

Canal backlog sparks slot auction frenzy

Lock repairs double the cost of a single transit slot sold in the daily auction, writes Rainbow Nelson in Panama City — Friday November 24 2006

THE premium that shipping lines are prepared to pay to transit the Panama Canal has soared over the last two weeks due to maintenance works on the waterway.

At a critical time when the canal is preparing to release details of its new toll structure, a backlog of as many as 92 vessels has forced up the cost of the one daily transit slot sold in the auction system of the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) to as much as US\$220,000.

Essential maintenance works to locks on the Atlantic side of the canal between November 7 and 17 reduced the number of daily transits by almost 25%.

Coupled with the arrival of increasing numbers of large container vessels loaded with Christmas goods for the US, the works have led to intense competition for the single daily auction slot in recent weeks.

Jorge Quijano, ACP maritime operations director, said the ACP's record of US\$220,300 recorded in August had still not been broken, but the average premium being paid is around US\$105,000-US\$110,000.

This figure is paid on top of the transit fees and represents more than 50% of the existing cost of transiting with a 4,200 teu containership.

Containerships loaded with this year's 'must have' Christmas presents have featured more heavily in the recent auctions, he said, although the highest paying auction during the latest lock outage was won by the owner of a 400 ft-plus superyacht.

Following the end of the maintenance works on Saturday, the ACP has thrown extra resources at reducing the backlog, which was around 70 ships on Tuesday.

"It has come down by 20 ships in the last two days and by the start of next week

should be back to normal levels," said Mr Quijano.

Competition for booking slots and the one daily auction, however, are expected to mount over the next few months as the canal moves into its peak season.

Reefer vessels catering to the fruit trade between Chile and the US east coast and Europe, the beginning of the cruise season in Panama and the cascading down of panamax container vessels on to the Panama Canal's key shipping routes are all set to increase competition for the canal's 38-40 daily transits. Scheduled maintenance works in December could complicate matters further.

The ACP is fighting to keep up with demand for its services by maximising the

total capacity of the 92-year old canal's existing infrastructure while simultaneously implementing a US\$5.25bn plan to build a third set of locks capable of handling 12,500 teu container vessels, suezmax tankers and capsized bulkers. After the Panamanian electorate voted overwhelmingly to build the new locks on October 22, the ACP is now taking the first steps towards opening the new locks in time to celebrate the canal's centenary in 2014.

One of the first steps is to finalise the toll increases that will pay for the expansion. "We are working on that now," said Mr Quijano. "When [they will be announced] will depend on the board of directors, but I am sure it will have to happen in the next month or so."

Admin error blamed for UK vessel's detention in Miami

THE crew manager of a UK-flag vessel detained in the US because officers lacked flag state endorsements has confirmed that administrative error was to blame.

The statement from Scorpio Marine comes after seafarers' union Nautilus UK pointed to the incident to highlight its concerns over Certificates of Equivalent Competency.

Ville d'Orion, operated by CMA CGM, was held in Miami recently because of irregularities in the licences of five officers.

Simon Spacey, managing director of crew manager Scorpio Marine, said he did not wish to comment on the union stance that current arrangements are creating a pool of cheap officer labour, which he characterised as a dispute between the union and the flag. However, he stressed that the Croatian senior officers and Filipino junior officers concerned were of the highest quality.

"Scorpio Marine Limited confirms that our client's UK-registered vessel Ville d' Orion was detained briefly in Miami during her commercial operations due to a number of missing Certificates of Receipt of Application for UK Certificates of Equivalent Competency due to administrative error," Mr Spacey said.

"Upon notification the company reacted immediately and the correct documentation was supplied to the vessel within hours, resulting in the immediate release of the vessel."

The government has reacted to union concerns by setting up an industry-wide working party to look at the whole issue.

The body will be convened by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, with John Millican of Warsash Maritime Academy acting as chairman.

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

Vessel	Type	Flag	Class	GT	DWT	Bit	Casualty
<i>AREDELTA 1</i>	general	ARG	—	486	—	1911	Broke in two and sank near La Plata, in lat 34 45.6S, long 57 55E, Nov 13. All crew rescued. Not obstructing navigation.
<i>DIAZ</i>	trawler	NAM	BV	683	—	1972	Had fire in engine-room & capsized off the Namibian coast Nov 8. Three crew killed, remaining of the 22 crew picked up by vessel abd arrived Walvis Bay Nov 9. Sank Nov 9.
<i>FRI-STREAM</i>	general	BHS	BV	2,051	3,270	1995	Reported engine failure in lat 59 03N, long 03 46W, Nov 13. Tugs proceeding. Taken in tow to Westray Firth for assessment of situation. Anchored in Deer Sound Nov 13. To be towed to Kirkwall. Arrived Kirkwall Nov 14. In port Nov 16.
<i>HAPPY GIRL</i>	lpg	NIS	BV	3,643	4,247	1989	Reported engine problems in lat 49 49.3N, long 00 32.4W, Nov 13. Effected repairs but later reported further problems. Towed to Le Havre, where arrived Nov 13. Under way Nov 16.
<i>LAMPUNG</i>	ro-ro	IDN	KI	4,841	2,540	1971	Had fire on board 3 km off Merak Nov 16. Several vehicles on cargo deck destroyed.
<i>NJORD B.FSU</i>	floating storage tanker	NOR	—	60,000	100,000	1997	In collision with tanker <i>Navion Hispania</i> at Njord A facility, Norwegian Sea, Nov 13. Lifeboat and winch damaged, and hull damaged at sea level.
<i>PEPPINO D'AMATO</i>	bulker	ITA	—	50,332	92,816	1971	Grounded at La Place, Mile Marker 134, Lower Mississippi, Nov 13. Damage to bow. Slight water ingress. Refloating attempt to be made following inspection and repairs. Hole patched Nov 15. Forepeak to be dewatered..
<i>PETRA EXPRESS</i>	container	JOR	LR	7,720	9,083	1978	Had fire on board when engine overheated during crossing between Aqaba & Nuweiba , 6.8 nautical miles from Egypt, Nov 10. Fire extinguished same day. One sailor killed 3 wounded. Towed to Aqaba for repairs. In port Nov 13.
<i>QUEEN OF PRINCE RUPERT</i>	ro-ro	CAN	LR	5,864	529	1966	Reported Nov 14 to be taken out of service for 5 days, starting Nov 20, due to leaking engine seal caused by striking crab trap in October.
<i>SEA VETERAN</i>	bulker	PAN	NV	17,162	30,900	1981	Struck wall of Iroquois Lock, in lat 44 50N, long 75 18.30W, Nov 11. Heavy damage to hull and engine-room machinery.
<i>SOLBERG</i>	trawler	ISL	LR	687	339	1974	Reported Nov 13 in lat 39 21S, long 58 24W, under tow to Montevideo. Still under tow Nov 16.
<i>VATAN I</i>	general	RUS	RS	2,457	3,134	1972	Reported Nov 15 vessel had sustained steering-gear breakdown in Caspian Sea. Anchored, awaiting towage to Astrakhan.
<i>VESTHOLM</i>	dredger	DNK	—	198	—	1959	Sank in Limfjord Nov 15, just after passing the Oddesundbridge. Submerged to nearly 2 metres above weather deck. Still lying sunk Nov 16. To be salvaged.

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Lloyd's
Marine Intelligence Unit



The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



ADI WAITUI (Fiji)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: Owners of general cargo *Adi Waitui* that sank in waters off Bua more than two weeks ago, are trying to seek the permission of nearby villagers to salvage the ship. Due to the death of Tui Bua, Ratu Isikeli Nagagavoka on Oct 31, a ban has been put in place restricting people from entering the seas surrounding the province of Bua. *Adi Waitui*, owned by Islander Shipping Services Limited, sank with 200 tonnes of fertilizer at Bau Lailai passage. The general manager of the company, Ivan Livschitz said the village elders and chiefs were being approached traditionally for permission to enter the waters off Bua. He said the vessel would be salvaged and towed to Nabouwalu for investigations to be launched. Eight crew members were rescued by nearby villagers while one was yet to be located. Police called off the search after combing the area with divers and villagers for five days. Principal Environment Officer for Ministry of Environment Jope Davetanaivalu said his department had not received any complaints from the area related to the fertiliser or the sunken vessel.

AIAS (Panama)

Montreal, Nov 13 — Product tanker *Aias* underwent temporary repairs at Montreal and then sailed afterward. It is currently out of Canadian waters. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — According to Informa's AIS system, *Aias* was reported at 0550, Nov 8, in lat 45 43 3.4N, long 73 25 58.72W. nearest port Pointe aux Trembles, Canada, distance 5.9 nautical miles, speed (SOG) 12.6 knots, course (COG) 27degs.

ALVENA (Cyprus)

Falmouth, Nov 14 — Refrigerated general cargo *Alvena* (5131 gt, built 1985), Flushing to Matadi, arrived Falmouth with engine problems at 1345, Nov 13, and berthed Queens Wharf Falmouth Docks at 1530 to effect repairs. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Alvena* sailed Flushing 2308, Nov 10.)

ALYSSA M.II (U.K.)

Auckland, Nov 13 — Reportedly, the owner of yacht *Alyssa M.II* was seeking a cash settlement from insurers and attempting to sell the wreck unrepaired. Not presently aware of her being repaired. — Lloyd's Agents.

AMBAR (Honduras)

See "Albania" under "Political & Civil Unrest."

ANDES I (Ecuador)

London, Nov 15 — Bunkering tanker *Andes I* arrived Callao Nov 14.

ANNA PC (Liberia)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated Nov 15, states: The owners of crude oil tanker *Anna PC* impounded in Egypt for spilling oil in the Suez Canal have paid the canal authority \$3.2 million in compensation, a Suez Canal Authority official said. But Egypt will not release the vessel because it still faces compensation claims worth Egyptian pounds 85 million (\$14.9 million) from Egypt's environmental agency, fishery authorities, and local fisherman and tourist resort owners, the official said. The money paid today will cover damages and clean-up costs incurred when the tanker spilled 600 tonnes of crude oil into the canal after running aground on Sept 20, he said. The official added that the vessel's owners were in negotiations with all parties to lower the damages requested and have the vessel released.

AQUA-BOY (Norway)

London, Nov 11 — Following press release received from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency: At half past one this morning, the skipper of the fish farm vessel general cargo *Aqua-Boy* (312gt, built 1988) called Clyde Coastguard to inform them that he had run aground after falling asleep. The vessel with three people on board is aground on the shore at Light Ardtornish Point on the Island of Mull. They were on passage from Gigha to the Kyle of Lochalsh. The vessel, which normally carries live fish is in ballast, but has seven tons of diesel fuel oil on board. It is a Norwegian flagged vessel, with a Norwegian crew. Clyde Coastguard issued a broadcast to any other vessels in the area and another fish farm vessel of similar design responded and offered assistance. The vessel, called *Ronja Commander* with a crew of five. They have arrived on the scene and have attempted to tow off *Aqua-Boy*, but with no success after the rope parted. Coastguard Rescue Officers from the Lochalsh team were alerted and have arrived on the scene and are monitoring the situation from the shore. As the weather is worsening in the area, Tobermory RNLI lifeboat has been requested to launch and stand by the vessels. The weather on scene is south-westerly force 6/7, heavy rain and poor visibility. High water is at nine o'clock this morning. Tarik Yassin, Watch Manager, Clyde Coastguard said: "Undoubtedly, seafarer's fatigue has played a role in this incident. Thankfully no one is injured and there is no signs of any pollution at the moment. High water is at nine o'clock and hopefully *Aqua-Boy* can be refloated on that tide. If this is successful she will be escorted into port, where she will be inspected by MCA Surveyors."

London, Nov 11 — Following received from Coastguard Clyde MRCC, timed

Receive immediate notice as soon as a Casualty occurs. For further information please contact Andrew Luxton on +44 (0) 20 7017 4625.

0711, UTC: General cargo *Aqua-Boy* floated free at 0650, UTC, and made its way under own power to Oban, escorted part of the way by the Tobermory lifeboat. Escort taken over by Oban lifeboat. *Aqua-Boy* due to arrive Oban 0830, UTC.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated Nov 11, states: General cargo *Aqua-Boy* has been escorted into Oban after it ran aground on Mull when one of the Norwegian crew fell asleep at the wheel, Clyde Coastguard said. The coastguard said the vessel was damaged in the incident and will be inspected by MCA Surveyors tomorrow.

ARCTICA (Netherlands Antilles)

Gothenburg, Nov 10 — Combined chemical and oil tank *Arctica* sailed, after repairs at Falvarv in Falkenberg, from Falkenberg Nov 3, bound for Soderhamn, Sweden. — Lloyd's Agents.

AREDELTA 1 (Argentina)

Buenos Aires, Nov 13 — General cargo *Aredelta 1* (486 gt, built 1911), loaded with 108 cold steel rolls, a total of approximately 1,200 tonnes, broke in two and sank in lat 34 45.6S, long 57 55E, in the area of Rada La Plata, 4.8 miles off breakwater, at 0350, local time, Nov 13. The vessel's bow and crew quarters were left visible as a consequence of the accident. Fortunately, the eight members were rescued safely by launch *Mar Dulce*, which was embarking and disembarking pilots in Buenos Aires Roads. According to National Coast Guard, *Aredelta 1* is not obstructing other vessel's navigation. Moreover, the National Coast Guard are performing the necessary inspections. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: General cargo *Aredelta 1* has sunk near the port of La Plata. The vessel broke in two and sank in less than half an hour. The eight crew were rescued by a pilot boat. The vessel had left the port of San Nicolas, with a load of 108 steel coils, weighing 1,238.616 kilos, for "Puerto Ingeniero Roca", Buenos Aires. The 65.03 metre vessel could have sunk due to "material fatigue." The vessel makes regular passages for the transfer of coils destined to company SIDERAR. The ship with its load sank in five metres depth of the river. The sunken vessel does not obstruct navigation.

ARINA (Lithuania)

Klaipeda, Nov 14 — General cargo *Arina* sailed from Klaipeda at 0030, Nov 12, for Raahe, Finland, where arrived 0920, today. — Lloyd's Agents.

ATLANT TRINA (Croatia)

London, Nov 10 — General cargo *Atlant Trina* arrived at Las Palmas at 0601, Nov 9, from Brazil, and sailed later the same day, at 1401 hrs, bound for Rotterdam.

ATLANTICA I (Panama)

Chittagong, Nov 13 — Sagarika Ship Breakers have advised that demolition

of product tanker *Atlantica I* commenced in the middle of September, 2006, and is expected to be completed by the end of the current month. — Lloyd's Agents.

AVA LYNN (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: The 100 ft barge *Ava Lynn* (345 gt, built 1943), from Seward, ran aground Saturday (Nov 11) on Buskin Beach. Coast Guard Petty Officer Kurt Fredrickson said the Marine Safety Detachment was notified at 0900 Saturday by Air Station Kodiak personnel who spotted the beached vessel. Later that morning the MSD contacted the operator of *Ava Lynn*, who said he anchored the barge in Chiniak Bay Friday night, but the anchor line parted due to high winds. Fredrickson said *Ava Lynn* could not be reached by sea until Sunday morning. Landing craft *Arch I*, also of Seward, grounded itself near the barge on Sunday to survey the situation, Fredrickson said. But the vessel, after grounding itself, could not tow the barge. "Arch I has since been freed," Fredrickson said. Tug *Kodiak King* assisted in the extraction of *Arch I* on Sunday, and the vessel *Lazy Bay* was standing by to assist, deputy harbour-master Lon White said. *Ava Lynn* will remain grounded until tides rise sufficiently, Fredrickson said. There has been no pollution detected from the grounded vessel, which was transporting construction equipment when the incident occurred. The MSD continues to monitor the situation and will later conduct an investigation.

London, Nov 14 — A Coast Guard Kodiak, press release, dated Nov 13, states: The Coast Guard is monitoring barge *Ava Lynn* that went aground in high winds Friday night near the Kodiak Airport. The barge was anchored in Chiniak Bay Friday evening when it broke free of its anchor line sometime during the night. Heavy winds and surf forced the barge onto a rocky cobble beach 1,000 yards east of the airport. Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak noticed the grounded barge at 0900 Saturday and notified Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment Kodiak. The Marine Safety Detachment contacted Swenson Maritime Transportation who was in charge of the barge. They informed the Coast Guard that they were preparing to refloat the barge on the next high tide. The Swenson Maritime Transportation vessel *Arch I* and the Amak Towing tug *Kodiak King* attempted to pull the barge free at 1700 hrs. Salvage efforts were suspended at 1730 hrs, after the tow line separated from the barge and sea conditions were too rough and the water too shallow for *Kodiak King* to reach the barge. On Sunday morning *Arch I* intentionally grounded itself next to *Ava Lynn* to check the barge for watertight and structural integrity. *Arch I* was refloated at high tide. There is no visible damage to either vessel and no reported pollution. Attempts will be made to refloat *Ava*

Lynn during high tide later this week. The Coast Guard is working with the Swenson Maritime Transportation, the Department of Natural Resources and the land owner Koniag Inc. The circumstances surrounding the grounding are under investigation by Marine Safety Detachment Kodiak.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: Coast Guard officials say they will try to refloat barge *Ava Lynn* that grounded last week near the Kodiak airport. Officials want to try to get it off the beach at high tide sometime this week. Coast Guard officials say there is no visible damage to the vessel and no signs of pollution. The Coast Guard's Marine Safety Detachment in Kodiak is investigating the grounding.

BALTIC FOREST (Panama)

London, Nov 12 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1530, UTC: General cargo *Baltic Forest* (2016 gt, built 1972), bound Warrenpoint, lost large number of timber packages overboard in lat 53 30.5N, long 04 41.8E, yesterday evening. Vessel presently in lat 53 07.8N, long 03 29.6E, no assistance required.

BINA (Indonesia)

Chittagong, Nov 13 — Pacific Shipping Lines, who are the agents of product tanker *Bina*, have advised that the vessel has completed repairs and has sailed from Myanmar for Chittagong. Vessel's ETA at Chittagong Outer Anchorage is Nov 15/16. — Lloyd's Agents.

BRIGHT ARTEMIS (Singapore)

London, Nov 16 — Crude oil tanker *Bright Artemis* arrived Fujairah Anch. Nov 4, and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was reported 0.4 nautical miles from Jebel Dhanna Term. at 0535, UTC, today.

CALA PALMA (Italy)

Bremen, Nov 15 — Refrigerated general cargo *Cala Palma* is still at Bremerhaven at Lloyd Yard under repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

CANADIAN TRANSFER (Canada)

Montreal, Nov 14 — Bulker *Canadian Transfer* is still at Sarnia. — Lloyd's Agents.

CARIBOU (Canada)

Halifax, Nov 13 — Passenger ro/ro *Caribou* was taken out of service due to turbo-charger problems, and is currently undergoing repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

CARNIVAL LIBERTY (Panama)

See "Outbreak Of Virus On Panamanian Vessel" under "Miscellaneous".

CCNI CARTAGENA (Germany)

London, Nov 9 — Understand Container Carrier *CCNI Cartagena*, carrying approximately 1,000 loaded containers, ran aground on exiting San Antonio port bound for San Vicente, Chile, Sep 26. The vessel

succeeded in refloating itself and proceeded under its own power into San Vicente where discharge occurred and further loading of containers was effected. It subsequently transpired that additional containers were required to be off loaded to enable the vessel to proceed to Talcahuano to enter dry dock for permanent repairs. The vessel remains in Talcahuano effecting underwater repairs. It is not yet known whether the vessel will return to San Vicente to reload the discharged containers and complete the contractual voyage.

London, Nov 16 — Container Carrier *CCNI Cartagena* arrived San Vicente Nov 14.

CEMENTINA (Comoros)

Maassluis, Nov 14 — Bulk cement carrier *Cementina* is still in dock at Volharding, Harlingen, with rudder problems. It is not known when it will be ready. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

CHATON DE FOI

Honolulu, Nov 14 — Yacht *Chaton de Foi* has returned to the water, with repairs just about completed. — Lloyd's Agents.

CLIFFORD MAERSK (DIS)

London, Nov 14 — Container carrier *Clifford Maersk* arrived Busan Nov 12.

CMA CGM ORCHID (Liberia)

London, Nov 11 — Container Carrier *CMA CGM Orchid*, Ambarli for Damietta, passed Dardanelles Nov 10.

CONCEL PRIDE (Nigeria)

Cadiz, Nov 14 — Owners are repairing product tanker *Concel Pride* for sailing. — Lloyd's Agents.

CONTAZ CARRIER (Ukraine)

Piraeus, Nov 13 — Container Carrier *Contaz Carrier* sailed Piraeus Nov 11 for Italy. — Lloyd's Agents.

DCI DREDGE VIII (India)

See *Nehru-Shatabdi*.

DIAZ (Namibia)

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: Two Spanish fishermen and a Namibian colleague were missing presumed drowned yesterday afternoon after their vessel, trawler *Diaz* (683 gt, built 1972), capsized off the Namibian coast, Spanish radio reported. Cadena Ser radio reported their vessel caught fire, forcing them to evacuate and launch a rescue dinghy. The remainder of the 22-strong mainly Namibian crew was picked up by a vessel in the area and reached port at Walvis Bay early yesterday evening, a Spanish newspaper reported. The newspaper added the Spanish embassy in Namibia had sent officials to Walvis Bay and added it appeared a fire had started Wednesday (Nov 8) in the engine-room, where the three men missing were stationed.

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: Three fishermen died in a fire on board trawler (All types) *Diaz* which sank off the coast of

Namibia. *Diaz*, operated by Pescanova affiliate *Diaz Trawling*, caught fire around 1810 Wednesday (Nov 8) while cruising about 60 nautical miles off the coast of south-western Africa. *Diaz* sank at 1515 yesterday, almost 24 hours after the fire broke out in the engine-room, the Pescanova spokesman said. According to the Pescanova spokesman the fire began with a still-unexplained explosion in the engine-room.

DON CAYETANO (Argentina)

London, Nov 15 — Following notice to mariners issued Nov 14: Fishing trawler *Don Cayetano* (318 gt, built 1975) in lat 42 37S, long 61 47W, line length 400 metres, speed six knots, course 038, bound for Mar del Plata port.

EEMS TRADER (Netherlands)

London, Nov 9 — Tug *Arion* was seen at Brest earlier today preparing general cargo *Eems Trader* (2056 gt, built 1999) for towing it to Rotterdam. (Note — *Eems Trader* had arrived Brest Oct 30 and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Eems Trader* and *Arion* were in lat 48 18 13N, long 04 43 01W, at 1918, UTC, today, speed 7.2 knots, course 250 degrees.)

London, Nov 12 — General cargo *Eems Trader*, and tug *Arion*, sailed Brest Nov 9, for Rotterdam, and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS were in lat 50 58.8N, long 01 01.48E, 12.3 nautical miles from Folkstone at 0711, UTC, today.

London, Nov 12 — General cargo *Eems Trader*, owned by C.V. Scheepvaart Onderneming *Eems Trader*, Delfzijl, in tow of tug *Arion*, is due to arrive at Maas Center Pilot Station at 1845, local time, today, bound for the Waalhaven in Rotterdam.

Maassluis, Nov 15 — General cargo *Eems Trader*, in tow of tug *Arion*, arrived Rotterdam at 2005, Nov 14, from Brest. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

ELATION (Panama)

See "Collapse Of Gangway, Port Canaveral, United States" under "Miscellaneous".

ENDURANCE

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 15 — Inland non specific tanker *Endurance* and "sand vessel" *Lidwinia* collided at about 1800 hrs, on Monday (Nov 13) evening in the outer harbour of the Spooldersluis at Zwolle. The tanker was holed and lost between 5,000-9,000 litres of gasoline. Approximately 5,000 litres had been cleared by yesterday afternoon. — Correspondent.

EXCELSIOR

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 14 — Inland vessel *Excelsior* collided with the Willems bridge at Noordereiland in Rotterdam late Nov 12. The bridge has a clearance of 11.10 metres and the vessel had a maximum height of 10.80 metres. A number of containers hit the bridge and fell into the water. The

Excelsior moored at the Feijenoordkade with two of the three containers looking crumpled, the third container was still in the river waiting to be taken out. — Correspondent.

FILIA ALETTE (Netherlands)

London, Nov 9 — Following received from Humber Coastguard MRSC, timed 1354, UTC: Tug *Cramond* has established tow of general cargo *Filia Alette*, ETA Rosyth 15 hours, Forth Fairway Buoy 11 hours.

London, Nov 9 — Following received from Coastguard Humber MRSC, timed 1630, UTC: Tug *Cramond* has established tow of general cargo *Filia Alette* and present position lat 55 48N, long 00 59W, course 315 deg, speed six knots, ETA Forth pilot station 0600, UTC, Nov 10.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Coastguard Forth MRSC, timed 0651, UTC: General cargo *Filia Alette* arrived Pilot Station (Rosyth) and embarked pilot at 0652, UTC. Search and rescue operations terminated.

FLYINGCAT 6 (Greece)

Piraeus, Nov 14 — Ferry *Flyingcat 6* still remains in Piraeus port undergoing repairs. ETD unknown. — Lloyd's Agents.

FONARUN NAREE (Thailand)

Buenos Aires, Nov 14 — Bulker *Fonarun Naree* (13881 gt, built 1984), loaded with 14,520 tonnes of fertilizer, has been grounded at KM 273 Rio Parana, on left side, out of main navigation channel, since 1445, local time, Nov 12. The draught was 10.20 metres. — Lloyd's Agents.

Buenos Aires, Nov 14 — Bulker *Fonarun Naree*, which grounded at Km 273 Rio Parana on left side, was freed, with the assistance of tug *Alianza Rosario*, at 0820, local time, Nov 14. Vessel is now heading towards San Pedro in order to undergo inspections. — Lloyd's Agents.

FORUM STAR (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated Nov 14, state: A high seas drama unfolded over the Nov 4 weekend when mine warfare vessel HMCS *Yellowknife* came to the aid of floundering trawler *Forum Star* (176 gt, built 1988). The engine in *Forum Star* stopped 43 nautical miles off the northern tip of Vancouver Island, leaving the trawler dead in the water in stormy weather. The trawler was southbound from Alaska on its way to Seattle when the main engine malfunctioned. *Yellowknife* was operating 100 nautical miles away when tasked by the Victoria Joint Rescue Coordination Centre to help the distressed vessel. "We received the call to assist *Forum Star* at 2240 Saturday (Nov 4)," said *Yellowknife's* Commanding Officer, LCdr James Vasey. *Yellowknife* arrived on scene Sunday morning in heavy weather, and the ship's crew wasted no time rigging a towline to begin the slow and steady towing operation to Port Hardy. When it appeared the weather was worsening, LCdr Vasey took

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precautionary measures. "The towing hawser and bridle were coming under a considerable amount of strain due to the extreme weather and I grew concerned that it may part," he said. "When it looked like the seas were increasing, I requested assistance from the Canadian Coast Guard Ship *Sir Wilfred Laurier*." When *Sir Wilfred Laurier* arrived on scene, the strong, gusting winds made a tow exchange too dangerous, so the Coast Guard ship followed astern, ready to render assistance. After towing the disabled trawler for 22 hours in more than 90 nautical miles of unrelenting seas, *Yellowknife* delivered the boat to the safety of Port Hardy, where it will undergo repairs.

FR8 VENTURE (Singapore)

London, Nov 13 — A Maritime & Coastguard Agency press release, timed 0032, UTC, Nov 12, states: At 1240, Nov 11 crude oil tanker *FR8 Venture* (42010 gt, built 2006) contacted Shetland Coastguard reporting that they had three injured crewmen. Coastguard rescue helicopter Mike Uniform from Stornoway was scrambled to assist and Longhope RNLi lifeboat was launched with a doctor on board. The tanker had loaded crude oil at Scapa Flow terminal and was bound for Houston, Texas. Upon entering the Pentland Firth, into weather of Westerly winds of gale force 8 to storm force 10, and a four to five metre swell, the ship took a large wave over the bow where the three crewmen were working. The doctor was winched onto the ship with the winchman from the helicopter and subsequently reported the deaths of two of the crewmen. The third injured crewman is now en-route to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary in the Coastguard helicopter. A pilot has been placed on the vessel to take it back into port at Scapa Flow. Neil Cummins, Watch Manager, Shetland coastguard said: The crew from the helicopter and the lifeboat are working in extreme weather conditions to save the life of the third crewman who has sustained serious injuries.

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Investigations are continuing into the deaths of two men who were struck by a massive wave on crude oil tanker *FR8 Venture*. A 27-year-old crew member was also injured in the Pentland Firth. He is being treated in hospital. Northern Constabulary said the injured man and the two men who died, aged 31 and 39, were all from India. Police and the Marine Accident Investigation Branch are both carrying out investigations into the incident. Officers from Northern Constabulary boarded the tanker to carry out inquiries after it arrived back in Scapa Flow, Orkney, yesterday evening. Maritime Accident Investigation Branch officials were arriving in Kirkwall today to begin their inquiry, which will run parallel with the police investigations. Northern Constabulary

said a post-mortem examination would be carried out and a report submitted to the procurator fiscal in Kirkwall.

London, Nov 14 — Two seafarers were killed and one seriously injured in British waters on Saturday (Nov 11), after a freak wave hit crude oil tanker *FR8 Venture*. Weather conditions at the time of the incident were described by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency as "extreme". According to the operator, the tanker was hit by a wave more than 20 ft high shortly after it left Pentland Firth in Orkney. A UK rescue helicopter rushed to the scene but two crew members were already dead while a third was winched to safety and taken to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. Debashish Bhattachary, a director for FR8 Shipmanagement told Lloyd's List that the crew were carrying out the normal operation of securing the anchors forward when the wave struck. A spokesperson for the Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore, which administers the Singapore flag, added: "According to the report from the company, they were securing the lashings and windlass equipment in preparation for the sea passage across the Atlantic Ocean." *FR8 Venture* was fully loaded and bound for Houston, Texas. The vessel returned to Scapa Flow after the accident where it is expected to remain until MCA investigations on board are completed. According to the MCA, *FR8 Venture* entered the Pentland Firth in westerly winds of gale force 8 to storm force 10, and a 4m-5m swell. Mr Bhattachary said that the weather conditions were considered normal for the time year in that area when the vessel left port and the master said they had been hit by a freak wave. "We need to find out exactly what happened," he added. The Singapore authorities said: "We do not have the details of the actual circumstances and situation at the time of the departure. These will form part of the investigation into the incident." Industry sources said that weather conditions are often extremely poor in the area at this time of year. "Gale force, storm force is pretty extreme, isn't it?" said an MCA spokesman when asked about the apparent discrepancy between its account and that of the operator. He added: "It isn't normal run of the mill weather, is it, even up in Scotland."

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: Crude oil tanker *FR8 Venture* on which two crew were killed when they were struck by a massive wave has resumed its journey towards Texas. Marine Accident Investigation Branch officers have completed their initial enquiries into the deaths. Investigators will now study the evidence and produce a report on the deaths.

FRI STREAM (Bahamas)

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coastguard Shetland MRSC, timed 0732, UTC: General cargo *Fri Stream* (2051 gt, built 1995) reported engine failure in lat 59 03N, long 03

46W at 0556, UTC. Weather gale force 8, heavy swell. Tug *Edda Frigg* underway, ETA on scene 1100, UTC. Tug *Anglian Prince* also underway, ETA 1800, UTC. (Note — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Fri Stream* was in lat 59 04.41N, long 03 38.54W, at 1.9 knots, course 72 deg, at 0753, UTC.)

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coastguard Shetland MRSC, timed 1230, UTC: General cargo *Fri Stream*: Line passed to supply *Edda Frigg* and *Edda Frigg*, which only has towing ropes, is towing *Fri Stream* towards Westray Firth where the situation will be assessed as to whether the vessel can be towed to Kirkwall or whether tug *Anglian Prince* will be required to assist. *Anglian Prince* is still now due on scene at approximately 1930, UTC.

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coastguard Shetland MRSC, timed 1319, UTC: Supply *Edda Frigg* is towing general cargo *Fri Stream* into Westray Firth where the situation will be re-assessed, pending the arrival of tug *Anglian Prince* at 1800, UTC. Various other rescue and RNLi craft are on stand-by.

London, Nov 14 — Following received from Coastguard Shetland MRSC: Timed 1729, UTC, Nov 13: General cargo *Fri Stream* is at anchor at Deer Sound with supply *Edda Frigg* still connected holding position on Deer Sound awaiting the arrival of tug *Anglian Prince* to commence standby duties, eta 1930, UTC. Harbour tug *Einar* released from incident. Storm force winds are forecast overnight.

Timed 2001, UTC: *Anglian Prince* on scene at 1928, UTC to standby *Fri Stream* overnight in Deer Sound. Anchor position lat 58 58.22N, long 02 45W. *Edda Frigg* released from incident en route Lerwick.

Timed 0915, UTC, today: master of *Fri Stream* reports owners want to have *Fri Stream* towed to Kirkwall but it is not known at the moment who will undertake the tow.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from Coastguard Shetland MRSC: Timed 1739, UTC, Nov 14: General cargo *Fri Stream*: Tug *Anglian Prince* remained on scene at Deer Sound until 1225, UTC, today when it went off MCA hire to undertake the commercial tow of *Fri Stream* into Kirkwall harbour. *Anglian Prince* secured *Fri Stream* to Hatston Pier and came back to MCA hire at 1625, UTC.

Kirkwall, Nov 16 — General cargo *Fri Stream* is still in port at Kirkwall. No decision has yet been made regarding repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

FRUCTIDOR (Luxembourg)

Maputo, Nov 13 — Port Authority's information states repairs to bulker *Fructidor* were carried out and vessel left Port of Maputo on Nov 10. — Lloyd's Agents.

G.L.OSTRANDER (U.S.A.)

Troy, Michigan Nov 12 — The Andrie Inc. tug *G.L.Ostrander* (198 gt, built 1976) is once again beleaguered with mechanical difficulties. The tug, and

it's barge *Integrity*, are both in the dry dock at Fraser Shipyards in Superior, WI. The *Ostrander*, former *Jacklyn M.*, which has been victim of many mechanical problems since it began its service on the lakes seems to be having work done on its propulsion gear. While work is going on aft the barge has been prepped for what looks like some much needed sand blasting forward. With the duo both out of service it is rumored that Andrie might bring out one of its two cement boats that are currently on stand by at lay up docks, maybe waiting for this situation where demand might bring one back out into service to fill tonnage demands. — Great Lakes and Seaway Shipping News.

GITTA KOSAN (Isle of Man)

London, Nov 11 — Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Gitta Kosan* passed Skaw southbound Nov 10 and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was in lat 55 40.59N, long 10 22.18E, 7.5 nautical miles from Endelave, Denmark, speed 1.6 knots.

Fredericia, Nov 15 — Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Gitta Kosan* arrived Fredericia Nov 12. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

GLOBAL HAWK (Panama)

London, Nov 11 — A US Coast Guard press release, dated today, states: The Coast Guard's North Pacific Search and Rescue Coordination Center is monitoring bulker *Global Hawk* (17979 gt, built 2003) located approximately 265 miles east of Kodiak in the Gulf of Alaska. The *Global Hawk*, a Panamanian-flagged vessel, was carrying a shipment of logs from Hydaburg to South Korea. The load shifted in adverse weather conditions of 18-foot seas and 45-50 knot winds. An unknown number of logs were lost overboard. There are no reports of any injuries to the 21 crewmembers onboard. There are no reports of damage to the vessel. There is no evidence of listing. A Coast Guard C-130 Hercules and crew are enroute to assess the situation. The *Global Hawk* is seeking storm avoidance near Kodiak. (Note — *Global Hawk* was last reported sailed Port Alberni Nov 3.)

London, Nov 11 — Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 1445, UTC: *Global Hawk* has sustained some damage to the superstructure as a result of losing an unknown number of logs overboard in bad weather. The vessel is not listing and is proceeding on voyage to South Korea.

GRIGOROUSA I (Liberia)

Piraeus, Nov 16 — Crude oil tanker *Grigoroussa I* arrived Skaramanga port Nov 13 and is still there undergoing repairs. Reportedly the vessel will remain in port for at least one month. — Lloyd's Agents.

GROTE GUST

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 10 — Floating crane *Grote Gust*, belonging to Baeck & Jansen, toppled over in the Kattendijkdok, Antwerp, at 2300 yesterday. — Correspondent.

Zeebrugge, Nov 10 — Floating crane *Grote Gust* toppled while working yesterday evening. It is believed that due to the age of the crane it will be dismantled but this is not certain. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

London, Nov 10 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: Floating crane *Grote Gust*, owned by the Belgian company Beack & Jansen N.V., capsized in the harbour of Antwerp yesterday. One person fell in the water and was transported to the hospital. The cause of the capsizing is still unknown. She was working by order of the Gemeentelijk Havenbedrijf Antwerpen (Port of Antwerp) on the doors of the lock Kattendijksluis to lift the doors for maintenance. At about 2300, local time, she capsized by unknown reason. Today a plan is considered how the crane can be salvaged. The Port of Anwerp also has asked for an expert of the court who will investigate this accident.

HALSINGLAND (Isle of Man)

London, Nov 9 — General cargo *Halsingland* sailed from St. Petersburg on Nov 8.

HAN LONG (China)

London, Nov 9 — Feeder vessel *Han Long* (before reported as *Hanlun*), Huangpu for Chiwan, lost 43 containers overboard when it capsized on Aug 5. The containers were recovered by the Maritime Safety Administration, China, who are now claiming salvage.

HAN YANG (Hong Kong)

London, Nov 9 — Container Carrier *Han Yang* arrived at Shanghai on Nov 4, sailing later the same day for South Korea.

Busan, Nov 14 — Container Carrier *Han Yang* arrived at Busan on Nov 7. After completion of repairs and cargo operations, the vessel sailed at about 0700 hrs, on Nov 14, bound for Onsan. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

HANLUN

See *Han Long*.

HAPPY GIRL (NIS)

London, Nov 14 — Following received from Jobourg MRCC, timed 0935, UTC: Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Happy Girl* (3643 gt, built 1989), Port Jerome for Braefoot Bay, cargo ethylene, reported engine problems at 0435, local time, yesterday. Vessel completed repairs, however, later the vessel reported further problems. The vessel was last reported in lat 49 49.3N, long 00 32.4W, and that repairs would take 24 hours, however, vessel may require a tow to Le Havre for repairs alongside.

London, Nov 14 — Following received from Jobourg MRCC, timed 0940, UTC: Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Happy Girl* was taken in tow by tug *Abeille Gascogne* for Le Havre where they arrived 2335, UTC, yesterday.

London, Nov 16 — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Happy Girl* was in lat 51

08 35N, long 01 49 48E, at 0922, UTC, today, speed 15.9 knots, course 66.2 degrees.

HARLE RIFF (Germany)

London, Nov 15 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: Grounded general cargo *Harle Riff* was loaded onto a special truck, by cranes, on Nov 15, to be transported back into the water.

London, Nov 16 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: General cargo *Harle Riff* was lifted by two mobile cranes in Neuharlingersiel onto a large truck and was then transported to the quayside where it was put back into the water. Immediate inspections showed no leakages so that it seems that the ship has sustained no further damage so that it looks like the ship can soon be put back in service.

HOHEWEG (Germany)

London, Nov 9 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: An empty raft from fishing (general) *Hoheweg* has drifted ashore. The vessel has probably sunk. There is yet no trace of its crew of four.

London, Nov 10 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: Search units started again to trace the missing fishing *Hoheweg* this morning. Five boats are covering search patterns between Cuxhaven and Helgoland. In case it is found the wreck may be salvaged to find out the circumstances of its loss.

London, Nov 15 — Information received from Kiel, dated today, states: The wreck of the missing fishing (general) *Hoheweg* was found by oceanographic vessel *Atair*, in the midday hours, on the northern grounds of the Outer Weser, in a depth of eight metres. Divers could not yet search for the crew inside the wreck, due to bad weather conditions. Because of strong tides, it is only possible to dive in times of highest or lowest water. The vessel was traced 700 metres east of its last known position. The position was marked with buoys.

HOLBERG (Uruguay)

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated Nov 9, states: The Director of Fisheries says aerial observation of the stricken fishing (general) *Holberg* shows "only a small amount of oil" in the water around the vessel. Representatives for the ship's owners and insurers are expected to arrive this weekend and, Mr Barton said, "hopefully, a more comprehensive plan can be put in place to deal with potential oil pollution and the vessel itself." However, things aren't happening fast enough for Grant Munro from Falkland Conservation. He commented, "I've been disappointed by the lack of direct response to the incident and feel the government has a moral obligation to accurately assess the situation through on-site visits." He said a team from Falklands Conservation is heading out to the area today to carry

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out a coastal survey. In addition to birdlife, organisms on the foreshore are also vulnerable, Mr Munro said. "Even if it's only a slight sheen it can be enough to kill what's on the foreshore in the short term." Bill Pole-Evans of Manybranch Farm visited the site yesterday evening. He reported no sign of oiling on the Gentoo colony at Gladstone Valley, however he said there was some evidence of diesel on the beach. He said there was more oil on the water than at his last visit, on Monday.

Stanley, Falkland Islands, Nov 13 — There is a surveyor going out to visit fishing (general) *Holberg* tomorrow. He is part of a team of six, which includes divers, the ship's captain and chief engineer. They will be carrying out a hull inspection and the possibility of closing some of the gas oil breathers. The vessel is still at Port Purvis, where it grounded on Nov 5. They are also hoping to unload some of the fuel on board *Holberg* onto general cargo *Tamar F.I.* Until the surveyor has been, there is no factual information on the damage to *Holberg*. — Lloyd's Agents.

IKA NO.7

Suva, Nov 14 — According to Fiji Ports Corporation Limited (F.P.C.L) unknown *Ika No.71* is one of the confirmed vessels which is part of their project. Their plan is to sink the vessel in a common area and build an artificial reef as a diving mecca for the ecotourism and dive industry. However it is not yet confirmed when the project will start. — Lloyd's Agents.

JACARANDA (Panama)

Yokohama, Nov 15 — Bulker *Jacaranda* (38364 gt, built 1999) sailed Hirohata Nov 13 for Indonesia but returned to Hirohata same day due to engine trouble. Vessel subsequently sailed Nov 14 for Indonesia. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Jacaranda* was in lat 34 27.28N, long 135 3.15E, 7.3 nautical miles from Awaji, Japan, speed 14 knots, course 204 deg, at 0142, UTC, Nov 14.)

JAMES NORRIS (Canada)

London, Nov 15 — At 0800, EST, Nov 3, while backing bulker *James Norris* (12962 gt, built 1952) to her loading position, at Bruce Mines, Ontario, in lat 46 18N, long 83 48W, the vessel ran over a bouy. Three blades of the propeller were damaged. *James Norris* had left Saginaw on Nov 2.

JET RAIDER (Singapore)

Auckland, Nov 14 — Ferry *Jet Raider* was only out of service for a few days. — Lloyd's Agents.

JOHN G.MUNSON (U.S.A.)

Toronto, Nov 14 — The Harbour Master at Sarnia advised bulker *John G.Munson* was not damaged, only to the extent of cosmetic look. It stayed a couple of hours for the investigation and was then allowed to continue. The Harbour Master said it left and went to another fuelling dock. The Shell

Fuelling dock is destroyed and will not be fuelling any vessels for some time. The Harbour Master reported that it will be closed until Spring, as there needs to be considerable work done on the dock. — Lloyd's Agents.

JOHN J.BOLAND (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 14 — Bulker *John J.Boland* arrived Two Harbors Nov 8.

JUPITER 6 (St.Vincent & Grenadines)

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated Nov 13, states: The Supreme Court has issued notice to the Centre on a writ petition seeking a probe into the disappearance of salvage tug *Jupiter 6*, its crew and other members in mysterious circumstances since September last year. A Bench of Justice H.K. Sema and Justice P.K. Balasubramanyan has also issued notice to the Director-General of Shipping; Pelmar Shipping and Engineering (PSAE) Private Limited and Pelican Marine Personnel Management Private Limited on the petition filed by the family members of the missing persons. The petitioners, Sabeeha Faikage and four others, said they were the next of kin of their respective family members who were employed by their foreign principals to work on board the foreign tug through their Mumbai-based agent, PSAE. *Jupiter 6* consisted of 10 Indians and 3 Ukrainians. The ship was said to have sailed from Walvis Bay to India via South Africa on Aug 21, 2005, when the crew informed their families of their return to India. They said that according to the agent PSAE *Jupiter 6* went missing since Sept 5. They said that even after the issue was raised in Parliament, the Centre and other authorities had failed to take steps to trace the missing ship and the crewmembers. They said that on various dates, during the past one year newspapers and television channels across India reported about the incident. In spite of this no concrete measures were taken to seriously pursue and trace the missing Indian sailors. The petitioners said that the State could not be a mute spectator to this agony and till date neither the Prime Minister, nor any other authority had even bothered to comment on the plight of these Indians. They sought a direction to the Centre to conduct a probe into the disappearance of the ship and the crewmembers and to award suitable compensation to the family members.

KLIRAK (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Messina, Nov 13 — General cargo *Klirak* sailed Gioia Tauro Nov 11 for Durres. — Lloyd's Agents.

KOLMANSKOP (Namibia)

Cape Town, Nov 15 — According to our sources in Walvis Bay, trawler *Kolmanskop* is still aground and no salvage is anticipated. It would appear that vessel is a CTL and the requirements of the authorities in

respect of wreck removal are apparently awaited. — Lloyd's Agents.

KOREAN EXPRESS (South Korea)

London, Nov 14 — Container Carrier *Korean Express* arrived and sailed Masan Nov 1, and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was in lat 34 53.12N, long 129 25.49E, 12 nautical miles from Hitakatsu, Japan, speed 14 knots, at 2221, Nov 13.

KOSTAS (Honduras)

London, Nov 14 — General cargo *Kostas* is still in port at Skikda as of Nov 12.

KRAANPONTON-92 (Netherlands)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 16 — Crane ship *Kraanponton-92* sank over the weekend in Waalhaven, Rotterdam by unknown reasons. The cause is not yet known. GPS Marine Services BV, Sliedrecht, have been contracted to raise the vessel. This will be done using the sheerleg *GPS Atlas* which returned from Milford Haven on Nov 14. The salvage is estimated to take two-three days. — Correspondent.

Maassluis, Nov 16 — *Kraanponton-92* is a crane pontoon, 26m x 11.5 m, mainly used in the port of Rotterdam for discharging/loading cargo from coastal vessels into/from inland craft. Vessel will be salvaged as soon as possible. However, there is no news of possible repairs yet — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

KRISTIN POLING (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 1235, UTC: Tank barge *Kristin Poling* (1546 gt, built 1934), cargo 16,000 barrels of home heating oil, grounded on soft sand off Long Island, in lat 40 35 25N, long 73 45 46W, at 2315, local time, Nov 9. Vessel is still aground, with high tide in around four hours. No sheen has been observed around vessel.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Coast Guard Portsmouth, Va, timed 1255, UTC: Tank barge *Kristin Poling*, aground Long Island: Tugs are en route and are expected to lighter 8,000 barrels of heating oil from the vessel. High tide is at 1000, local time.

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: Tank barge *Kristin Poling*, carrying home heating oil, ran aground in the East Rockaway Inlet overnight. Authorities say *Kristin Poling* ran aground in the inlet at around midnight. They say the tanker was full of home heating oil, but indicated there was no immediate danger of a leak. The Coast Guard was hoping the high tide will take it back out to sea, but it now appears that effort was unsuccessful. They say the next step could involve bringing in a contractor to remove the fuel and wait for the next high tide.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 2007, UTC: Helicopters are over flying tank barge *Kristin Poling* and no sign of pollution. Vessel did not refloat on high tide. They now have a line onboard helping to hold her from the

shore. Intend to lighten vessel this afternoon and refloat her on next high tide, 2354, local.

London, Nov 11 — Following received from Coast Guard Portsmouth, Va, timed 2145, UTC: Tank barge *Kristin Poling* is still aground. Around 2,300 barrels of oil have been offloaded.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: A tanker (tank barge *Kristin Poling*) which ran aground off Long Island is now afloat, according to NewsChannel 4 News. It was freed from the bottom of East Rockaway inlet just after midnight and is now headed to a pier in New York harbour to undergo inspection. The vessel, which was carrying home heating oil, grounded on Friday (Nov 10). The Coast Guard lightened the vessel and used tugs at high tide to free the vessel, NewsChannel 4 reported.

London, Nov 13 — Tank barge *Kristin Poling*, carrying more than 672,000 gallons of home heating oil, that ran aground just off Long Island has been successfully freed, U.S. Coast Guard officials said Sunday. The vessel ran aground Friday in the East Rockaway Inlet. The channel, which requires frequent dredging, is a major route for fuel tankers serving southern Nassau through Oceanside. Coast Guard officials had hoped a high tide would take *Kristin Poling* back out to sea, but the effort proved unsuccessful for the past two days. Instead, workers on site removed 298,200 gallons of home heating oil to lighten the vessel and used a tugboat to free it. In all, 10 vacuum trucks, 10 oil skimmers, 20 workboats and more than 70 workers responded to the scene until the tanker was freed yesterday at midnight. "Various agencies came together and with their co-ordinated report they were able to lift the amount of oil off of the vessel to lighten it. ... and were able to refloat the vessel," said Petty Officer Annie Berlin, a Coast Guard spokeswoman. *Kristin Poling* frequently travels to the Sprague Energy Oceanside terminal, which supplies oil for western Long Island. The tanker, which was on its way yesterday to New York City, according to Berlin, had run aground at the same inlet twice in the last four years, partly because of significant shoaling. Officials reported there was no apparent hull breach. Coast Guard officials said oil did not spill from the vessel. The cause of the grounding is still being investigated, Berlin said.

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 1500, UTC: Tank barge *Kristin Poling* is now at New York. A diver survey has been carried out and no hull damage was found but a rudder is broken off. It is not known when the rudder was lost whether it was before or after the grounding.

LAI KING (Hong Kong)

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 1400, UTC: Owners inform general cargo *Lai*

King is experiencing problems but they are fixing themselves, no assistance required.

LAMPUNG (Indonesia)

Manila, Nov 16 — Roll On Roll Off *Lampung* (4841 gt, built 1971) caught fire about three kilometres away from Merak port in Banten province, Indonesia at around 0930, today. The vessel was approaching Merak port when the fire occurred. There were no reported deaths or injuries although several vehicles carried by the vessel in its cargo deck were destroyed by fire. State-owned PT ASDP Endin Juhaedi, owner of the vessel, said that passing passenger and fishing vessels were disembarking passengers from the burning vessel. Cause of the fire is still unknown. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

LEIF ERIKSON (Canada)

Halifax, Nov 14 — Roll on roll off *Leif Erikson* returned to service Nov 9. — Lloyd's Agents.

LIBERTY (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 14 — Vehicle carrier *Liberty* arrived Baltimore Nov 12.

LIDWINIA

See *Endurance*.

LOTUS BLOSSOM (Panama)

Yokohama, Nov 10 — Bulker *Lotus Blossom* arrived Nagoya Nov 9 from New Orleans. — Lloyd's Agents.

MARVEL K.

(St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, Nov 9 — Understand general cargo *Marvel K.* was refloated with tug assistance on Sept 29 by Baltic Salvage & Towage Co, St. Petersburg, under Lloyd's Open Form. Cargo has been discharged at St. Petersburg where the vessel is drydocked and is undergoing repairs to its bottom shell plating. On completion of repairs the vessel will reload its cargo and sail for its intended destination of South Shields.

MAYSORA (Bahamas)

See "Suspension Of Sheep Imports From Australia" under "Miscellaneous".

MELLUM (Liberia)

London, Nov 13 — The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) issued a report of its investigation into the grounding of general cargo *Mellum* in the port of Thevenard on Sep 28, 2004. The vessel grounded while departing the port after the pilot had disembarked. The ATSB found the master/pilot information exchange to be deficient. It also found that the navigational chart in use and the decision of the pilot to disembark before the vessel arrived at the pilot boarding ground may have contributed to the grounding.

MERIDIAN (U.K.)

London, Nov 9 — A press report, dated today, states: The search for the missing Scottish fishing vessel

Meridian was halted last night at 2000 hrs, because of worsening weather conditions. The Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) has reported that nothing has been found so far. The search vessel, *Fugro Mercator*, is now heading back to Aberdeen where it will arrive in the early hours of tomorrow morning. The weather forecast indicates that it is unlikely that the MAIB will be able to resume the search for the next few days. Meanwhile, the MAIB, in discussion with Talisman Energy, will carefully consider future search options. The Kirkcaldy-registered *Meridian* went missing on Oct 26, in storms 160 miles east of Aberdeen in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea. The body of Edward Gardner (50) of Cellardyke, was recovered from the North Sea. Despite an extensive search, the three other crewmen remain unaccounted for. They are skipper Martin Gardner, 49, Ian Donald, 55, both from Anstruther, Fife, and Sidney Low, 52, from Aberdeen.

MIKEL (Cambodia)

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Rome MRCC, timed 1200, UTC: General cargo *Mikel*, XUMC7, (1879 gt, built 1972) sank in lat 35 59.8N, long 17 12.22E, at 1555, UTC, Nov 11. All crew were rescued. (Note — *Mikel* sailed Leghorn Nov 8 for Alexandria.)

Messina, Nov 14 — General cargo *Mikel* sank during its voyage from Leghorn to Alexandria. All crew members have been rescued by vessel *OOCL Thailand* and taken to Gioia Tauro where they arrived Nov 12. — Lloyd's Agents.

MSC LAUREN (Panama)

London, Nov 13 — Understand Container Carrier *MSC Lauren* (32238 gt, built 1982), Antwerp for Felixstowe, anchored between buoys 45 and 47, River Scheldt, at around 0945, local time, today, following engine "blackout." Tugs are enroute to render assistance. (Note — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *MSC Lauren* was stationary in lat 51 26 03N, long 03 58 45E, at 0948, UTC, today.)

London, Nov 13 — Understand Container Carrier *MSC Lauren* will be assisted back to Antwerp by tugs *Union 11*, *Union Ruby* and *Schelde 20*. (Note — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *MSC Lauren* was in lat 51 26 12N, long 03 59 22E, at 1141, UTC, speed four knots, course 97 degrees.)

London, Nov 14 — Understand Container Carrier *MSC Lauren* has been towed to Antwerp for repairs and according to Lloyd's AIS was stationary in lat 51 15 46N, long 04 21 11E, at 0953, UTC, today.

London, Nov 15 — Container Carrier *MSC Lauren* arrived back at Antwerp at 1710, Nov 13 and sailed 2210, yesterday for Bristol. According to Lloyd's MIU AIS vessel was in lat 50 47 21N, long 00 55 34E, at 0851, UTC, today, speed 14.7 knots, course 232 degrees.

MURMANSK (Malta)

London, Nov 15 — Understand bulker *Murmansk* (18964 gt, built 1984), Murmansk for Netherlands with 28,907 tons phosphates with Russian crew, had a “blackout” when leaving Kol’skiy Bay, (? Nov 10) and started drifting in shore. Vessel dropped both anchors dangerously close to Letinsky Point, and requested tugs. Wind southerly three metres/sec. At 1542, local time, salvage tug *Purga* was dispatched to assist, and at 1825, local time, Russian Navy salvage SB-523 dispatched to assist. At 1620, local time, pilot boat *Saint Nikolay* arrived on the scene, trying to hold bulker’s aft from grounding, and was joined by *Purga* at 1710, local time. At 1800, local time, *Murmansk* managed to start auxiliary engines and begun lifting anchors. At 1930, local time, port anchor was lifted, starboard anchor three shots up, eight left. At 2000, local time, SB-523 was on the scene. At 0045, local time, Nov 11 anchors lifted, main engine started and ok, and continued on voyage, no damage reported. (Note — *Murmansk* had arrived Murmansk Oct 31 and is due Terneuzen Nov 17.)

NAVION HISPANIA (Norway)

London, Nov 14 — Norsk Hydro has halted oil production at its Njord A facility in the Norwegian Sea after a collision between shuttle crude oil tanker *Navion Hispania* (72753 gt, built 1999) and floating storage tanker *Njord B.FSU* (60000 gt, built 1997). “The oil production at Njord A is temporary halted, and there is no reported oil spillage after the collision,” Hydro said in a statement. Njord A produces slightly less than 30,000 barrels of oil per day, it said. Norsk Hydro said the production stop came at the same time as a planned 12-day maintenance shutdown. “And that (shutdown) will proceed as planned,” Hydro spokeswoman Kama Holte Strand said. No-one was injured in the collision which took place yesterday evening. Hydro said *Njord B.FSU*’s lifeboat was damaged and there was minor damage to the hull but neither vessel was evacuated. “The tanker moved on its own power to a safe distance from the area after the accident, and it is not clear what was the cause for the collision,” Hydro said. Strand said that if *Njord B.FSU* was not repaired during the next 12 days, the company had other alternatives. Hydro said weather conditions were not particularly difficult at the time of the collision and that an investigation would follow.

London, Nov 15 — Norsk Hydro is faced with a repair bill and has closed down a Norwegian Sea oil field after a shuttle tanker collided with the Njord storage vessel. The Oslo-listed energy and metals group has shut down 30,000 barrels of oil equivalent daily production after crude oil tanker *Navion Hispania* hit Hydro’s own floating storage tanker *Njord B.FSU*. The storage ship was struck aft during crude loading operations in the Norwegian Sea, damaging a lifeboat

and winch, said a Hydro spokeswoman. There was also damage to the hull of the shuttle tanker at sea level. It moved ashore for repairs, leaving Hydro with a headache of finding another tanker. Hydro was already planning to close Njord for two-week maintenance this week and the storage vessel was due for its regular inspection.

NEHRU-SHATABDI (India)

Kochi, Nov 15 — Hopper dredger *Nehru-Shatabdi* and hopper dredger *DCI Dredge VIII* are still lying at Kochi Port channel. We understand that *Nehru-Shatabdi* is likely to enter Cochin Shipyard by the first week of December, 2006, for dry docking and repairs. *DCI Dredge VIII* is still trying to get a dry dock facility at Cochin or Colombo. — Lloyd’s Agents.

NJORD B.FSU (Norway)

See *Navion Hispania*.

NORWEGIAN MAJESTY (Bahamas)

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated today, states: A weeklong cruise scheduled to embark from Charleston this afternoon on passenger (cruise) *Norwegian Majesty* (40876 gt, built 1992), was delayed after a broken engine delayed the vessel’s arrival in port and pushed back its planned departure. The Norwegian Cruise Lines vessel was expected as of last night to enter port at about 1400 hrs, seven hours behind schedule, and head back to Bermuda on three of its four engines at 2130 hrs. The voyage was about 5.5 hours behind schedule yesterday. The vessel was expected to arrive back in Bermuda at 0800 Tuesday, 18 hours later than scheduled, according to a statement by NCL Corporation Ltd., the Miami-based parent company of Norwegian. NCL said if the broken engine cannot be fixed in Bermuda next week, it will have to cut its stay short by almost five hours. Norwegian threw its Charleston-bound passengers a complimentary cocktail party and offered \$100 per stateroom in onboard credit and 15% off the price of a future cruise. Those heading out to Bermuda will get \$50 per stateroom in cruise cash or a chance to rebook as a consolation for the extra time at sea.

OCEAN VICTORY (Hong Kong)

Yokohama, Nov 13 — Bulker *Ocean Victory* is still aground on the South Breakwater at the entrance of the port of Kashima. At the time of grounding, the vessel sustained tearing damage at three sections on her shell plate. About 2,600 tonnes of fuel oil have already been drained from her tanks, and the torn areas are now under repair. Upon completion of the repairs, the vessel will try to refloat at the end of November. — Lloyds Agents.

OLTENITA (Romania)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: The wreck of the Romanian passenger (cruise) *Oltenita*, which was completely gutted by fire on

the Danube River near the village of Sap, Oct 2, 2005, has been taken to Bratislava port, it was reported today. The wreck, which had partially sunk, had narrowed the shipping lanes at the scene of the accident. These are now clear. The costs incurred by moving the ship will be covered by the Romanian owner. In all, there were 122 people on board the vessel when the fire broke out. One crew member was killed.

OMOE (Denmark)

London, Nov 11 — Passenger ro/ro *Omoie* has been salvaged after stranding on the isle of Omoie on Nov 1 in heavy weather. On Nov 6 it was back in the water again due to effort made by Towing company Jens Alfatsen of Horsens. Due to a combination of a shore-based winch dragging several hundred tons and some dredging work, the ferry was pulled forward to a basin made by the dredger *Jette Saj*. Also a channel from the deep water off the strand was dredged by *Jette Saj*. The salvage was supervised by the the Danish Environmental Authorities and approved. After the ferry was refloated at about 1400, Nov 6, it was taken to port at Omoie and later the same day taken in tow by *Sanne A*. from towing company Jens Alfatsen and the following morning delivered at Soeby Vaerft at Soby for examination and repair. Following the successful refloating operation the beach has been re-established and the same goes for the underwater environment. The basin and the channel has been filled up again. — Correspondent.

OMRANI-II (North Korea)

Mumbai, Nov 9 — India has detained empty North Korean general cargo *Omrani-II* bound for Iran after it strayed into Indian waters, baffling coast guard officials and police about the purpose of its voyage. “*Omrani-II* developed a snag and entered Indian waters on Oct 29 and was towed to the Mumbai Port where the crew was being questioned by Indian intelligence and customs officials. “The crew has not been able to explain why they were sailing an empty vessel to Iran,” a senior coast guard official said today. However a senior official at the Directorate General of Shipping said: “They have told us that because it is a new ship they were testing it. But it is strange that they should need to sail as far as Iran.” Officials said documents for the new 45-metre vessel were in order, although life-saving equipment was found to be deficient. Indian officials said they were not acting at the behest of the U.N. but simply because a suspicious ship had entered Indian waters. “The investigations are part of standard procedures that are followed when a ship strays into our waters,” A. Banerjee, a top shipping official said. — Reuters.

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated Nov 10, states: General cargo *Omrani-II*, detained at Mumbai, by authorities since Oct 29, was released

today by the Marine Mercantile Department. "We issued the release letter yesterday," an official of the department said. The vessel, which was on its way to Iran, sustained engine problems and was brought to the Mumbai harbour on Oct 29. A Director General of Shipping official said deficiencies that made the vessel unfit for making a voyage were detected during a routine inspection made in keeping with international maritime obligations. "We undertake inspection of foreign flag vessels to ascertain their technical fitness with respect to safety, security and manning issues," he said. Once these deficiencies were rectified, the release letter was issued, he said.

OOCL BELGIUM (Hong Kong)

London, Nov 9 — Container Carrier *OOCL Belgium* (39174 gt, built 1998) had an explosion in the engine-room at Montreal at 0953, EST, today. (Note — *OOCL Belgium* sailed Hamburg Oct 30 for Montreal.)

Montreal, Nov 9 — It is believed the explosion in the engine-room of Container Carrier *OOCL Belgium* was not serious. Transport Canada inspectors will be attending the vessel later today. — Lloyd's Agents.

ORAHOPE (DIS)

London, Nov 12 — Chemical tanker *Orahope* arrived Frederikshavn Oct 21 and was reported still in port repairing as of Nov 10. — Correspondent.

ORCA II (Honduras)

See "Drugs Found On Honduras Vessel, West Africa" under "Miscellaneous".

ORCHIK 2 (Russia)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 14 — Trawler *Orchik 2* (1898 gt, built 1983) broke from its anchor and was grounded on Kamchatka. The Ministry of Emergency Measures of the Russian Federation, Kamchatka area, rescue operation lasted about an hour and the vessel was refloated. The trawler has now gone into port for a survey and refuelling. None of the 31 crew were injured and no damage to the vessel is initially apparent. — Correspondent.

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: An operation to refloat trawler (All types) *Orchik 2* was successfully completed, today, in Avachinskaya Bay, on the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky roadstead, Kamchatka Peninsula. The vessel is being towed to the port for inspection. None of the 31 crew members, who remained aboard the trawler, was injured, the Russian Ministry for Emergencies said. Trawler *Otkrytie* and tug *Kovshovy* refloated the vessel. The operation was carried out under difficult conditions with a heavy rain and rough seas. *Orchik 2* was torn off her anchors late in the evening of Nov 13. Attempts to bring it back to the anchorage failed. Following four hours of drifting, the trawler, which ran out of fuel, grounded between the capes of

Kazak and Seroglazka. The vessel is owned by the Vostoktransservis Company and registered at the Vladivostok port. It had been arrested by border guards for poaching and confiscated in favor of the state by a court ruling in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. However, the responsibility for the vessel still rests with the ship owner.

ORENBURG (Russia)

London, Nov 9 — General cargo *Orenburg* was reported passing through the Kiel Canal on Nov 8, on a voyage of Waterford for Kaliningrad.

ORION I (Pakistan)

Karachi, Nov 15 — Understand from the owner of oil barge *Orion I*, Mr. Malik Qutub, that *Orion I* was refloated this morning by Indus Divers with out any damage or oil spill. They had been working on the salvage operation around the clock for the last three days. However, the barge is upside down and has to be righted. Hopefully this will be done in a day or two, the owner said. — Lloyd's List Correspondent. (See issue of Nov 7.)

Karachi, Nov 15 — Understand from the salvage firm Indus Divers that they have asked Karachi Port Trust (KPT) to provide its crane to facilitate salvage operation in bringing oil barge *Orion I* in up right position, off port. Presently, the barge is upside down but safe and intact. Hopefully, the crane would be provided by Nov 17 as requested by salvage firm. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

OSPREY II (U.K.)

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1010, UTC: Fishing (general) *Osprey II* (390 gt, built 1984), PD 47, is currently anchored in lat 53 22.7N, long 03 36.7E, with engine failure. Coast Guard tug *Waker* was on scene but owners did not come to any agreement and tug has now left the scene. A sistership of the *Osprey II* is en route to assist.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1929, UTC: Fishing (general) *Osprey II* reported it tow about 1600, UTC, bound Den Helder, where ETA very soon.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 2001, UTC: Fishing (general) *Osprey II* just berthed at Den Helder.

PEACH MOUNTAIN (Hong Kong)

Jakarta, Nov 15 — Bulker *Peach Mountain* is still under inspection by Port State Control. Based on information gathered, she will sail to Singapore. — Lloyd's Agents.

Jakarta, Nov 16 — Bulker *Peach Mountain* has departed from Gresik to Batam at 0950, local time, today, ETA Nov 19, for dry dock. — Lloyd's Agents.

PEPPINO D'AMATO (Panama)

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1535, UTC: Bulker *Peppino D'Amato*

(38849 gt, built 2005), inbound, cargo pig iron, grounded while anchoring at La Place, Mile Marker 134, Lower Mississippi at 0222, UTC, today. Vessel sustained damage to bow and has taken on a small amount of water. Vessel is still aground. A diver will carry out an underwater survey and repair damage to vessel, after which an attempt will be made to refloat the vessel. No pollution or injuries. (Note — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Peppino D'Amato* was stationary in lat 30 03 10.26N, long 90 30 27.66W, at 1535, UTC, today)

London, Nov 15 — According to Lloyd's MIU AIS bulker *Peppino D'Amato* was still stationary in lat 30 03 10N, long 90 30 27W, at 0855, UTC, today.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1518, UTC: Bulker *Peppino D'Amato*: As of 0129 today, divers patched a 1 ft by 5 ft hole. Plan to dewater forepeak and awaiting inspection.

PERTH (U.K.)

London, Nov 10 — Understand Container Carrier *Perth* (15931 gt, built 1999) ran aground in the northwest of Izmir Pelikan Bank at 1400, Nov 8. (Note — *Perth*, Ambarli for Antwerp, passed Dardanelles 1235, Nov 6.)

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Ankara RCC, timed 1215, UTC: Container Carrier *Perth* was refloated from its grounding position, lat 38 25.5N, long 26 54.8E, at 1920 yesterday by two tugs.

PETRA EXPRESS (Jordan)

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: A fire on board Container Carrier *Petra Express* (7720 gt, built 1978) killed one sailor and seriously wounded three others in the Red Sea today, an Egyptian naval officer said. The engine of the ship overheated during a crossing between Aqaba and Nuweiba, said Brig. Mohammed Sayed. The fire broke out in the early hours of the morning as the ship was some 6.8 nautical miles from Egypt's coast, and was put out an hour later by an Egyptian firefighting rescue boat. The Jordanian sailor was asphyxiated by the smoke, Sayed said. Two other Jordanians were severely injured, along with an Egyptian engineer.

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated Nov 10, states: The engine of container carrier *Petra Express* overheated and caught fire today as the vessel was crossing the Red Sea between the Jordanian port of Aqaba and the Egyptian port of Nuweiba, said Brig. Mohammed Sayed. Jordan's official news agency said *Petra Express* was sailing from the Saudi port of Jeddah to Aqaba. The fire broke out in the early hours of the morning as the vessel was some 6.8 nautical miles from Egypt's coast. It was put out an hour later by an Egyptian firefighting boat. One crew member was killed and three others injured. Sayed said the vessel was being towed to an Egyptian port.

Port Said, Nov 12 — Container Carrier *Petra Express* caught fire in the engine-room while underway to Aqaba coming from Jeddah, about five miles to port of Nowaiba in the gulf of Aqaba on Nov 9. Vessel sent SOS to Nowaiba Authorities who immediately sent necessary tugs for help. One crew member was killed and three were injured and taken ashore to Nowaiba hospital. Vessel will be towed to Aqaba for repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Nov 13 — Following received from the managers of Container Carrier *Petra Express*, dated today: *Petra Express* is now at Aqaba port. While en route to Aqaba the vessel touched bottom and had to be assisted to Aqaba by a tug where it arrived yesterday evening.

PETREL ARROW (Bahamas)

London, Nov 9 — General cargo *Petrel Arrow* was reported sailing from Shanghai on Oct 28. The vessel was then reported arriving back at Shanghai on Oct 29. She departed on Oct 30, reportedly bound for Zhenjiang.

PETROKREPOST (Liberia)

London, Nov 13 — Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1535, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Petrokrepost* is still in port.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 1518, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Petrokrepost* reported to be in tow bound Tampa for repairs. (See issue of Nov 15.) (Note — According to Loyd's MIU AIS, vessel in lat 29 55 56N, long 89 59 24.41W, at 1515, UTC, Nov 15.)

PHILIPP (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Nov 15 — A Marine Accident Investigation Branch report states: General cargo *Philipp* ran aground near Corsewall Point just before midnight on July 17. The vessel was refloated quickly and, having been assessed as sustaining no damage, proceeded on passage. The ship was diverted to dry dock the next day when it became apparent the vessel's hull had been penetrated. The grounding occurred because the master fell asleep as a result of being fatigued, and although he was able to regularly cancel the watch alarm and GPS cross track error alarm, neither roused him to actively monitor and record the vessel's position or notice that it was off track and standing into danger. A lookout had been present on the bridge, but had been sent on safety rounds some time prior to the grounding. Also contributing to the grounding was the routine acceptance onboard of sub-standard navigational practices. Action taken: The Chief Inspector has written to the vessel's managers recommending they: Improve their auditing regime to ensure that the navigation methods and procedures used on passage comply with the requirements of SOLAS and company's SMS. Review personnel monitoring and appraisal procedures to ensure that all

personnel, and specifically masters, are competent to carry out their assigned duties.

PINE BREATH (Cambodia)

Busan, Nov 13 — General cargo *Pine Breath* arrived at Masan on the Nov 2 and after completion of repairs sailed on Nov 8. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

PIONER MOLDAVII (Russia)

London, Nov 12 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1530, UTC: General cargo *Pioner Moldavii* (5370 gt, built 1979), Finland for Alexandria, began listing this morning and deliberately jettisoned some cargo of timber in lat 54 48N, long 04 13E at 1252, UTC. Vessel still listing 12 deg to starboard but securing remaining cargo on board. No assistance required.

London, Nov 14 — General cargo *Pioner Moldavii* arrived Velsen Nov 13 from Finland.

PRESTIGE (Bahamas)

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Four years after the sinking of crude oil tanker *Prestige* caused Spain's biggest environmental disaster, the wreck continues leaking oil into the Atlantic, experts said today. *Prestige*, carrying 77,000 tons of oil, sprang a leak on Nov 13, 2002, and sank six days later off the north-western region of Galicia. Most of its cargo leaked out, polluting the sea bed and contaminating the coastline. Oil slicks are still forming in the area where the tanker went down, after being towed a distance of 246 kilometres off Galicia. The oil was almost certain to ooze out of a crack or some corroded spot in the wreck, said Juan Jose Gonzalez of the Oceanographic Institute in Vigo. Gonzalez said the oil was not causing important ecological damage. Local fishermen complain that some shores are still covered with oil spilled by *Prestige* in 2002, without the authorities doing anything about it.

QUEEN OF CAPILANO (Canada)

London, Nov 13 — A report from LaSalle, PQ, dated today, states: Roll On Roll Off *Queen of Capilano* (2855 gt, built 1991) broke down again yesterday for the second time in a week, this time leaving an oil slick in Horseshoe Bay. "It was broken down when I turned up to take the ferry," said Rebecca Henderson, a Bowen Island resident speaking from the Horseshoe Bay ferry terminal. She said an oil slick from the vessel had spread throughout the bay. BC Ferries were quoted in radio reports saying yesterday's problem was due to the vessel striking a log at 1530 hrs, which led to an underwater drive unit being damaged and a leak of 600 litres of oil. There were no passengers on board at the time of the mishap. The vessel was back up and running before 1800 hrs.

QUEEN OF PRINCE RUPERT (Canada)

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: BC Ferries says

its only vessel serving the North Coast, Roll On Roll Off *Queen of Prince Rupert* (5864 gt, built 1966), will be out of commission for five days next week because of a leaking engine seal. The vessel will go into dry dock in Alaska on Sunday (Nov 19) and not return to the northern route until Friday afternoon. The corporation said the ferry has been leaking small amounts of oil since its propellers were damaged by a crab trap last month. Spokesman Mark Stephanson said today the ferry is safe to operate until Sunday, calling it a maintenance issue and not a safety issue. "There are no safety issues at all. This is just necessary maintenance we have to do right now because the leaking seal in of the stern tubes has been leaking since the middle of October." Stephanson said there will be barge service for commercial traffic between Prince Rupert and the Queen Charlotte Islands, but there are no plans to accommodate passengers or private vehicles. The *Queen of Prince Rupert* has been the only ferry on the North Coast since the *Queen of the North* sank in March.

REPUBBLICA DI GENOVA (Italy)

London, Nov 12 — Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 1830, UTC: Passenger ro/ro *Repubblica di Genova* (42567 gt, built 1988), bound Hamburg, lost three empty containers overboard in about lat 53 40N, long 05 50E, at 1116, UTC, Nov 12. Vessel continued voyage to Hamburg. (Note — *Repubblica di Genova* arrived Amsterdam Nov 10 from Douala and sailed Nov 11.)

RMS KIEL (Antigua & Barbuda)

Bremen, Nov 15 — Part containerised general cargo *RMS Kiel* is still at Wilhelmshaven under repairs and according to the repairyard it will be there certainly for another week. — Lloyd's Agents.

ROKIA DELMAS (Panama)

London, Nov 9 — Salvors were preparing to begin removing containers from the grounded Roll On Roll Off Container Car *Rokia Delmas* yesterday but warned that the operation could take several weeks to complete. Salvors have removed 560 tonnes of heavy fuel oil from the vessel by pumping, as well as a smaller quantity of lighter diesel fuel, and the maritime prefecture in Brest said yesterday that it no longer posed any significant pollution threat. The prefecture added that, as a result, anti-pollution measures would be relaxed and the operation to remove the 378 containers on the vessel's upper deck got under way. It said that unloading trials would be getting under way yesterday, using the floating crane-barge *Missing Link*, which has been brought to the site from the Netherlands, and a barge. The operation promises to be complicated by the 18 degree list of the vessel. Vessel operator Delmas Atlantic West Africa Line said yesterday that positioning tests were

being carried out to determine the safest way of removing the containers. "This delicate operation, which was started this morning, will be undertaken with great prudence and in several stages," it said. "The salvors will begin by removing the most accessible containers and estimate that this may take several weeks."

ROKO (Bahamas)

London, Nov 15 — Refrigerated general cargo *Roko*, Atlantic for Mariupol, passed Gibraltar Nov 13. ETA Mariupol Nov 20.

ROSE (China)

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: The Riau Islands Police are holding detonators and 63 tons of explosive powder that were unloaded from Chinese general cargo *Rose* at Semblog Port, Batam. Riau Islands Police chief Brig-Gen Sutarman said yesterday the detonators and explosive powder were discovered in six containers. He said the items would be held until National Police investigators provided clarification on their legal status. The six containers have been held since Nov 3, soon after they were unloaded by stevedoring company PT Citra Pembina Pengangkutan Industries (CPPI) from the Chinese ship. The company reported the contents of the containers to the police. Documents later found on the ship indicated it was bound for Yemen. The ship had anchored at Semblog Port and was forced to unload the containers as it waited for other vessels. It was later found broknedown in the Strait of Malacca. Officer Sutarman said the police would hold the containers until the police completed their investigation and determined whether any laws had been broken. "We will not allow the containers to be sent to Yemen until the legality of the items is clear," he said. The incident was confirmed by PT CPPI manager Agus Hidayat, who said the containers had been scheduled to be loaded on the vessel *Venus*, yesterday. "However, the police have not issued their permission. *Venus* will possibly continue its journey to Yemen without the containers," he said. Meanwhile, security at Semblog Port has been heightened since the discovery of the explosive powder and detonators. Members of the police's elite Mobile Brigade have been deployed at the port, and all visitors are required to show a permit from the local police before being allowed to enter.

Manila, Nov 10 — Indonesian police said that Chinese cargo vessel *Rose*, had apparently used Semblog port, Batam Island, as a transshipment port for its cargo of explosives. Indonesian police reported that 63 tons of explosive powder and detonators unloaded by *Rose*, at the port was in their custody. Authorities said that *Rose* had anchored off Semblog port on Nov 3. The vessel unloaded six containers at the port before leaving. *Rose* later broknedown in the Malacca Strait. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

ROSELLA (Panama)

Buenos Aires, Nov 15 — Bulker *Rosella* is still at Zarate under arrest. Vessel's agents do not know the date when the vessel will depart. — Lloyd's Agents.

RUNNER 4 (Dominica)

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Mammoet Salvage B.V., which won the Estonian boarder guard service's contract for general cargo *Runner 4*, has now lost the assignment after the company said that it would not be able to empty the vessel's tanks until next spring. The Estonian government demanded speedier action and the Norwegian shipping company Frank Mohn Flatory A/S (Framo) will now take over the assignment since it promised to start emptying the tanks within five days. In order to reduce the risk of an oil spill, the government decided that the tanks must be emptied this autumn despite the fact that Framo's EUR 1.97 million tender was higher than Mammoet's EUR 1.64 million offer. Supply *Geosund* arrived in Estonia on Nov 3 but was first forced to solve a technical problem and then had to postpone the operation because of high winds. Framo plans to take a week to remove the oil from the wreck.

RUSLAN (Russia)

Piraeus, Nov 14 — General cargo *Ruslan* (2478 gt, built 1968), cargo wheat, struck the pier during berthing manoeuvres at Preveza port on Nov 9. No injuries to crew and no pollution reported. Only minor damage to the port's pier and the vessel's starboard fore part were reported. The local port authorities permitted the vessel's departure after inspection by class surveyor and the vessel sailed yesterday for Tuzla. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Ruslan*, Rostov for Preveza, passed Dardanelles 2025, Nov 5.)

SAGA SPRAY (Hong Kong)

Göteborg, Nov 16 — One crew member found dead and five injured in accident bulker *Saga Spray* (29381 gt, built 1994) for discharging wooden pellets in bulk at berth Helsingborg at 0800, this morning. The local fire department and rescue was called to the "westport" of Helsingborg Port, where two men - crew and stevedore were found unconscious in the hold and brought ashore on stretcher and crane. Another four persons involved injured and also brought to hospital. The incident occurred when the two men were sweeping and cleaning parts of the hold. They were affected by the air down in the hold where less oxygen caused by cargo and fainted. Wooden pellets does "consume" oxygen and one should be very careful to enter into such areas. The cause is not yet been investigated, and could not be commented upon. The Police and later the Board of Shipping inspectors will commence their survey and reports. — Westax Marine Services AB.

SANNA (Netherlands Antilles)

London, Nov 9 — General cargo *Sanna* was reported arriving at Grove Wharf at 1554, Nov 8, from Rotterdam.

SEA FALCON (Bahamas)

St. Vincent, CVI, Nov 12 — General cargo *Sea Falcon* (1475 gt, built 1977) grounded on Nov 7, in the position lat 16 09.19N, long 22 56.03W, approximately 0.726 miles south of Sal-Rei Boavista, Cape Verde Island. At the time of grounding, the vessel was preparing to drop its anchor to wait for the next day, to begin discharge operations. It started transshipment operations with general cargo *Vulcao* at 0945 hrs, today. By 1040 hrs, the vessel had discharged 160 tonnes, which gave the *Sea Falcon* "better fluctuation and later possibility of berthing alongside the pier at Boavista to continue with the discharge". Transshipment/discharge operations are still continuing. — Lloyd's Agents.

St. Vincent, CV, Nov 14 — General cargo *Sea Falcon* transhipped a total of 300 tonnes of cement to general cargo *Vulcao*, and was refloated at 2140, Nov 13. The vessel berthed at 1215 today and commenced discharge, which is expected to be completed later this afternoon. The vessel will anchor and await inspection before sailing, probably to St. Vincent, for repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

SEA VETERAN (Panama)

London, Nov 14 — At 1330, EST, Nov 11, while approaching the wall at Iroquois Lock, in lat 44 50N, long 75 18.30W, bulker *Sea Veteran* (17152 gt, built 1981) struck the wall with her starboard quarter. The vessel sustained heavy damage to hull and engine-room machinery.

SEABULK PRIDE (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 11 — The crew of product tanker *Seabulk Pride* that ran aground near Nikiski in February has been faulted for the mishap. The crew failed to safely tie the vessel to the dock, properly staff the bridge or get the engine ready for a quick start in case of trouble, according to an investigative report by the US Coast Guard. A surging tide and ice floes rammed against the bow of the tanker early Feb 2 as the vessel was tied to a Nikiski dock loading fuel oil, gasoline and other products from the Tesoro refinery in Nikiski, about 80 miles southwest of Anchorage. Mooring lines snapped until the vessel broke free and drifted onto a beach about half a mile to the north. The tanker had 32 people aboard and nearly 5 million gallons of petroleum. The crew refloated the beached tanker the next day with the help of rescue tugs and a high tide. There was relatively minor damage to the double-hulled vessel, which is back in service. The Coast Guard report said the tanker crew violated a number of safety rules imposed to protect shipping from fast-moving ice that tends to build up in Cook Inlet after severe cold snaps. The

Receive immediate notice as soon as a Casualty occurs. For further information please contact Andrew Luxton on +44 (0) 20 7017 4625.

Coast Guard will pursue a two-month suspension of captain Stewart Potter's licence, the report said, "for failure to ensure that the vessel's moorings were strong enough to hold during all expected conditions." The tanker's operator, Seabulk Tankers Inc. of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, agreed with the Coast Guard's main conclusion that the current and ice swept the vessel off the dock, said Jim Butler, a Kenai attorney for the company. He said Seabulk, however, did not necessarily agree with Coast Guard criticisms on how well the vessel was tied to the dock, or whether the right people were standing watch on the bridge. "It was a massive force that affected that ship at the dock," Butler said. "We don't think the line handling or the watch practices contributed in any way to the grounding." The company will work with the Coast Guard on ways to improve ship safety, Butler said.

SEGOVIA CARRIER (Bahamas)

Maassluis, Nov 11 — Refrigerated general cargo *Segovia Carrier* (15834 gt, built 1980), while entering the Boudewijnsluis, struck the lock about 1956, Nov 11. The vessel has a tear of approximately 8 meters on the starboard side. The nautical commission has entered the vessel at the lock. The vessel will return to berth No 188 for further inspection. The vessel's next port of call will be Hamburg. (Note — *Segovia Carrier* arrived Antwerp Nov 10 from Puerto Limon.) — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

SELENITOVYY (Russia)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 13 — Authorities failed to refloat refrigerated general cargo *Selenitovyy* (676 gt, built 1979) today, which grounded on a sandbar on Shikotan, Kurile Islands. Attempts continue. — Correspondent. (Note — *Selenitovyy* sailed Vladivostok Nov 5.)

SEREZ (Turkey)

Piraeus, Nov 9 — General cargo *Serez* remains in Piraeus port. — Lloyd's Agents.

SHAH BADAR-I

Karachi, Nov 13 — Understand from Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) today that it has given a deadline to owner of sunken vessel *Shah Badar-i*, M/s Hai Shipping Ltd, Chittagong, to salvage vessel within a time frame of 25 days, expiring today. The owner has engaged two local salvage firms for getting the job done. Salvage works have already started. However because of the Eid holidays, the progress of the salvage work is rather slow. The ongoing strike in country would also disturb the salvage operation and CPA has to extend deadline. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

SHAKHTAR (Ukraine)

Hodeidah, Nov 13 — General cargo *Shakhtar* is still at Hodeidah, and is expected to complete discharge this afternoon. Understand a diver's

inspection was carried out, and no damage was observed. — Lloyd's Agents.

SHINSEI MARU NO.3 (Japan)

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: An officer serving on Israeli Container Carrier *Zim Asia*, received a suspended two and half year prison term Sunday (Nov 12) for negligence in the deaths of seven Japanese fishermen when the vessel, he was piloting, slammed into fishing *Shinsei Maru No.3*. A court in Haifa, Israel, convicted Pilastro Zdravko, 40, the Montenegrin second officer on the *Zim Asia*, for negligence in the collision with the fishing boat in international waters off Nemuro, Hokkaido, on Sep. 28. Zdravko was also sentenced to six months worth of community service at a hospital and fined 500,000 yen. He was navigating at the time of the collision while the captain was asleep.

SICHEM METANOL (Malta)

Cherbourg, Nov 13 — Chemical tanker *Sichem Metanol* had a main engine breakdown in lat 49 54N, long 02 24W, at 0735, UTC, Nov 6. Repairs have been carried out at Cherbourg from Nov 6 to 0905, local time, Nov 11. Vessel has sailed Cherbourg for Rotterdam. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Sichem Metanol* arrived Rotterdam 0455 today.)

SLUISGRACHT (Netherlands)

Bremen, Nov 15 — General cargo *Sluisgracht* (16639 gt, built 2001) left Bremen this morning for Canada, however, it developed engine trouble and called Brake where it moored at the Sud Pier. The vessel is scheduled to leave at 1900 today, for Canada. — Lloyd's Agents.

SOLBERG (Iceland)

London, Nov 15 — Following navigation warning issued Nov 13: Trawler *Bergey* towing trawler *Solberg* (687 gt, built 1974) in lat 39 21S, long 58 24W, line length 450 metres, speed five knots, course 037 bound Montevideo.

London, Nov 16 — Following navigation warning issued Nov 15: Trawler *Bergey* towing trawler *Solberg* in lat 35 57S, long 56 17W, line length 450 metres, speed four knots, course 004 degrees bound Montevideo.

ST.LUC EXPRESS (Honduras)

Miami, Nov 13 — Understand Fish and Wildlife and the Coast Guard are still working with St. Lucy County, Florida, for them to obtain general cargo *St.Luc Express* and use it as an artificial reef. They are still discussing the clean-up and transportation of the freight once an agreement is reached. Understand the process may be completed in approximately six to eight weeks. — Lloyd's Agents.

STAR FUJI (NIS)

London, Nov 10 — General cargo *Star Fuji* arrived at Charleston on Nov 9. London, Nov 13 — General cargo *Star Fuji* sailed Charleston Nov 11.

STAR IKEBANA (Singapore)

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: Part containerised general cargo *Star Ikebana* (33448 gt, built 1999) sustained a gash to its hull measuring 10 metres by two metres while docking at Squamish terminal, Transport Canada spokesman Rod Nelson said Friday (Nov 10). (Note — *Star Ikebana* was last reported arriving Vancouver(CAN) Nov 7, and has an ETA at Glasgow of Dec 7 and Antwerp Dec 12.)

London, Nov 14 — On Nov 9 part containerised general cargo *Star Ikebana* reported striking dock at Squamish Berth No.2, causing a gash in her hull, above the waterline.

Vancouver, Nov 14 — Part containerised general car *Star Ikebana*: Understand that no injuries or pollution were caused. The vessel is at Squamish Dock and temporary repairs are currently being conducted on the forward starboard side. Star shipping advised that they are still making inquiries with regards to permanent repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

STEFANIA I (Malta)

London, Nov 14 — At 1310, EST, Nov 11, bulker *Stefania I* (16775 gt, built 1985) struck the north lock wall at the Eisenhower Lock, in lat 46 59N, long 74 46W, and sustained damage to the hull plating, framing, forecastle deck and starboard fairlead.

London, Nov 16 — Bulker *Stefania I* arrived Oshawa about Nov 13.

STOC PETREA (Sweden)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 11 — Product tanker *STOC Petrea* (2956 gt, built 2004), bound Karlstad with 2,800 tonnes of diesel, grounded in the River G^ta at Trollhattan, north-east of Gothenburg, this morning. The vessel, with 11 crew, blocked all traffic on the busy river. The vessel's engine lost power soon after it passed the Trollhattan railway bridge. The machinery stopped working, the vessel became impossible to manoeuvre and it grounded," said Johan Dicksved at the Stoc Tankers shipping company, which owns the vessel. *STOC Petrea* hit the eastern side of the canal on its starboard side and turned so that it was positioned across the river, blocking traffic. Nobody was hurt and there has been no sign of leakage, according to Johan Dicksved. The emergency services were on the scene on this morning. It was planned to pump ballast water out in order to enable the vessel to refloat. The vessel will then be taken for inspection. "We hope to get her moving during the day," said Dicksved. Until then, those vessels being blocked by the *STOC Petrea* will have to wait. "It is principally affecting two ships that were heading south," said Susanna Sandgren, pilot on the river. A third vessel that is scheduled to head out late on this afternoon could also be affected if the operation to shift the *STOC Petrea* takes longer than expected. — Correspondent.

London, Nov 11 — Following received from Gothenburg MRCC, timed 1830,

UTC: Product tanker *STOC Petrea* refloated around 1500, local time, Nov 11, and proceeded to Trollhattan for diver inspection.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated Nov 11, states: Product tanker *STOC Petrea*, containing 2,800 tonnes of diesel that became grounded in the River Gota in Trollhattan, this morning, was refloated again this afternoon. The vessel had been blocking all traffic on the busy river. After the vessel was floated and moved to the quayside, divers checked the vessel for leaks, but found no serious damage. "There were scratches, as you might expect, but nothing else," said Johan Dicksved at the Stoc Tankers shipping company, which owns the vessel.

London, Nov 12 — Following received from Gothenburg MRCC, timed 1135, UTC: According to AIS position, product tanker *STOC Petrea* is now at Karlstad

SUMATRA (Argentina)

London, Nov 9 — Following navigation warning issued today: Fishing *Don Natalio* towing trawler *Sumatra* (178 gt, built 1958) in lat 40 53S, long 61 21W, line length 400 metres, speed eight knots, course 33 degrees, bound for Mar del Plata port.

SUPERFLYTE (New Zealand)

Auckland, Nov 14 — Ferry *Superflyte* is still under repair at Auckland. A replacement engine has been received and being installed. It will probably be another few weeks before she returns to service. — Lloyd's Agents.

THOR SENTRY (Faroe Islands)

Aalborg, Nov 15 — Fishing *Thor Sentry* is still in port at Hanstholm. Understood the vessel is going to Esbjerg for scrapping. — Lloyd's Agents.

TINIAN EXPRESS (Panama)

Honolulu, Nov 14 — Ferry *Tinian Express* is still being repaired. It is now anticipated repairs will be completed about Dec 1. — Lloyd's Agents.

TORO (Greece)

London, Nov 11 — Bulker *Toro* arrived Progreso about Nov 9.

TSEZAR (Russia)

London, Nov 16 — Product tanker *Tsezar* sailed from Vladivostok and subsequently arrived back at Vladivostok Oct 3 from Petropavlovsk.

ULHEELANI (U.S.A.)

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: The Coast Guard has responded to disabled fishing (general) *Ulheelani* (71 gt, built 1987) with four to five crew members on board that apparently had been adrift for several days. The fishing vessel was about 80 miles east of O'ahu this morning. The Coast Guard was contacted yesterday by a worried wife of a crewman who hadn't heard from her husband for a couple of days. According to Coast Guard public

affairs spokesman Petty Officer Michael De Nyse, the cutter *Kittiwake* and a C-130 Hercules aircraft from Air Station Barbers Point responded to the vessel. De Nyse said the cutter reached the boat at around 1900 today and would either repair the vessel's fuel leak or tow her back to Honolulu. He said no injuries to the crew of the vessel had been reported.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from Coast Guard Honolulu, timed 1935, UTC: Fishing (general) *Ulheelani* was taken in tow by Coast Guard cutter *Kittiwake* at 1800, local time, Nov 14, bound for Honolulu, where ETA 1800, local time, this evening.

Honolulu, Nov 16 — It was reported that the 68' fishing (general) *Ulheelani*, official No. 910809 was adrift approximately 80 miles east of Oahu due to a fuel leak. U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *IKittiwake* arrived at the vessel's position at 1900 hrs, Nov 14. It is reported that if the leak can not be repaired the vessel would be towed to Honolulu. — Lloyd's Agents.

UMMEEDH (Maldives)

London, Nov 15 — General cargo *Ummeedh* arrived New Tuticorin Nov 7.

USTYUZHNA (Ukraine)

Piraeus, Nov 14 — General cargo *Ustyuzhna* still remains at Kalamata port undergoing repairs. ETD: Within the next week. — Lloyd's Agents.

VAGABOND (Panama)

London, Nov 10 — Following received from Coast Guard San Juan, PR, timed 1630, UTC: Roll On Roll Off *Vagabond* remains aground.

VATAN I (Russia)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 15 — General cargo *Vatan I* (2457 gt, built 1972), en route from Astrakhan to Nausher with 3008 tonnes of cargo, has sustained a steering gear breakdown. Vessel has anchored in Caspian sea at a depth of 10 metres awaiting tugs for towage to port Astrakhan. — Correspondent.

VEESHAM I (St.Kitts & Nevis)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy".

VESTHOLM (Denmark)

London, Nov 15 — Danish TV news reported dredger *Vestholm* (198 gt, built 1959), earlier today, sank after developing a leak, in the Limfjord, just after passing the Oddesundbridge, bound for the discharge harbour Remmerstrand, situated between Lemvig and the Oddesundbridge. No injuries reported. Vessel submerged to nearly two (metres) above the weather deck. Tomorrow the owner will work out a plan for the salvaging of the vessel.

Copenhagen, Nov 16 — Dredger *Vestholm* is still lying in a sunken condition, half a nautical mile from Grisetaaodde Lighthouse. Salvage will start today by removing the 15 tons of marine diesel oil on board the dredger. Once that has been removed, the dredger *Allan Juul* will remove the cargo of approximately 300 tons of

gravel. It is hoped that an attempt to raise the vessel will take place late tomorrow or on Saturday (Nov 25). — Correspondent.

VOS REBEL (Liberia)

Maassluis, Nov 14 — Standby safety vessel *VOS Rebel* is in dock. The gap in the hull is to be repaired with a plate, Bureau Veritas is inspecting it so that the vessel can be towed to another shipyard, because Den Helder has no capacity. Investigation by the police and classification bureau is still in progress. It will be in Den Helder until the investigations are finished. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

Maassluis, Nov 15 — Standby safety vessel *VOS Rebel* is currently under tow from Den Helder to Rotterdam, ETA 0400, local time, Nov 16. — Lloyd's Agents.

VOUTAKOS (Panama)

Maassluis, Nov 14 — Bulker *Voutakos* is still in port. Repairs are expected to be completed Nov 16. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

W-O TSJOCH (Marshall Islands)

Maassluis, Nov 14 — Combined chemical and oil tank *W-O Tsjoch* is still in Harlingen under repair. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

WARBABY FOX (Bermuda)

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: The Island's new ferry, *Warbaby Fox* (317 gt, built 2006), sustained minor damage Wednesday (Nov 8) after rough seas caused the vessel to contact the dock in St. George's (Bermuda). The incident happened as *Warbaby Fox* was trying to berth at Ordnance Island. The ferry had been used to take stranded passengers of passenger *Norwegian Majesty* back to St. George's, and while berthing in inclement weather the secure rope broke and the vessel struck dock. *Warbaby Fox* sustained a small 10 by six inch hole, five feet above the water line. Marine and Ports officials have confirmed that *Warbaby Fox* will have to undergo repairs, but officials said the ferry would be fit to start the East End ferry service as planned next Tuesday. There were no injuries to any of the passengers as a result of the incident.

WESTWOOD POMONA (Bahamas)

Portland, Oregon, Nov 13 — Roll On Roll Off *Westwood Pomona* (10215 gt, built 1985) has been, sometime this weekend (Nov 11/12), struck by a rogue wave and temporarily lost power. She is due to arrive in Coos Bay, Oregon, today at about 1600 hours, under her own power, but will be assisted by three tugs. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from Coast Guard Seattle, timed 2000, UTC: Roll On Roll Off *Westwood Pomona* arrived Coos Bay at 1730, local time, Nov 13, with heavy weather damage.

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated Nov 15, states: Roll On Roll Off

Receive immediate notice as soon as a Casualty occurs. For further information please contact Andrew Luxton on +44 (0) 20 7017 4625.

Westwood Pomona sought refuge and repairs at Coos Bay after a rogue wave reported to be about 70 feet high struck it, knocking out windows and electronics. A distress call Sunday night prompted the U.S. Coast Guard to send an aircraft to make sure *Westwood Pomona* was faring well. The ship arrived in Coos Bay around 1630 Monday. "They apparently took a pretty good-size wave, and it came up high enough that it knocked out some of the windows of the bridge," said Bob Rogers, the manager of the Roseburg Forest Product's woodchip facility, where the ship docked for repairs. The ship makes round trips between Canada and California biweekly, said Martin Callery of the Coos Bay port. He said one of the 22 crew members was slightly injured.

XIN LIAN YUN GANG (China)

London, Nov 9 — Container Carrier *Xin Lian Yun Gang* sailed from Shanghai on Oct 30, reportedly bound for Zhoushan.

YEOMAN BROOK (Liberia)

See "Drugs Found On Liberian Vessel, Maracaibo" under "Miscellaneous".

YOSHI MARU-31 (Russia)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: Eleven crewmembers of Russian fishing *Yoshi Maru-31*, registry port Kholmok, which sank off Kunashir this morning, have been rescued in Kunashir Strait. Two dead bodies have been also found. One fisherman is reported missing. The crew of the sunken vessel had 14 members. According to Olga Shekhovtseva, press secretary of the Sakhalin Region centre for emergencies, a helicopter has joined in the search for the missing fisherman. It is surveying the strait in the area of Cape Spiridonov on Kunashir Island. Rescuers' verified data have it that *Yoshi Maru-31* sank at 0910, Sakhalin time, today 3.5 miles from the shore. The search operation is also involving two fishing boats *Peak Hope* and *RSH-2481*. The causes of the sinking are unknown so far. There was no storm in Kunashir Strait, where the boat was engaging in fishery operations.

YU BAO NO.1 (Taiwan)

Suva, Nov 13 — According to Fiji Ports Corporation Limited (F.P.C.L) fishing (general) *Yu Bao No.1* is one of the confirmed vessels which is part of their project. Their plan is to sink the vessel in a common area and build an artificial reef as a diving mecca for the ecotourism and dive industry. However it is not yet confirmed when the project will start. — Lloyd's Agents.

ZHI QIANG (Hong Kong)

Ports Moresby, Nov 9 — Bulker *Zhi Qiang* departed Port Moresby in tow of tug *Sui Juing* at 0600, Oct 13, ETA Guangzhou Nov 13. — Lloyd's Agents.

ZHONGSHUI 508 (China)

See *Zhongshui 606*.

ZHONGSHUI 606 (China)

Suva, Nov 10 — Understand Chinese Government owned fishing *Zhongshui 606* ran aground on Beqa reef (18 28S, long 178 05E) close to Suva Harbour Nov 7. Cause of grounding is unknown. In an attempt to save the vessel, sister vessel *Zhongshui 611* went to assist on Nov 8 and unfortunately it also ran aground. Subsequently another sister vessel, *Zhongshui 508*, proceeded to assist the two grounded vessels yesterday and it ran aground as well. Refloating attempts on all three fishing vessels are being made by local salvors. — Lloyd's Agents.

Suva, Nov 14 — At about 1253, Nov 13, the local salvors managed to salvage fishing *Zhongshui 801*, not *Zhongshui 508* as before reported. Today at about 1500 hours the second vessel fishing *Zhongshui 606* was salvaged. The cause of grounding and the extent of damage is still unknown. The third vessel fishing *Zhongshui 611* is still aground and is reported to have a damaged hull which needs repairing and would probably take time to be salvaged. — Lloyd's Agents.

ZHONGSHUI 611 (China)

See *Zhongshui 606*.

ZHONGSHUI 801 (China)

See *Zhongshui 606*.

ZIM ASIA (Israel)

See *Shinsei Maru No.3*.

ZIM ISRAEL (Malta)

London, Nov 9 — Container Carrier *Zim Israel* arrived at Shanghai on Nov 4 and sailed on Nov 5, reportedly bound for South Korea.



SOMALIA

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: General cargo *Veesham I*, which was recently retrieved by Union of Islamic courts from Somali pirates, has docked at Mogadishu's main seaport today with the pirates, who are shackled, onboard. Many Islamic forces and officials have gathered at the port to imprison eight Somali pirates who have hijacked a Dubai registered cargo vessel on Nov 1, demanding \$1million as a ransom to free the 14 Indian crew and their Ethiopian captain. Number of Islamic fighters riding in fast boats has set out from coastal district of Haradhere in central Somalia, which was notorious for piracy, chasing the hijacked vessel after spotting it. The Islamist fighters stormed in the vessel, overpowering the pirates after gunfight. The Islamic Courts spokesperson for the information department Sheik Abdurahman Mudey said that the criminals that are now in

the hands of Islamic Courts would face three decisive penalties. "If the defendants are proved to have intentionally hijacked the ship, they will face three optional punishments: they will be executed or they will have a leg and a hand cut in cross or they will be expelled", Mudey said, indicating the pirates would soon be on an Islamic trial. The vessel was carrying charcoal to Emirates when pirates armed with automatic weapons hijacked it off Somalia's coasts.



BELGIUM

Zeebrugge, Nov 14 — The departure of bulker *Saba* (26132 gt, built 1984) was suspended at 1507, Nov 9 due to detentions. — Lloyd's Sub-agents. (Note — *Saba* arrived Antwerp 2233, Nov 7 and according to Lloyd's AIS it is still in port today.)

SABA (Malta)

See "Belgium" under "Port State Control".



ADRIACEM I (Panama)

Rijeka, Nov 15 — Bulk cement carrier *Adriacem I* (1446 gt, built 1974) has been temporarily detained at Koromacno, due to unpaid Pilot expenses. — Lloyd's Agents.

ALEXANDER (Georgia)

Beirut, Nov 10 — General cargo *Alexander* (2598 gt, built 1993) was arrested at Beirut port Nov 8 by the Israeli Boycott Office due calling at an Israeli port, which is in breach of boycott rules and regulations. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Alexander* arrived Beirut Oct 25.)

AMBAR (Honduras)

See "Albania" under "Political & Civil Unrest."

ARIEL S. (Belize)

Beirut, Nov 10 — General cargo *Ariel S.* (1950 gt, built 1985) was arrested at Beirut port Nov 9 by the Israeli Boycott Office due calling at an Israeli port, which is in breach of boycott rules and regulations. — Lloyd's Agents.

ATHANASIOS T. (Greece)

London, Nov 13 — A report in the Nov 10, edition of Newsfront, states: Seized in March by the Piraeus Port Authority, in pursuit of a Euros 3,460 claim in an action against the registered owners Navigator Naftiki

Eteria, product tanker *Athanasios T.*, has again been listed for auction, this time on Nov 22. Lying in Perama, the vessel carries a start-up price of Euros 8,000.

BAI LONG QUAN (China)

London, Nov 13 — General cargo *Bai Long Quan* is still at Western Anchorage No.1, Hong Kong, under Admiralty and High Court arrest.

London, Nov 16 — General cargo *Bai Long Quan* is still at Western Anchorage No.1, Hong Kong, but it is no longer reported to be under arrest.

BULMARKET 1 (Bulgaria)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 15 — Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Bulmarket 1*, alongside at Batumi following a decision of the Poti court, has paid a fine of 867,500 Lari and has now been released by the boundary police. The tanker had been detained by the coast guard for illegal “penetration” into Georgian territorial waters on Oct 29. — Correspondent.

CASINO ROYALE (Bahamas)

Miami, Nov 13 — Passenger (cruise) *Casino Royale* was arrested over alleged unpaid wages. The dispute was reportedly settled last month when the vessel’s owners agreed to pay \$230,000 in back wages to the vessel’s crew. If the owners cannot work out a reasonable agreement in federal court, the vessel may be ordered to be sold at auction. Understand the disputes may take a minimum of three to four months to resolve. — Lloyd’s Agents.

CHERYL ANNE (Philippines)

Manila, Nov 13 — The Bureau of Customs has initiated seizure and forfeiture proceedings against the tug *Jacob 1* and barge *Cheryl Anne*. Separate seizure proceedings are also being conducted for the cargo of used oil carried by the *Cheryl Anne*. The proceedings have been transferred from the Port of Surigao, where the two Philippine-registered vessels are currently detained, to the Bureau of Customs head office in Manila. The vessels were apprehended and detained by Customs authorities on Sep 1 in Surigao port in Mindanao island for violation of the country’s customs and tariff code as well as violation of the hazardous waste act. The vessels were allegedly trying to smuggle into the Philippines some 440,000 gallons of used oil from Palau. Under the country’s customs code, a vessel caught smuggling contraband into the country could be seized and appropriated by the state. — Correspondent.

Manila, Nov 14 — The Bureau of Customs has ordered the importer of used oil carried by barge *Cheryl Anne* to return the cargo to its port of origin in the island nation of Palau. The Bureau of Customs has likewise ordered Powerzone Petroleum to post a Pesos10 million bond as guarantee that the used oil would be returned to Palau. Implementation of the Bureau of Customs order, however, is not immediately enforceable as Powerzone

is also facing several charges from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment for violating the country’s environmental laws. The cargo of used oil is considered a hazardous waste and will be used as evidence in the various administrative and criminal charges brought against the importer and owner of the vessels. The 440,000 gallons of used oil is currently stored in two coastal tankers moored in Surigao Port under the custody of the Bureau of Customs and the National Anti-Environment Crime Task Force. — Correspondent.

Manila, Nov 15 — The Philippine Department of Natural Resources and Environment announced that results of a chemical analysis carried out on a cargo of used oil confiscated from barge *Cheryl Anne*, revealed that it did not contain PolyChlorinated Biphenyl (PCB), a hazardous chemical compound. The tests were carried out by the state-Environmental Management Bureau, to determine if the confiscated used oil could be recycled. Earlier National Anti-Environment Crime Task Force deputy chief and DENR Undersecretary Roy Kyamko said that “if the samples do not contain PCB, the used oil will be considered as source of bunker fuel”. The findings have strengthened the Department of Natural Resources position that rather than return the used oil to Palau where it originated and risk a diplomatic incident it would be better to have it recycled and sold locally. — Lloyd’s List Correspondent.

CONSTELLATION (Panama)

Portsmouth, UK, Nov 11 — Russian frontier guards have arrested the Panama flagged trawler *Constellation* (? refrigerated general cargo *Constellation* (655 gt, built 1973) for illegal fishing. The vessel was detained in the Sea of Okhotsk and escorted for trial to the port of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy. — Correspondent.

ERMIS THALASSA (Greece)

Piraeus, Nov 13 — Roll on roll off *Ermis Thalassa* is still under arrest at Eleusis. No auction date has yet been set. — Lloyd’s Agents.

ESSCO BOUNTY (Panama)

London, Nov 15 — Understand general cargo *Essco Bounty* (6127 gt, built 1982) was “abandoned” by its 14 crew at Tema Aug 4, at the crews salaries had not been paid for between two to seven months. At the end of July \$72,000 was outstanding. Also there was no food, no bunker, and vessel was black out at night. As of Aug 22 the 14 crew were still onboard and at that time negotiations were on going with creditor Brilliant Maritime Services Ltd where they had taken a commitment to pay off the crew and repatriate them, in exchange they would expect full cooperation from the crew to sail the vessel to Cape Town where they intend to re-arrest the vessel and have it sold off. Supplies would be replenished, i.e. food, water,

Gasoil, luboil on Brilliant Maritime Services cost. (Note — *Essco Bounty* subsequently arrived Cape Town Oct 4.)

London, Nov 15 — Notice has been given that, the High Court of South Africa, has ordered that general cargo *Essco Bounty*, currently under arrest in Cape Town harbour, be sold by judicial public auction at 1100, local time, Dec 6.

FALCON IV (Greece)

Piraeus, Nov 16 — Ferry *Falcon IV* still remains under arrest at Volos. No date for her auction has been set, todate. The vessel is unlikely to be released in the near future due to the numerous claims against her by her crew members, fuel companies and the Port Authorities. — Lloyd’s Agents.

GREGORIO I (Panama)

Limassol, Nov 15 — General cargo *Gregorio I* is still under detention. No information for prospects of sailing yet. — Lloyd’s Agents.

KATRINA (Philippines)

Manila, Nov 16 — Passenger ro/ro *Katrina* is still detained but her crew were reportedly released. — Lloyd’s Agents.

MAESTRO NIYAZI (Azerbaijan)

Limassol, Nov 13 — General cargo *Maestro Niyazi* was released and sailed Limassol Nov 10 for Reni. — Lloyd’s Agents.

MARAKI (Greece)

London, Nov 13 — A report in the Nov 10, edition of “Newsfront”, states: Product tanker *Maraki* (147 gt, built 1955) was seized in early November by the Piraeus Port Authority, in pursuit of a Euros 3,641 claim against the registered owners, Nestor Star Nafiki Eteria.

ORESTES (Panama)

Bari, Nov 9 — Passenger ro/ro *Orestes* is still under arrest at Bari. — Lloyd’s Agents.

PANIC (Greece)

Piraeus, Nov 13 — Passenger (cruise) *Panic* is still under arrest at Eleusis. No new auction date has yet been set. — Lloyd’s Agents.

PAULIJING (Belize)

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: After more than 11 months stranded onboard general cargo *Paulijing*, eight crew members, comprising four Indian and four Myanmar nationals, were finally free to return to their countries. Malaysian Trades Union Congress vice-president A. Balasubramaniam said he received a call from the crew this morning stating that they had been released. The crew members left the ship yesterday and departed home this morning. The MTUC had been asked by the International Transport Workers Federation to intervene on behalf of the crew when *Paulijing* was impounded by the court last November after a legal dispute over its ownership. The crew members were

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held aboard the ship as witnesses while the case proceeded in the High Court.

PISHVA (Iran)

Abu Dhabi, Nov 12 — Local agents of Ro-ro *Pishva* advise that vessel sailed on Feb 9 to Iran. — Lloyd’s Agents. (Note — *Pishva* was reported under arrest at Mina Zayed, where arrived Apr 13, 2003.)

PLAVA (Albania)

Bari, Nov 9 — General cargo *Plava* is still under arrest at Bari. — Lloyd’s Agents.

ROSELLA (Panama)

See under “Marine.”

SKY (Cambodia)

Haifa, Nov 13 — General cargo *Sky* was arrested by the Israeli customs authority about 2.5 years ago for smuggling cigarettes. The owners failed to pay the penalty and the ship was offered for sale by auction. This was held on Nov 1. According to unofficial information, the best price offered US\$ 200,000. — Lloyd’s Agents.

TIAN SHUN (Panama)

London, Nov 13 — General cargo *Tian Shun* (5138 gt, built 1982), which arrived at Hong Kong at 2110 hrs, Nov 12, is today reported at South West Lamma Anchorage, Hong Kong, under Admiralty & High Court arrest.

London, Nov 15 — General cargo *Tian Shun* sailed from Hong Kong at 0457 hrs, today.

TIBER (Albania)

Bari, Nov 9 — General cargo *Tiber* is still under arrest at Bari. — Lloyd’s Agents.

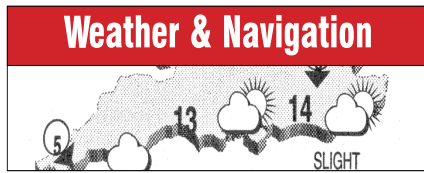


Pollution

VLADIVOSTOK AREA, RUSSIA

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: The sea pollution with petroproducts near Vladivostok is growing with every passing month. The entire area of Zolotoy Rog Bay is already covered with an oil film, Itar-Tass learnt yesterday at the territorial hydrometeorological center. Concentration of petroproducts in water has nearly doubled in the autumn as against summer months. The high level of pollution was registered over the entire area of the Bay of Amur and Ussuri Bay, which were regarded as pure in the past. These findings were made by specialists of the Primorye hydrometeorological center and the Sea Protection Institute who completed explorations at the network of observation stations, located along the entire coast of Peter the Great Bay. Explorations showed that sea

pollution is rising at a rapid rate near Vladivostok. Concentration of petroproducts in water tops ceiling figures 10-20 times. Experts registered a considerable rise in the content of phenol and mercury. Scholars called as reasons for this situation the continued discharge into the sea of petroproducts, unpurified sewage and industrial waters as well as a great number of unauthorized junks along the bay. Late last year, the administration of the Primorye Territory took some measures to improve the ecological situation in Zolotoy Rog Bay. The authorities imposed personal responsibility of leaseholders of piers for water pollution and worked out a system of fines. However, these measures have not yielded any results so far.



AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: State Emergency Service volunteers are out in force in south-east Queensland this evening, in the wake of ferocious storms that struck this afternoon. Up to 30,000 homes were blacked out and many were damaged. Major train services in Brisbane were forced to stop at the height of the wild weather. The weather bureau says a storm cell that struck Brisbane’s northside was on the verge of becoming a tornado. No injuries have been reported. SES spokeswoman Kathryn Ryan says they face a long night carrying out repairs. “We’ve actually had a number of lightning strikes around Windsor and a number of homes are missing their roofs,” she said. “As people come home from work, we get the calls for SES assistance. So if people do need to contact the SES the best way is to just look up your local council in the white pages and give them a call.”

CANADA

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: Every sailing from Tsawwassen to Swartz Bay and Duke Point, and back again, have been cancelled for the next few hours as the wind is gusting between 70 and 80 km/hour in the Strait of Georgia causing rough seas, and the wind is combining with heavy rain to reduce visibility. Sailings from Horseshoe Bay are still going ahead. Environment Canada expects the winds to die down this afternoon. Over 8,000 people are without power on the Sunshine Coast, Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island.

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated Nov 15, states: Flood damage to Glacier National Park is estimated at Can\$4.7 million, according to park officials. That’s all we know of right now, spokeswoman Melissa Wilson said this evening. The flooding was

caused by Pacific storms that dumped 14.1 inches of rain between October 1 and November 9, including 9.1 inches in a 36-hour period November 5-7.

HURRICANE “SERGIO”

Mexico City, Nov 15 — Hurricane “Sergio” wavered today but still threatened towns on Mexico’s Pacific coast. “Sergio” had winds of 105 mph, down slightly from earlier in the day and still a Category 2 hurricane, capable of tearing off roof shingles and uprooting trees. “Sergio’s satellite presentation has degraded rapidly during the last several hours,” the U.S. National Hurricane Centre said. “It is difficult to know whether this is a temporary fluctuation or the beginning of a longer-term weakening trend.” With an earlier report putting the hurricane 410 miles southwest of the town of Zihuatanejo, the hurricane centre recommended vigilance. “Interests along the southwestern coast should monitor the progress of this system,” it said. — Reuters.

London, Nov 16 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Hurricane “Sergio” near lat 12.3N, long 103.1W, at 0600, UTC, Nov 16. Movement past six hours 045 deg at three knots. Position accurate to within 45 nautical miles, based on centre located by satellite. Maximum sustained winds 90 knots with gusts to 110 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds 20 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds 40 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 80 nautical miles. Forecast for 0600, UTC, Nov 17: Position lat 14.1N, long 103.3W. Maximum sustained winds 80 knots with gusts to 100 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds 20 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds 40 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 80 nautical miles.

IRAQ

London, Nov 10 — Berthing and sailing operations at Basrah Oil Terminal temporarily suspended yesterday due to rough weather in the area. The weather report issued late Nov 8 states the following: Wind Direction: 303.8 deg. Average wind speed: 16 knots.

JAPAN

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: A gust of wind destroyed two buildings on the island of Okushiri, near the western shore of Hokkaido today, just two days after a twister killed nine and destroyed dozens of homes on Japan’s main northern island. No one appears to be hurt from the strong wind that blew at around noon, according to Hokkaido prefectural police. Two warehouses for fishery equipment were completely destroyed, while six homes were partially damaged, according to Okushiri town officials.

KENYA

Nairobi, Nov 16 — Floods in Kenya’s northeastern and coastal areas have killed 23 people and displaced more than 80,000, the Red Cross said on yesterday. It also warned that heavy

rains would take a toll on the flood-prone western region. "From our countrywide assessment, we know of 23 people dead at the coast, the refugee camps and other areas of north eastern province," Linet Atieno, an information officer with the Kenyan Red Cross Society, told Reuters. Government officials in the coastal province said thousands were fleeing the rising water for shelter in the hills of Kwale district. Roads have been blocked and many students sitting national high school exams have been cut off from schools and examinations centres. "The number of people displaced (are) 80,000 and thousands more are affected and at high risk countrywide," the Kenya Red Cross Society said in a statement. "Flooding is also expected to occur in the traditional flood-prone areas of western Kenya, with rivers threatening to break their banks." The national Red Cross appealed for 500 million shillings (3.71 million pounds) to assist the 300,000 people it said were affected. — Reuters.

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY

London, Nov 15 — The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System issued a notice stating that the Montreal-Lake Ontario section of the Seaway will close at 2359, Dec 29. The Welland Canal section will close at 2359, Dec 30. The Sault Ste. Marie locks will close at 2400, Jan 15, 2007.

TROPICAL STORM "SERGIO"

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: Tropical Storm "Sergio" formed off Mexico's Pacific coast today and was expected to become a hurricane later in the week as it nears land. The unusual late-season storm was the second to form in the eastern Pacific this month. It was the first time since 1961 that two tropical storms have formed in the eastern Pacific in November. This evening, "Sergio" was located about 430 miles southwest of Manzanillo and had maximum sustained winds of 65 mph, forecasters said. The storm was almost stationary but was expected to head north and strengthen, reaching hurricane force by tomorrow or Thursday (Nov 16). "Sergio" was predicted to reach a spot about 125 miles off the coast of Manzanillo, still at hurricane strength, over the weekend.

London, Nov 15 — Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm "Sergio" was located near lat 12.7N, long 104.3W. The movement over the past six hours - quasi-stationary. The position is accurate to within 15 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 55 knots, with gusts to 65 knots. Radius of 50 knot winds: 20 nautical miles in all four quadrants. Radius of 34 knot winds: 40 nautical miles in all four quadrants. The maximum significant wave height is 22 feet. At 0600, UTC, Nov 16, the

centre is predicted to be near lat 13.1N, long 103.7W, with maximum sustained winds of 75 knots and gusts to 90 knots.

TYPHOON "CHANCHU"

Manila, Nov 13 — Batangas Bay Carriers, Inc. owner and operator of product tanker *Malitam* reported that it had collected on its hull insurance for the vessel last week. The company, however, did not disclose the amount of insurance collected. Batangas Bay declared *Malitam* a constructive total loss and filed the appropriate claim with its hull insurer, Manila-based Pioneer Insurance. Pioneer Insurance still has to take possession of the vessel which remains moored beside Batangas Bay Carrier's repair barge at the del Pan area of the Pasig River in Manila. Batangas Bay Carriers officials said that Pioneer Insurance had made arrangements for *Malitam* to remain under their custody until a decision is made by the insurers on what to do with the vessel. *Malitam* sustained extensive damage after it ran aground on May 13 off Pinamalayan, Mindoro Oriental, as it was seeking shelter from tropical storm "Chanchu." — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

TYPHOON "CHEBI"

London, Nov 10 — Tropical storm "Chebi" is forecast to strike the Philippines as a typhoon at about 0000, GMT, Nov 11. Data supplied by the US Navy and Air Force Joint Typhoon Warning Center suggest that the point of landfall will be near lat 16.2N, long 122.7E. "Chebi" is expected to bring one-minute maximum sustained winds to the region of around 138 km/h. Wind gusts in the area may be considerably higher.

London, Nov 10 — Following received from the Meteorological Office, issued at 1055, UTC: Typhoon "Chebi" located near lat at 16.2N, 124.9E, east of Philippines moving west at 14 knots. Maximum winds 100 knots near centre. Radius of over 50-knot winds: 60 miles. Radius of over 30-knot winds: 150 miles north semicircle and 130 miles elsewhere. Forecast position for 0900, UTC, Nov 11, near lat 15.2N, long 120.1E with 80 miles radius of 70 percent probability circle. Maximum winds 85 knots near centre.

London, Nov 11 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Typhoon "Chebi" located near lat 16.1N, long 120.3E at 0600, UTC. Movement past six hours 275 degs at 13 knots position accurate to within 40 nautical miles position based on centre located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 90 knots with gusts to 110 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds: 20 nautical miles northeast quadrant over water, 20 nautical miles southeast quadrant over water, 25 nautical miles southwest quadrant, 25 nautical miles northwest quadrant. Radius of 50-knot winds: 45 nautical miles, northeast quadrant over water

45 nautical miles southeast quadrant over water, 50 nautical miles southwest quadrant, 50 nautical miles northwest quadrant. Radius of 34-knot winds: 80 nautical miles northeast quadrant over water, 80 nautical miles southeast quadrant over water, 90 nautical miles southwest quadrant, 95 nautical miles northwest quadrant. Forecast for 0600, UTC, Nov 12: Position near lat 15.5N, long 116.2E with maximum sustained winds of 95 knots and gusts to 115 knots. Typhoon "Chebi", located approximately 95 nautical miles north-northwest of Manila, Philippines, has tracked westward at 13 knots over the past six hours. Maximum significant wave height at 0600, UTC, today, is 21 feet.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: After passing over Luzon island of the Philippines, Typhoon "Chebi" entered the East Sea yesterday evening, moving west at 10-15kph towards north central Vietnam. As of 0700, today, the eye of the typhoon was at lat 15.7N, long 116.3E, just 460km east of Vietnam's Hoang Sa (Paracel) islands, according to a Hydrometeorological Centre report. The centre predicted "Chebi" would be within 190 km of the Hoang Sa Archipelago in lat 15.8N, long 113.5E by 1900, Monday (Nov 13). The affected area in the middle and north of East Sea will see rough seas and strong winds of 103 -150kph. Meanwhile, other weather agencies from Japan, China, Hong Kong, and Republic of Korea predict "Chebi" will begin to head in a northeasterly direction from Sunday to Tuesday, to hit Vietnamese northern provinces Nghe An and Thanh Hoa. Upon making landfall in Vietnam, "Chebi" should weaken to winds of 75kph down to over 62kph, according to the US Joint Typhoon Warning Centre yesterday.

London, Nov 12 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Typhoon "Chebi" located near lat 15.0N, long 16.E at 0600, UTC. Movement past six hours 260 degs at 14 knots position accurate to within 40 nautical miles position based on centre located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 70 knots with gusts to 85 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds: 20 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds: 45 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds: 85 nautical miles northeast quadrant, 80 nautical miles southeast and southwest quadrants and 90 nautical miles northwest quadrant. Forecast for 0600, UTC, Nov 13: Position near lat 15.6N, long 112.4E with maximum sustained winds of 60 knots and gusts to 75 knots. Typhoon "Chebi" at 0900, UTC, today, located approximately 265 nautical miles west of Manila, Philippines, has tracked westward at 14 knots over the past six hours.

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Sinh Hung has ordered an around-the-clock watch on the movement of Typhoon

“Chebi” as well as protection for fishermen operating in the East Sea. The Foreign Ministry said it has sent requests to representative offices in China, Taiwan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Brunei and Indonesia, asking these countries and territories to provide shelter to Vietnamese fishing boats from the typhoon. Typhoon “Chebi” was moving between 89 to 117 km per hour towards the East Sea and was just 460 km southeast of the Hoang Sa Archipelago at 1600 hrs, yesterday. The Vietnam Central Hydrometeorological Centre yesterday evening forecast the typhoon would be 310 km east off the coast of central Quang Nam to Binh Dinh provinces by 1600 hrs, today.

London, Nov 13 — Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm “Chebi” was located near lat 15.8N, long 113.2E, approximately 520 nautical miles south-east of Hanoi, Vietnam. It has tracked west-northwestward, or 295 degs, at five knots over the past six hours. The position is accurate to within 60 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 55 knots, with gusts to 70 knots. Radius of 50 knot winds: 35 nautical miles in all four quadrants. Radius of 34 knot winds: 70 nautical miles in the northeast quadrant, 65 nautical miles in the southeast, southwest and northwest quadrants. The maximum significant wave height is 13 feet. At 0600, Nov 14, the centre is predicted to be near lat 17.1N, long 110.7E, with maximum sustained winds of 40 knots and gusts to 50 knots.

London, Nov 14 — Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm “Chebi” was located near lat 17.9N, long 111.0E. Movement past six hours 330 degs, at seven knots. The position is accurate to within 60 nautical miles and is based on the centre located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds: 35 knots, with gusts to 45 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds: 45 nautical miles in the northeast and northwest quadrants, 40 nautical miles in the southeast quadrant, and 35 nautical miles in the southwest quadrant. At 0600, Nov 15, the centre is predicted to be near lat 19.5N, long 109.5E, with maximum sustained winds of 25 knots and gusts to 35 knots. Dissipating as a significant tropical cyclone over land.

UNITED STATES

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Flood waters this week have torn up 1,000 feet of railroad, soaked at least 100 homes and have caused millions of dollars in other damage in Snohomish County, officials said yesterday. How much, they won't know until after the Snohomish River slips back within its banks. “It is safe to assume there are millions of dollars in damages in this county, but we have to do the hard

verification at this point,” said John Pennington, the county's director of emergency management. The Snohomish is expected to remain at flood stage through tomorrow, something one expert called a “long crest.” Meanwhile, the river will keep pouring into low-lying farmlands. “We are still way above flood stage,” said Norm Skjelbreia, a flood expert with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. “It's not over (until) the water is gone.” Levees along the Snohomish River did not breach. That was something emergency managers feared happened on Tuesday evening after flood waters surged over a levee at French Creek Slough south of Snohomish. Within 15 minutes, Highway 9 was covered with three feet of fast-moving water, Pennington said. Crews with the Marshland Diking District and other officials walked levees after daylight Wednesday and found them intact. The levees are designed to safely allow flood waters to flow over the top, relieving pressure, Corps spokeswoman Reta Kauzlarich said. In Snohomish, the flood tore up 1,000 feet of Burlington Northern Santa Fe's main track to Chicago, said Gus Melonas, railway spokesman.

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated today, states: Heavy snow blanketed parts of Iowa and Minnesota on Friday (Nov 10), closing and delaying some schools. Northern Iowa got up to 9 inches of snow, while Mankato, in southern Minnesota, reported 7 inches. In the northeastern Iowa town of Emmetsburg, the snowfall came along with thunder and lightning, in a phenomenon called thundersnow, said Craig Cogil, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Johnston. The heavy snow was expected to begin breaking up by afternoon, Cogil said, but some area schools closed for the day or opened late because of the weather. Meanwhile, storms brought heavy rain, strong winds and lightning to northeastern Illinois, where a flooded viaduct was blamed for an accident that killed a Chicago bus driver. The storms also caused long delays for travellers. A lightning strike damaged the signal system along a commuter train line, stalling about 20 trains between Chicago and Aurora for up to two hours during rush hour, Metra spokeswoman Judy Pardonnet said. And all flights at O'Hare and Midway airports were delayed and many were cancelled, said Wendy Abrams, a spokeswoman for Chicago's Department of Aviation.

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated today, states: Nearly 18 inches of rain in 36 hours fell this week at Mount Rainier National Park in Washington State and more rain and snow are forecast through the weekend. The deluge on Monday and Tuesday (Nov 6-7) swamped roads and bridges, cut power and sewer lines, and forced park officials to close the gates for the first time in 26 years. The basic clean-up will take weeks, and in some places, park officials say,

they won't know the extent of the damage until after the snow melts in the spring. The Pineapple Express storm, named for its origin in warm Pacific waters, wreaked havoc across the region. It damaged hundreds of homes, washed out a major highway near Oregon's Mount Hood, closed part of the North Cascades Highway in Washington, and was blamed for at least three deaths in the two states. Farther east, Montana's Glacier National Park received close to a foot of rain, causing widespread flooding and damaging the popular Going-to-the-Sun Road. Most rivers were easing yesterday, and the National Weather Service said the precipitation forecast for the weekend was not expected to cause more flooding, in part because the mountains were expected to get mostly snow. Recovery and damage assessments, particularly in hard-hit parts of western Washington, probably will take weeks.

Earthquakes



KURIL ISLANDS

London, Nov 15 — A report, dated today, states: A moderate earthquake occurred at 1114, UTC, today. The magnitude 7.8 event has been located in the Kuril Islands in lat 46.68N, long 153.22E, depth 27 km.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: A magnitude-5.9 earthquake struck near the coast of Papua New Guinea early Sunday (Nov 12), the US Geological Survey said, but no Pacific-wide tsunami warning was issued. There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The temblor struck at 0110, local time, 58 miles northwest of Kandrian on Papua New Guinea's island of New Britain and 32 miles under the Earth's crust. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center at Ewa Beach, Hawaii, said there was no risk of a Pacific-wide tsunami “based on historical earthquake and tsunami data.” However, the center warned that “earthquakes of this size sometimes generate local tsunamis that can be destructive along coasts located within 100 kilometres (60 kilometres) of the earthquake epicentre.”

Political & Civil Unrest



ALBANIA

Bari, Nov 9 — Product tanker *Ambar* is still under arrest at Bari. — Lloyd's Agents.

BANGLADESH

Karachi, Nov 10 — Container handling at Chittagong Port of

Bangladesh has considerably improved over the past one week. This was possible due to CPA a month-long action programme effective from Oct 30 as a measure to ease container congestion at the country's premier seaport of Chittagong. As part of the programme, the office hours of the concerned departments under the CPA and the Chittagong Customs House (CCH) have been extended by three hours up to 2000 during the period. While the CPA officials at the delivery section are to work until the middle of night. In the meantime, the CPA had waived the formalities required for night delivery of import cargoes or shipment of export cargoes. Port officials told the media that it was delivering on an average 1400-1500 TEUs. Earlier, the CPA used to deliver around 1000 TEUs a day during weekdays and nearly 500 TEUs during public holidays. However, a total of 18,559 TEUs containers were lying undelivered at the port yards as of Thursday (Nov 9). Around 9700 containers were waiting for unloading and 10 container vessels were on berth at the port while 14 were waiting at the outer anchorage until Thursday evening. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Thousands of opposition activists are protesting in Bangladesh on the second day of a nationwide blockade to demand electoral reform. Transport in and around Dhaka has been severely disrupted. One person died when a police van ran into protesters. The opposition Awami League and its allies called the protest in an attempt to force the administration to sack election officials they accuse of bias. An interim government is in power ahead of general elections due in January. Yesterday, all major towns and cities were affected by the blockade, as well as the country's main sea port, Chittagong. Protesters blocked railway lines and set fire to a train and a bus on the outskirts of Dhaka. Elsewhere in the city, vehicles which tried to defy the blockade were reportedly set on fire or stoned. Apart from protesters gathering for rallies, the streets were largely deserted, with many businesses and shops closed, witnesses said. Dhaka's police force said on Saturday (Nov 11) it had banned "processions, rallies, demonstrations, sieges, sit-ins and blockades", as well as the carrying of potential weapons, the Associated Press news agency reports. The country's interim government has issued a statement warning of serious consequences if the transport blockade continued. The action was "anti-constitutional and illegal" and in cutting off the supply of food and medical supplies risked creating a humanitarian disaster, it said. Business leaders have also urged an end to the blockade, warning it could cost the country millions of dollars a day in lost export earnings. The 14-party alliance led by the Awami League ordered the protests after

Bangladesh's chief electoral commissioner and three deputies refused to resign. The alliance accuses the officials of planning to rig January's elections in favour of the outgoing government of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia. The commissioners deny the allegations.

Chittagong, Nov 15 — The nationwide blockade still remain in force. In the meantime, vessel loading and unloading operation of containers and cargo have been resumed in side the Chittagong Port protected area only during the morning of Nov 14, but incoming and outgoing of import/export cargo still remain suspended. — Lloyd's Agents.

Karachi, Nov 15 — Cargo handling at the Chittagong Port has resumed after a three-day suspension due to ongoing strike by a group of 14 opposition parties. During the strike the port workers remained absent but are now back at work. However, delivery of containers still remained suspended due to the blockade that paralysed road communication across country. Road links to and from the port remained snapped for the third straight days as Awami League-led combine enforced a countrywide blockade since Sunday demanding removal of chief election commissioner. Port sources told media that over 500,000 tonnes of cargo were stuck at port yards and onboard the ships due to the blockade. Numbers of vessels were lying stranded at Chittagong Port. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

Chittagong, Nov 16 — The nationwide blockade has been temporarily withdrawn from today to Nov 19. As such normal port functioning have resumed. — Lloyd's Agents.

CHAD

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 13, states: Chad's government has declared a state of emergency in the east, following a series of ethnic clashes. At least 300 people have been killed this month, in violence between Arabs and black Africans, officials say. The decree covers three provinces in eastern Chad, across the border from Sudan's war-torn Darfur region, and could be extended further. Chad accuses Sudan of exporting the Darfur conflict, while Sudan accuses Chad of backing Darfur's rebels. The state of emergency covers the regions of Ouaddai, Salamat and Wadi Fira, where the violence has occurred. The government says the emergency zone may be extended even as far as the capital, N'Djamena, should things deteriorate. "This state of emergency aims to halt the serious attacks on public order due to the rampant insecurity in these regions," said Communications Minister Hourmadji Moussa Doumgor following a special cabinet session. The cabinet has also tightened rules on media reporting of the conflict, according to a statement broadcast on state radio with both radio and private newspapers to be monitored. Private radio stations are

banned from "reporting on issues likely to threaten public order, national unity, territorial integrity," the government spokesman said. Last week, aid workers said that five villages had been attacked in a three-day assault by 200 men on horseback, armed with machine-guns. Chad's government said the attackers were linked to Sudan's pro-government Janjaweed militias, accused of widespread atrocities in Darfur. Eastern Chad and Darfur have a similar mix of Arab and non-Arab populations. Chad's government last week called for UN peacekeepers to be deployed along the border. Ethnic tensions have been on the rise in south-eastern Chad for many months, but there are signs the violence is beginning to spin out of control.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: Gunfire and explosions boomed through Congo's capital yesterday in a new round of fighting between forces loyal to two presidential candidates awaiting the results of a runoff election meant to secure an end to years of war. Residents on Kinshasa dashed for cover and street vendors hurriedly packed up stalls in Kinshasa. Three civilians and one soldier were killed in the crossfire between loyalists of President Joseph Kabila and Vice President Jean-Pierre Bemba. Police inspector Gen. Patrick Sabiti said police caught two of the civilians vandalizing property and chased them, when they ran into the line of fire. The shooting lasted less than four hours and was confined to a couple of blocks in front of the residence and a television station of Bemba, a former rebel leader. (See issue of Oct 31.)

Kinshasa, Nov 16 — U.N. and European peacekeepers deployed in force to deter violence in Congo's capital today after President Joseph Kabila was declared winner of a historic election in a result disputed by his rival. Pockets of supporters of the defeated rival, Vice-President Jean-Pierre Bemba, turned out in some parts of Kinshasa to express anger at the result announced late yesterday by Democratic Republic of Congo's electoral commission. Some stoned passing cars outside Bemba's official residence, while others barricaded a road outside a pro-Bemba TV station, but most of the city appeared quiet, albeit tense, under a heavy international security operation. White-painted U.N. armoured vehicles and truckloads of blue-helmeted U.N. peacekeepers patrolled the streets and guarded strategic points of the teeming city as European Union military helicopters clattered overhead. U.N. officials, part of the world's biggest peacekeeping force deployed in the country, hailed the Oct. 29 run-off vote and its result a major milestone in Congo's bid to leave behind years of war, dictatorship and chaos. The international security clampdown was aimed at deterring

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any recurrence of the street fighting between soldiers and supporters of Bemba and Kabila which shook Kinshasa last weekend and in August. Congo's electoral commission late on Wednesday announced incumbent President Kabila had won the presidential run-off, taking 58.05 percent of the votes against 41.95 percent for his rival Bemba. Although the Supreme Court must still confirm the result, Bemba's campaign coalition has rejected it after alleging "systematic cheating" in vote counting. Bemba's camp was due to meet today to decide how to challenge the vote. — Reuters.

INDIA

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated Nov 10, states: Andhra Pradesh Police today claimed yet another major success against Maoists when 11 guerrillas including some top leaders were shot dead at two different places. Nine Maoists, including three top leaders of the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist), were killed in a gun battle in the Badvel forests of Kadpa, near the border of Nellore district, 450 km from Hyderabad. The battle took place during combing operations amid reports that the Maoists were planning major strikes in Kadpa, the home district of Chief Minister Y S Rajasekhara Reddy. A police party engaged in combing operations found a group of Maoists holding a meeting in the forests and asked them to surrender. As the Maoists opened fire, the police retaliated. Some Maoists escaped into the deep forests. At least six persons, including four girls, were killed and about 50 others injured today when militants hurled a grenade at a leader of a sect outside a mosque in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district. Militants lobbed a grenade towards the mosque at Tahab in Pulwama district at around 1315 when a large number of people had gathered there to offer Friday prayers, officials said. About fifty-five people were injured in the blast. Six of them later succumbed to their injuries. Of the injured, 12 were admitted in the sub-district hospital in Pulwama and ten others were discharged after being administered first-aid. The rest of the injured were brought here for treatment and six of them were stated to be in a critical condition, official sources added.

Srinagar, Nov 15 — Indian troops killed seven suspected militants in two gunbattles in Kashmir today, as top diplomats from India and Pakistan held a second day of talks including over the dispute in Kashmir. The two firefights took place in Kupwara district in Indian Kashmir, bordering the Pakistani sector of the Himalayan region. One soldier was killed and three wounded in one of the gunbattles, Lieutenant-Colonel A. K. Mathur, an army spokesman said. Guerrilla violence has increased in Kashmir this week, just as the diplomats from India and Pakistan sat down for first talks in nearly a year in

New Delhi. The talks were due to end later today. Yesterday, 28 people including 17 civilians were wounded in a car bomb and a landmine blast in Kashmir. The Hizbul Mujahideen, the largest rebel group fighting for region's merger with Pakistan, claimed responsibility for the attacks. — Reuters.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Suspected separatist guerrillas belonging to the outlawed United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) today blew up a crude oil pipeline in Assam, the latest in a string of explosions on oil and gas installations, officials said. Rebels triggered a landmine explosion on a pipeline owned by the state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) near village Dishanpani, about 360 km east of Guwahati. 'The impact of the blast was so severe that it created a big crater and damaged some four metres of the pipeline,' a senior police official said. An ONGC spokesman said engineers were repairing the damage. 'Normal operations are on although we had to shut down the pipeline,' the official said. Deputy Inspector General of Police Bhaskar Mahanta blamed the ULFA for the attack. 'The ULFA in the past week had carried out at least four explosions targeting oil and natural gas pipelines'. ULFA rebels Sunday (Nov 12) blew up an oil pipeline of the world's oldest operating refinery in eastern Assam forcing shutdown of the 40-km long pipeline. The pipeline transports oil from the world's oldest operating Digboi refinery, established in 1901.

IRAQ

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated today, states: A pair of car bombs tore through a downtown shopping district in the capital today, killing eight people, while a Slovak and Polish soldier were reported killed overnight by a roadside bomb south of the capital. Police and a medical workers said at least 38 others were injured in the explosion at Hafidh al-Qadhi square, a formerly bustling area on the eastern bank of the Tigris River. It was one of at least three deadly attacks today in the beleaguered capital, where US forces searching for a kidnapped American soldier offered a \$50,000 for information leading to his recovery. Slovakian defence ministry spokesman Vladimir Gemela said the two soldiers died when their vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb near Kut, 100 miles southeast of Baghdad where coalition troops have fought fighters with the Mahdi Army militia loyal to the radical anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. The deaths marked the 18th among Polish troops and fourth among those from Slovakia, which has about 100 troops in Iraq operating jointly with the 900 Polish troops in the country. In other violence in Baghdad, one passenger was killed and four injured when their car was hit by a roadside bomb that targeted but missed a police patrol, police Cap.

Mohammed Abdel-Ghani said. A driver was killed when his car exploded as he was approaching a public market in a southeastern district, Abdel-Ghani said. He said that appeared to have been a botched suicide bombing. One police officer was also killed when gunmen opened fire on their pickup truck in eastern Baghdad, said Lt. Muhsin of the Rissafa station. Earlier today, police said mortar fire hit the US government's representative office in Hillah, about 60 miles south of Baghdad. Capt. Muthanna Khalid Ali said part of the compound was set ablaze, although there was no immediate word on damage or casualties in the attack, at least the second on the office in recent weeks. In a suicide attack today, a bomber drove a car rigged with explosives into the police station in the northern town of Zaganya, killing the police chief, setting four vehicles on fire, and badly damaging the building, the provincial police information office said. In nearby Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, a staffer with the local agriculture directorate was shot and killed in the city's downtown area, the information office said. Two bodies that had been bound and shot in the head and chest were pulled from the Tigris River this morning in Suwayrah, 25 miles south of Baghdad, morgue administrator Maamoun al-Ajili said. Scores of such bodies are recovered around Iraq each week, most believed to be the victims of sectarian death squads.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: A roadside bomb killed four Iraqi civilians and injured one other in eastern Baghdad today, while police said they were searching for gunmen who kidnapped about 50 Shiite travellers on a highway south of the capital the night before. The explosion apparently targeted but missed an Iraqi police patrol, said police Cap. Mohammed Abdul-Ghani. An earlier explosion in the capital was aimed at a US military convoy, but there were no reports of damage or injuries, he said. Police patrols were looking for the Sunni gunmen who ambushed a convoy of minibuses at a fake checkpoint, killing 10 Shiite passengers and kidnapping about 50, said a police officer. Police said the mass kidnapping and killing was near the volatile town of Latifiyah, about 20 miles south of Baghdad in the so-called Triangle of Death. Abdul-Ghani also said five bodies, all blindfolded and with their legs bound, had been recovered in various parts of eastern Baghdad early today. All had been mutilated by torture, marking them as victims of death squads that regularly kidnap rivals from Iraq's Muslim Sunni and Shiite sects.

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: Four British servicemen have been killed following an attack on a Multi National Forces boat patrol in southern Iraq, the Ministry of Defence has said. A further three suffered serious injuries in the attack which took place during

a routine patrol along the Shatt Al Arab waterway in Basra. The boat was hit by an "improvised explosive device", said Captain Tane Dunlop, speaking from Basra. It brings the total number of UK troops killed in Iraq to 125. Capt Dunlop said: "The use of improvised explosive devices is very common in Iraq, more often further north but there have been a number of such attacks in the Basra province and Basra city. It is slightly unusual in that this time it was targeting a boat, but they're usually used against any form of multinational forces or personnel." He said the injured servicemen had been evacuated to a field hospital where they were receiving medical attention. Among the injured, at least one was suffering from potentially life-threatening injuries, he said. In a separate incident, the US military says three American soldiers have been killed in combat while operating in western Al-Anbar province. Also two suicide bombers have killed 35 people and wounded 60 at a police commando recruiting centre in western Baghdad, police say.

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Ten people have been killed in a suicide bomb attack on a minibus in northern Baghdad, security sources say. At least 12 others were injured in the attack which took place in Shaab, a majority Shia area, at 1230 hrs (0930, UTC). The attack follows two suicide bombings yesterday which killed 35 and wounded 60 at a police commando recruiting centre in western Baghdad. A series of other bomb attacks in and around the capital yesterday left at least 10 people dead.

Baghdad, Nov 15 — A car bomb killed nine people and wounded 33 at a fuel station near Iraq's Interior Ministry in central Baghdad today, police and Interior Ministry sources said. The car, rigged with explosives, was left in the busy petrol station in the Bab al-Sharji district. Fuel shortages and state control of distribution mean Baghdad's relatively few outlets are generally crowded with drivers waiting to fill their tanks. The Interior Ministry has been a frequent target of guerrillas, notably Sunni Arab insurgents who accuse the ministry and police of being in league with Shi'ite militias. Men in police uniform abducted dozens of men from a government building in central Baghdad yesterday, although the government later said most had been released. The numbers of those detained or still missing remains unclear. — Reuters.

Baghdad, Nov 15 — A U.S. soldier and three Marines died yesterday from wounds suffered in combat in Iraq's western province of Anbar, the military said today. The military gave no further details of how they died. At least 2,857 U.S. servicemen and women have died in Iraq since the March 2003 U.S.-led invasion. — Reuters.

Baghdad, Nov 16 — Two U.S. soldiers were killed yesterday when their

vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb in Diyala province, north of Baghdad, the U.S. military said. A U.S. soldier was killed yesterday by small arms fire while conducting combat operations in Diyala province, the U.S. military said today. A U.S. soldier was shot dead in Baghdad on Tuesday (Nov 14), the military said. In a separate development, kidnappers who seized dozens of men from an Iraqi government building two days ago tortured and killed some of their hostages, the minister for higher education said today, citing the testimony of freed hostages. The comments from Abd Dhiab, who also said some 70 staff were still missing, underlined the rifts in the government of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, who has insisted that all but a handful of around 40 hostages have been freed. Tuesday's raid by gunmen in police uniform raised new fears that sectarian militias were out of control, despite U.S. calls for Maliki to disband armed groups loyal to his Shi'ite allies. Higher Education Minister Dhiab told Reuters today that around 70 hostages had been released out of about 150 staff and visitors originally seized from one of his ministry's buildings in central Baghdad. "There are a number of people who were killed, they are employees and guards," Dhiab said, without specifying how many. "According to the people released, they were killed by torture," he said, adding that several of those released were in shock after being tortured themselves. A spokesman for the higher education ministry said officials were compiling a full list of names of those seized. It included at least 100 employees of two departments in the building, as well as some 50 visitors. After the release of around 70 — including 30 freed yesterday — dozens were still unaccounted for, the spokesman said. The main government spokesman, however, said yesterday that 37 people had been freed and only a handful were still missing. Dhiab said both Sunnis and Shi'ites, were among the hostages so far freed, joining other senior officials in playing down indications that the raid had a sectarian motive. In the latest spasm of violence today, gunmen opened fire on a bakery in mainly Shi'ite east Baghdad, killing nine people and wounding two, police said. Yesterday, an Interior Ministry source said 55 unidentified bodies, most of them tortured and shot, were found in Baghdad, and more than 40 other deaths were reported in Iraq. — Reuters.

NIGERIA

Port Harcourt, Nov 13 — Gunmen who invaded an Agip oil flow station in Nigeria's southern delta over the weekend have vacated it but another of the Italian oil company's facilities remains under siege, officials said today. Attackers took over the Clough Creek flow station in the remote creeks of Bayelsa state on Saturday (Nov 11) night and left yesterday,

taking four speedboats and one houseboat, said Victor Akenge, environment commissioner in the state. It was the second raid on Clough Creek in two weeks. Another Bayelsa official said the attackers were youths from nearby villages who wanted to make some profit from Agip's proximity to their community. Akenge said the Tebidaba flow station, another remote Agip facility located in a different part of Bayelsa, remained under siege with close to 40 Nigerian oil workers and soldiers being held inside. Protesters invaded Tebidaba on November 6, to press demands for compensation for oil spills. Akenge said they were now demanding money before vacating the flow station. "They're asking for millions of naira before they will talk about their grievances. We are trying to persuade them to talk because it's better for them to negotiate about development and facilities than to ask for money," he said. Agip, a unit of Italy's Eni, has been forced to shut down 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude output from Tebidaba. Akenge said the state government had sent food and water to the hostages inside Tebidaba and they were in good health. — Reuters.

PAKISTAN

Karachi, Nov 16 — The sabotage activity is still going on in western Balochistan Province of Pakistan. In a latest attack, power supply to Jamshoro in Sindh Province was disrupted after four pylons supporting high-power transmission lines were blown up in the Hub area in Balochistan yesterday. According to local media: "One of the pylons of the Hubco company supplying power to Jamshoro Thermal Power Station was completely destroyed while three others were partially damaged as powerful time devices went off," local sources said, adding that the supply was restored in the evening through alternative arrangements. Engineers and other necessary staff would soon start replacing the damaged towers, they said. No arrest was reported. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

PHILIPPINES

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: A former Philippines senator and army colonel, who was wanted for involvement in a coup plot against President Gloria Arroyo, has been arrested. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan was caught in Quezon City, north of the capital Manila, police said. Mr Honasan has been linked to many other coup attempts in the Philippines since the 1980s, and was indicted for involvement in an army mutiny in 2003. He had gone into hiding shortly after being charged over the alleged coup plot in February. President Arroyo ordered a week-long state of emergency and offered a \$100,000 reward for Mr Honasan. "His fingerprints are in all the coup attempts. He is the guru," Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez told Associated Press news agency. But

opposition leader Vicente Sotto told the Philippine TV that Mr Honasan - a two-time senator - had played no role in the alleged attempt to topple President Arroyo.

SOMALIA

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Kenya has banned all flights to Somalia, citing security fears. The ban comes two weeks after the US issued a warning about suicide attacks from Islamist militants in Somalia. Kenya is the main entry point for international travel to Somalia and is also the source of much of the popular stimulant khat, consumed in Somalia. There were protests earlier this year when the Islamists who control much of southern Somalia banned the sale of khat during the holy month of Ramadan. There were six flights a week from Nairobi to the Somali capital, Mogadishu, and services to three other towns and many more khat flights each day. Kenyan khat, or miraa, growers have condemned the flight ban. Maoka Maore, MP for the central Ntonyiri constituency, said that 20 tons of khat, worth \$800,000 was sent to Somalia each day. The Islamists have tried to clamp down on the trade since their rise over the past five months. They banned its sale during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, sparking street protests in Kismayo. In weekend fighting, the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) say they have taken control of the town of Bandiradley, near the border with the Puntland region. Witnesses said at least eight people were killed in the fighting.

SRI LANKA

London, Nov 9 — A press report, dated Australia, Nov 10, states: Tamil Tiger rebels have staged a suicide attack against a naval patrol in northern Sri Lanka, crippling a gunboat that carried 10 to 15 sailors, military sources say. The Defence Ministry said a sea battle raged off the island's Jaffna peninsula but it did not immediately have details of casualties on either side. Initial reports said that a rebel craft packed with explosives rammed at least one gun boat. The battle came as the Government expressed "regret" over the killing of up to 65 civilians in an attack on suspected Tamil Tiger positions in the island's restive east on Wednesday (Nov 8). Late last month, the navy said it had destroyed a rebel trawler transporting arms for the guerrillas off the northern coast.

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: The Navy last evening foiled an attempt by the LTTE to destroy a passenger ship carrying 308 civilians to Jaffna off Point Pedro. A flotilla of over 20 Tiger boats had launched an attack on the passenger carrier. The Navy had moved in quickly to repulse the attack. Eight LTTE boats were destroyed including four suicide-boats laden with explosives, while the Navy lost on Dvora while another was damaged,

according to military sources. Subsequently Air Force MI 24 helicopters and Kfir jets destroyed 14 more LTTE boats.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: The Sri Lankan navy today destroyed a boat suspected of ferrying arms to Tamil rebels in Sri Lanka's north, killing all eight men aboard, the military said, while four government soldiers were killed in separate clashes with insurgents. Navy patrol boats spotted a fishing trawler off the western shore close to Indian waters, navy spokesman Cmdr. D.K.P. Dassanayake said. When the naval boats drew close, the men on the other vessel opened fire and threw grenades, he said. "Then the navy opened fire. The boat sunk after a huge explosion," Dassanayake said, adding that the big blast suggested the vessel may have been carrying arms and explosives for the Tamil Tigers. In the northwestern town of Mannar, rebels triggered an improvised explosive device that killed three soldiers on patrol, said military spokesman Brig. Prasad Samarasinghe. Mannar is about 135 miles from the capital, Colombo. Suspected rebels set off a roadside bomb on the northern Jaffna peninsula, killing a soldier, Samarasinghe said. Samarasinghe also said the rebels fired artillery late Monday (Nov 13) at military camps that dot the defense line separating government and rebel forces in Jaffna - considered the heartland of Sri Lanka's minority Tamils. No casualties were reported. The Defense Ministry reported on its Web site that 3,289 people have died in the fighting since December 1, 2005 - 860 government security personnel, 549 civilians and 1,880 rebels. This death toll does not include those who died today. The rebels do not generally issue casualty figures. The two sides met in Geneva last month for peace talks, but failed even to agree on a date to meet again.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Sri Lankan Navy yesterday destroyed a large trawler of the Tamil Tigers that carried massive quantities of arms, ammunition and explosives in the northwest coast of the country, said the military. The Media Center for National Security said in a statement that Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam members on board commenced firing at a Navy craft which approached the suspected trawler off the seas off Kalpitiya around 1630 hrs. "The Navy successfully retaliated, sinking the LTTE ship transporting arms, ammunition and explosives," said the statement, adding that eight Tiger members were on the ship.

SUDAN

Cairo, Nov 16 — A Sudanese rebel group has accused government troops and allied militias of attacking its positions in northern Darfur, killing more than 50 people. An army spokesman denied the claim. Abdel Wahed al-Nur, head of one faction of

the rebel Sudan Liberation Army (SLA), said the army, backed by janjaweed militia, attacked the Deir Mazza area yesterday. "About three armed men of the movement were also killed in the attack. The innocent citizens included women and children," Nur said late yesterday, adding that the government used fighter planes. Nur said the attack marked "a massive escalation from the government" and said the SLA would respond. A Sudanese army spokesman who declined to be named said today no operations had been conducted in that area in the past few days and the report was "100 percent incorrect". — Reuters.

TONGA

Nuku'alofa, Nov 16 — Rioting erupted in the Tongan capital Nuku'alofa today in protest at the lack of democratic reforms by the government of the South Pacific island nation, said witnesses and local media. Rioters overturned cars, looted a supermarket and threw stones at the prime minister's office, Matangi Tonga news service reported on its Web site www.matangitonga.to The news service carried photographs of a burning building, upturned cars and a smashed supermarket. It said one building had been gutted, but could not confirm reports a hotel was ablaze. Parts of the capital were covered in clouds of black smoke from burning buildings, including the offices of the company Shoreline, partly owned by Tonga's king, a witness told Reuters. Rioters has also attacked some Chinese-owned businesses. "Police did not appear to have control, but were trying to help those trapped in offices to leave the town," the witness aid. Radio New Zealand International said rioting started after the government deferred its sitting today, as thousands of pro-democracy supporters demanded a vote on democratic reforms take place before the house rises for the year. There are no universal elections in Tonga, where 10 of the 14 cabinet posts in government are appointed by the monarchy for life. Two of the remaining four posts, chosen from elected members of the Legislative Assembly, are reserved for "nobility". — Reuters.

Labour Disputes



INDIA

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: The indefinite strike by some 10,000 contract workers at Neyveli Lignite Corporation to press their demands, including regularisation of jobs, entered its second day today. The strike has affected the transport of lignite from mines to thermal power stations. There has been a shortfall of

690 MW in power generation, NLC mines engineer T Venugopal said. Power generation at three thermal units at NLC today was 1,800 MW, against their capacity of 2,490 MW, while lignite production was 60,000 tonnes against the usual 70,000 tonnes, he said. The demands of the workers include regularisation of those on contract who had completed 10 years of service and provision of medical facilities and transport allowances. Earlier, workers took out a procession to picket the NLC corporate office. They were removed by police. Police pickets have been posted at Neyveli as a precautionary measure.

NEW CALEDONIA

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: The strike and blockade affecting the New Caledonia nickel industry by the CSTNC union continues with no sign of an end in sight. According to Rheebeu Nuu, which is not officially involved in the action, but certainly has an interest in it. "CSTNC's conflict against the use of Filipino workers by Inco at Goro is in its eighth week and SLN is at the minimum production required not to shut down the furnaces due to ore shortages as a consequence of the industrial action. Equipment and vehicles have been vandalised at all the mines in New Caledonia." Also Rheebeu Nuu says that "Several explosions occurred in one of SLN's three Demag nickel smelters at Doniambo in Noumea, New Caledonia on Monday (Nov 13). Nickel slag spilled out. It seems that the fire service got the incident under control and the furnace is still operational. Monday night's explosion may be due to the low quality ore that is available at the moment due to the strikes." The activist group also goes on to claim that "Noumea residents have reported increased respiratory problems since the strike started." CSTNC's grievances go rather further than the employment of the Filipino workers at Goro. They are also complaining about the high cost of living in the country and have sought the resignation of the Government. The Government apparently refuses to talk to the union while it continues its blockades of some of SLN's nickel mining operations and other disruptive activity, while the strikers complain that they are not being allowed to demonstrate in the island's capital city of Noumea.

PAKISTAN

Karachi, Nov 15 — Understand from Karachi Port Trust (KPT) delivery to and from Karachi port has been suspended due to strike by Karachi Goods Carriers Association (KGCA) for the last two days. The loading and offloading of rice, wheat and other commodities respectively have suffered at port due to lack of availability of trucks to carry goods for imports and exports in the city. Similar situation is being experienced at Port Muhammad Bin Qasim. The strikers are demanding from city

district government improvement in city infrastructures, relaxation in entry fee and freedom for parking of their trucks in city. More than 5,000 trucks are parked by transporters around these ports as a protest. A hand out of KPT said today that 11 ships have been given berth, while seven are expected. The other transport association of the county including those of Hyderabad, Rahim Yar Khan, Multan, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Peshawar have also joined the strike. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

SOUTH KOREA

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Workers at Hyundai Motor Co and Kia Motors Corp, South Korea's top two automakers, went on strike for four hours to support the nation's labour umbrella group. The employees will return to work tomorrow, the Seoul-based automakers said in separated regulatory filings today. The work stoppage will cost Hyundai about 1,500 vehicles in lost production, the company said. Kia will lose production of 1,033 vehicles due to the strike. The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions launched a four-hour "warning general strike" today, to pressure the government to protect job security. The group will launch a full strike on November 22 if its demands are not met, it said today.



LIBEL, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: A jury ordered a suburban Chicago newspaper today to pay \$7 million to the chief justice of the state Supreme Court for a series of articles that he alleged were untrue and damaged his reputation and career. The jury ruled against the Kane County Chronicle and former columnist Bill Page in the libel suit filed by Chief Justice Robert Thomas, a former Chicago Bears kicker. An appeal is likely, defense attorneys said. Thomas sued after Page wrote in 2003 that Thomas had softened his position in a disciplinary hearing for a former state's attorney after supporters of the state's attorney backed a judicial candidate he favoured. Thomas, who was elevated to chief justice last year, testified that Page's columns "went completely over the line" and accused him of a crime. Page has said he relied on confidential sources for the articles.

REFINERY ACCIDENT, TEXAS CITY, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

Houston, Nov 10 — A woman whose parents died in a Texas refinery explosion in 2005 settled a \$1.2 billion (630 million pounds) lawsuit with oil giant BP Plc yesterday. BP reached

the undisclosed settlement with 22-year-old plaintiff Eva Rowe and apologized for the Texas City refinery blast that killed 15 workers and injured about 170 others. "We are deeply sorry that she (Rowe) had to go through an ordeal like this and we truly regret her loss," said BP spokeswoman Sarah Howell. The incident was the first in a series of mishaps that called into question BP's ability to manage its infrastructure, and led to the departure of several U.S. executives. Rowe's attorney Brent Coon told reporters the total settlement was "a very small fraction" of the \$1.2 billion Rowe was seeking. As part of the settlement, \$32 million in donations will be made to colleges and hospitals. The burn unit at University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and the chemical plant safety program at Texas A&M University in College Station will each receive \$12.5 million. — Reuters.



BURNS HARBOUR, INDIANA, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: Two freight trains heading opposite directions sideswiped each other and derailed at 0400 Saturday (Nov 11) where the Norfolk Southern tracks pass through Mittal Steel in Burns Harbour. No one was injured, but 20 to 30 cars derailed, some just turning slightly and pushing together, and others rolling onto their sides and spilling cargo like metal ingots, said Cliff Hayes, assistant fire chief in Burns Harbour. Hayes said it appears the trains struck each other after the load shifted on one train and caused it to lean into the other one. The eastbound train had only two cars go off the rail, but the westbound train had numerous cars affected, Hayes said. No crossings were reported to be blocked, but Hayes said the cleanup was expected to last until midnight or later. Burns Harbour police and fire personnel were assisted by fire units from Liberty Township, Chesterton, Porter, Portage and South Haven. Porter hospital EMS and the Porter County Emergency Management Agency also responded.

DERAILMENT NEAR SUKKER, SINDH PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

KIarachi, Nov 15 — Pakistan Railway said four bogies of one of its goods trains, bound for Karachi from Punjab, derailed near Sukkur, in Sindh Province, around 0900 hours, today. As a result, the train movements between province of Sindh and Punjab are suspended. The train was fully loaded with different cargoes for export and local markets. Railway authority is dispatching a relief train to rescue cargo train, as well get first hand report about loss and damage to

Receive immediate notice as soon as a Casualty occurs. For further information please contact Andrew Luxton on +44 (0) 20 7017 4625.

bogies and track. Initial report suggest no loss of life is reported. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

FAURE AREA, SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town, Nov 13 — Up to 20 farm workers were killed today when a commuter train collided with a truck near a railway station in South Africa, officials said. "The latest toll we've had from the scene is 20 dead, but this must be confirmed," said Dr. Wayne Smith, medical director of emergency services for the Cape Town metropolitan area. The accident occurred shortly after 0500 UTC, when the truck carrying the workers stalled at a crossing near the Eerste River station outside Faure, about 25 km east of Cape Town, according to witnesses. Metrorail, the state-owned railway company, said no commuters aboard its train were killed or injured. It added that rail services on the line would be suspended for several hours and that it was investigating the accident. — Reuters.

MAHARASHTRA STATE, INDIA

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated Nov 10, states: At least 92 people were injured when a passenger train derailed in between Navapur and Kolde stations in western India early today, a report said. The 113 Down Surat-Bhusawal passenger derailed at 0500, railway sources said. There were no deaths in the accident in western Maharashtra state, the United News of India said, citing doctors at a nearby hospital where the injured were admitted. The Indian news channel Times Now put the number of injured at 120. The reason for the accident was not yet known but was under investigation, railway spokesman Dahi Sarkar told the UNI agency.

NARANDI, BANGLADESH

Karachi, Nov 12 — Four bogies of a Bahadurabad-bound goods train of Bangladesh Railway from Mymensingh derailed at the outer signal of Narandi station in northern Bangladesh at 1730 yesterday. No one was reported injured but the track remained blocked for quite some time. Railway officials said a salvage train from Mymensingh later cleared the line by midnight. An inquiry has been ordered. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

SACRAMENTO AREA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: A maintenance train loaded with thousands of gallons of diesel fuel and hydraulic liquids derailed in the mountains east of Sacramento, killing one person, injuring several others and sparking a fire in the heavily forested area. "This is a huge spill," said Tina Rose, spokeswoman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. "That is a lot of hazardous materials." Authorities confirmed today that one person was killed but did not provide any details.

Eight others had minor injuries, while another was missing. "We don't know if that person is trapped," Rose said. "All we know is that person is unaccounted for." The Union Pacific maintenance crew was working on the tracks about 60 miles east of the state capital when it derailed about 1100 hrs. It was carrying 11,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 6,000 gallons of hydraulic fluid, acetylene, oxygen and propane. Rose said a brush fire that broke out shortly after the derailment was contained, but the liquids continued to burn for hours, pouring thick, black smoke into the air. The cause of the derailment was unclear late today. Authorities at the scene said the train carried 10 people — one Union Pacific employee and nine contract workers. Union Pacific Railroad spokesman Mark Davis said 12 people were aboard the train.

London, Nov 11 — A press report, dated today, states: Crew members on board a runaway maintenance train that barreled down a steep Sierra Nevada slope tried frantically to slam on the emergency brakes before the locomotive derailed, investigators said. The bodies of two crew members were recovered Friday (Nov 10) from the smoldering wreckage of Thursday's derailment, which spilled thousands of gallons of fuel near a thick forest and sparked a large fire. Eight other crew members aboard the train, which was carrying rail equipment, suffered minor injuries. Survivors told authorities that the men who died had been trying to apply the brakes when the train ran off the tracks in a ravine about 60 miles east of Sacramento. The emergency brakes slowed the locomotive only slightly before the train's supervisor in a final, desperate move threw it into reverse, said Dave Watson, lead investigator for the National Transportation Safety Board. The train kept rolling and gathering speed, eventually hitting a curve at about 50 mph, twice the recommended speed for that stretch of tracks. Watson said the stretch of track leading to the crash site is one of the steepest in the country, running straight before it curves where six of the train's 10 cars derailed. Investigators have come close to ruling out the possibility of faulty tracks at the crash site, he said. The agency is focusing instead on the speed of the train. Investigators on Sunday planned to comb through two locomotives and two other cars from the accident to find the train's events recorder, similar to an airplane's black box. Sheriff's Lt. Chal DeCecco said it would take until Monday to positively identify the victims. One body was recovered from a burned-out train car, while the other was underneath the tangle of fire-charred steel. Harsco owns the train, which was transporting a piece of maintenance equipment called a grinding machine under a contract with the Union Pacific Railroad. Crews were clearing the tracks Friday, and the railroad hoped to restore full service on the busy east-west corridor over the

weekend. A 600-foot section of track will have to be replaced, Union Pacific spokesman Mark Davis said. Officials from the US Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Fish and Game also were on the scene, trying to keep spilled fuel from running into a tributary of the north fork of the American River.



Miscellaneous

COLLAPSE OF GANGWAY, PORT CANAVERAL, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated Nov 7, states: Several cruise ship passengers were treated at area hospitals after they were injured when a welded piece of gangway gave way while they were boarding passenger (cruise) *Elation* (70390 gt, built 1998) at Port Canaveral. The gangway to the Carnival cruise vessel remained connected to the vessel by safety ropes but it dropped about a foot, injuring four people, according to a written statement from Carnival Cruise Lines. Three were treated at area hospitals. One woman was believed to still be at Holmes Regional Medical Center in Melbourne, port authority spokeswoman Rosalind Postell said this morning. The cruise line is working with the port authority, which provides the gangways used by cruise vessels at the port. The incident is still under investigation, Postell said.

London, Nov 10 — Passenger (cruise) *Elation* arrived and sailed Port Canaveral Nov 6 and arrived and sailed Half Moon Cay Nov 9.

DRUGS FOUND ON HONDURAS VESSEL, WEST AFRICA

Cadiz, Nov 14 — Supply *Orca II* is currently under tow to Ferrol, ETA Nov 14. — Lloyd's Agents.

DRUGS FOUND ON LIBERIAN VESSEL, MARACAIBO

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: Bulker *Yeoman Brook* (43332 gt, built 1990) retained in the bay of the lake of Maracaibo Oct 23, after the discovery of 67 kilos of cocaine of high purity, according to major general Castor Vicente Loyal Perez, head of the Regional Commando Number 3 of this military component, of the National Guard of Venezuela. Two divers of private company detected near the propeller two packages covered with I-tex in whose interior they contained 51 wrappers of a dust of strong scent and penetrating that to the being analyzed by means of the narcotest turned out to be cocaine of highest purity.

OUTBREAK OF "BIRD FLU"

Jakarta, Nov 13 — A two-and-a-half year-old Indonesian boy has died of bird flu, taking the country's human death toll from the virus to 56, a health ministry official said today. The

toddler from Karawang regency in West Java province had had contact with fowl, the most common method of transmission of the virus, Ningrum, an official at the health ministry's bird flu centre, told Reuters. Another health ministry official said a 35-year-old woman from a different part of West Java was also being treated for bird flu in a Jakarta hospital, but it was not clear if she had had any contact with fowl. The two victims are not related, Dr. Muhammad Nadhirin, from the ministry's national bird flu centre, told Reuters. The number of provinces in Indonesia where bird flu is endemic has nearly halved in the last six months, although all areas on heavily populated Java island remain affected, officials say. — Reuters.

OUTBREAK OF VIRUS ON PANAMANIAN VESSEL

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: By the time Carnival Cruise Lines' passenger (cruise) *Carnival Liberty* (110320 gt, built 2005) pulls into Port Everglades this weekend (Nov 18-19) from a transatlantic voyage, more than 700 people on board will have been afflicted with a highly contagious, stomach flu-like illness that appears to be norovirus, the cruise line said yesterday. The outbreak could be the largest reported in recent years by the cruise industry. "It's impossible for now to say what the source is," said David Forney, chief of the cruise ship sanitation program at the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He said it's likely passengers brought the virus with them when they boarded and it spread from there, but U.S. inspectors will look at whether food or water contributed to the outbreak. The cruise industry, which is required to report the illnesses to the CDC, records dozens of viral outbreaks annually, with most affecting fewer than 100 people. As of Tuesday (Nov 14), 556 guests and 154 crew members on board the vessel had reported symptoms lasting one to three days, according to a statement issued yesterday by Carnival Cruise Lines. The Miami-based company said the vessel is carrying 2,804 paying passengers and 1,166 crewmembers. The ship, currently on a 16-day tour that began Nov 3 in Rome, is scheduled to arrive in Fort Lauderdale on Sunday. The outbreak began within 24 hours of the departure and raged the strongest during the first five days while the vessel was crossing the Atlantic Ocean, Forney said. Under CDC supervision, the vessel's crew launched a program of cleaning equipment, isolating sick passengers and other steps aimed at halting the bug, which often spreads via hand-to-hand contact on contaminated surfaces, Forney said. Since Monday, the number of passengers reporting symptoms fell dramatically, he said, suggesting that the vessel is getting the outbreak under control. Nobody had to be removed from the vessel, Carnival said.

SUSPENSION OF SHEEP IMPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: Israel has suspended live sheep imports from Australia due to animal health concerns. Federal Agriculture Minister Peter McGauran said Israel was refusing to accept any more shipments until the situation was resolved. Animals Australia claimed the new shipment allegedly turned away by Israel, on the livestock *Maysora* (33400 gt, built 1989), also contained a consignment of cattle - many of which died during the three week journey to the Middle East. "The suspension was revealed today by animal welfare group Animals Australia, which said the health problems with a previous consignment led Israel to reject a shipment of 10,000 Australian sheep due to arrive in the country on November 3. The exporters were then forced to unload the animals in Jordan, the group said. Mr McGauran said Animals Australia's claims contained some "major inaccuracies", but he confirmed the trade was on hold after Israeli authorities raised concerns about a shipment of sheep that arrived on October 15. "Israel has alleged there were minor health problems with some sheep," he said. "These allegations are being investigated by AQIS (Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service). "Until this is resolved, Israel has indicated it will not accept further consignments of sheep from Australia." AQIS has initiated an urgent investigation into the claims and has sought additional information from Israeli authorities," he said. AQIS declined to comment on the suspension of trade with Israel.



BUSHFIRE, AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Strong winds were again expected to pose problems for fire fighters trying to contain two fires in the Blue Mountains, west of Sydney. More than 150 fire fighters worked through last night to contain one of the fires, about 2km north of Mount Victoria, which has burnt more than 700 hectares. The blaze is burning on both sides of the Darling Causeway. Crews will spend today continuing containment lines, begun overnight, and mopping up burnt out areas. The second fire is burning about 5km north of Blackheath and has burnt 100 hectares of parkland in inaccessible terrain. Cool conditions were forecast for today, but southerly winds up to 50km/h were expected for most of the day, making conditions difficult. Fresh crews will replace those who worked through the night and will be helped by 10 aircraft,

including a skycrane helicopter. Neither fire is posing a threat to property but nearby residents have been told they may be affected by smoke and ash.

COAL MINE, SHANXI PROVINCE, CHINA

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 24 miners were killed and 10 others trapped today by an explosion in a coal mine in northern China, and the death total in another mining accident in the region rose to 35. The latest blast occurred at the Nanshan coal mine in Shanxi province's Lingshi County, China Central Television said in its midday broadcast. CCTV said the mine was operating illegally in defiance of a government order in September to cease production after its safety licence expired.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 15, states: The death toll from a coal mine explosion in northern China rose to 40 after five more bodies were found, state media reported Tuesday (Nov 14). Seven miners were still missing in the pit of the Jiaojiazhai mine in Shanxi province's Xinzhou city after the Nov 5 gas blast, Xinhua News Agency said. The death toll stood at 35 on Monday. In the same province, the death toll from a fire in another mine rose to 26 after rescuers recovered one more body. Eight more miners were still missing there, Xinhua said. The fire in Lingshi county's Nanshan mine was caused by explosives stored in a shaft, the report said.

Beijing, Nov 16 — All 34 coal miners trapped underground on Sunday (Nov 12) in north China after explosives caught fire have been confirmed dead, state media said today, bringing the death toll from two recent accidents to 81. The miners suffocated after more than four tons of illegally stored explosives caught fire, generating toxic gas, at the Nanshan Colliery in Shanxi province, where a quarter of China's coal is produced. All 47 miners trapped by a November 5, gas blast at the Jiaojiazhai coal mine, also in Shanxi, had been confirmed dead with one last body found today, Xinhua news agency said. Zhao Tiechui, head of China's coal mine safety watchdog, criticised local officials for lax supervision of the village-run Nanshan Colliery, whose licences had expired nearly a year ago and whose owner and managers had fled the scene. He warned officials across the country against allowing closed mines to restart production, the Beijing News said. Many grassroots officials have secretly flouted orders to close mines as they don't want to lose tax revenue and, in some cases, dividends from their own stakes in the mines. Despite a 22 percent decline in fatalities from a year earlier, a total of 3,726 miners died in over 2,300 floods, blasts and other accidents in the world's deadliest coal mining industry in the first 10 months of 2006. — Reuters.

FACTORY, LIDCOMBE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated today, states: A massive factory fire is burning out of control in Lidcombe, in Sydney's west. Up to 20 fire trucks and 80 firefighters are battling the blaze in Frances Street. One two-storey factory is ablaze and several others are under threat, a NSW Fire Brigades spokesman said.

NIGHTCLUB, BIRMINGHAM, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Firefighters have spent a second night at the scene of a massive blaze that destroyed a nightclub in Birmingham. Crews continued damping down at Edward's No.8 in the city centre, which caught fire early yesterday. More than 500 people were led to safety from the club and 10 were treated for smoke inhalation after the blaze began in a toilet on the third floor. Flames quickly spread to the roof, which has been destroyed. Structural tests will be carried out later. Fire investigators will try to determine what started the blaze, which needed 10 fire engines and 50 firefighters to bring it under control. building.

NUCLEAR POWER STATION, GOTHENBURG AREA, SWEDEN

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: A fire broke out early yesterday at Sweden's biggest nuclear power station, shutting down one of its four reactors, local media reported. The fire, which is said to have followed some kind of explosion, started shortly after midnight in a transformer outside reactor number 3 at the Ringhals power plant, on the west coast south of Gothenburg. The fire was put out by Ringhals' own fire department. A plant spokesman said to Swedish Radio that it never threatened the reactor itself, and there was no risk of a radioactive leak. No one was injured, but it is still unclear what caused the explosion and the reactor will remain closed for several days, the spokesman added.

PREMISES, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated Nov 12, states: A \$2 million four-alarm fire gutted a meat shop in North York, Toronto, on Friday (Nov 10). Four hours after it started, firefighters were still battling the stubborn blaze. More than 30 fire trucks and as many as 70 firefighters were called to Perl's Meat Delicatessen around 1630 to a two-alarm fire that quickly escalated to a four-alarm. The blaze was downgraded to a two-alarm at 2030.

WILDFIRES, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: A wildfire was burning out of control yesterday across 125 acres of hillside brush and trees in Riverside County, prompting authorities to order voluntary evacuations for 100 homes, officials

said. The fire threatened about 300 homes in Lake Elsinore, according to Capt. Julie Hutchinson of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. It broke out yesterday evening and went through dense brush and trees covering hills west of Lake Elsinore and north of Highway 74, she said. Nearly 230 firefighters were working the blaze.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: Firefighters have made great progress in containing a fire that broke out near the Esperanza fire that killed five firefighters, fire officials said today. About 200 firefighters were battling the blaze, bulldozing trenches to contain the fire. As temperatures dropped to the 40s Fahrenheit overnight and light winds helped the effort, the fire should be fully contained by this evening, said Patrick Chandler, spokesman for the California Department of Forestry. The fire, which began Sunday (Nov 12) afternoon, is not far from last month's Esperanza fire in Banning. That fire, believed to be the result of arson, killed five firefighters and destroyed 34 homes. A suspect was arrested later. The cause of the current fire is under investigation.

**9Q-COL**

London, Nov 16 — Antonov 28, operated by Tracep, 9Q-COL, substantial damage in a hard landing at Bukavu at Nov 12.

AIRCRAFT PUT BACK TO MANCHESTER AIRPORT, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Passengers on BA Connect flight from Manchester to the Isle of Man last night were left terrified after the pilot told them the aircraft's windscreen had cracked. The 1940 hrs flight, was 10 minutes into its short journey when passengers began to complain of loss of cabin pressure. The passengers soon learned the aircraft's windscreen had cracked. They landed safely at Manchester Airport and were greeted with the sight of an emergency services turnout as they were escorted them off the aircraft. A BA spokesman confirmed: 'The 1940 hrs departure from Manchester to the Isle of Man suffered a cracked windscreen in flight and returned to Manchester as a precaution. 'There were 27 passengers on board.' The spokesman said all the passengers were transferred to a 2230 hrs flight into the Island, which arrived safely.

C-FTNV

London, Nov 10 — Swearingen SA 226TC Metro II, operated by Perimeter Airlines (Inland), C-FTNV, after touchdown, veered to the left off

runway 05/23 at Norway House Airport, MB, Canada at 0837, Nov 8. Aircraft ran onto adjacent rocky terrain, causing the main and nose undercarriage to collapse. Damage is substantial, no fatalities to nine persons on board.

CRASH INTO SEA OFF SOUTHERN SWEDEN

Gothenburg, Nov 11 — Salvage of crashed aircraft near Trelleborg: Diving support vessel *Belos* sent down divers to a depth of 42 meters together with a container. Divers picked up main chassis of the aircraft body and also the remains of three men found and salvaged the same way. We can now already establish that the angle of crash is close to vertical and speed very high. The Average Comm will now commence their investigation. — Westax Marine Services AB.

CRASH, ROTTNEST ISLAND, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Two people had to be cut from the wreckage of a twin-engined aircraft at Rottneest Island after a crash all six on board survived. Rottneest Sergeant Paul Van Noort said the six were lucky to escape the crash with minor injuries. He said rescuers had to cut two people free from the wreckage of the aircraft, which came down yesterday afternoon on salt lakes at the island off Perth. Sgt Van Noort said two of those injured would be flown by helicopter to hospital in Perth and the remaining four would recuperate on the island initially. He said injuries to those on board comprised only minor cuts and bruises. The charter aircraft split into two pieces when it crashed. Police were yet to determine the cause of the crash.

CRASH, WIXOM LAKE, MICHIGAN, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated Nov 15, states: Authorities say a pilot was found dead in his small plane after it crashed in a Gladwin County lake. The victim of yesterday afternoon's crash in Wixom Lake hasn't been identified yet. The man apparently was alone when the plane crashed about 1600 hrs. Sheriff's officials were told at first that a sailboat had capsized in the lake near Edenville, about ten miles northwest of Midland, but when investigators reached the scene, they found a five-passenger float plane upside down in the water. The pilot was found with his seatbelt on.

EMERGENCY LANDING, CHEJU AIRPORT, SOUTH KOREA

Seoul, Nov 16 — Over 20 people aboard a Taiwanese airliner were hurt when the aircraft changed course to avoid another jet just prior to landing at an airport on South Korea's Cheju Island today, aviation officials said. Some of those aboard the Far Eastern Air Transport Boeing 757 aircraft may have suffered broken bones and were taken to hospital on the southern

resort island, they said. Airline officials said an alarm went off as the jetliner was beginning its descent, indicating another aircraft was in the area, and causing it to change course. "We suspect there was a Thai Airlines aircraft in the same area, so we stopped the descent and several passengers and crew received minor injuries," a Far Eastern Air Transport spokeswoman said, speaking by telephone from Taiwan. An official at Cheju airport could not immediately confirm whether the Thai jet was in the same area as the Taiwanese plane. "It was because of turbulence. Nothing went wrong with the plane itself," the official said. Officials for the airline in Taiwan said its flight EF 306 made an emergency landing on Cheju and 21 were injured, including 16 passengers and five crew members. There were 129 passengers and eight crew members on board. — Reuters.

INCIDENT AT BISHKEK AIRPORT, KYRGYZSTAN

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: Kyrgyzstan today blamed the crew of a US tanker aircraft for a September collision with a Kyrgyz passenger jet at the Bishkek Airport that sparked a fire but caused no injuries. A government commission said the incident, in which a Kyrgyz Airlines Tupolev Tu-154 grazed a US KC-135 military tanker aircraft, was the fault of the crew of the American aircraft, Transport Minister Nurlan Sulaimanov said. The United States has a military base at Manas Airport outside Bishkek, focusing on support and refueling for US troops and aircraft in nearby Afghanistan. Kyrgyz authorities were in talks with the United States on possible compensation for damage sustained in the accident, he said. The Tu-154 was heading down the runway to take off for a commercial flight when the accident occurred and it was forced to make an emergency landing shortly after due to wing damage, Sulaimanov said at the time. He said the Kyrgyz aircraft's crew could not see the KC-135 because of darkness and an uneven runway surface. The fire destroyed one of the American aircraft's engines and part of the left wing, Sulaimanov said.

INCIDENT AT NINYO AQUINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, PHILIPPINES

London, Nov 16 — A press report, dated today, states: A YS-11 aircraft of Aboitiz Air swerved off the runway of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport this afternoon, causing international flights to be delayed and diverted. The twin turbojet passenger aircraft flew in from Tacloban and swerved onto the grassy portion of the runway where its landing gear collapsed around 1400 hrs. The report said the aircraft's control yoke malfunctioned. The incident resulted in the closure of Runway 06-24. All nine passengers, including Capt. Frank San Jose and co-pilot Sancho

Tiglaio, were safe. The report said a Malaysian Airlines flight was diverted to Clark airport while a Saudi Arabian Airlines plane was still hovering in the air. It added that only small aircrafts were allowed to take off.

N109WA

London, Nov 10 — A press report, dated today, states: A single engine aircraft with one person on board crashed on a runway at Raleigh-Durham International Airport this morning. The pilot reportedly walked away from the accident. RDU spokeswoman Mindy Hamlin said the aircraft was coming into a small runway for general aviation, lost control and landed nose-first on the runway at 0915 today. The aircraft's tail section broke off with the nose tilted down toward the runway. Flights were delayed for 10 minutes and the east runway closed for about a half an hour. All runways re-opened at 1000 hrs. The aircraft, owned by WA Air, LLC in Fayetteville, is severely damaged.

London, Nov 13 — Diamond Aircraft DA 20-C1, N109WA, operated by WA Air LLC, while on a flight from Fayetteville, North Carolina, to Raleigh, North Carolina, with one person on board, on attempted go around, during landing, crashed onto taxiway at Raleigh-Durham International Airport at 1417, UTC, Nov 10. The aircraft was destroyed, but no personal injuries reported.

N202WB

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: An Akron-area man managed to escape serious injury this afternoon when his airplane crashed and flipped at Akron-Canton Regional Airport. Larry Herman, 55, of New Franklin, was landing at the airport at about 1545 hrs, said Sgt. Scott Cottle of the Summit County sheriff's office. Cottle said the plane hit a part of the runway at a bad angle and went off the runway into muddy ground, then flipped over. Herman was able to pull himself out of the Mooney piston-driven, single-engine aircraft, and was taken to Akron General Medical Centre with head and back injuries that were not serious, Cottle said. Tony Molinaro, a spokesman at the FAA's regional office, said the aircraft, which had left the Wadsworth airport about 18 miles away, was heavily damaged. The National Traffic Safety Board and Federal Aviation Administration will investigate the accident, which appears to be pilot error, Cottle said.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: A single-engine Mooney aircraft, registered in Akron, crashed about 1554 yesterday while landing at the Akron-Canton Airport, but the pilot did not appear to be seriously hurt. The aircraft came in at an odd angle over the road before smashing onto an airport taxiway. Summit County Deputy Brian Breeden said the Akron-Canton Airport emergency response team was the first

at the crash site. The Green Fire Department arrived a few minutes later, but the aircraft did not catch fire and the pilot, whose license listed an Akron address, was the only person on board. Breeden said the crash is under investigation. "The aircraft was not lined up properly with the runway, causing the tyres to sink into the wet grass and the nose of the aircraft to dip forward," he said. The crash did not result in any delays for the airport's commercial flights.

London, Nov 15 — Mooney M-20J (Mooney 201) N202WB ran off the runway on landing at Akron-Canton Airport, Ohio, at 2055, Nov 14, following a flight from Wadsworth, OH. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board suffered minor injuries.

N2843V

London, Nov 13 — Beechcraft Bonanza D35, N2843V, operated by Maurice N. Theriault, with one person on board, crashed at 2005, UTC, Nov 9, on approach at Shelton, Washington. The aircraft was destroyed and the pilot was killed.

N606MC

London, Nov 12 — A press report, dated Nov 11, states: Two people have died in an aircraft crash near the Mineral Wells Airport. Officials said the crash happened about one and a half miles south east of the Mineral Wells Airport. Investigators report the pilot was attempting to land at the airport when it went down. The aircraft is identified as a Glass Air, single-engine aircraft and was registered to a Mineral Wells couple. Investigators were still trying to determine the cause of the crash, Roland Herwig, a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman, said. London, Nov 13 — Glasair, N606MC, operated by Donald W.Hise, while on a flight from Mason, Texas, to Mineral Wells, Texas, with two persons on board, on approach to land, crashed, at 2100, UTC, Nov 11, 1.5 miles from Mineral Wells Airport. The aircraft was destroyed and both persons on board were killed.

N611BB

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated Nov 13, states: A small aircraft crashed shortly after takeoff tonight in northern Indiana, killing all four people on board, federal aviation officials said. Controllers lost radar and radio contact with the Cessna T303, N611BB, shortly after it departed South Bend Regional Airport about 2000 hrs. The aircraft was about 10 miles south-west of South Bend when it disappeared, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Tony Molinaro said. There were no indications of trouble before the aircraft vanished from radar, officials said. Searchers found the aircraft about an hour later in a field in rural eastern LaPorte County. The aircraft was destroyed, the FAA said. Investigators from the National

Transportation Safety Board were en route to the scene. The aircraft was traveling to Ankeny, Iowa, with four people aboard, according to the flight plan filed with the FAA. FAA records showed the aircraft was registered to CPRT Investment Inc. of Atlantic, Iowa.

London, Nov 14 — Cessna T303 (Crusader), N611BB, operated by CPRT Investment Inc, while on a flight from South Bend, Indiana, to Ankeny, Iowa, with four persons on board, on climb out, lost contact and crashed, at 0103, UTC, Nov 14, seven miles from South Bend. The aircraft was destroyed and all four persons on board were killed.

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Authorities searched a cornfield yesterday for the remains of the people killed in the crash of a Cessna T303 (Crusader) N611BB that went down shortly after takeoff in foggy weather. An Iowa marketing company had chartered the flight to take its co-founder and three employees on a business trip from Ankeny, Iowa, to South Bend, in northern Indiana. Crash investigators had not determined the cause of Monday (Nov 13) night's accident, but the aircraft began its return flight in poor weather, with limited visibility and fog. The aircraft crashed about 10 miles south-west of South Bend, shortly after departing from South Bend Regional Airport, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. After takeoff, the pilot issued a distress call because of engine problems, said Brian Jones, a partner in Des Moines-based Two Rivers Marketing. Investigators said the aircraft spiraled to the ground, killing the pilot and four passengers. Debris and human remains were scattered over an area the size of a football field, Sullivan said. Crews used a crane to pull wreckage from the field, where it was embedded several feet into the earth. Pam Sullivan of the National Transportation Safety Board said an autopsy was planned to determine whether the pilot had any medical condition that might have caused him to lose control of the aircraft. The aircraft apparently reached 5,700 feet and then tumbled almost vertically to 1,200 feet, where it vanished from radar, she said.

N642BD

London, Nov 15 — A press report, dated Nov 14, states: A twin-engine Cessna 421 airplane believed to be carrying three people crashed and burned on the shoreline of Big Bear Lake today, authorities said. There were no survivors, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor. Details of those aboard the plane were not immediately available. Gregor said the plane took off from Big Bear Airport on its way to Las Vegas when it hit "some kind of structure." The plane came down upright on the shoreline with one wing in the lake. "The structure burned, as did the aircraft," he said. Big Bear

Lake is located at an elevation of more than 6,740 feet in the San Bernardino Mountains, about 75 miles east of Los Angeles.

London, Nov 15 — Cessna 421B (Golden Eagle) N642BD crashed near Big Bear Lake, California, at 1813, Nov 14, while on a flight from Big Bear to Las Vegas, Nevada. The aircraft was destroyed. The three persons on board were killed.

N9430K

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated Nov 12, states: Two people were badly burned today when the small aircraft they were in crashed after taking off from an airport near Williamsburg. The plane went down into trees about 1,500 feet from the end of the runway, said District Chief Eldridge Canaday of the James City County Fire Department. The victims are Karl Fix, 56, the pilot, and his wife Ingrid Fix, 55, of St. Petersburg, Fla., State Police Sgt. H.A. Nealy said. They were taken to the burn centre at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals in Richmond. Their conditions were not available. The crash occurred shortly before 1130 hrs. The four-seat, single-engine Piper Cherokee Lance went down in driving rain, Canaday said, shortly after it took off from the Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport in James City County. It was heading northwest and crashed short of Lake Powell Road. "It hit into the trees and, initially, there was a fireball," Canaday said. The wreckage of the aircraft remained tangled in the trees about 25 feet off the ground, Canaday said. The plane, with tail number N9430K, is registered to Engenius Inc. of St. Petersburg, according to Federal Aviation Administration records. State Police and the FAA are investigating the crash.

London, Nov 13 — Piper PA-32R-300 (Lance), N9430K, operated by Engenius Inc, with two persons on board, on departure from Williamsburg airport, Virginia, lost altitude and crashed, at 1630, UTC, Nov 12, half a mile from the airport, into a wooded area. The aircraft was substantially damaged and both persons on board were killed.

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated today, states: Federal investigators yesterday examined the wreckage of Piper PA-32R-300 (Lance) N9430K that crashed into a tree during takeoff at the Williamsburg Jamestown Airport on Sunday (Nov 12) and seriously injured a Florida couple. The pilot of the plane and his wife were burned in the crash, which occurred 1130 Sunday in the rain at the airport just outside Williamsburg in James City County. Fire officials said the aircraft crashed on airport property about 1,500 feet from the end of the runway. The couple remained in critical condition at VCU Medical Center in Richmond.

Product Recalls

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 14 — A press report, dated Nov 13, states: Anslu Incorporated, of Marinette, Wis, said today it was recalling about 154,000 of its fire extinguishers. The company said that if K-Guard, Sentry or Flag Fire models are dropped horizontally from a height of approximately two or three feet, the pick-up tube could crack at the threads between the pick-up tube adaptor and the stainless steel tube. If that happens, the extinguisher can fail to discharge properly when activated, which can put users at risk during a fire. No incidents or injuries have been reported. Pick-up tube replacements will be installed during routine annual maintenance. The pick-up tube assembly is inside the extinguisher and cannot be visually inspected without de-pressurizing and disassembling the extinguisher. This work should only be done by an authorized distributor.

PAIN-RELIEVING PILLS, UNITED STATES

London, Nov 9 — A press report, dated today, states: A major manufacturer of store-brand acetaminophen recalled 11 million bottles of the pain-relieving pills Thursday after discovering some were contaminated with metal fragments. There were no immediate reports of injuries or illness. Perrigo Co. said it discovered the metal bits during quality-control checks. The company passed 70 million pills through a metal detector and discovered the metal in about 200 caplets, according to the Food and Drug Administration. The fragments ranged in size from "microdots" to portions of wire one-third of an inch long. The recall affects bottles containing various amounts of 500-milligram caplets. Perrigo bills itself as the world's largest manufacturer of store-brand non-prescription drugs. The Allegan, Mich., company did not disclose the chains for which it manufactures the store-brand acetaminophen. A list of batch numbers and store brands affected by the recall was forthcoming, the FDA said. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., CVS Corp., Walgreen Co. and Costco Wholesale Corp. are among the companies Perrigo supplies with health care products, according to company Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Perrigo said the pills contained raw material purchased from a third-party supplier and affected 383 batches. Acetaminophen is best known as the drug in products sold under the Tylenol brand, but is widely available in generic versions. The recall does not affect Tylenol. The recall should not

cause a shortage of acetaminophen, the FDA said. The voluntary recall is considered a Class II recall since it covers products that might cause a temporary health problem or pose only a slight threat of a serious nature, according to the FDA. Consumers who swallow any of the contaminated pills could suffer minor stomach discomfort or possible cuts to the mouth and throat, the FDA said, adding that the risk of serious injury was remote. Anyone who suspects they have been injured should contact their doctor, the agency said. The FDA said Perrigo began investigating after realizing the equipment it uses to make pills was wearing down prematurely. Major manufacturer of store-brand acetaminophen recalled 11 million bottles of the pain-relieving pills today after discovering some were contaminated with metal fragments. There were no immediate reports of injuries or illness. Perrigo Co. said it discovered the metal bits during quality-control checks. The recall affects bottles containing various amounts of 500-milligram caplets.



AUSTRALIA

London, Nov 15 — Australia’s port of Newcastle is closing in on a record vessel queue as coal producers prepare for the scrapping of its capacity balancing system, approved in September. The Hunter Valley Coal Chain Logistics Team’s weekly report dated Nov 13 predicted the queue would reach 40 to 50 ships within two weeks, peaking at 52 by early December. Port Waratah Coal Services requested Australian Competition and Consumer Commission approval for a preliminary version of the CBS in February 2004 after seeing queues reach 54 ships. Then chairwoman Eileen Doyle said the system would cut queues, by the end of 2004 - without it “the vessel queue would go from 30 to 80 ships”. The CBS slashed queues by limiting coal producers to set quarterly capacity allocations, creating smoother coal flows from the port. The port now faces similar undesirable queues less than a month before the CBS is scrapped. The queue had fallen to 28 less than two weeks ago, before planned maintenance began shutting down the network this month. The logistics team expected to

load ships at an annual rate of 98.7m tonnes this month, allowing it to handle most of the 7.8m tonnes expected to be pushed through the port in November. The network has operated at about an 88m tonnes rate, despite the six days of planned maintenance. Meanwhile, Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal - one of the two coal terminals at Hay Point in Queensland - has seen its vessel queue increase to a normal operating number of about 16 ships this week, after it fell to levels that disrupted throughput. DBCT operations manager Greg Smith said it was now loading at a rate of about 54m tonnes each year amid stronger demand for coal. “That’s tended to boost the queue from where we were two weeks ago, when we had five or six ships out there,” Mr Smith said. Coal producers will make their regular review of the terminal’s queue management system early next year in accordance with ACCC regulations.

BANGLADESH

See under “Political & Civil Unrest.”

PANAMA CANAL

Balboa, Nov 9 — The locks maintenance works are underway with delays increasing. Projected queue as of 2400 hrs, Nov 10 is 72 vessels. Present delays are as follows: Panamax: Northbound 3-4 days with increasing tendency. Southbound 3-4 days with increasing tendency. Regulars/unrestricted vessels: Northbound 2-3 days with increasing tendency. Southbound 2-3 days with increasing tendency. The auction slot for Nov 10 was awarded to a northbound panamax bulk carrier at a premium of \$62,100.00. As delays escalate we do anticipate that premiums for auction slots shall increase accordingly. — Lloyd’s Agents.

Balboa, Nov 10 — The delays at the Canal continue to increase as maintenance work at Gatun Locks progresses. The work is anticipated to complete on Nov 17. Daily customer report for Nov 9 shows projected queue as of 0001, Nov 11, of 78 vessels and we do anticipate this increasing as expected arrivals for next days continue at above present Canal capacity level. Present delays (non-booked vessels) are as follows: Panamax: About five days both directions and with increasing tendency. Regulars/unrestricted vessels: About three days delay in both directions and with increasing tendency. — Lloyd’s Agents.

Balboa, Nov 14 — Delays for non-booked vessels remain extremely high. The maintenance work is anticipated to complete pm Nov 17 and we expect conditions to start improving shortly after. Daily Customewr Report for Nov 13 shows projected queue as of 0001, Nov 15, of 100 vessels and this likely to increase even more before the Canal regains full capacity. Present delays (non-booked vessels) are as follows: Panamax: about five days both directions. Regulars/unrestricted vessels: three to four days delay in both directions. The booking slot for Nov 15 offered through auction was awarded to a Southbound Panamax container vessel at a premium of \$90100. — Lloyd’s Agents.

SOUTH AFRICA

London, Nov 13 — A press report, dated today, states: Vessel delays at the Durban Container Terminal had been eliminated, the Container Liner Operators Forum said on Friday (Nov 10). Last month, shipping lines warned they were considering reintroducing a surcharge on every container moving through the port because vessels had been waiting 50-70 hours to berth at the terminal. Shippers did not want the delay to be longer than 16 hours. At the time, Transnet blamed windy weather which it said had affected crane operations since August. A meeting was held in Cape Town last week between affected parties following the efforts of South African Port Operations (SAPO), a division of Transnet, to reduce the delays. Actions to solve the delays include the establishment of a round-the-clock, seven-day-a-week command centre by SAPO which focuses on solving problems and on the hour-by-hour performance of the terminal. Additional resources were made available, containers were moved earlier to create more space, and they were stacked better. International experts had been brought in to improve operations and planning, Transnet said in a statement. Further plans to improve service over the next year include further training of staff, fast-tracking of plans to create more capacity at Pier 1, a new gate with higher capacity and faster throughput, and the installation of three new Super Post- Panamax ship-to-shore cranes to replace the outdated Demag cranes.

SYRIA

Aleppo, Nov 11 — Waiting period in Syrian ports: Lattakia 24 hours and Tartous two days. — Lloyd’s Agents.

Port Delays

(Information received from BIMCO, Denmark and Indian Ports Association, New Delhi)

Country/Port	Date of report	No. of vessels waiting and/or days delay
Australia		
Abbott Point	20-11-2006	Coal: 3 vessels waiting; 14 vessels due by 9/12.
Brisbane	20-11-2006	Coal: Fisherman Island coal berth: 4 vessels due by 12/12.
Dalrymple Bay	20-11-2006	Coal: DBCT berth 1: 2 vessel waiting; 1 vessel due by 21/11; DBCT berth 2: 1 vessel waiting; 1 vessel due 21/11; DBCT berth 3: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 3 waiting; 1 vessel due 20/11; other vessels not scheduled: 1 vessel waiting; 28 vessels due by 5/12.
Dampier	20-11-2006	Iron ore: Parker Point berth 1: 1 vessel berthed and loading; 8 vessels due by 11/12; Parker Point berth 2: 1 vessel berthed and loading; 9 vessels due by 1/12; Parker Point berth 3: berth undergoing 21 day maintenance shutdown; East Intercourse Island: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 5 waiting; 7 vessels due by 29/11.
Esperance	20-11-2006	Iron ore: 3 vessels due by 28/11.
Geraldton	20-11-2006	Iron ore: 5 vessels due by 10/12; regular maintenance shutdowns are expected at berth No. 4 from January to February 2007 during construction of a new iron ore berth No. 5.
Gladstone	20-11-2006	Coal: R.G. Tanna (Clinton) coal terminal: 3 vessels berthed, 7 waiting; 36 vessels due by 19/12; shiploader 2: plant shut down for maintenance for 4 days from 6-10/11; Barney Point: 2 vessels waiting; 6 vessels due by 10/1.
Hay Point	20-11-2006	Coal: Berth 1: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 2 waiting; 5 vessels due by 28/11; Berth 2: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 3 waiting; 2 vessels due by 28/11; no other vessels due not yet scheduled.
Newcastle	20-11-2006	Coal: Kooragang 4, 5 and 6: 3 vessels berthed and loading, 32 waiting; 42 vessels due by 10/12; 14-17 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; approx. 32 vessels off port awaiting berths; Dykes 4+5: 2 vessels berthed and loading, 14 waiting; 13 vessels due by 6/12; 14-17 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; 15 vessels off port awaiting coal.
Port Hedland	20-11-2006	Iron ore: BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Mt. Newman (Nelson Point), "A" berth: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 1 waiting; 7 vessels due by 21/11; planned 48 hour maintenance shutdown starting ca. 14/11; "B" berth: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 3 waiting; 6 vessels due by 23/11; planned 48 hour maintenance shutdown starting ca. 18.00 hrs. 13/11; 6 other vessels due by 30/11, no e.t.a. received; BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Goldsworthy (Finucane Island) "C" berth: berth undergoing refurbishment and closed until further notice; Goldsworthy (Finucane Island) "D" berth: 6 vessels due by 21/11; planned 36 hour maintenance shutdown starting ca. 17/11; Cockatoo Island: 2 vessels due by 25/11.
Port Kembla	20-11-2006	Coal: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 1 anchored; 15 vessels due by 22/12.
Port Walcott	20-11-2006	Iron ore: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 8 waiting; 11 vessels due by 1/12; shippers may experience product shortage which might affect berthing schedules.
Whyalla	20-11-2006	Iron ore: 6 vessels due by 15/12.
Azerbaijan		
Apsheiron	20-11-2006	Oil products: Dubendi terminal: no vessels.
Baku	20-11-2006	Oil products: Bay of Baku: no vessels; AzerTrans terminal - Nobel avenue: 1 vessel due by 20/11, to discharge crude oil; Sangachal district: no vessels.
Cyprus		
Larnaca	21-11-2006	Three conventional vessels discharging at berth; 2 conventional vessels due 22/11; no delays expected.
Limassol	21-11-2006	Three container vessels discharging/loading at berth, 2 conventional vessel discharging at berth; 7 container vessels, 1 conventional vessel due 22/11; no delays expected
Egypt		
Adabiya	20-11-2006	Four vessels berthed (loading/discharging), all general cargo.
Alexandria	20-11-2006	Thirty-two vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 21 general cargo, 3 bulk carriers, 3 tankers, 3 containers, 2 passenger vessels; 6 vessels at inner anchorage, 8 at outer anchorage.
Damietta	20-11-2006	Twenty-one vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 15 general cargo, 2 bulk carriers, 4 container vessels; 13 vessels at outer anchorage, none at inner anchorage.
Dekheila	20-11-2006	Seven vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 3 general cargo, 3 bulk carriers, 1 container vessel; 1 vessel at outer anchorage.
Port Said	20-11-2006	Six vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 3 general cargo, 3 container vessels.
Suez	20-11-2006	Four vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 2 general cargo, 2 passenger vessels; 2 tugs, 1 vessel dry-docked.
Suez Canal	20-11-2006	Twenty-two vessels transiting Northbound, 26 Southbound.
Estonia		
Tallinn	21-11-2006	Paljassaare (formerly Kopli): Two vessels discharging at berth (1 sugar, 1 cocoa beans); no vessels waiting at anchorage; 2 vessels due, with 7 days berthing delay expected.

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Port Conditions

India		
Kolkata	20-11-2006	9 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Containers, General Cargo), 4 vessels discharging (Logs, Puls, Edible Oil, Machinery), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers, 1 vessel waiting to load General Cargo; 4 vessels working at midstream and discharging (Puls-3, Crude), 1 vessels waiting at midstream discharging Crude; 3 vessels under repair; 2 vessels under dry docked; 1 vessel waiting to sail; 2 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to discharge; 3 vessels due (Containers, Iron Ore).
Haldia	20-11-2006	13 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Iron Ore, POL-2), 10 vessels discharging (Crude, Palm, Coke-2, M. Coke, Sulphur, Cement, Project Cargo, Logs, Fertilizer); 2 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (1 to load, 1 to discharge), 3 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge; 4 vessels due (Butadiene, Crude, Iron Ore).
Paradip	20-11-2006	10 vessels operating at berth of which 8 vessels loading (Iron Ore-4, Thermal Coal-2, Ch. Ore, Coking Coal), 2 vessels discharging Urea, Project Cargo; 3 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage to load, 2 vessels waiting at anchorage (1 to discharge, 1 to load); 32 vessels due.
Visakhapatnam	20-11-2006	13 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Soya-2, Granite), 10 vessels discharging (Manganese Ore, Coking Coal, LPG Gas, Wheat, Steel Pipes, Petroleum Coke, Met Coke, Caustic Soda, Timber, ISOp Alcohol); 9 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (2 to discharge, 7 to load); 39 vessels due (Iron Ore-8, Product Tankers-3, Sulphuric Acid, MAP, Urea-2, MOP, Rock Phosphate, Coking Coal-5, Containers-4, Anthrastic Coal, Alumina, Met Coke, Magnesite, Project Cargo-4, Product & Crude Tankers-4, Wheat).
Chennai	20-11-2006	11 vessels operating at berth of which 3 vessels loading (Granite Blocks/ Project, Granite Block, IOL), 5 vessels discharging (Wheat, Logs, Steam Coal-2, C. Oil), 3 vessels loading and discharging (Granite Blocks/Project Cargo, S. Coil/Granite Blocks, Containers); 4 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (3 to discharge, 1 to load); 2 vessels due (C. Oil, Project Cargo).
Tuticorin	20-11-2006	10 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel loading General Cargo, 9 vessels discharging (Urea-2, Thermal Coal-2, Wheat, Peas, Logs, MOP, Copper Concrete); 9 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (3 to load, 6 to discharge), 2 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to discharge.
Cochin	20-11-2006	7 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel loading POL, 6 vessels discharging (Rice, MOP, Clinker, Salt, Wheat, Crude); 2 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage to discharge.
New Mangalore	20-11-2006	8 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (POL Product-3, Container), 4 vessels discharging (Wood Pulp, Fertilizer, Clay, LPG); 5 vessels waiting at anchorage (3 to load, 2 to discharge); 9 vessels due (POL Proudct-2, POL Crude-3, Phosphoric Acid, Cr. Palm Oil, Container, Granite Stone).
Mormugao	20-11-2006	4 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel loading Iron Ore, 3 vessels discharging (Phosphoric Acid, Urea, Met Coke), 4 vessels working at midstream and loading Iron Ore; 2 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (1 to load, 1 to discharge), 4 vessels waiting at anchorage to load; 4 vessels under dry docked; 8 vessels due (Met Coke, CP Coke, Coal, Iron Ore-5).
Mumbai	20-11-2006	10 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (Steel Cargo/Bagged SBM, Soyabean Meal, POL-2), 5 vessels discharging (Wheat in Bulk-2, Steel/Mach Cargo, Project Cargo), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers / Steel / General Cargo; 4 vessels waiting and working at anchorage to discharge; 10 vessels under repairs/dry docked; 6 vessels under arrest; 1 vessel under laid up (Berths not required for cargo operations); 31 vessels due (Containers-9, General Cargo-22).
J.N.P.T.	20-11-2006	5 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel discharging Cement, 4 vessels loading and discharging Containers; 2 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage to load and discharge; 2 vessels due Containers.
Kandla	20-11-2006	13 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels loading (Rice, Agriculture Product), 9 vessels discharging (Chemical, Butane, Urea, DAP, Timber Logs-3, Steel Coils, Wheat), 2 vessels loading and discharging; 1 vessel working at midstream loading Sugar, 2 vessels working at midstream and discharging (Steel Coils, Urea); 9 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (4 to discharge, 5 to load), 11 vessels not ready to work at anchorage (4 to load, 7 to discharge).
Ennore	20-11-2006	1 vessel operating at Inner anchorage loading Iron Ore; 3 vessels due (MV Apj Sri Devi, (Coal), MV Tamil Anna (Coal), MV Good Season (Coal)).
Israel		
Ashdod	21-11-2006	No labour problems. One general cargo vessel loading at berth, 13 vessels discharging at berth (7 general cargo, 6 bulkers), 1 container vessel loading/discharging at berth; 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (2 general cargo, 3 bulkers); 24 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Haifa	21-11-2006	No labour problems. Three vessels discharging at berth (1 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 12 loading/discharging at berth (5 containers, 1 car carrier, 5 tankers, 1 passenger vessel); 1 bulker waiting at anchorage to discharge, 1 tanker waiting at anchorage to load/dischARGE; 7 vessels under repairs/dry-docked, 1 awaiting orders; 15 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Kazakhstan		
Aktau	20-11-2006	Oil products: 1 vessel berthed, loading crude oil; 15 vessels in roads, all to load unknown cargoes; 7 vessels due by 20/11 to load unknown cargoes.
Pakistan		
Karachi	20-11-2006	Four vessels loading at berth (1 naphtha, 1 chemicals, 2 rice), 5 discharging at berth (1 crude oil, 1 palm oil, 2 DAP, 1 rape seed), 2 container vessels loading/discharging at berth; no vessels waiting at anchorage; 1 MOL vessel due, with no berthing delays expected.

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Port Conditions

Port Qasim	20-11-2006	Two vessels discharging at berth (1 sunflower seeds, 1 cement), 1 container vessel loading/discharging at QICT berth; 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to load (2 rice, 3 containers), 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (3 containers, 1 canola, 1 palm oil).
Slovenia		
Koper	20-11-2006	Port working normally. Thirteen vessels berthed of which 1 tanker discharging liquid cargo, 1 vessel discharging/loading containers, 1 loading containers, 2 loading general cargo/sawn timber, 5 discharging bulk cargo, 2 loading bulk cargo, 1 passenger vessel; 24 vessels due over the next 2 days of which 8 to discharge/load containers, 2 car carriers to discharge/load vehicles, 1 to discharge vehicles, 1 tanker to discharge liquid cargo, 4 vessels to load sawn timber/general cargo, 5 to discharge bulk cargo, 2 to load bulk cargo, 1 Ro/Ro to load containers/vehicles/general cargo.
Spain		
Bilbao	20-11-2006	Thirty-three vessels operating (7 tankers, 26 other vessels), of which 7 loading, 16 discharging, 10 loading/discharging.
Sri Lanka		
Colombo	20-11-2006	Heavy inter-monsoonal rains being experienced. 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 at breakbulk berths if there is container congestion. Conventional cargo vessels at BQ 1 and 2 are facing navigation delays. Seven vessels loading at berth (6 containers/feeders, 1 bulk naphtha), 21 vessels discharging at berth (15 containers/feeders, 3 bulk cement, 2 bagged fertiliser, 1 bulk maize); 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (3 containers/feeders, 1 bagged maize, 1 bulk cement); 5 vessels dry-docked; 7 container/feeder vessels due, with no delays expected.
Turkmenistan		
Okarem	20-11-2006	Oil products: 1 vessel berthed, loading crude oil.
Turkmenbashi	20-11-2006	Oil products: 1 vessel berthed loading fuel oil; 3 vessels in roads, all to load, of which 2 HPGO, 1 unknown cargo; 2 vessels due by 20/11, both to load, of which 1 fuel oil, 1 gasoline.
Ukraine		
Illichevsk	20-11-2006	Ten vessels in port operating, of which 8 loading (1 wheat, 1 sunflower oil, 3 steel products, 2 iron ore concentrate, 1 sulphur), 1 discharging manganese ore, 1 loading/discharging containers; 6 vessel in roads, of which 1 to load wheat, 5 to load/discharge containers; 10 vessels due, of which 7 to load (4 steel products, 1 sulphur, 1 pig-iron, 1 sunflower oil), 3 to load/discharge containers.
Mariupol	20-11-2006	Fourteen vessels in port operating, all loading, of which 7 steel, 1 steel/equipment, 3 fire-clay, 2 coal, 1 sunflower beans/husks; 12 vessels in roads, all to load, of which 10 steel, 1 fire-clay, 1 coal; 53 vessels due, of which 50 to load (35 steel, 1 coal, 6 fire-clay, 2 kaolin, 1 coke, 2 slag, 3 sulphur), 2 to discharge (1 foodstuffs, 1 equipment), 1 to load/discharge containers/fire-clay.
Odessa	20-11-2006	Twenty-one vessels in port operating, of which 8 loading (4 metal, 1 coal, 1 wheat, 1 oil, 1 general cargo), 9 discharging (3 luggage, 1 ore, 1 oil, 1 general cargo, 2 citrus, 1 sand), 3 discharging/loading containers, 1 passenger vessel; 6 vessels in roads, of which 5 to load (1 wheat, 1 barley, 1 scrap, 2 metal), 1 to load/discharge containers; 72 vessels due, of which 30 to load (21 metal, 2 pig-iron, 1 scrap, 2 wheat, 2 oil, 1 ore, 1 timber), 11 to discharge (2 metal, 2 general cargo, 1 ore, 3 oil, 1 luggage, 1 citrus, 1 bananas), 31 to discharge/load containers.

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