deal with larger-capacity vessels with which his company cannot compete. -- "Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping."

FORTUNA I (Latvia)

Dublin, May 30 -- General cargo *Fortuna I* is still at Dundalk, and there has been no change in the vessel's situation. -- Lloyd's Agents.

NIGERIA

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Staff at Nigeria's state oil company have started an indefinite strike over welfare benefits and in protest at the privatisation of a major oil refinery. Deliveries to Nigeria's four refineries have been halted by striking workers, with a long queue of tankers outside. A trade union spokesman said talks with the government to try to resolve the dispute were due to be held later. Recent attacks on Nigeria's oil facilities and the threat of this strike are factors in the latest oil price rises. Peter Akpatason, president of the junior oil workers' union Nupeng said that if their demands are not met soon, they would also stop work in oil production facilities. "We will wait for two or three days and see what happens. If we don't get the desired results, we will then extend it to the upstream sector where the impact will be immediate," he said. Similar strikes have led to widespread fuel shortages -- including aviation fuel -- in the past in Africa's biggest oil producing country. The oil workers' strike comes just days before the scheduled inauguration of Umaru Yar'Adua as Nigerian President. A separate two-day strike by all unions is planned to coincide with Mr Yar'Adua's inauguration next Tuesday (May 29). Nigeria's Bureau of Public Enterprises last week sold the Port Harcourt Refinery to two prominent businessmen as part of its privatisation exercise, an action that has not gone down well with the company's employees.

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: Nigerian oil unions pulled many staff from crude export terminals on the second day of a strike today, but shipments from the world's eighth largest exporter were uninterrupted, authorities said. The

strike by union members in the national oil company and the Department of Petroleum Resources, the industry regulator, began yesterday to protest against the privatisation of the country's largest oil refinery. Oil industry sources confirmed that many inspectors had already been withdrawn from oil tanker terminals, which ship about 2.1 million barrels a day. The strike has already hit domestic fuel supplies, with lengthy fuel queues forming in southern and central Nigeria. Union leaders have said they would target oil production and exports if their demands were not addressed within days. Talks between the unions and the government failed to get off the ground yesterday after Energy Minister Edmund Daukoru insisted there would be no negotiations until the strike was called off, unionists said. Shipping agents said between 40 and 45 tankers holding refined products, mainly gasoline and diesel, were waiting at the Lagos port, but it was unclear if the longer-than-usual delays were caused by the strike. The Nigeria National Petroleum Corp. imports all of Nigeria's fuel because the country's four oil refineries are not working, due to poor management and sabotage. Gas supply to the country's main thermal power station in Lagos was shut off by the strike, causing longer-than-normal blackouts across the city.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Oil fell by dollar yesterday after Nigerian oil unions at the weekend suspended a two-day strike that had threatened to halt oil shipments from the world's eighth-largest oil exporter. London Brent crude fell US\$1.01 to US\$69.70 a barrel. US crude fell 80 US cents to US\$64.40, after surging more than US\$1 Friday (May 25). Nigerian Union leaders said Saturday (May 26) workers at the national oil company had suspended a strike after the government agreed to a pay rise and other benefits, although oil traders remained anxious over exports. Output from the world's eighth-largest exporter is already down by about a quarter after an 18-month campaign of militant attacks against oil installations.

SWEDEN

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Scandinavian airline SAS said today it was cancelling all 300 flights by its Swedish unit tomorrow due to a threatened cabin crew strike. It estimated the cost of the cancelled flights at 20 million Swedish crowns (\$2.93 million) a day. Swedish union HTF has said it will bring 800 Sweden-based cabin staff out on strike from May 25 over pay and working conditions, such as meals and rest times. "The strike warning forces us to cancel all traffic now as we do not want to take the risk that any of our clients get stuck at an airport where we might not fly tomorrow," SAS Sweden chief executive Anders Ehrling said in a statement. SAS has responded to the threat by saying it would lock out crews from May 28 if HTF carried out

its strike threat. The firm said it was continuing to negotiate with HTF and would decide on Saturday's (May 26) traffic tomorrow. Sweden's airline employers association said talks with HTF to head off the strike had been fruitless so far. "We negotiated last evening and last night, but nothing has happened that has taken the issue forward," said Jonas Bernunger, chief negotiator for the Swedish Air Transport Industry Employers.

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: Cabin staff at Scandinavian airlines SAS's unit in Sweden began a strike today, grounding hundreds of European and domestic flights after talks between unions and management broke down. Scandinavian Airlines Sweden, part of SAS AB, cancelled 300 flights, affecting 20,000 passengers, and said it would cancel up to 150 tomorrow. The carrier said the strike would not affect intercontinental routes or connections between Stockholm and London City airport, which are staffed by Transwede employees. Negotiations between the 160,000-member union and employers broke down during the night, and no new talks were planned. "The negotiations are stuck," the airline said in statement. SAS Sweden said the strike would cost some \$3 million a day in lost ticket sales. SAS, which also owns units in Denmark and Norway, said flights between those countries and other European destinations would not be affected.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Scandinavian Airlines System cancelled most of its flights to, from and within Sweden today for the fifth straight day after talks to end a cabin crew strike failed again to reach a conclusion. "All of Scandinavian Airlines Sweden's flights remain cancelled due to the strike by the Swedish Salaried Employees' Union" which represents the cabin crew, the company said in a statement. A total of 286 flights were cancelled, affecting around 20,000 passengers, SAS Sweden spokeswoman Ulrika Fager told AFP, taking the total number of cancellations since Friday (May 25) to 1,200 and the number of passengers hit to 90,000. As on previous days, all direct flights to and from the United States and Asia would operate as scheduled, as well as direct flights to London City and those operated by the Danish and Norwegian sections of SAS, according to a statement issued yesterday. Some 800 crew members walked off the job Friday after negotiators failed to reach an agreement over terms and conditions linked to SAS' offer of a 10.2 percent pay rise over three years. Most of the carrier's flights have been cancelled on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and yesterday. Passengers who hold tickets with SAS Sweden for travel between yesterday and June 3 are entitled to change their travel dates and those due to travel between yesterday and May 30 can have their tickets reimbursed. According to SAS, talks were still ongoing yesterday. "Negotiations are now continuing in co-

operation with mediators, and we are making every effort to reach an agreement," SAS Sweden president Anders Ehrling said in a statement. SAS Sweden serves 37 destinations in Europe and the parent group SAS is the fourth largest airline in Europe in numbers of passengers, Fager said. SAS reported a loss in the first quarter of the year, and each day of strike action is estimated to cost the company more than 20 million kronor (2.17 million euros, 2.92 million dollars) not including passenger compensation.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Scandinavian Airlines said it would cancel more than 280 flights today after talks with union officials failed to end a strike by Swedish cabin crews. Monday's announcement meant that some 1,200 flights to and from Sweden had been canceled since the strike started Friday (May 25). Airline officials met with union representatives early yesterday, but the talks were fruitless, company spokeswoman Ulrika Fager said. Later yesterday, the parties were meeting separately with mediators in a bid to end the strike, she said. The cancellations did not affect intercontinental routes or connections between Stockholm and London City airport.

London, May 29 -- A strike by flight attendants at the Swedish division of Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) ended during the night, but several SAS flights remained grounded today. Norway's SAS traffic has been relatively unaffected by the strike, but five flights between Oslo and Stockholm were cancelled today. The nine daily SAS flights to Stockholm operated by SAS' Norwegian division were taking off as planned. The strike in Sweden, which came just after labour disruptions caused by SAS workers in Denmark, ended after flight attendants and management agreed to new terms that give the workers better work schedules and a 10.3 percent wage hike over 38 months. The strike lasted five days and is reported to have cost SAS around SEK 100 million. SAS officials said all flights in and through Sweden should be back on schedule by tomorrow.

UNITED KINGDOM

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: Coastguards and maritime officials are beginning industrial action in a row over a below-inflation pay rise. Up to 700 members of the Public and Commercial Services union across the UK are taking part in the action. The Maritime and Coastguard Agency staff will withdraw from non-essential duties like issuing fishing vessel certificates and incident reports. Their union said staff felt "betrayed" when the offer was compared to those given to other emergency services. It said the basic coastguard grade was paid barely above the minimum wage at £5.37 an hour for a 42-hour week. PCS general secretary Mark Serwotka said the pay rise averaged 2.5% for many staff, while the most experienced workers

would get less than one percent. "Management could have avoided damaging industrial action by negotiating seriously and offering decent pay to those who deliver a vital emergency service," he said. "Below-inflation pay is completely unacceptable." The MCA employs about 1,165 staff, supported by more than 3,250 volunteer coastguards.

Miscellaneous



MONTFALCO (Spain)

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Malta refused to take in a group of 26 North African migrants yesterday, leaving them stranded on board Spanish tug *Montfalco* (129 gt, built 1978) which rescued them from rough Mediterranean seas. The tug was holding its position some 85 miles south of Malta yesterday after the island state told the master it would not take in the migrants. Malta insists the migrants, rescued on Saturday (May 26), were picked up well within the Libyan search and rescue area. "We are doing more than we are obliged to do, but in this case the incident took place in Libya's search and rescue zone, not Malta's," Home Affairs Minister Tonio Borg told a news conference. He said Malta was prepared to provide supplies to the tug. He said Madrid had told the Maltese armed forces that the situation onboard had deteriorated but was not life threatening. Malta refused to take 51 migrants rescued by a Spanish trawler in similar circumstances last year. The issue was resolved after a standoff lasting several days, with the migrants going to Spain, Andorra, Libya and Italy, although Malta took three who needed medical treatment.

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated May 29, states: The Spanish tuna-pen towing tug *Montfalco* sailed to its home port in Taragona with some 26 migrants on board, it had recovered from the sea last Friday (May 25) while still in the Libyan Search and Rescue Region (SRR). Following active efforts between the Armed Forces of Malta Headquarters and the Spanish Embassy in Malta, the Spanish vessel was on Tuesday morning provided with humanitarian supplies by the AFM's Protector-class patrol-craft P-51, some 22 nautical miles south of Malta. After a press conference by the Hon. Dr. Tonio Borg, Minister of Justice and Home Affairs on Monday afternoon, contact was re-established with the *Montfalco* when an over-flying AFM Air Wing Islander aircraft relayed its request for food, water and blankets. The AFM's Maritime Squadron immediately kicked in a humanitarian assistance operation, which this morning saw its patrol-craft linking up

with the *Montfalco* for the handover of provisions. The tug boat's captain had expressed the difficult situation on board for both crew and migrants, as essential supplies were lacking. The Spanish tug-boat had in the meantime given its tuna-pen in tow to another tug-boat. Since Friday, the *Montfalco* and the Maltese-registered *Budafel* of Azzopardi Fisheries had found themselves involved in the ongoing seasonal illegal migration phenomenon, as a number of these migrants either clambered onto their tuna-cages or climbed on board their vessels, while still in the Libyan SRR. All standard rescue and recovery co-ordination efforts by the AFM's Rescue Co-ordination Centre at Luqa Barracks were followed in accordance with standard international practice.

Fires & Explosions



MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY BUILDING, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Manila, May 30 -- Almost all maritime administration and regulatory functions have been paralysed in the Philippines today after a dawn fire destroyed the headquarters of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) in downtown Manila. The MARINA serves as the maritime administration and regulatory agency for the Philippine maritime industry. The fire is still raging 14 hours after breaking out at 0400 hrs at the seven-storey PPL building housing the MARINA offices. The blaze originated at the fifth floor which holds the agency's overseas shipping, domestic shipping, and administrator's offices. The fire quickly spread to floors housing the regulations and maritime safety offices. There were no reported deaths or injuries but the fire destroyed most of the agency's important files and documents. The destruction of the MARINA's office is expected to have severe impact on the country's maritime industry. Among the sectors expected to be adversely affected are the country's 250,000 seafarers who depend on the MARINA for the issuance of seaman's books and STCW certificates. Release of permits for shipping operations, permits to import vessels and marine equipment are likewise on hold. -- Correspondent.

Manila, May 31 -- Firemen finally extinguished the fire which gutted the headquarters of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) in Manila, at 0700, today. The fire destroyed the Philippine President Lines building in downtown Manila which houses the MARINA offices. The fire started at 0400 yesterday on the fifth floor and quickly spread to the other floors. The fire raged out of control prompting authorities to dispatch all fire trucks in Manila to the burning building. Lack of firefighting equipment hampered firemen's efforts to kill the blaze. The

fire was only placed under control at midnight but rekindled again this morning before it was finally extinguished. Investigators are now trying to determine if the fire was deliberately set. Senior Superintendent Pablito Cordeta, Manila fire marshal, said the arsonists were probably targeting the MARINA records section which holds documents relating to violations by shipping operators, cases of grounded vessels and cancelled shipping franchises. Dozens of cases involving violations of maritime laws are now pending with the MARINA, which as a quasi-judicial agency can levy fines and withdraw permits and licenses from erring shipping operators and seafarers. Because of the fire, the MARINA will have difficulty in prosecuting many of these cases as many important documents have been destroyed. "We have lost many important documents and records," MARINA administrator Vicente Suazo Jr. said. -- Correspondent.

Aviation



CRASH NEAR VILLA DE SAN FRANCISCO, HONDURAS

London, May 25 -- Cessan A188B aerial application aircraft HR-ATW was destroyed when it crashed in mountainous terrain while manoeuvring near Villa de San Francisco, Departamento de Francisco Morazan, Honduras, at 0720, CDT, May 13. The pilot, the sole occupant, was killed.

CRASH, ASHEVILLE AREA, NORTH CAROLINA, UNITED STATES

London, May 27 -- A press report, dated May 26, states: Three people died Saturday (May 26) when a private aircraft bounced on landing at a private mountain airstrip, hit two other aircraft and burst into flames, the Federal Aviation Administration said. The crash occurred about 1015 hrs at Mountain Air, a private golf development north of Asheville, North Carolina. The Mountain Air Web site said the resort is 4,400 feet above sea level and has a 2,875-foot runway. "A single engine plane bounced on landing and struck two other aircraft and all three caught on fire," said Kathleen Bergen, a spokeswoman with the FAA. The aircraft was a four-seat 2006 Columbia registered to Freddy Camuzzi of Largo, Fl, according to the FAA's Web site. Bergen said she didn't know the status of the other two aircraft when the crash occurred or whether all three victims were in the same aircraft. The names of the crash victims weren't immediately available. The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the crash, Bergen said.

London, May 30 -- Columbia LC42-550FG N2537A bounced on landing at

Burnsville, North Carolina, at 1507, May 26, and crashed into two parked aircraft. The aircraft was destroyed. The three persons on board were killed.

CRASH, BAYOU LAFOURCHE, LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: A sea plane that was trying to take off collided with a small private fishing vessel on a bayou this afternoon, killing a man in the vessel. Authorities do not believe the plane, operated by Chevron Corp., became airborne before the wreck. It sank to the bottom of a shallow part of Bayou Lafourche, with part of it remaining above the surface. Three people in the plane were taken to a hospital with minor injuries, Lafourche Parish sheriff's spokesman Larry Weidel said. The man who died was believed to be the only person on the 18-foot vessel. Alex Yelland, a Chevron spokesman based in San Ramon, Calif, confirmed that a company-operated plane was involved in the accident. The three people on board the plane all were Chevron employees, he said. The area where the crash occurred, about 60 miles south of New Orleans, is laced with crisscrossing navigational canals, Weidel said.

London, May 25 -- Cessna U206G (Stationair 6) N45WT struck a fishing vessel during while taking off from Bayou Lafourche, Leeville, Louisiana, at 2059, May 24. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The three persons on board the aircraft suffered minor injuries, and one person on board the fishing vessel was killed.

CRASH, BIRMINGHAM AREA, ALABAMA, UNITED STATES

London, May 30 -- Bell 47G N7763 crashed near Birmingham, Alabama, at 1620, May 27. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH, BOERNE AREA, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: A single-engine aircraft crashed north of Boerne on Wednesday (May 30), killing the only person on board. The aircraft, piloted by 39-year-old John Howard Key, crashed while taking off from a private runway owned by his parents, said Kendall County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Matt King. "Initial reports say he was taking off, gained altitude and it sounded like the engine died and the plane plummeted to earth," King said. The aircraft, which was headed to Houston, burst into flames when it crashed, King said.

CRASH, BROADVIEW AREA, MONTANA, UNITED STATES

London, May 30 -- Hughes 369D N765HV crashed near Broadview, Montana, at 1943, May 28. The aircraft was destroyed. One of the three persons on board was killed and the other two were seriously injured.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: A 34-year-old Tennessee man, Mark T. Burdick, was

killed in a helicopter crash, between Rapelje and Broadview, in Stillwater County, Monday afternoon, (May 28). The crash was reported to the Stillwater County Sheriff's Department just before 1400. Stillwater County Undersheriff Woody Claunch released the name of the victim Tuesday morning, after the man's family was notified of his death. Two other occupants of the aircraft, a 38-year-old Pennsylvania man, and a 43-year-old Illinois man, were transported to Billings hospitals for treatment of injuries they received in the crash. The nature of their injuries and their conditions were not released. The aircraft, a 1979 Hughes 500 D, is owned by Haverfield Corporation of Pennsylvania. The three men in the helicopter were all employees of the company. They were doing flight inspections of power lines in the area at the time of the crash. A Stillwater County Sheriff's spokesman said it was not determined yet who was flying the helicopter. The accident is under investigation by the Federal Aviation Administration.

CRASH, CHARLESTON HARBOUR, SOUTH CAROLINA, UNITED STATES

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Two people died after a vintage 42 Stearman Biplane crashed in Charleston harbour not far from Patriots Point in the shallow waters of Mt. Pleasant behind the popular Alhambra Hall and Park. The US Coast Guard says the World War II-era biplane went down on a crab bank about 150 yards from shore around 1850 hrs. Spokesman Sean Shrum says the Coast Guard didn't receive any calls about the aircraft until it crashed. A number of boats reached the wreckage about two miles south-east of Patriots Point before rescuers but both people on the aircraft appeared to have been killed on impact. Anthony Abbatiello at Mercury Air Center says the aircraft took off from the Charleston Executive Airport on John's Island. The airport manager says three people own that aircraft. It is not clear who was piloting the aircraft. The manager also says that aircraft is often rented out by people who want to take a ride in the Charleston harbour for fun. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating.

London, May 24 -- Boeing A75N1 (Kaydet) N55718 crashed into water near Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, at 2245, May 23. The aircraft was destroyed. The two persons on board were killed.

CRASH, ELKIN CREEK RANCH, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

London, May 29 -- The pilot of the Cessna 172Q, C-GZMC, Victoria, BC to Elkin Ranch, airstrip with three passengers on board, on approach encountered strong wind gusts on touchdown at 1915, May 23. The aircraft departed the narrow runway and nosed over, causing substantial damage to the aircraft and minor injuries to two passengers.

CRASH, ESPERANCE AREA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated today, states: Air safety investigators will this morning begin the task of finding the cause of a fatal aircraft crash on Western Australia's south coast. Edward William Green, 61, was flying his friends, Glenn Pitchers and Norman Wright, both 49, from Perth to Esperance on Saturday night (May 26) when their single engine Piper Arrow crashed into a paddock. Wreckage was strewn over several hundred metres, just two kilometres from Esperance airport. No one survived the crash. Ian Sangston, from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB), says investigators will begin with a preliminary inspection of the crash site. Mr Sangston says investigators will be joined by a team of forensic police.

CRASH, KRASNODAR REGION, RUSSIA

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 24, states: A helicopter crashed in Russia, killing one pilot and injuring the other, the Russia Emergency Situations Ministry said today. A Mi-2 helicopter hit the ground in southwestern Russia's Krasnodar region, with one of the pilots killed and the other seriously injured, the Southern branch of the ministry was cited by the Itar-Tass news agency as saying. The helicopter had been used for agricultural purposes. The cause of the accident was not immediately known.

CRASH, LEPHALALE, SOUTH AFRICA

London, May 25 -- A helicopter that crashed on a Limpopo game farm this week apparently flew into a fence, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) reported today. CAA senior manager for accident investigations Albert Morudi said the final cause of the accident had not been established, but it was believed the Robinson R22 helicopter hit a fence. "The helicopter was doing game culling and they were following a kudu, and the helicopter impacted a fence." Both men in the helicopter were killed. The accident took place just after 1600 hrs, on Wednesday (May 23) at the Mpofu Game Lodge near Lephalale. Captain Gabashane Moseki said police had not yet identified the dead men, who were both reported to be in their early 30s.

CRASH, NAPA AREA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: A single-engine aircraft with three people on board crashed Monday (May 28) near Napa, but all of the occupants managed to escape serious injury, authorities said. The aircraft lost power shortly after take-off and went down around 0735 in a marsh about three miles south-west of Napa, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. Two people suffered minor injuries. The other occupant was not injured. The aircraft had heavy damage. Authorities said

the aircraft took off from an airport in Concord. The pilot radioed back ten minutes later saying he was having engine troubles, but would try to make it to the Napa airport. A short time later the aircraft crashed in the marsh.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: Three people suffered minor injuries from a Cessna 206 aircraft crash at 0735 yesterday. The aircraft departed Concord's Buchanan Field Airport yesterday and crashed upside down in a marsh 3.5 miles south-west of the Napa County Airport after encountering engine trouble. The pilot radioed Concord that he was having engine trouble shortly after take-off. They were heading north to go fishing on the Mendocino coast, said Sgt. Chris Perry of the Napa County Sheriff's Office. About 10 minutes after departing from Buchanan, Pease radioed that his aircraft had a "rough-running engine" but he wanted to continue and try to land in Napa rather than turn around, said Ian Gregor, spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration. All three passengers, who suffered minor injuries including cuts and bruises, were taken to Queen of the Valley Regional Medical Center for observation, Perry said. The FAA is investigating the crash.

London, May 30 -- Cessna TU206G (Stationair 6) N7395C crashed near Napa, California, at 1435, May 28. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. Two of the three persons on board suffered minor injuries.

CRASH, PERU

London, May 27 -- A press report, dated today, states: Peruvian police have recovered the remains of 13 people who were killed in an aircraft crash in the country's north-eastern jungle, a regional official said on Saturday (May 26). Ivan Vasquez, president of the Loreto region, where the government flight originated on Thursday, told Radioprogramas, Lima's top radio news station, that recovering the bodies was "rather difficult" because the aircraft, a twin-engine Twin Otter, was found in rough terrain. Officials found the aircraft in a low, jungle-covered mountain range. The Defence Ministry said there were 20 people on board the aircraft but there were conflicting reports from police and the ministry about the number of survivors. Police said there are seven survivors, while the ministry originally said eight. The aircraft apparently was caught in a strong wind when it crashed 560 kilometres north-east of Lima, Juan Montes, a police spokesman in the jungle village Contamana, the flight's next scheduled stop said. The three-man crew was among those killed, he said. Norman Lewis del Alcazar, vice president of the Loreto region said it was raining heavily when the flight, linking isolated jungle communities, left from Orellana. The aircraft originated in Iquitos, the capital of Loreto. State news agency Andina reported that strong winds knocked down trees and ripped the roofs off some homes in the

area that day. The aircraft was scheduled to stop at five airports. Its last scheduled stop was Pucallpa, where the survivors, including a woman seven months pregnant, are being treated, local media reported.

London, May 29 -- De Havilland Canada DHC-6 Twin Otter 300, registration FAP-303, operated by the Peruvian Air Force, on a flight from Iquitos Airport (SPQT) to Pucallpa (SPCL) with en route stops at Requena (SPQN), Orellana, Pampa Hermosa (SPPH), and Contamana (SPCM). It departed Iquitos at 1137, May 24, and landed in Requena at 1210 hrs. Ten minutes later the aircraft departed again, heading for Orellana, where it arrived at 1310 hrs. Departure from Orellana was at 1625 hrs. At 1745 hrs an ELT signal was received. The wreckage was found in mountainous area near Pampa Hermosa. Ten passengers and all three crew were killed, seven passengers survived the accident.

CRASH, QUEBEC, CANADA

London, May 29 -- Cessna 180H, CFMBU, with a pilot and a passenger on board, took-off from Lake Cremazie, was caught in a cross wind and crashed at 1300, May 25 and caught fire. The two occupants evacuated the aircraft having sustained minor injuries. The aircraft was destroyed.

CRASH, TORRES STRAIT, AUSTRALIA

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: Four people have walked away with no more than minor cuts after ditching their Piper PA-32 in the Torres Strait off Cape York in far north Queensland and spending two hours in the sea. The aircraft went down approximately 13 km south-west of Warraber Island, in the Torres Strait, after experiencing engine problems about 1100, AEST, today, police said. A Customs Coastwatch fixed-wing aircraft located the four, and a helicopter was dispatched to winch them from the water. They were then carried to Thursday Island. A police spokeswoman said the men suffered only minor injuries, mostly scratches and bruising.

CRASH, WILBUR AREA, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES

London, May 30 -- Cessna A185F (Skywagon) N9434N crashed near Wilbur, Washington, at 0230, May 28. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

EMERGENCY LANDING, BOURNEMOUTH AIRPORT, DORSET, UNITED KINGDOM

London, May 27 -- A press report, dated May 26, states: A passenger aircraft was forced to land after flying into a swarm of British bees. The Palmair Boeing 737, with 90 passengers on board, had to return to Bournemouth Airport, Dorset, shortly after take-off at 0810, on Thursday (May 24) following an engine surge. The pilot decided to abort the flight to Faro in Portugal and returned for

safety checks. The aircraft's engine was thought to have become clogged with bees, the company said. A swarm of 20,000 honeybees looking for a new nest surprised tourists when they descended on Bournemouth seafront pier. A replacement aircraft finally left at 1915 hrs.

EMERGENCY LANDING, BUFFALO, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated May 30, states: The National Transportation Safety Board is reviewing a preliminary report on what happened to Northwest Airlines flight 1411, a DC-9 that was forced to land shortly after a take-off from Syracuse nearly three weeks ago. Flight 1411 was en route from Syracuse to Detroit when just 20 minutes into the flight, decompression occurred. Oxygen masks dropped, and the aircraft was headed toward an emergency landing in Buffalo. On the ground, an inspection showed a 12-inch gash had opened in the fuselage. An NTSB preliminary report, due to be released in a few days, is likely to blame a ground crew in Syracuse for damaging the aircraft during the baggage loading process. However, there is no record of that crew reporting any collision between their vehicles and the aircraft. Northwest Airlines, acknowledging that the ground crew was likely to be blamed in the NTSB report, said it is continuing its own investigation.

EMERGENCY LANDING, DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES

London, May 26 -- A press report, dated May 25, states: A United Airlines passenger jet bound for Beijing from Washington, DC, made an emergency landing Friday (May 25) after losing power in one of its engines. Flames were reported coming out of one of the Boeing 747's engines at take-off, airport officials said. United Flight 897, scheduled to take off from Dulles International Airport at 1223, dumped some of its fuel before its return in order to reduce the weight for landing. Fire and rescue crews were standing by to meet the Boeing 747 which landed safely about 1400, said Dulles International Airport spokeswoman Courtney Prebich. A United spokesperson said their pilots took appropriate action in response to the lost engine in declaring an "amber" emergency and returning to Dulles. Airport officials had no immediate information about the cause of the flames.

EMERGENCY LANDING, FORT STEWART, GEORGIA, UNITED STATES

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated today, states: A civilian Piper PA-31 was forced to make an emergency landing at Fort Stewart yesterday, according to a news release issued by the Army post. The Piper PA-31 landed in a training area in the western part of Fort Stewart near Ga. 144 and Glennville. The aircraft was to remain on the ground until it could be refueled, the release stated.

EMERGENCY LANDING, HEATHROW AIRPORT, UNITED KINGDOM

London, May 29 -- A passenger jet was forced to return to Heathrow Airport five minutes into its flight after one of its engines caught fire. The captain of the Boeing 737 jet bound for Belgrade shut down the engine and requested a return to the airport at about 1400, BST. A spokesman for the National Air Traffic Services said the flight was given a priority landing. Airport operator BAA said it landed safely at Heathrow at 1414, BST.

EMERGENCY LANDING, HELSINKI HARBOUR, FINLAND

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated today, states: A light aircraft made a forced landing in Helsinki's South Harbour on (May 27) Sunday. The four-seater Diamond DA40 aircraft with a male pilot and two female passengers on board crash-landed in the sea near the island of Valkosaari. All three people on board were rescued from the water. None of them sustained serious injuries, rescue officials said. Only minutes before the emergency landing, the aircraft had left Malmi Airport, on its way to the Estonian capital Tallinn. The crash was apparently caused by a defect in the engine. After noticing the problem, the pilot first tried to turn back to the airport, but was forced to make an emergency landing in Southern Helsinki. The aircraft sustained serious damage. The aircraft, owned by the the Polytechnic Students' Aviation Club, had a diesel engine, which is new and relatively rare in light aircraft. The inquiry into the cause of the crash will take a few months, as the computers of the aircraft were most likely destroyed in the salt water and the defect will have to be detected using technical investigation methods.

EMERGENCY LANDING, JOHN F.KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated May 27, states: A JetBlue aircraft was struck by lightning today. Officials say none of the 140 passengers on board the Airbus A 320 were injured. Flight 43 was en route from Rochester to John F.Kennedy Airport when lightning struck, causing an odour similar to an electrical fire to permeate the aircraft's cabin. However, officials said the lightning didn't create smoke in the aircraft. JetBlue spokesman Bryan Baldwin says the aircraft made an emergency landing at John F.Kennedy Airport, getting passengers to their destination about 20 minutes early.

EMERGENCY LANDING, KARACHI, PAKISTAN

Karachi, May 29 -- A Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) Airbus 310 has been grounded after making an emergency landing at Karachi International Airport early yesterday morning. PIA flight PK 283 with "1342" passengers on board took off for Dubai

from Peshawar airport at 0300 hrs, but the aircraft had to terminate its journey, following a technical problem in one of its engines. The pilot made a request to land at Karachi airport and landed safely around 0500 hrs. The passengers boarded another aircraft, while the Airbus was grounded for repairs. -- Lloyd's List Correspondent.

EMERGENCY LANDING, PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated May 27, states: A Scandinavian Airlines' aircraft made an emergency landing in Prague today after its pilot reported smoke in the cabin, an official said. The aircraft, with 118 people on board, landed safely at 1525, UTC, Ruzyně International Airport spokeswoman Eva Krejci said. No one was injured, she said. Krejci said a technical malfunction was believed to have caused the smoke but she could not give further details. It was not immediately clear where the aircraft had been flying.

FLIGHTS CANCELLED/DELAYED DUE TO COMPUTER PROBLEMS, JAPAN

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated May 27, states: All Nippon Airways Co cancelled 126 domestic flights on Sunday (May 27) and delayed other flights due to a computer system glitch before restarting its operations at around 1800 hrs, affecting about 57,000 passengers. The trouble also disrupted the operations of such regional airlines as Skynet Asia Airways Co, IBEX Airlines Co and Hokkaido International Airlines Co, known as Air Do, whose systems are linked with that of ANA. As the system functions resumed at 1530 hrs, ANA restarted its flight operations. However, some flights are expected to be delayed on Monday, ANA said. ANA said the glitch disrupted its computer system which controls the reservation process as well as boarding and luggage flows from early morning, forcing its staff to issue boarding tickets manually. The airline has been seeking to fix the system since Saturday night, when its host computer started malfunctioning, and is still investigating the cause of the trouble, ANA officials said. At Tokyo's Haneda airport, the departure lobby for ANA passengers was crowded as travellers stood in long lines to check in.

INCIDENT AT BUCHAREST AIRPORT, ROMANIA

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Wizz Air Airbus A-318 caught fire early today at an airport in Bucharest but all the 76 passengers on board were evacuated safely, state news agency Rompres said. The aircraft was waiting to fly to Budapest, Hungary, when one of the engines caught fire at about 0620, 0320, UTC, a spokesman for the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations said. The fire was put out by the aircraft's internal extinguishing system, he said. Wizz Air said in a statement that a problem with an

engine had occurred. No further details were given. All the passengers on board were evacuated with the help of firefighters at the airport.

INCIDENT AT JOSEPH A. HARDY CONNELLSVILLE AIRPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: A 73-year-old man was flown to a Pittsburgh hospital yesterday after his aircraft struck a truck at the Joseph A. Hardy Conneltsville Airport. At approximately 1155 yesterday, a single-engine aircraft landed at the airport. Witnesses at the scene said the pilot of Dundee, NY, lost control of the aircraft, left the runway and travelled onto a ramp area where transient aircraft are parked. According to those at the scene, the aircraft then crashed into a parked and unoccupied Ford pick-up truck parked in front of the airport's FBO office. The truck is owned by the airport authority. Sam Cortis, airport manager, said no one was in the office at the time of the collision. Monarch Volunteer Fire Department firefighter Jim Snyder said when firefighters arrived at the scene, they immediately extricated the pilot. Snyder said the aircraft had lost approximately 50 gallons of fuel while the truck had lost several gallons of regular gasoline. Snyder said firefighters sprayed foam and laid down oil-absorbant fabric to soak up the spilled fuel. Rick Adobato, Fayette EMS director of operations, said the pilot was taken to a Pittsburgh hospital. Adobato said he sustained minor injuries in the collision. Richer was listed Tuesday night in critical condition. Snyder said the pilot may have suffered a stroke. The aircraft was fixed-wing single-engine 1968 Dever Stits Playmate SA11A. Richer is listed as the sole owner of the aircraft with the Federal Aviation Administration. No one else was on board the aircraft at the time of the accident. The FAA was called in to investigate the accident.

London, May 24 -- Stits Playmate SA11A N7760 struck a truck at Joseph A. Hardy Conneltsville Airport, Pennsylvania, at 1555, May 22. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board was injured.

TURBULENCE ENCOUNTERED ON FLIGHT FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO JAPAN

Tokyo, May 31 -- Ten people were slightly hurt when a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines passenger plane bound for the Japanese city of Osaka hit turbulence soon after take-off from Amsterdam, officials said today. The Boeing-777 KLM flight 867, with 262 passengers and 14 crew on board, touched down at the Kansai International Airport in Osaka around 0915 hrs (0045 UTC) today, airport officials said. The passenger plane hit turbulence about two and a half hours after taking off, airline officials said. One official said the pilots had decided to continue the flight rather than make an emergency landing as the injuries did not appear to be serious. The ten people injured

included three female cabin crew, airport police said. "None of them was injured seriously," a police official said. -- Reuters.

Port Conditions



AUSTRALIA

London, May 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) has authorised Port Waratah Coal Services (PWCS) to reinstate the capacity system at its terminal. The ACCC granted interim approval in March and issued a draft determination in April. PWCS may now operate the system until Dec 31, as originally intended when it was introduced in 2005. The decision is expected to save coal companies about \$175m in demurrage. Cutbacks to coal quotas are expected to reduce the queue of 60 ships this week down to the preferred operating queue of 22 by August. The Hunter Valley Coal Chain Logistics Team -- comprising all the port and rail providers -- chose to limit quotas in order to address a queue that peaked at almost 80 ships in the first quarter. The team's weekly report indicates that coal producers have collectively forecast just 6.8m tonnes of coal exports in May, despite the chain offering 7.6m tonnes of capacity. The coal chain is expected to provide between 1.2m and 1.8m tonnes of surplus monthly capacity between now and the end of July.

London, May 30 -- A press report, dated today, states: A negotiator has been appointed to try to sort out a worsening bottleneck at Queensland's biggest port that threatens lucrative foreign coal contracts. South Korean steelmaking company Posco, which spends more than \$US1 billion (\$1.22bn) on Queensland coal, said it was developing other overseas contacts because of costly delays and unreliable deliveries by the state-owned railway. Posco said it had written to Deputy Premier Anna Bligh in late February and directly lobbied Premier Peter Beattie on his trade mission to Seoul this month to resolve the crisis, but had heard nothing since. As a result, the company has been pursuing alternative coal suppliers in countries such as Mongolia, Russia, Mozambique and Indonesia.

BANGLADESH

London, May 28 -- A press report, dated May 27, states: The overall shipping charges for inbound cargoes have decreased significantly after cancellation of terminal handling charge (THC) and replacement of the outmoded stevedoring system with berth operators at the Chittagong port. The shipping agent sources said the feeder vessel operators have lowered the freight rate by at least 30-40 percent as the country's premier port

has been free of container congestion, reducing the ship turnaround time to 3.8 days in May from 11.6 days in January. The shipping lines can now make more voyages than they did before. So, instead of \$300-340, the operators charge \$230-240 for per twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) on Chittagong-Singapore or Chittagong-Colombo route, the sources pointed out. The rate however varies from company to company. The charge for carrying empty container too has come down to \$85 per TEU from \$170. Before the cancellation of THC on May 20, the shipping agents used to charge \$200 for handling per TEU container and \$400 for per forty-foot equivalent unit (FEU). The cost of handling general cargoes has also been slashed by at least 40 percent, he said. Earlier, the business community had to incur a loss of at least \$286 million a year because of the port's inefficiency. Every vessel had to count at least an additional \$10,000 for a day's delay as the daily operating cost is \$7,000-8,000 on average. "Earlier, a ship could not have more than two round-trips on Chittagong-Singapore route a month, whereas now it can comfortably have more than three," said Mohammad Amirul Haque, chairman of the ship and port standing committee of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI). Therefore, the ship owners can carry containers at \$30-50 less charge per container than they could do before. As far as the feeder operators are concerned, the cargo fare has come down by 30-40 percent, said another operator. However, he thinks the main line operators (MLO) might try to add the terminal handling charge in the export-import documents. According to sources, the off-docks face acute congestion as the containers have been moved there to take pressure off the main jetty. The Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) thinks the container jam at the off-docks would also ease after installation of necessary handling equipment. The CPA introduced the berth operating system instead of stevedoring on May 16. Initially, 12 operators have been given charge of handling cargoes at 13 general berths. Out of the berths, six are earmarked for container cargoes while the rest are for general cargoes. The berth operators have been selected from the existing stevedores. The authorities also fixed different rates for handling containers at the jetty by the berth operators, the source said. Meanwhile, 15 stevedoring agents have been assigned to handle goods at different moorings and outer anchorage.

GERMANY

London, May 30 -- Kiel Canal Authorities have announced that the new south lock chamber at Holtenau is out of service for scheduled maintenance work from today, May 30, until June 24. Some delays in transit may result from this closure.

London, May 31 -- A press report, dated today, states: The old north lock chamber at Kiel has been taken out of service until midday tomorrow, due to damage found in the lock gear.

ITALY

Genoa, May 28 -- Genoa: Two container vessels and one tanker waiting for berth. La Spezia: No vessels waiting for berth. Savona: No vessels waiting for normal berth. Two vessels waiting for special berth. -- Lloyd's Agents.

KENYA

London, May 25 -- A press report, dated May 23, states: The Kenya Ports Authority has pre-qualified two firms to provide container freight services at the Mombasa port. "The process is not yet complete. There are no names yet but two of the firms that applied have been pre-qualified. They will provide relief to the system by taking some of the containers outside the port at a fee similar to KPA's. There are 13,000 containers in Mombasa right now. Over 50% of them are not yet documented. This is a huge number and because you do not know the owners, you cannot even call them to take their goods away," William Mtengo, the resident representative explained yesterday.

London, May 29 -- A press report, dated May 28, states: Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) has suspended discharge and loading of vessels to resolve a crippling congestion crisis at the Mombasa port. The suspension, was to facilitate shifting of containers so as to create room at the container terminal. The crisis has partly been blamed on a cargo boom, but low take-off of containers due to poor road and rail infrastructure. KPA said the crisis has been worsened by the diversion of two vessels from the port of Dar es Salaam to discharge cargo in Mombasa. Maritime stakeholders have warned that shipping lines could impose Vessel Delay Surcharges on the Mombasa port, if the congestion crisis is not resolved urgently. The delay has impacted negatively on Kenyan and Ugandan manufacturers, whose raw materials and finished products are stuck at the port. KPA Harbour Master and Chief Operations Manager, Captain Twalib Khamis confirmed the suspension of loading and discharging of vessels. He, however, said the situation had eased with only two vessels waiting to discharge cargo compared to 12 last week. Meanwhile, Khamis said KPA would transfer some of the containers to two private Container Freight Stations (CFSs) from next month to reduce the congestion. He said two CFSs have been identified to take about 5,000 containers monthly. "We are set to transfer containers to CFSs from the first week of June so as to create room for containers at the container terminal," Khamis said.

London, May 29 -- Kenya's road and rail networks lack the capacity to handle increasing volumes of cargo coming through the port of Mombasa and intended for the country's hinterland and neighbouring states

according to Scott Rogers, International Monetary Fund (IMF) representative in the East African country. Quoted in the East African newspaper Rogers described the road and rail networks as being a drag on the development of the entire transport infrastructure. He suggested that joint policies involving both forms of transport and that of the port were required to ensure that cargo logistics did not hamper the economic potential of East Africa. He said it was gratifying that a programme of modernising the port of Mombasa was enjoying success with estimates indicating that the port is now handling more cargo than forecast by the Kenya Ports Authority. According to KPA's container terminal manager Joseph Atonga Mombasa is experiencing growth of 30 percent in

volumes, which is placing a strain on resources. The port recently introduced a 24-hour operation to help relieve some of the congestion at the container terminal, where according to KPA's managing director Abdalla Mwaruwa the average turnaround time for vessels at the terminal has been reduced from between five and seven days to two days, with ship delays reducing from an average of 2.8 days to 1.5 days. According to Mwaruwa the port is aggressively marketing itself but this is adding to its success as well as the congestion. The KPA also wanted to see the Northern Corridor converted into an economic development corridor to enable it to compete in worldwide markets through Mombasa.

NIGERIA

London, May 30 -- Lagos was gripped last weekend (May 26/27) by long queues of up to 45 oil products tankers, Reuters reports. Mounting congestion has prompted calls for Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation to revise down its third quarter import quotas. Shipping agent Hull Blyth said in addition to 40 tankers another five had arrived before the weekend, with import cargoes typically around 30,000 tonnes. The delays are expected to mean tender awards could be slashed by 20%-25% and amount to cargoes of at least 600,000 tonnes. "So many ships are being held up and there is a shortage of tonnage to go back to Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp or the UK Continent to perform other operations," a trader told the agency.

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
Australia		
Abbott Point	04-Jun-2007	Coal: One vessel loading at berth; 17 vessels due by 2/7; 1-3 days delay expected.
Brisbane	04-Jun-2007	Coal: Fisherman Island coal berth; Fifteen vessels due by 5/8.
Dalrymple Bay	04-Jun-2007	Coal: One vessel loading at berth; 58 vessels arrived; 16 vessels due by 17/6; 7-30 days delay expected; while Berth 4 is under construction, Cape size vessels can only load on Berth 2 until end 10/07; Berth 1: maintenance shutdown until 6/6/07.
Dampier	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: Parker Point: Two vessels loading at berth; 1 vessel arrived; 13 vessels due by 30/6; East Intercourse Island: 1 vessel loading at berth; 6 vessels arrived; 7 vessels due by 11/6; 5-10 days delay expected at Dampier.
Esperance	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: One vessel at berth; 2 vessels due by 13/6.
Geraldton	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: One vessel at berth; 2 vessels at anchor; 1 vessel due 7/6.
Gladstone	04-Jun-2007	Coal: 11-15 days delay expected; R.G. Tanna coal terminal: 2 vessels in berth; 14 vessels arrived; 36 vessels due by 31/7; Barney Point: 1 vessel in berth; 11 vessels due by 31/7.
Hay Point	04-Jun-2007	Coal: Two vessels loading at berth; 12 vessels arrived; 10 vessels due by 17/6; 7-30 days delay expected.
Newcastle	04-Jun-2007	Coal: 14-28 days delay expected; Kooragang 4, 5 and 6: 3 vessels loading at berth; 37 vessels arrived; 36 vessels due by 28/6; 10-27 days delay expected; Dykes 4+5: 2 vessels loading at berth; 18 vessels arrived; 18 vessels due by 28/6.
Port Hedland	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: Nelson Point: Two vessels loading at berth; 6 vessels arrived; 19 vessels due by 27/6; BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Goldsworthy (Finucane Island "C" berth): berth closed for refurbishment; (Finucane Island "D" berth): 1 vessel loading at berth; 4 vessels arrived; 3 vessels due by 9/6; Cockatoo Island: 1 vessel due 9/6; Koolan Island: 1 vessel due 6/6; 2-5 days delay expected at Port Hedland.
Port Kembla	04-Jun-2007	Coal: One vessel loading at berth; 16 vessels due by 26/6; up to 1 day's delay expected.
Port Walcott	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: Two vessels loading at berth; 9 vessels arrived; 15 vessels due by 18/6; 5-10 days delay expected.
Whyalla	04-Jun-2007	Iron ore: Two vessels at berth; 2 vessels loading at anchorage; 2 vessels due by 30/6.
Azerbaijan		
Apsheiron	01-Jun-2007	Oil products: Three vessels at berth, all discharging (1 gasoline, 1 crude oil, 1 gasoil).
Baku		Oil products: Azertrans terminal: Nobel Avenue: No vessels; Sangachal District: port open; no vessels.
Bulgaria		
Bourgas	04-Jun-2007	Seven vessels in port of which 3 loading (1 cigarettes, 1 coils, 1 profiles), 4 discharging (1 metal, 1 cement, 1 DRI, 1 copper concentrate); no vessels in roads; 5 vessels due, all to discharge (1 iron ore, 1 copper concentrate, 1 metal, 1 gasoil, 1 zinc/lead concentrate).
Varna	04-Jun-2007	Varna East, Varna West, Balchik: Twenty-five vessels in port operating of which 9 loading (1 bulk wheat, 1 bulk maize, 1 bulk clinker, 1 bulk sulphuric acid, 5 soda), 5 discharging (2 bulk coal, 1 raw phosphate, 1 container, 1 iron bars), 11 discharging/loading (9 containers/bentonite, 1 equipment, 1 equipment/containers/bulk cement); no vessels waiting in roads.

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Port Conditions

Colombia

Barranquilla	05-Jun-2007	Max. permissible draft: 9.14 m fw. Shore cranes operational; 3 vessels berthed (1 containers, 1 general cargo, 1 bulker), no vessels anchored; 6 vessels due (2 containers, 1 general cargo, 1 bulker, 2 coal), with no delays expected.
Buenaventura	05-Jun-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, which is expected end-June, will be in operation during the second half of July. Nine vessels berthed (5 containers, 1 general cargo, 3 bulkers), 9 anchored (5 containers, 1 general cargo, 2 bulkers, 1 PCC); 24 vessels due (18 containers, 2 general cargo, 3 tankers, 1 PCC), with 2 days delay expected for containers/bulkers, 3 days for general cargo, 1 day for PCC.
Cartagena	05-Jun-2007	SPRCTG: shore cranes operational; 1 container vessel berthed, no vessels anchored; 23 vessels due (20 containers, 3 passenger vessels), with no delays expected; MEB: shore crane operational; 1 container vessel berthed, no vessels anchored; 2 vessels due (1 containers, 1 general cargo), with no delays expected; CONTECAR: shore crane operational; 1 container vessel berthed, no vessels anchored; 7 vessels due (3 containers, 4 general cargo), with no delays expected.
Santa Marta	05-Jun-2007	Shore cranes operational; 2 vessels berthed (1 containers, 1 coal), no vessels anchored; 16 vessels due (4 containers, 4 general cargo, 3 bananas, 3 bulkers, 1 tanker, 1 PCC), with no delays expected for coal vessels.

Egypt

Adabiya	05-Jun-2007	Three vessels berthed (loading/discharging), all general cargo.
Alexandria	05-Jun-2007	Forty-one vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 29 general cargo, 4 bulk carriers, 3 tankers, 5 container vessels; 8 vessels at outer anchorage, 15 at inner anchorage.
Damietta	05-Jun-2007	Nineteen vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 13 general cargo, 1 bulk carrier, 1 tanker, 4 container vessels; 4 vessels at outer anchorage, 3 at inner anchorage.
Dekheila	05-Jun-2007	Eleven vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 2 general cargo, 3 bulk carriers, 3 tankers, 3 container vessels; 7 vessels at outer anchorage.
Port Said	05-Jun-2007	Three vessels berthed (loading/discharging), all general cargo.
Suez Canal	05-Jun-2007	Five vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 2 general cargo, 3 passenger vessels; 3 tugs, 2 vessels dry-docked.
Suez	05-Jun-2007	Twenty-one vessels transiting Northbound, 26 Southbound.

India

Kolkata	04-06-2007	6 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels loading (General Cargo, Containers), 4 vessels discharging (Containers, Logs, Edible Oil); 1 vessel working at midstream discharging Pulse; 3 vessels under repair; 2 vessels under dry docked; 1 vessel under arrest; 4 vessels waiting to sail; 3 Containers vessels due.
Haldia	04-06-2007	10 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Iron Ore-3, Steel), 4 vessels discharging (PRXL, Sulphur, Met Coke, Soya, General Cargo), 2 vessels loading and discharging Containers; 7 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (3 to discharge, 4 to load), 2 vessels waiting at anchorage to load; 8 vessels due (Crude, POL-2, LPG, Net Coke, General Cargo, Iron Ore-2).
Paradip	04-06-2007	11 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Iron Ore-2, Chrome Concentrate), 8 vessels discharging (Lime Coke-2, CPC, Coking Coal, RPC, Rock Phosphate-2, Steam Coal); 11 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (5 to discharge, 6 to load), 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to load; 32 vessels due.
Visakhapatnam	04-06-2007	21 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Iron Ore-3, Granite), 16 vessels discharging (Coking Coal, Steam Coal, Crude Oil, Pet Coke-2, DBM & General Cargo, Met Coke, Timber, General Cargo, Product & LPG-2, Liquid Ammonia, Trsp/Crude, Urea, Bentonite, MOP), 1 vessel loading and discharging General Cargo & Granite; 15 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (8 to discharge, 7 to load); 1 vessel under arrest; 1 vessel under others reasons; 41 vessels due (Iron Ore-18, Alumina, Thermal Coal-2, Stone Boulders, Granite, Containers, Product, S. Acid, Coking Coal-7, Container, Steam Coal, Acetone & Hexane, Caustic Soda-2, CP Coke, Lime Stone).
Chennai	04-06-2007	19 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading (Granite Block/Project Cargo, Granite Block, Bary, Palm Oil, Iron Ore), 9 vessels discharging (Lab/P. Fin, Steam Coal-4, Palm Oil, Log, Met Coke, C. Oil), 5 vessels loading and discharging (Lubricant Oil, Containers-4); 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to load, 1 vessel not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to load; 1 vessel under arrest; 12 vessels due (Containers-3, Research, Supply-3, Iron Ore, Trucks/Cars, St. Bar, Passenger/General Cargo, Palm Oil, Project Cargo).
Tuticorin	04-06-2007	9 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Granite-2, General Cargo-2), 4 vessels discharging (MOP, Coke, Logs, Thermal Coal), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers; 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to discharge, 3 vessel not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to load, 1 vessel awaiting order and waiting at anchorage to discharge.

Port Conditions

Cochin	04-06-2007	1 vessel operating at berth discharging Zinc Concentrate; 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to discharge; 25 vessels due (Crude, Domestic Passenger-6, Containers-9, POL, Coal, Research, Survey, Bauxite, Chemicals-3, Defence).
New Mangalore	04-06-2007	10 vessels operating at berth of which 7 vessels loading (Iron Ore Fines-4, POL Product, Containers, Granite Stone), 3 vessels discharging (Fertiliser, LPG, POL Crude); 7 vessels waiting at anchorage (4 to discharge, 3 to load); 17 vessels due (POL Product-3, Iron Ore Fines-5, Rock Phosphate, Crude S.B. Oil-2, POL Crude-2, Granite Stone, Methanol, Crude Palm Oil, Mix-Xylene).
Mormugao	04-06-2007	4 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels loading (Iron Ore, Steel Coils), 2 vessels discharging (High Speed Diesel, Coking Coal); 3 vessels working at midstream and loading Iron Ore; 4 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (2 to load, 2 to discharge), 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to load; 4 vessel under dry docked; 8 vessels due (Container, Coking Coal-2, Cranes, Iron Ore-4).
Mumbai	04-06-2007	18 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading(Bagged Sugar, Raw sugar in Bulk, Steel/General/Vehicles/Containers, POL), 9 vessels discharging (Calcite Chips in Bulk, MOP, Pules/Logs/Steel/Project Cargo-4, POL-3), 5 vessels loading and discharging (Machinery/Project Cargo/ Steel/ General/Vehicles); 1 vessel not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to load, 1 vessel awaiting order and working at anchorage to discharge, 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to load; 18 vessels under repairs/dry docked; 10 vessels under arrest; 1 vessel under laid up (Berths not required for cargo operations); 44 vessels due (Containers-3, General Cargo-41).
J.N.P.T	04-06-2007.	6 vessels loading and discharging Containers at berth; 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to load and discharge: 1 vessel due (Containers).
Kandla	04-06-2007	14 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Fly Ash, Cement, Fel. Spar, Pipes), 6 vessels discharging (Timber Logs, MOP, Urea, Motor Spirit, CPO, High Speed Diesel), 2 vessels loading and discharging Containers.
Ennore	04-06-2007	1 vessel working at berth & discharging Thermal Coal; 4 vessels due
Israel		
Ashdod	04-06-2007	No labour problems. One general cargo vessel loading at berth, 11 vessels discharging at berth (5 general cargo, 6 bulkers), 8 vessels loading/discharging at berth (4 containers, 1 car carrier, 2 tankers, 1 passenger vessel); 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 6 general cargo vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge, 4 vessels waiting at anchorage to load/discharge (2 bulkers, 2 containers); 18 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Eilat	04-06-2007	No labour problems. One general cargo vessel discharging at berth; 1 car carrier waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; no vessels due, with no delays expected.
Haifa	04-06-2007	No labour problems. Six vessels discharging at berth (2 general cargo, 4 bulkers), 11 loading/discharging at berth (5 containers, 6 tankers); 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge, 4 vessels waiting at anchorage to load/discharge (1 bulker, 1 containers, 2 tankers); 4 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 22 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Kazakhstan		
Aktau	01-06-2007	Oil products: Three vessels loading crude oil at berth; 4 vessels in roads, all to load; 2 vessels due, both to load.
Poland		
Gdansk	04-06-2007	Six vessels loading at berth (2 coal, 2 bulkers, 1 tanker, 1 general cargo), 3 discharging at berth (1 bulker, 1 tanker, 1 general cargo); 9 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage, none waiting in roads; 25 vessels due.
Gdynia	04-06-2007	Two general cargo vessels loading at berth, 7 discharging at berth (2 grain, 3 general cargo, 2 bulkers); 2 coal vessels awaiting orders; 15 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage, none waiting in roads; 48 vessels due.
Russia		
Novorossiysk	04-06-2007	Fifteen vessels in port operating of which 12 loading, 4 discharging (2 pipes, 1 DRI, 1 pig iron, 1 pipes/blooms/coils, 2 wheat, 1 steel billets, 1 bulk NPK, 1 slabs, 1 aluminium, 1 D/O), 3 discharging (2 debars, 1 bananas); 3 vessels in roads, all to load (1 DRI, 1 steel billets, 1 bulk NPK); 51 vessels due of which 37 to load, 12 to discharge, 2 to load/discharge containers; Oil terminal: 3 tankers loading at berth (2 crude, 1 D/O); 1 tanker in roads to load crude; 6 tankers due, all to load (5 crude oil, 1 D/O).

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Port Conditions

Slovenia		
Koper	04-06-2007	Port working normally. Eight vessels berthed of which 1 car carrier discharging/loading vehicles, 1 tanker discharging liquid cargo, 3 vessels loading general cargo/sawn timber, 1 loading bulk cargo, 2 discharging bulk cargo; 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge bulk cargo; 13 vessels due over the next 2 days of which 3 to discharge/load containers, 1 tanker to discharge liquid cargo, 2 car carriers to discharge/load vehicles, 1 Ro/Ro to load general cargo, 3 vessels to discharge bulk cargo, 1 to load bulk cargo, 2 to load general cargo.bananas), 2 discharging/loading containers; 1 vessel in roads to discharge metal; 68 vessels due of which 29 to load (23 metal, 3 pig iron, 2 ore, 1 wheat), 10 to discharge (4 metal, 1 bananas, 3 sugar, 1 general cargo, 1 fish), 29 to load/discharge containers.
Spain		
Bilbao	01-06-2007	Thirty-two vessels in port operating (7 tankers, 25 others), of which 7 loading, 16 discharging, 9 loading/discharging.
Sri Lanka		
Colombo	04-06-2007	Berthing/unberthing (pilotage) delays being experienced on breakbulk/conventional vessels. Delays to conventional vessels are due to the fact that container/feeder vessels are given priority berthing at breakbulk berths if there is container congestion; conventional cargo vessels at BQ 1 & 2 are facing delays in navigation after commissioning of SAGT 1 & 2 berths (former QEQ 1 & 2); conventional cargo vessels at PVQ 2 (inner berth) are facing berthing and unberthing delays after commissioning of new north pier (formerly known as "oil pier"). Fourteen container/feeder vessels loading at berth, 23 vessels discharging at berth (13 container/feeders, 1 bagged fertiliser, 1 general cargo, 3 bulk cement, 1 bagged soybean meal, 1 bagged maize, 1 bulk palm oil, 1 essential services, 1 bulk clinker); 4 vessels dry-docked; 12 container/feeder vessels due, with no delays for general cargo/bagged cargo/containers/feeders expected.
Trincomalee	04-06-2007	One vessel loading at berth, 2 discharging at berth; no vessels awaiting berth.
Turkmenistan		
Aladja	01-06-2007	Oil products: One vessel loading crude oil at berth.
Turkmenbashi	01-06-2007	Oil products: Two vessels loading at berth (1 fuel oil, 1 gasoil); 9 vessels in roads, all to load (1 gasoil, 8 others); 1 vessel due 1/6 to load crude oil.
Ukraine		
Ilechevsk	04-06-2007	Eight vessels in port operating of which 5 loading (4 steel products, 1 grain), 1 discharging tin, 2 discharging/loading containers; 5 vessels in roads, of which 1 to discharge autos, 4 to discharge/load containers; 22 vessels due of which 14 to load (7 steel products, 2 sunflower oil, 3 grain, 1 sulphur, 1 ore), 1 to discharge ore, 7 to discharge/load containers.
Mariupol	04-06-2007	Six vessels in port operating, all loading (2 steel, 1 fire-clay, 1 coke, 1 kaolin, 1 barley); 6 vessels in roads of which 5 to load (2 steel, 3 coal), 1 to discharge equipment; 44 vessels due of which 43 to load (23 steel, 9 coal, 8 fire-clay, 1 slag, 2 sulphur), 1 to discharge equipment.
Odessa	04-06-2007	Twenty-one vessels in port operating of which 10 loading (2 scrap, 3 metal, 2 pig iron, 1 timber/metal, 1 barley, 1 containers/metal), 9 discharging (1 metal, 3 passenger vessels, 1 baggage, 2 bananas, 1 sugar, 1 general cargo), 2 discharging/loading containers; 4 vessels in roads of which 2 to load (1 metal, 1 wheat), 2 to discharge/load containers; 65 vessels due of which 21 to load (12 metal, 1 pig iron, 1 scrap, 1 wheat, 4 corn, 1 timber, 1 general cargo), 3 to discharge (1 bananas, 1 sugar, 1 citrus), 41 to load/discharge containers.

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