

July 2 2004

Record fine on Bay of Biscay oil slick ship

THE runaway Romanian master and Greek owner of a Cypriot cargoship, accused of causing pollution off the French Atlantic coast last December, have been fined a record Euro350,000 (\$417,000).

A court in Brest heard in May that 54-year-old Captain Adrian Inel refused to obey an order from the French judiciary to come into port for questioning after his ship, the 3,592 dwt Pantokratoras, was spotted from the air in the Bay of Biscay at the head of a 37 km pollution slick on December 19.

Instead, he headed out of France's exclusive economic zone and continued his journey southwards towards the Strait of Gibraltar.

Intercepted

The 22-year-old ship was kept under air surveillance by the French and Spanish authorities, however, and was intercepted by a French naval vessel as it was returning northward towards the port of Le Havre in late January.

It was brought into the port of Brest under escort.

Its owners, listed by Equasis as Piraeus-based Aghios Charalambos Shipping Co, were obliged to accept payment of Euro500,000 bail to have the vessel released.

At the hearing in May, the prosecutor pleaded for imposition of a Euro500,000 fine on the Pantokratoras' owners and master, taking into account the master's conduct.

Record

Giving its judgment on Tuesday, however, the court opted for a smaller but still record Euro350,000 fine and Euro2,000 damages each to a number of environmental organisations which had laid complaints.

Captain Inel himself denied having deliberately caused pollution.

He said that if polluted substances had escaped from the ship, they had been the result of accidental leakage.

In another hearing in Brest, a prosecutor pleaded for the imposition of a fine of Euro230,000 on the owner and master of the Portuguese-flagged ro-ro ship, Arroyofrio Dos, which was spotted at the head of a 10 km pollution slick 90 km southwest of the tip of Brittany.

Pollution

The Croatian master, Captain Goran Milicic, 47, claimed that the pollution was the result of snow accumulating and mixing with grease and oil on the construction engines the vessel was carrying.

Subsequently, following the sound of an alarm, the second engineer had taken the decision to empty the contents of two sumps in the vessel's cargo hold into the sea, without realising they were contaminated.

The court reserved judgment until July 20.

Andrew Spurrier
Lloyd's List Correspondent

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

Vessel	Type	Flag	Class	GT	DWT	Bit	Casualty
<i>DORSET</i>	ro-ro	PRK	—	2,085	3,300	1969	Sank in lat 18 52N, long 72 37E, in the Mumbai outer anchorage, 16 Jun 2004, due rough weather. Crew rescued.
<i>FRYNI</i>	trawler	GRC	—	1,081	—	1966	Reported Jun 4 sunk in Greece.
<i>GREAT LAKES</i>	barge	USA	AB	5,024	—	1982	Contacted with the CSX Bridge and subsequently grounded, while under tow of tug <i>Michigan</i> , Jun 17. Pushed clear by several tugs same day. Investigation under way.
<i>HALLGARTH</i>	tug	GBR	LR	223	103	1979	In collision with <i>Marion Dufresne</i> in the Roath Dock, Cardiff, Jun 17. Substantial damage sustained.
<i>MICHIGAN</i>	tug	USA	AB	293	418	1982	Hit the CSX Rail bridge north-east of central Toledo, while towing barge <i>Great Lakes</i> loaded with 40,000 barrels of gasoline, Jun 17. Tugs cleared the vessels same day. Investigation under way.
<i>OSIRIS</i>	general	NLD	BV	1,163	1,685	1985	Reported Jun 19 at anchor in lat 50 27.9N, long 00 42.6W, 22 nautical miles south-east of Portsmouth with no propulsion. Under tow Jun 20. Arrived Cattedown Wharf, Plymouth Jun 21. Propeller lost. Towed out Jun 26 for Rotterdam for repairs, where arrived Jun 28.
<i>PONTA DO SOL</i>	general	PRT	GL	4,115	5,184	1997	Reported Jun 21 under repair at Ponta Delgada due to main engine turbo-charger damage. Sailed Jun 24.
<i>PRINCESS OF THE PACIFIC</i>	ro-ro	PHL	BV	4,994	2,876	1982	Had engine trouble, and possibly grounded, while at Nogas Island in lat 10 25N, long 121 55E, Jun 24. Passengers and crew rescued. Still stranded Jun 28, listing slightly. Tug on scene rendering assistance. Engine-room flooded. LOF signed. Voyage: Manila (PHL) to Zamboanga (PHL).
<i>SELJE</i>	ro-ro	NOR	—	1,280	662	1987	Contacted the quay at Anda, when arriving from Lote Jun 20. Sustained damage to bow section. Under repair.
<i>SUK JEONG NO. 505</i>	general	KOR	—	800	—	—	In collision with <i>Coryo No.302</i> , in tow of <i>Daeshin</i> , in dense fog, seven miles south of Anma-do island, Yeonggwang, Korea, Jun 23. Capsized. Salvage operations ETC end Jul.
<i>SUNBELT DIXIE</i>	vehicle	LBR	NK	30,610	12,730	1978	Had engine trouble in lat 09 11N, long 58 17E, Jun 10 and taken in tow by <i>SmitWijs Rotterdam</i> , bound Dubai, where ETA Jun 21.
<i>THOR TRAVELLER</i>	bulker	THA	LR	16,794	24,232	1985	Grounded heavily at the west area of Suez harbour Jun 18. Refloating attempts failed. Discharged cargo and refloated Jun 27. Moored to reload cargo. Cargo: Iron ore.
<i>W J CARBON</i>	barge	USA	—	3,272	—	1969	Had fire on board about 10 miles south of Haines Jun 22. Juneau Coast Guard cutter <i>Anacapa</i> and tugs <i>Le Cheval</i> and <i>Ethan B.</i> fought and extinguished the fire same day. Moored at Haines same day. Cargo: Scrap cars.

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The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



AL FAHAD (Saudi Arabia)

Jeddah, Jun 22 — Understand from the owners of passenger ro/ro *Al Fahad* that they want to sell the vessel without repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

ALADIN (Cyprus)

Ferrol, Jun 23 — Local agents of general cargo *Aladin* advise that repairs to the vessel will continue until the end of this month. — Lloyd's Agents.

ALBENNY (Norway)

Trondheim, Jan 24 — General cargo *Albenny*: Owner informs that repairs are still carried out at Lys sund - on and off. However, time of completion is not known. — Lloyd's Agents.

ALMUDAINA (Madeira)

London, Jun 23 — Following received from Singapore Port Operations, timed 0005, UTC: Crude oil tanker *Almudaina* remains at Keppel Hitachi Dock No.2, Singapore.

ALPINA (Belize)

London, Jun 21 — C.c. *Alpina* arrived Newport 1813, Jun 20, from Riga.

AMINA (Lebanon)

Beirut, Jun 23 — General cargo *Amina* arrived Tripoli, Lebanon Jun 16 from Constantza. — Lloyd's Agents.

ANTARES (Gibraltar)

Montevideo, Jun 17 — Chem.tank *Antares* arrived at Montevideo on Jun 12 and is now repairing in dry-dock. Understand from the ship agent's that the vessel sustained damages of approximately 25 to 30 metres in length and is expected to complete repairs in about 30 days. — Lloyd's Agents.

ARAL SEA (Singapore)

See under "Pollution."

ATALANTE (Cyprus)

London, Jun 21 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: During the early hours of Jun 20, while sailing 2.8 nautical miles from the port of Rhodes, passenger ro/ro *Atalante* (13562 gt, built 1953), was in light contact with passing general cargo *Simoon*, J8XU6, (1770 gt, built 1975), on the starboard side, aft. As a result *Atalante* sustained scratches five metres long and indentations to its side plating. At 0730 hrs *Atalante* arrived at the port of Symis. Vessel had previously departed from Rhodes with 555 passengers on board, who were all in good in health. *Simoon* continued on passage to Mersin. The port authority at Symis initially prohibited the vessels departure pending issuance of a seaworthiness certificate and was performing an investigation into the incident. However, during the

afternoon, the vessel was permitted to sail for Limassol after the issuance of a class "maintain" certificate.

ATTILIO IEVOLI (Italy)

London, Jun 18 — Chem.tank *Attilio Ievoli* arrived Barcelona Jun 14, departing later the same day for Genoa, where it arrived at 0810, Jun 16.

AVANTIS III (Greece)

See "Chalkis, Greece " under "Pollution."

BALTIC FJORD (Norway)

Trondheim, Jun 24 — Yard estimate repairs to general cargo *Baltic Fjord* will be completed around mid July. — Lloyd's Agents.

BARBAROS OKTAY (Turkey)

Istanbul, Jun 22 — General cargo *Barbaros Oktay* is still lying "as is" and there is not any progress. — Lloyd's Agents.

BLUE HORIZON (Greece)

London, Jun 21 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: During the afternoon of Jun 20, passenger ro/ro *Blue Horizon* (27230 gt, built 1987) sustained damage to the starboard main engine, while sailing from Bari for Patras-Igoumenitsa. Vessel continued the voyage to Patras with 450 passengers on board, arriving at 1430 hrs, where departure was prohibited pending inspection of the repairs.

BREEZE (Malta)

See "Weapons Seized on Board Vessel at Istanbul, Turkey" under "Miscellaneous."

BRITISH TRADER (Isle of Man)

Singapore, Jun 23 — Lng *British Trader* arrived Singapore Jun 18. — Lloyd's Agents.

BRITOIL 4 (Singapore)

London, Jun 18 — Following navigation warning broadcast at 0100, UTC, Jun 17: Derelict barge *Britoil 4* (3629 gt, built 2004) adrift in lat 12 38N, long 74 19.5E. (Note — Understood *Britoil 4* broke away from tug *Britoil 8* (345 gt, built 1994.)

Ymuiden, Jun 18 — Wijsmuller Salvage BV, has been instructed on Lloyd's Open Form-SCOPIC terms to assist barge *Britoil 4*. The barge ended up aground on the Indian coast south of Mangalore. Our salvage tug *Albatros* is on site and salvage teams are being moved in from India and The Netherlands. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

London, Jun 19 — The Singapore owners of barge *Britoil 4* advised that the towline between *Britoil 4* and tug *Britoil 8* broke in very bad weather and could not be reattached. *Britoil 4* is presently safe aground, on sandy beach, south of Mangalore, with Wijsmuller Salvage BV and *Britoil* salvage advisers in attendance. *Britoil 4* is empty and the only damage is one broken skeg. *Britoil 8* is presently in port in Mangalore, waiting for *Britoil 4* to be refloated.

BRITTOIL 8 (Singapore)

See *Brittoil 4*.

BUGALED BREIZH (France)

London, Jun 21 — An operation to lift French fishing *Bugaled Breizh*, which sank with its five-man crew after a mysterious collision in the English Channel on Jan 15, was due to get under way today. French navy minesweeper *AndromAde*, was due to locate the sunken trawler and protect the site of the operation, which is to be carried out by offshore operator, Stolt Offshore, with its subsea construction ship *Discovery*. It is hoped that the operation, which is expected to be completed by the end of this week, will throw new light on the circumstances of the sinking of the vessel, which is believed to have been struck by an unidentified vessel. Relatives and colleagues of the vessel's crew suspect that the trawler was struck by a submarine taking part in a naval exercise despite the insistence of the authorities that no naval vessel was in the vicinity at the time the sinking took place. French prosecutor, Roland Esch, insisted at the end of last week that the most likely culprit was a large, fast merchant vessel. "The most likely hypothesis is a crash with a very big merchant vessel which itself perhaps felt nothing," he said.

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: The French operation to refloat fishing *Bugaled Breizh* which sank off the coast of Cornwall in January, killing the crew of five, is to resume today. The salvage vessel *Discovery* is in Falmouth to raise the vessel, which investigators believe could have sunk after being rammed. Weather permitting, crew members will attempt to attach a line to the vessel and begin raising it to the surface. If the trawler stays afloat it will be towed to the French port of Brest. Otherwise it will be attached to a floating barge and towed. The crew's families hope raising the trawler will reveal clues about another vessel which may have been involved. Divers will also be searching for the bodies of three of the crew. It was initially thought bad weather was to blame when the fishing boat went down about 19 miles off the Lizard on Jan 15. But a French prosecutor claims photographs taken of the vessel suggest it may have been involved in a "violent" collision with a container vessel. The families, who have accused the French government of dragging their feet over the investigation, say the £1m cost of the salvage operation will be money well spent if it helps find out what happened.

CAPE AFRICA (Taiwan)

Cape Town, Jun 23 — Bulk *Cape Africa* is still anchored in False Bay. We understand that bulk *Bandar* is due to arrive in the bay Jun 25 in order to receive approximately 80,000 tonnes of cargo from the casualty during a transshipment operation. — Lloyd's Agents.

CAPENSIS (South Africa)

Port Elizabeth, Jun 24 — Understand from the local agent of fishing *Capensis* that the vessel's engine has been refitted. However, they are still awaiting some parts from Cummins Diesel in Cape Town who carried out the repairs. It is anticipated that the outstanding parts will be delivered by Jul 1. The estimated sailing date from Port Elizabeth is Jul 15. — Lloyd's Agents.

CAPTAIN JACK (U.S.A.)

Anchorage, Jun 23 — Passenger *Captain Jack*: We have spoken with Coast Guard in Ketchikan who advise that vessel had grounded in shallow waters onto rocks north-west of Prince of Wales Island in Compass Pass. The vessel, based in Ketchikan, lost power and drifted and grounded with six people on board, prompting the Coast Guard Air Station in Sitka, Alaska, to launch the Jayhawk helicopter crew to the scene. However, the crew of *Captain Jack* declined any offer by the Coast Guard rescue crew and on a return pass over the vessel the Coast Guard noted that the vessel was now fully engulfed in flames. The crew and passengers were then safely evacuated to a remote village in Edna Bay. The cause of the fire is still unknown and under investigation by The Marine Safety Detachment division of the Coast Guard. At this point it would appear that the vessel is a total loss as the fire was of extreme nature and caused substantial damage to the superstructure. The hull was extensively damaged by the grounding on the rocks. The vessel now sits as "scrap" on the rocks and they do not expect anyone to salvage the remains at this time. The owners have not decided at this time to do anything. — Lloyd's Agents.

CELTIC SPIRIT (Bahamas)

Tallinn, Jun 18 — According to Tallinn MRCC general cargo *Celtic Spirit* was refloated at 0535, local time, today, with the help of tug *Tugev*, following partial discharge of the deck cargo. The vessel is presently anchored off Suur-Pakri Island, Estonia. — Lloyd's Agents.

CMA CGM HISPANIOLA (U.K.)

Fort de France, Jun 21 — At 0600, Jun 19, while berthing at the container terminal of Pointe des Grives, in Fort de France, c.c. *CMA CGM Hispaniola* (17700 gt, built 1990) made contact with the berth and as a result, sustained indentation to its bow, above the bulbous bow, above the waterline. Vessel was able to continue to its next scheduled destination San Juan, PR where it is to effect repairs, under class supervision. Prior to the departure, an inspection was carried out by the Port State Controller, after a survey on board and also an inspection of the internals by our surveyor. Vessel departed later on Jun 19. — Lloyd's Agents.

CONGER (Cyprus)

Ferrol, Jun 21 — Bulk *Conger* sailed Ferrol Jun 18 for Rotterdam. — Lloyd's Agents.

CORDELIA (Liberia)

London, Jun 21 — Gold Star Line's fledgling round-the-world service has suffered a setback, with the loss of 17 containers off c.c. *Cordelia* (27779 gt, built 2003) last week. Cargo interests have now appointed investigators and surveyors to examine the circumstances of the accident and may pursue a class action for compensation. The containers, all 40-footers, fell off *Cordelia* on charter to Gold Star Line from Hamburg's Ahrenkiel Group. Two boxes were damaged. The incident occurred in the Indian Ocean when the weather was said to be "heavy, but not very heavy". The ship itself only sustained minor damage, an Ahrenkiel spokesman said. The cargo had been loaded in Colombo, and all the lost containers slid from the stern of the ship. Claims & Recoveries Bureau, appointed by the cargo interests of four of the containers, said yesterday that the potential losses were likely to be considerable. (Note — *Cordelia* sailed Colombo Jun 12 for Damietta.)

CORYO NO.302 (South Korea)

See *Suk Jeong No.505*.

CSK TRIBUTE (Singapore)

London, Jun 23 — Bulk *CSK Tribute* arrived Singapore Apr 30 and sailed May 1. Vessel subsequently arrived Nantong May 15 from Ningbo and sailed Jun 11, arriving Singapore Jun 18.

DAESHIN (South Korea)

See *Suk Jeong No.505*.

DOMIAT (Egypt)

Terneuzen, Jun 19 — Multraship Salvage has completed the salvage of bulk *Domiat*, which grounded Jun 7. The vessel, St. Petersburg for India, was loaded with 33,000 tonnes of potash, when it ran aground at speed on a rocky shoal. Multraship managing director Leendert Muller says, "This was a tricky job given the lack of suitable discharging equipment available in the Danish area to handle the cargo on site. We were able to mobilise teams from Terneuzen and get the job done with no pollution and no leakage. The ship is now reloaded and on its way." A salvage team of eight under the direction of Multraship salvage officer Jan Snip used three tugs, including Multraship's *Barracuda*, a barge and a grab system to lighten, refloat, reposition and reload the vessel. — Multraship Salvage.

London, Jun 24 — Bulk *Domiat*, Kalundborg for India, passed Cape Finisterre Jun 21.

DONA ELVIRA (Panama)

Abidjan, Jun 17 — Ro/ro *Dona Elvira* sailed Abidjan Jun 11. — Lloyd's Agents.

DORSET (North Korea)

London, Jun 21 — Following navigation warning broadcast 1002, UTC, Jun 16: Cargo vessel *Dorset* sank approximately lat 18 52N, long 72 37E. Danger for navigation, mariners to exercise caution.

Mumbai, Jun 21 — Understand from Port authorities and agent's representatives that North Korean vessel *Dorset*, HMZX4, had arrival at Mumbai Floating Light on May 17 for breaking, however, as no prospective buyers could be identified, it sailed from MFL on May 29 as per port record. However, it is further understood the vessel sailed to deep sea where awaiting further prospective buyer. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Dorset* from Syria, passed Suez Canal Apr 11.)

Mumbai, Jun 23 — Ro/ro *Dorset*, HMZX4, IMO No. 6912841, (ex *Nancy*, 2085 gt, built 1969) has sunk in the Mumbai outer anchorage in lat 18 52N, long 72 37E at 0945, Jun 16 due to rough weather. The crew were rescued by barge *Waveney Castle*. — Lloyd's Agents.

EAGLE 1 (Panama)

London, Jun 18 — C.c. *Eagle 1* arrived Long Beach Jun 16.

EAGLE TAMPA (Singapore)

Setubal, Jun 22 — Crude oil tanker *Eagle Tampa* arrived Setubal Jun 18 from Galveston. — Lloyd's Agents.

EASTWIND (Greece)

London, Jun 18 — Bulk *Eastwind* departed Piraeus Jun 14, bound for Thessaloniki, where it arrived on Jun 15.

EFTYCHIA (Greece)

London, Jun 23 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: Ferry *Eftychia* (746 gt, built 1974), while arriving at Piraeus, sustained malfunction of the starboard main engine, during the afternoon, Jun 22. Vessel was prohibited to depart until Jun 23 when a survey by the marine inspectorate confirmed successful repair of the damage.

ELEFThERIA (Panama)

Ravenna, Jun 22 — Bulk *Eleftheria* arrived Ravenna Jun 19 from Ancona. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

EVERTON (Malta)

London, Jun 21 — Following received from the managers of crude oil tanker *Everton*, dated today: *Everton* is still under repair in Dubai Drydocks, with completion expected in around two months.

FAIR MARE (Liberia)

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Port of Fujairah Authority, dated today: Crude oil tanker *Fair Mare* remains at Fujairah Anchorage at present.

FRYNI (Greece)

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Marine Information Services, Piraeus: The "Changes of Vessels List" dated May 4-Jun 4 states: Trawler *Fryni* (1081 gt, built 1966) has sunk.

GEEST EXTERNO (Netherlands)

London, Jun 21 — C.c. *Geest Externo* (2926 gt, built 2001) arrived Rotterdam 1100, Jun 14, in tow of tugs *Fairplay VII* and *Fairplay XV* due engine

problems. Vessel subsequently arrived Tees 1405, Jun 16.

GREAT LAKES (U.S.A.)

See *Michigan*.

GSF LABRADOR (Vanuatu)

London, Jun 21 — Drill ship *GSF Labrador* sailed Rotterdam Jun 10.

HAKKI DEVAL (Turkey)

London, Jun 23 — Bulk *Hakki Deval*, Nador for Tuzla, passed Dardanelles 0531, Jun 20.

HALLGARTH (U.K.)

Newport, Jun 21 — Research/supply ship *Marion Dufresne* (9403 gt, built 1995) was in collision with tug *Hallgarth* (223 gt, built 1979) while manoeuvring in the Roath Dock, Cardiff, early on Jun 17. Substantial damage was sustained by *Hallgarth*, with minimal damage to *Marion Dufresne* which sailed from Cardiff at 1850, local time, Jun 18, as scheduled. — Lloyd's Agents.

HALSNAES (Denmark)

London, Jun 19 — Following received from Coastguard Humber MRSC, timed 1254, UTC: At 0924, UTC, fishing *Halsnaes* (49 gt) initiated an MFDSC distress, in lat 55 35N, long 02 29E, due to an ingress of water. Vessel, with a crew of three on board, was endeavouring to cope with the ingress using its own pump, but requested an additional pump. Rescue helicopter 131 proceeded with a pump and it is now reported that the ingress is relatively small and the two pumps are easily coping and all water has been pumped out of vessels engine-room. Two fishing vessels: *Beyer* and *Tell Avin* are proceeding and are due on scene at 1715, UTC. The intention is for them to escort *Halsnaes*, which is able to proceed under its own power and will not require a tow, back to a Danish port.

London, Jun 19 — Following received from Coastguard Humber MRSC, timed 1948, UTC: Fishing *Halsnaes* under escort of fishing vessels *Beyer* and *Tell Avin* is proceeding with a destination of Thyboren.

London, Jun 21 — Following received from Coastguard Humber MRSC, timed 0650, UTC: At 1530, yesterday, MRSC was advised that all was well onboard fishing *Halsnaes* and vessel and its escort were due to arrive at Thyboren early Sunday evening.

HERAKLIA (Greece)

London, Jun 21 — Following received from the managers of bulk *Heraklia*, dated today: *Heraklia* completed repairs at Shanhaiguan Shipyard and sailed Jun 14.

HUDSON (U.S.A.)

London, Jun 23 — Titan Salvage reports than in March the 272-foot ocean hopper barge *Hudson* (4114 gt, built 1959), en route to Puerto Rico with a full cargo of steel I-beams and building materials, began taking on water in rough seas 100 miles off the coast of Key West, Florida. A Titan salvage team, hired by hull

underwriters, mobilized via tug from Key West, boarded the vessel and penetrated 4+ inches of concrete in the machinery deck space to open the steel deck beneath for access to the stern compartment for pumping while offshore. The barge, after being returned to sailing draughts, was inspected by the underwriters' surveyors and proceeded to Puerto Rico.

HURST POINT (U.K.)

London, Jun 22 — Ro/ro *Hurst Point* (23235 gt, built 2002), which AWSR Shipping is crewing, operating and maintaining under a contract with the Ministry of Defence until 2024, is back in service. It recently completed emergency repairs at Newport News after its propeller could not perform pitch control. The "three-day" job was undertaken before co-ordinated manoeuvres involving US and British forces. (Note — *Hurst Point* arrived Newport News Jun 3 and sailed Jun 4 for Morehead City.)

HWAJIN NO.938 (South Korea)

Busan, Jun 23 — Chemical/oil carrier *Stolt Suisen* (6426 gt, built 1998), Tianjin, China, for Ulsan with some 2,683 tons of various chemicals, came into contact with fishing *Hwajin No.938* (79 gt), off Mokpo about 0900, Jun 18, reportedly due to dense fog prevailing at the time. As a result, the fishing vessel sustained heavy damage and three out of a total of 11 crew members of the fishing vessel were injured, one seriously and two slightly. Both vessels proceeded to Mokpo, at the request of the marine police vessel soon after the incident. After the marine police investigation and a fine paid by *Stolt Suisen*, it sailed from Mokpo, Jun 21, bound for the original destination of Ulsan. The fishing vessel sustained heavy damage and is being examined at Mokpo for repairs, if possible. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

HYUNDAI NO.105 (Panama)

Ymuiden, Jun 24 — Vehicle *Hyundai No.105*: Operations are still under way to pump oil from the vessel. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

IGUAZU 416 (Bolivia)

Montevideo, Jun 21 — Barge *Iguazu 416* sank during the night of Jun 20 while moored at the Terminal Granelera Uruguaya pier, at Nueva Palmira. The barge was reportedly loading soya beans from the belt at TGU, when operations had to be halted due to rain. The barge's holds flooded, causing it to sink while moored to the side of the pier used for deep-sea vessels. The pier is now obstructed as far as Bit No7. — Lloyd's Agents.

IKA MURNI (Indonesia)

See "Indonesia" under "Piracy."

JAG PANKHI (India)

Lagos, May 17 — Product tanker *Jag Pankhi* sailed Apapa-Lagos May 14. — Lloyd's Agents.

JONRIX (U.K.)

London, Jun 23 — General cargo *Jonrix* arrived and sailed Liepaja Jun

11. Vessel subsequently arrived Riga Jun 12 and sailed Jun 13, arriving Hull Jun 18.

KAMINESAN (Panama)

London, Jun 17 — Reported crude oil tanker *Kaminesan* entered Keppel Shipyard in Singapore today for repairs, which are expected to take approximately one month.

LADY AZIZA (North Korea)

London, Jun 19 — Following received from Piraeus RCC, timed 1010, UTC: At 0830 hrs, today, general cargo *Lady Aziza* (1196 gt, built 1963) and general cargo *Melody* (1857 gt, built 1967) were in collision in lat 36 30N, long 27 03E, approximately five nautical miles northwest of Nisiro. Neither vessel was seriously damaged and both are proceeding, unaided, to Kos Island, where they will undergo inspection.

London, Jun 21 — Following received from Piraeus RCC, timed 0935, UTC: Both general cargo *Lady Aziza* and general cargo *Melody* are currently at Ko Island (?Kos Island).

London, Jun 23 — Following received from Piraeus RCC, timed 0830, UTC: General cargo *Lady Aziza* has proceeded from Kos, bound Turkey. General cargo *Melody* has also now left Kos, destination Italy.

LAINE (Panama)

Buenos Aires, Jun 23 — Ro/ro *Laine* arrived at Euroamerica pier, Campana, Jun 15. After loading 1,200 tons of wood, the vessel sailed Jun 17 for Rio Haina. — Lloyd's Agents.

LI DA (Mongolia)

Moji, Jun 23 — After completion of necessary temporary repairs, general cargo *Li Da* sailed from Imabari, at about 0645, Jun 22, for Dalian, China. — Lloyd's Agents.

LUMBERMAN (U.S.A.)

See *WJ Carbon*

MAGDA (Belgium)

London, Jun 24 — Yesterday, while it was blowing a gale, general cargo *Magda* (1168 gt), 85 metres long and 8.20 metres wide, left the harbour of Terneuzen at 1230, local time, with a destination up the River Scheldt. The vessel began having problems near Buoy No.28, when due to the heavy winds the hatch covers blew off. The wind also caused damage to the wheelhouse, blowing parts of it away. Soon the tugs *Multratug 5* and *Zeeland* came to assist, but did not attach a towing line. They accompanied *Magda* back into the harbour. The vessel is still in the port of Terneuzen today.

MARION DUFRESNE (French Southern Territories)

See *Hallgarth*.

MEKONG VICTORY (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Jun 23 — Following received from Singapore Port Operations, timed 0005, UTC: C.c. *Mekong Victory* is still at Atlantis Shipyard Quay B, Singapore.

MELODY (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

See *Lady Aziza*.

MICHIGAN (U.S.A.)

London, Jun 17 — A press report, dated today, states: Crews have now dislodged tug *Michigan* (293 gt, built 1982) and a barge from the mouth of the Maumee River. The Coast Guard says *Michigan* and a barge carrying 40,000 barrels of gasoline hit the CSX Rail bridge just north and east of downtown Toledo. It happened just after 0900 this morning as the barge was fighting the currents in the Maumee River. Several tugs were able to free the barge just after 1200 hrs. No one was hurt, and no gasoline was spilled. CSX says about 13 trains are being held up, since the bridge is stuck in the open position. The CSX Operations Centre says train crews are also being told to be aware of crossings, and try not to block them. CSX crews are already inspecting the bridge to see what damage has been done. The company says safety is its primary concern. The Coast Guard is standing by, along with the Toledo Fire Department's fire boat. The Maumee River is running at or near flood stage. Heavy rains in the past couple of weeks has the water level up, and the amount of debris up.

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Tank barge *Great Lakes* (5025 gt, built 1982), loaded with 40,000 barrels of premium gasoline, struck pilings protecting a Maumee River railroad bridge yesterday morning and ran aground, blocking the bridge for several hours but causing only minor damage and no spill. An investigation is under way, but high water and the resulting strong current are believed to have played a substantial role in the incident, said Lt. Cmdr. Mark Skolnicki, a spokesman for the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office in Toledo. *Great Lakes*, being pushed by tug *Michigan*, hit the CSX Transportation bridge pilings about 0900 hrs, Commander Skolnicki said. With the assistance of other tugs, it was pushed loose shortly after noon and completed its trip to the nearby BP petroleum terminal on the East Toledo side of the river. The incident caused "minor dings on the bridge" and minimal damage to the vessel, the Coast Guard spokesman said. After an inspection, the bridge reopened to rail traffic at 1330 hrs, said Gary Sease, a CSX spokesman. Fifteen trains were delayed while the span was obstructed, and more congestion was likely during the day while the backup was cleared, he said. Specifics about the river current were not immediately available, but the Maumee has been swollen in recent days by persistent heavy rainfall, which has caused flooding upstream. The tug belongs to Keystone Shipping, based in eastern Pennsylvania.

MICLYN 251 (Singapore)

London, Jun 23 — Titan Salvage reports that in March deck barge *Miclyn 251* (2308 gt), Kuantan for Miri,

broke from its tow due to bad weather. The barge loaded with 4,500 tons of offshore pipes grounded and ripped open its bottom. Titan dispatched a salvage team and immediately began salvage operations by means of pressurising all the damaged tanks. The barge was refloated and towed to a safe anchorage.

MISS BERDIE (U.S.A.)

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Fishing *Miss Berdie* that ran aground a couple miles south of Yaquina Bay on Tuesday (Jun 15) was successfully refloated last night. *Miss Berdie* was headed back to port early Tuesday afternoon with a cargo hold full of whiting when it became stuck on the sand bottom just south of South Beach State Park. Lifeboats from U.S. Coast Guard Station Yaquina Bay responded to the scene, but because of vessel's location in the surf zone, it was not possible to get a line over to the boat in order to try to tow it off the sand. The three people on board the 77-foot vessel were uninjured and remained on board as a salvage operation got underway to bring the needed equipment to the location to refloat *Miss Berdie*. At low tide early yesterday morning, the boat was high and dry, which made it easier for the vessel to be readied for the salvage operation. A cable was rigged around the boat, circling the steel hull from bow to stern. Personnel from Fred Devine Diving and Salvage Company of Portland unloaded the heavy line that would connect *Miss Berdie* with a tug offshore. Tug *Howard Olsen*, owned by Foss Launch and Tug Company, had left Rainier, Wash., at about 1600 the previous afternoon. It made the journey down the Columbia River and south along the coast - about 170 miles - and arrived offshore from *Miss Berdie* mid-morning yesterday. At about 1030 hrs, a twin-rotor helicopter arrived overhead and quickly lifted the line off the beach and out to the waiting tug. The line was secured, and the tug began pulling on *Miss Berdie* at about 1100 hrs, shortly before the day's first high tide. Some progress was made, but salvage personnel anticipated success would more likely come with the second high tide late that night, which was about two-feet higher than the earlier one. The tug kept the line taut during the day to make sure *Miss Berdie* was not pushed sideways by the surf. As the water level increased throughout the early evening, the effort to free the boat resumed, and just past 2130 hrs *Miss Berdie* was pulled free. Tom Curry coordinated the salvage operation. "I represent the underwriters," he said. "I work between the owner and the salvage master." Once it was refloated *Miss Berdie* was towed to Yaquina Bay, and today, a diver went under the boat to inspect for damage. "After we got the boat in the harbor with the tug, we experimented around, and the skipper found out he had propulsion, so he was able to drive the boat around," Curry said. The boat will need to go to a haulout facility for a complete inspection, he said, and the nearest

facility for a boat of this size is in Reedsport. After the diver's inspection is complete, "we'll make a determination whether to tow it or run it to Reedsport," said Curry, "and make the determination of what we can do and how soon we have to do it." Curry said the fish in the hold appeared to still be in good shape, however the decision was made to transport them to a bio-processing company in Eugene. "They'll probably be made into fertilizer," he said. The Coast Guard Marine Safety Office in Portland is investigating the incident.

MOLAMADAD (Pakistan)

Karachi, Jun 18 — Pakistani fishing *Molamadad* has become stranded in the Arabian Sea, about 45 nautical miles east of Karachi, due to engine failure. The vessel had been drifting at sea for the last four days and was rescued by a passing French naval ship. Later, Maritime Security Agency (MSA) of Pakistan asked the Fishermen Co-operative Society (FCS) to find out who the owner was before the vessel maybe brought back to shore. No details about the crew were available at this stage. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

Karachi, Jun 21 — Maritime Security Agency (MSA) of Pakistan said this afternoon that fishing *Molamadad* is being towed from Fujairah, UAE by another local vessel *Kismat*. Both vessels are expected to reach Jiwani port, in Balochistan province of Pakistan, today or tomorrow. *Molamadad* had become stranded in the Gulf coast due to engine failure. MSA has already informed the Sindh Fisheries Department and the Fishermen Co-operative Society (FCS) about this casualty and asked them to liaise with the owner. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

Karachi, Jun 24 — The Fishermen's Co-operative Society of Pakistan on Thursday confirmed that fishing *Molamadad* arrived safely at Jiwani port in Balochistan from Fujairah, United Arab Emirates assisted by vessel *Kismat*. *Molamadad* had become stranded on the Gulf Coast due to engine failure. The owner has been called to collect the vessel. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

MORNING EXPRESS (Panama)

Busan, Jun 23 — Product tanker *Morning Express* sailed from Yosu at 1820, Jun 12, and arrived Ulsan at 0715, Jun 13. The vessel drydocked at Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co, Ltd, Ulsan, for permanent repairs at about 1000, Jun 14. The permanent repairs will be completed around Jul 24. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

MYSTRAS (Cayman Islands)

London, Jun 18 — Bulk *Mystras* arrived at Rosario on Jun 15.

NATIONAL DIGNITY (Hong Kong)

London, Jun 18 — General cargo *National Dignity* which sailed Sandakan Apr 30, arrived at Norfolk (USA) Jun 17.

NEW OJI PIONEER (Philippines)

London, Jun 17 — Wood-chip *New Oji Pioneer* (39023 gt, built 1994) reported striking the rubber fender of the berth, at the Fibreco Terminal, Vancouver, BC, 2250, PDST, May 13 and damaging it. The vessel sustained minor denting to its shell plating. (Note — *New Oji Pioneer* arrived Vancouver May 13, and subsequently arrived Coos Bay May 18 and arrived Tomakomai Jun 1, sailing Jun 6.)

NEWFOUNDLAND EXPLORER (Cayman Islands)

London, Jun 23 — Titan Salvage reports that in April yacht *Newfoundland Explorer* had an engine-room fire at Port Everglades. It came to rest on the harbour bottom with a 35-deg list to port. Titan was awarded the salvage contract and responded within one hour of being notified. A Titan team began salvage operations which resulted in approximately 10,000 gallons of hydrocarbons removed and directed to tank trucks ashore. Titan contracted a pollution response team to prevent any spills throughout the operation. The vessel was safely refloated and returned to owners.

NISSIROS (Greece)

London, Jun 18 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: General cargo *Nissiros* (1112 gt, built 1966), while manoeuvring to berth, grounded in shallow waters at the port of Ag. Antoniou, Tilos Island, during the afternoon of Jun 17. No pollution was caused, and the vessel refloated under its own power shortly afterwards and safely berthed alongside the quay. The vessel was prohibited from departing, pending an inspection by the Marine Inspectorate of Rhodes.

NONA MARY (Greece)

Piraeus, Jun 23 — Passenger ro/ro *Nona Mary* remains in Perama port, Piraeus, under repair. Estimated time of completion unknown. — Lloyd's Agents.

ODIGITRIA (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Karachi, Jun 22 — Bulk *Odigitria* (19864 gt, built 1985) sustained deck damage and a crew member died following the break down of its crane during the loading of rice at berth 14/15 East Wharves, Karachi Port Trust, at 1500 yesterday. According to its shipping agent Asia Trade & Transport (Pvt) Ltd, during the loading, the vessel's crane suddenly broke down and fell on an Indian crew member, who was killed. The crane also damaged some top portion of the vessel. Arrangements are being made by the owner's agent, Ocean Shipping Trading to repatriate the dead body of the crew member to India. The vessel arrived Jun 7 and berthed Jun 9 to load 28,000 tonnes of Pakistani rice for East Africa. Sources said that about 23,000 tonnes of rice has already been loaded on the vessel while remaining quantity would be loaded today. If so, the vessel would sail tomorrow for East Africa. The vessel owner, Bloom Ship Management, will

repair the vessel at a dry dock facility in the vicinity of the Arabian Gulf either on the way or after offloading the cargo, sources pointed out. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

Karachi, Jun 24 — Bulk *Odigitria* left Karachi port at 1300, Jun 23, for East Africa, laden with 28,000 tonnes of rice, according to its agent: Asia Trade & Transport (Pvt) Ltd. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

ORIANA

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Exhibition ship *Oriana* (41920 gt, built 1960) was reported listing today in Dalian. *Oriana* berthed permanently as a theme park at Xinghai Bay, was hit by a gale last night, according to local observatory.

ORION 1 (Nigeria)

Istanbul, Jun 21 — General cargo *Orion 1* is still lying "as is" with no change in its situation. — Lloyd's Agents.

OSIRIS (Netherlands)

London, Jun 19 — Following received from Coastguard Solent MRSC, timed 1422, UTC: At 1253, UTC, general cargo *Osiris* (1163 gt, built 1985), Rotterdam for Plymouth, reported to be at anchor in lat 50 27.9N, long 00 42.6W, 22 nautical miles south-east of Portsmouth, with no propulsion. Vessel is believed to have lost its propeller. (Note — *Osiris* sailed Rotterdam 1530, Jun 18.)

London, Jun 19 — Following received from Coastguard Solent MRSC, timed 2050, UTC: General cargo *Osiris* remains at anchor. No developments are expected until tomorrow morning.

London, Jun 20 — Following received from Coastguard Solent MRSC, timed 0825, UTC: General cargo *Osiris* is presently under tow to Plymouth, ETA late morning, Jun 21.

Plymouth, Jun 22 — General cargo *Osiris* was towed to Plymouth yesterday morning due lost propeller and is now at Cattedown Wharf. — Lloyd's Agents.

PASIR 1 (Singapore)

Houston, Jun 16 — Bulk/oil *Pasir 1* arrived Texas City Jun 15. — Lloyd's Agents.

Houston, Jun 22 — Bulk/oil *Pasir 1* sailed Texas City Jun 18. — Lloyd's Agents.

PLATYTERA THASOU (Greece)

London, Jun 18 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: At 1330, Jun 17, while making manoeuvres to berth at the port of Kavalas, ferry *Platytera Thasou* (997 gt, built 1981) contacted the breakwater and as a result sustained a fracture, 0.6 metres in length and width 0.02 metres, to a forward plate, slightly above the waterline. At the time vessel was arriving from Prinou and there were no injuries to crew or passengers. The passengers bound for Thassos were forwarded to their destination on the next vessel. *Platytera Thasou* was prohibited to depart pending repair of the damage and survey by the Marine Inspectorate of Kavalas.

London, Jun 21 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: The Port Authority of Kavalas today permitted ferry *Platytera Thasou* to continue normal scheduling, following successful repairs to the bow damage and survey by the marine inspectorate.

PONTA DO SOL (Portugal)

Ponta Delgada, Jun 21 — General cargo *Ponta do Sol* (4115 gt, built 1997) is presently under repair at Ponta Delgada, due to main engine turbo-charger damage. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Ponta do Sol* arrived St. Michael's Jun 18.)

PRINCESS OF THE PACIFIC (Philippines)

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) today said 216 passengers of interisland ro/ro *Princess of the Pacific* (4994 gt, built 1982) were stranded on Nogas Island (lat 10 25N, long 121 55E) after the vessel experienced engine trouble. *Princess of the Pacific* had sailed out of Manila and was bound for Zamboanga City. The PCG, which received reports on the incident this morning, said that a vessel has been dispatched to pick up the passengers and to bring them to Iloilo City.

Manila, Jun 24 — The Philippine Coast Guard in a sketchy report said that inter-island passenger ferry *Princess of the Pacific* had run aground yesterday off Nogas island at around midnight. The vessel which was carrying 216 passengers from Manila to Zamboanga developed engine trouble in the vicinity of Nogas island and drifted into shallow waters. The Coast Guard, which received reports on the incident this morning, said that a vessel has been dispatched to pick up the passengers and to bring them to Iloilo City. Nogas island is the site of a naval reservation. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

PUENTE AMERICA (Argentina)

London, Jun 17 — Fishing *Puente America* (1468 gt, built 1987) was reported adrift in lat 49 47S, long 66 04W at 0215, UTC, today.

ROCKNES (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Jun 18 — Bulk *Rocknes* remains (under repair) at Gdansk. (See issue of May 20.)

London, Jun 22 — Repair work on heavily damaged bulk *Rocknes* has been stopped, German ship financing company HCI has confirmed. The vessel was to be rebuilt at the Remontowa shipyard in Gdansk. During repair work, it was found that damage was more serious than initially thought, said a spokeswoman of HCI, which arranged financing for the vessel. A new valuation report will be made, she added. *Rocknes* had been towed to Poland May 14, with repair costs estimated to be £34million (\$41.1million).

ROGER (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Jun 18 — General cargo *Roger* arrived at Szczecin on Jun 17.

London, Jun 22 — General cargo *Roger* sailed Szczecin Jun 19 for Ystad.

RU YI QUAN (China)

Kobe, Jun 17 — General cargo *Ru Yi Quan* arrived Osaka Jun 16. — Lloyd's Agents.

Yokohama, Jun 22 — General cargo *Ru Yi Quan* sailed Osaka Jun 18. Vessel arrived and sailed Nagoya Jun 19 for Shanghai. — Lloyd's Agents.

SADALSUUD (Panama)

See "Aspropyrgos, Greece" under "Pollution."

SAMOS FLYING DOLPHIN I (Greece)

London, Jun 18 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: At 0830, Jun 16, hydrofoil *Samos Flying Dolphin I* (142 gt, built 1980), sustained damage to the cooling pump of its starboard main engine while sailing near the port of Pythagoreiou, with 87 passengers on board. Vessel had earlier departed at 0800 hrs from Pythagoreiou, Samos island, bound for Fournos-Ag. Kiruko Ikarias-Patmos-Leipso-Leros-Kalymnos-Kos. Following the incident vessel returned to Pythagoreiou where its departure was initially prohibited. However, after repairs of the damage and a survey by class, at 1230 hrs, vessel continued normal scheduling.

SAMOS FLYING DOLPHIN IV (Greece)

London, Jun 23 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: Hydrofoil *Samos Flying Dolphin IV* (142 gt, built 1978), coming from Aegina with 36 passengers on board, experienced a reduction in the revolutions of the starboard main engine, accompanied by a metallic noise, at 1251, Jun 23, near Piraeus Roads. The vessel arrived safely at Piraeus but was prohibited from departing, pending repairs to the damage and a Class inspection.

SAN REMO (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, Jun 22 — General cargo *San Remo* arrived Liepaja Jun 19 and sailed Jun 20 for Aalborg. — Lloyd's Agents.

SAND HERON (U.K.)

London, Jun 21 — Trailing suction hopper dredger *Vlaanderen XXI* (1794 gt, built 1983) came into contact with sand suction dredger *Sand Heron* (3751 gt, built 1990) while the latter vessel was dredging in the channel to Le Havre at 1930, May 10. The steering compartment of *Sand Heron* was opened up above the waterline. The vessel subsequently arrived Southampton May 17 and sailed May 18. *Vlaanderen XXI* sustained minor bow damage.

London, Jun 22 — Sand suction dredger *Sand Heron* arrived and sailed Southampton May 20, resuming normal service.

SAOS II (Greece)

London, Jun 18 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report:

Passenger ro/ro *Saos II* was permitted to sail today after repairs to the damage sustained on Apr 13 were completed and surveyed by the Marine Inspectorate.

SEA KING (U.S.A.)

Seattle, Jun 22 — Tug *Sea King* is still laid up, situation unchanged. — Lloyd's Agents.

SEA TRUST (Lebanon)

Zeebrugge, Jun 23 — Vehicle *Sea Trust* is still placed under arrest dating back to Jun 7. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

SELJE (Norway)

London, Jun 21 — Following received from Sandnes, dated today: When arriving at Anda from Lote at 1500, Jun 20, ro/ro *Selje* (1280 gt, built 1987) made hard contact with the quay and sustained damage to its bow section. The ferry was taken out of service and was replaced by another ferry. *Selje* is now undergoing repair. It is unknown when the vessel will return to service.

SIGMA (U.K.)

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Fishery protection *Sigma* (1467 gt, built 1972) ran aground at South Georgia earlier this month, a Fisheries Department spokesperson has confirmed. Marine Officer Jon Clarke said that due to what is believed to have been a fault with the variable pitch propeller, *Sigma* "just touched" the beach at King Edward Point on Jun 9. The vessel was able to come off the beach again under its own effort. (Note — *Sigma* subsequently arrived Stanley Harbour Jun 15.)

SIMOON (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

See *Atalante*.

SOLBORG (Faroe Islands)

London, Jun 17 — Trawler *Solborg* (2015 gt, built 1987), with 19 persons on board, was reported to have struck an iceberg in lat 47 52N, long 52 15W, at 0453 UTC, today. Damage appears to be minimal. Vessel subsequently proceeded to and secured at Bay Roberts.

SPRING PEACOCK (Panama)

London, Jun 18 — Bulk *Spring Peacock* arrived Durban Jun 15, sailing Jun 16, destination Japan.

SPRINTER (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Jun 24 — Following received from Den Helder MRCC, timed 0850, UTC: General cargo *Sprinter* (2372 gt, built 1977), Corunna for Randers, is currently disabled and drifting in lat 53 07.7N, long 04 30.8E. A coastguard vessel is on scene and a salvage company has been contacted as a precaution. Vessel anticipates effecting repairs itself in about two/three hours. (Note — *Sprinter* sailed Corunna Jun 20 for Randers.)

STACIA LEIGH

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: A local salvage crew used bundles of cables and a huge crane yesterday to lift the 120-foot schooner

Stacia Leigh from the muddy bottom of its slip at Galveston's Pier 22, where the vessel had lain from almost two months. According to a Port of Galveston police report, the boat, which was permanently docked and converted to a bed and breakfast, sank in April when passengers on board distributed their weight unevenly, causing the vessel to take on water and sink. *Stacia Leigh* leases its 2250 Harborside Drive space from MBP Corp., a company owned by developer and oilman George Mitchell, who in turn leases the property from the Port of Galveston. The port ordered MBP to remove the submerged ship in April, a provision port director Steve Cernak said yesterday was written into the lease. T&T Marine Salvage finally began efforts to raise the vessel Friday, sending divers to tunnel channels beneath the ship's keel in order to run slings comprised of bundles of steel cable under the ship. "The bundle slings distribute the ship's weight across the bow so we can lift it with a crane," said Kevin Teichman of T&T Marine Salvage yesterday. "We're getting them in the right position today so we can boom the rigging over and attach the slings to our crane." T&T used a 150-ton boom crane to raise *Stacia Leigh* enough to begin preparations to float the vessel once more, said Teichman. "We're going to raise it until the deck is above water and then start pumping all of the water out," he said.

STANLEY (Philippines)

Manila, Jun 21 — The Philippine Coast Guard reported that tug *Stanley* and its towed barge sank off Maestro de Campo island, in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, at approximately 1655, Jun 20. *Stanley* is owned by Asian Shipping Corp. which immediately dispatched its sister tug *Alfa*, from Batangas port, to render assistance. The Coast Guard said that *Stanley* sank because of large waves in the area. *Stanley* and its towing barge had 11 crew members. The Coast Guard did not say what cargo the barge was carrying. All crew members were rescued by the passing passenger ferry *Superferry 17*, which was on its way to the port of Cebu. The crew of *Stanley* were disembarked and turned over to the Coast Guard detachment at the port of Cebu, on Jun 21. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

STELLAMARE (Netherlands Antilles)

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: A New Jersey man who was helping load cargo onto semi-sub HL vessel *Stellamare* in December is suing the vessel's former owners for injuries he sustained when the vessel capsized at the Port of Albany. Rainer Hoelzl, a marine consultant for New Jersey-based EWIG International Marine Corp, fell 20 feet into the Hudson River and fractured his skull on Dec 9 while workers were loading a 308-ton generator onto the vessel. In the suit, filed last week in US District Court in Albany, Hoelzl alleged that the vessel's former owner, Netherlands-based Jumbo Shipping Company SA,

and the company's general shipping agent, Kahn Scheepvaart, BV, failed to inspect the vessel, present it to Hoelzl in a safe condition, provide him with a safe place to work and inform him of how hazardous the job was. Hoelzl, who also broke several facial bones during the fall, is seeking unspecified damages from the companies. "He was very seriously injured when he fell from the vessel," said Donald Boyajian, an Albany attorney representing him in the suit. Hoelzl suffered multiple skull and facial fractures, including brain injuries, and has permanent metal plates and screws in his skull, Boyajian said. Hoelzl maintains that his injuries could have been prevented had it not been for the negligence of the vessel's owners. The accident remains under investigation by the Coast Guard, which is preparing a final report on the incident. On Dec 9, workers had already loaded one General Electric Co. generator onto the vessel and were in the process of loading a second when the vessel rolled suddenly to port, sending Hoelzl overboard. Three Russian crewmen were killed in the accident after icy water flooded the vessel's hold, trapping them. After a salvage company righted the vessel, Jumbo sold it for \$125,000 to Herbert Brake, owner of a small port in Bethlehem who plans to make the vessel seaworthy again.

STENA NAUTICA (Sweden)

London, Jun 18 — Passenger ro/ro *Stena Nautica* is reported to be currently still at Gdansk.

STOLT SUISEN (Liberia)

See *Hwajin No.938*.

SUK JEONG NO.505 (South Korea)

Busan, Jun 23 — General cargo *Suk Jeong No.505* (800 gt), Boryung for Mokpo with 1,200 tonnes of sand, was in collision with barge *Coryo No.302*, Ulsan for Incheon with 1,300 tonnes of iron scraps, in tow of tug *Daeshin* (170 gt), in dense fog, some seven miles south of Anma-do island, off Yeonggwang, Korea, about 0515, local time, Jun 23. As a result *Suk Jeong No.55* capsized. Two out of a total of nine crew members on board the capsized vessel were rescued. The remaining seven are missing. Marine police vessels are attending the site to search for the missing persons. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

SUN (Malta)

London, Jun 22 — Bulk *Sun* arrived Delaware Bay Jun 17 from Spain.

SUNBELT DIXIE (Liberia)

London, Jun 18 — Following received from the operators of vehicle *Sunbelt Dixie* (30610 gt, built 1978), dated today: *Sunbelt Dixie*, Japan and Singapore for Santander and other northern European ports, loaded, had engine trouble in approximately lat 09 11N, long 58 17E, on Jun 10. Vessel is now being towed to Dubai, where ETA Jun 21, by salvage tug *SmitWijs Rotterdam*. (Note — *Sunbelt Dixie*

sailed Kobe May 22, arrived Singapore May 30 and sailed same day for Bristol.)

Ymuiden Jun 18 — Wijsmuller Salvage BV were contracted to assist vehicle *Sunbelt Dixie*, for which salvage tug *SmitWijs Rotterdam* was made available. The tug proceeded full speed from salvage station off the United Arab Emirates and took the casualty in tow mid this week for delivery at Dubai. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

SUNNY LINDEN (South Korea)

London, Jun 24 — C.c. *Sunny Linden* arrived Busan Jun 4 and sailed Jun 11. Vessel subsequently arrived Ulsan Jun 11 and sailed Jun 12 for Busan.

SUNRISE (U.K.)

London, Jun 18 — Agents of fishing *Sunrise* advise that the vessel remains in Fraserburgh being cleaned up in preparation for returning to service at the start of next week.

TAVASTLAND (U.K.)

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated Jun 15, states: Due to a technical defect c.c. *Tavastland*, Kotka for Hamburg, grounded at Kiel Canal Km 90.2. The canal was blocked for approximately one hour. Tug *Bulk* refloated the vessel and towed the vessel out of the canal where a team carried out emergency repairs. The vessel then continued the journey to Hamburg accompanied by a tug. (Note — *Tavastland* subsequently arrived Hamburg Jun 14 and sailed Jun 15.)

THOR HAWK (DIS)

Kochi, Jun 22 — C.c. *Thor Hawk* was towed to Kochi port using a tug engaged from Colombo and berthed on Jun 19. The vessel was on voyage from Yokohama to Mumbai. — Lloyd's Agents.

THOR TRAVELLER (Thailand)

Alexandria, Jun 24 — Bulk *Thor Traveller* (16794 gt, built 1985) entered the Suez Canal with the southbound convoy Jun 17. It cleared the Canal on Jun 18 at Suez and after the pilot left the vessel and while the master was changing route, the vessel went heavily aground at the west area of Suez harbour. All attempts to float it failed. It may well have to be lightened. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Thor Traveller* sailed Ilichevsk Jun 12.)

Alexandria, Jun 24 — Bulk *Thor Traveller* was joined by ref *Lady Haya* at the west area of Suez harbour which berthed alongside. Cargo from *Thor Traveller* was (? is being) offloaded to *Lady Haya* to lighten it for refloating. It is estimated that about 3,000 tonnes will be offloaded. — Lloyd's Agents.

TOM T. (Sao Tome & Principe)

Bucharest, Jun 23 — General cargo *Tom T.* remains laid-up at Midia. — Lloyd's Agents.

TRICOLOR (NIS)

London, Jun 21 — The Combinatie Berging Tricolor consortium reported Jun 18: The CBT salvage team is continuing its work on the vehicle

Tricolor wreckage in the English Channel. Floating sheerlegs *Taklift 4* and the supporting vessels *Union Beaver* and *Banckert*, which have been working on the wreckage since the restart of the salvage operation in May, have continued their activities. The sheerlegs is picking up debris from the battered deckside of the vessel. So far this year the sheerlegs has removed approximately 5,000 tons of debris. (See issue of Jun 11.)

URVAAG

Trondheim, Jun 24 — Fishing *Urvaag*: Vessel's insurance company repeat vessel will probably be repaired. A final decision will be made by the end of next week. — Lloyd's Agents.

VICTORINA III (Sweden)

Stockholm, Jun 21 — Passenger *Victorina III* only sustained a dent. The vessel is now back in service. — Lloyd's Agents.

VITYAZ (Malta)

London, Jun 24 — Following received from Den Helder MRCC, timed 1042, UTC: Product tanker *Vityaz* (3719 gt, built 1995), Ymuiden for Hull, cargo molasses, proceeding to Ymuiden due to fuel shortage and water in fuel tanks and slobtank at 0700, UTC, today. Vessel making slight list. At 1022, UTC, vessel between piers and will come alongside cruise pier. Two tugs made fast just outside the piers. Port State Control informed by VTS Ymuiden. Reason for the problems not clear.

VLAANDEREN XXI (Belgium)

See *Sand Heron*.

VLADIMIR (Cyprus)

London, Jun 24 — Ro/ro *Vladimir* sailed Baltimore Jun 7. Vessel arrived Miami Jun 14 and sailed Jun 16, arriving Houston Jun 18.

W J CARBON (U.S.A.)

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, dated Jun 20: The crew on board cutter *Anacapa* battled a blaze today on board barge *W J Carbon* (3272 gt, built 1969) about 10 miles south of Haines. Fire erupted aboard the barge prompting the tug's operator to contact the Coast Guard at 1413 today. The Coast Guard is also receiving assistance from the Haines Fire Department (HFD), firefighting water volunteered from Temsco Helicopters Inc., and the crews on board the tugs *Le Cheval Rouge* and *Ethan B*. The crew on board the vessel *Fairweather Express* transported the HFD personnel to the scene. The Coast Guard established a 500 yard safety perimeter around the burning vessel. The necessary safety zone delayed the transits of two nearby cruise ships for about an hour and a half. What caused the fire is not yet known, and there are no reports of injuries or fuel spillage. Weather conditions at the scene include light southerly winds with a 500-foot ceiling and about two miles of visibility amidst pluming smoke from the barge. The Coast Guard intends to investigate the cause of the fire.

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 0825, UTC, today: Barge *W J Carbon*, carrying scrap metal cars, was being towed by tug *Lumberman* (192 gt, built 1941) when it reported a fire on board. The fire has been extinguished and the barge has been dewatered of the water used in the fire-fighting. The barge is currently just north of the barge ramp at Haines.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: Firefighters attacking the scrap-metal barge *W J Carbon* fire near Haines on Sunday attribute success to their long hours and to quick thinking and hard work by the barge operators. The fire on the barge was put out by 2030 yesterday, said Marcy Johnson, director of business development for Channel Construction, which leases the barge and owns the tug *Lumberman* that was pulling it. "There was still smoke in Haines this morning," said Capt. Eric Daigneault of passenger catamaran *Fairweather Express*, owned by Chilkat Cruises & Tours that helped fight the fire. "The whole valley from Haines to Skagway was choked with smoke. It was thick, black." The barge caught fire about 1415 Sunday as it was being towed from Juneau to Haines to take on more scrap metal, such as junked cars. Coast Guard officials said the fire might have been started by spontaneous combustion. No one was injured. Two state ferries and three cruise ships in the area were delayed by the Coast Guard on Sunday. During the fire, Channel Construction owner William "Shorty" Tonsgard and his nephew, Loren Tonsgard, an equipment operator, flew to the scene and boarded the barge, Johnson said. The men on the barge used heavy machinery to draw water from Lynn Canal and spread it over the vessel, to move junk cars around so water could penetrate layers of metal, and even to pick up cars so firefighters could douse them, said people at the scene. "That's what really helped us to get things under control," said Lt. Dave Gross of the Haines Volunteer Fire Department. The barge was scheduled to be docked at Haines last night and to be examined by a marine surveyor, the affected companies and the Coast Guard this morning, said Lt. Bill Jeffries of the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office in Juneau. The Haines Volunteer Fire Department will stand by at the dock. "There are probably still some hot spots bedded down in the structure so we're going to stand by when they tie up," said Fire Chief Scott Bradford. Jeffries said the barge fire did not pollute Lynn Canal and does not pose such a problem now. The vessel is stable, he said. The state Department of Environmental Conservation said there were no reports of effects to the shoreline or wildlife. The fire was fought by Coast Guardsmen on the cutter *Anacapa*, Haines volunteer firefighters on *Fairweather Express*, and crew on tug *Le Cheval Rouge*. Bradford said another tug helped, as well. A TEMSCO helicopter also dumped water from the air several times.

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 1834, UTC: Barge *W J Carbon* and tug *Lumberman* are currently moored at Haines.

WAFERAH (Georgia)

Mumbai, Jun 24 — Bulk *Waferah* arrived Mumbai May 20 sailed Jun 18 for Bhavnagar. — Lloyd's Agents.

WAVERLEY (U.K.)

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Coastguard Clyde MRCC, timed 1150, UTC: Passenger *Waverley* (693 gt, built 1947), with 370 passengers on board, touched bottom in lat 55 17N, long 05 34W, at 1541, UTC, Jun 20. Vessel continued voyage to Campbeltown, where it arrived at 1610, UTC. Hull was inspected by divers and *Waverley* sailed at 1745, UTC, same day. Surveyors have reportedly been on board vessel today and yesterday.

WILLOW (Bahamas)

London, Jun 19 — General cargo *Willow* arrived at Antwerp 0141, Jun 18.

WINNER (Cambodia)

See "Seizure of Drugs on Cambodian Vessel, Atlantic Ocean" under "Miscellaneous."

XIANG ZHONG (China)

London, Jun 21 — General cargo *Xiang Zhong* (4119 gt, built 1986), inbound for Shanghai, grounded at the entrance to the Huang Po River, Shanghai, Mar 9. Vessel was refloated with tug assistance.

YU BAO NO.1 (Taiwan)

Suva, Jun 23 — Fishing *Yu Bao No.1* still remains aground. Understand the owners have not made any arrangements with the salvors to refloat the vessel. — Lloyd's Agents.



INDONESIA

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: Eight pirates, believed to be Acehese rebels in disguise, last night fired at and sank general cargo *Ika Murni* (541 gt, built 1977) which was on its way from Indonesia's Riau province to North Sumatra province, abducting its master and a technician. It was reported today that fishermen saved dozens of crew members of *Ika Murni* as it sank. The survivors said their boat, which was carrying 500 tons of copra, leaked when the pirates fired at it after the vessel's master, Subkhon, refused to give them the hundreds of thousands of rupiah they were demanding.

Seizures & Arrests



BREEZE (Malta)

See "Weapons Seized on Board Vessel at Istanbul, Turkey" under "Miscellaneous."

CAPE ENDURANCE (Panama)

Cape Town, Jun 15 — Standby safety vessel *Cape Endurance* is still under arrest at Cape Town. — Lloyd's Agents.

CEM ADRIATIC (Bahamas)

See "Tordenskjold A/S"

EUROPEAN STARS (Italy)

See "Festival Cruises Inc."

FESTIVAL CRUISES INC

London, Jun 22 — At 1000, Jul 16, passenger *European Stars* is to be sold, by auction, by the Court of First Instance, in Barcelona. (Note — *European Stars* arrived Barcelona Jan 18.)

HIGHLANDER

Cape Town, Jun 15 — Fishing *Highlander* remains under arrest at Cape Town. — Lloyd's Agents.

INVINCIBLE (Mongolia)

Colombo, Jun 22 — General cargo *Invincible* is still under arrest at Galle. — Lloyd's Agents.

KAWKAB (Egypt)

Venice, Jun 23 — There have been no developments regarding general cargo *Kawkab* which remains still under arrest at Venice. — Lloyd's Agents.

MALAR (Spain)

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Spanish-registered fishing *Malar* and its crew were arrested at Luderitz yesterday, after the vessel had allegedly been caught fishing illegally in Namibian waters on Monday (Jun 14). Fisheries inspectors on board one of Namibia's fisheries patrol boats, *Nathaniel Maxuilili*, spotted *Malar* fishing in Namibian territorial waters on Monday afternoon, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources' Director of Operations and Acting Permanent Secretary, Peter Amutenya, said yesterday. *Malar* was subsequently ordered to proceed to Luderitz, where it arrived yesterday and it and its crew were detained, to be charged with illegally fishing in Namibian waters. It is understood that the vessel was found due south of Luderitz, but the exact location could not be confirmed with the Fisheries Ministry yesterday. The arrest of *Malar* and its crew is the first such step to be taken against alleged illegal fishermen in Namibian waters in about half a decade. In the operation on Monday, fisheries inspectors who came upon *Malar* during routine inspection and surveillance operations at sea,

boarded the vessel and found that it had its longlines in the water, Amutenya said. The inspectors also established that on Jun 8 the vessel had been issued with a licence to fish for shark and tuna in South African waters, but that it had no such licence from Namibia. It took more than two hours to haul the vessel's fishing gear out of the ocean again, Amutenya related. He said the vessel, which is registered in Vigo had a crew of 12 on board. The crew consisted of eight Peruvians, two Spaniards, one Chilean and one South African. By 0900 yesterday, *Malar* had docked at Luderitz, where it and its crew are now under police guard, according to Amutenya. According to other sources at Luderitz the crew is expected to appear in court in order to be formally charged today.

NAVIGATOR

Cape Town, Jun 15 — Tug/supply *Navigator* remains under arrest at Berth No.6, Cape Town. — Lloyd's Agents.

NORTHELLA (U.K.)

Valletta, Jun 21 — A report in the Malta Government Gazette, dated Jun 15, states: Oceanographic research *Northella* (1532 gt, built 1973) is to be sold by auction, "as is, where is", on Jul 2, by decree of the Civil Court, First Hall. — Lloyd's Agents.

RAVENI (Tonga)

Messina, Jun 23 — C.c. *Raveni* is still under arrest at Augusta. — Lloyd's Agents.

REMBRANDT (Bahamas)

Freeport, Bahamas, Jun 18 — The departure of passenger *Rembrandt* was delayed slightly, however, it did sail under tow of tug *Englishman* late yesterday, bound for Rotterdam. The ship's agent has advised that the vessel is being towed to Gibraltar for dry-dock/shipyard work, probably involving asbestos work, etc. ETA three weeks from now. — Lloyd's Agents.

SEA TRUST (Lebanon)

See under "Marine."

SEABREEZE (Sao Tome & Principe)

London, Jun 22 — Ref *Seabreeze*, which was detained at Trieste and subsequently sailed Apr 8 for Aliaga, arrived Aliaga Apr 22 for demolition.

STAR (Romania)

Santo Domingo, Jun 23 — General cargo *Star* reportedly paid about RD\$12 million to the Dominican Port Authority for port charges due. The vessel is still at the port of Barahona, with no ETD. Minor repairs are occasionally carried out. — Lloyd's Agents.

SYMPHONI 1 (Panama)

London, Jun 22 — Product tanker *Symphoni 1* renamed *Victoria 1* arrived Jebel Ali Apr 24 and sailed Apr 25, subsequently arriving and sailing Sharjah Jun 12.

TAI PING QUAN (China)

London, Jun 22 — Reported that general cargo *Tai Ping Quan* (2700 gt, built 1992), which arrived at Hong Kong at 0606, Jun 20, is currently at Western Anchorage No.1, Hong Kong, under arrest.

TORDENSKJOLD A/S

London, Jun 22 — Cement *Cem Adriatic* is expected to be auctioned by order of the Piraeus Maritime Court, on Jun 22. Cement loading and discharging equipment, in portable containers, presently on board the vessel, is not part of the sale.

WINNER (Cambodia)

See "Seizure of Drugs on Cambodian Vessel, Atlantic Ocean" under "Miscellaneous."

Pipeline Accidents



AL-MASHAHIDAH, IRAQ

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

ALMALO, DAGESTAN, RUSSIA

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jul 21, states: The Federal Security Service (FSB) in Dagestan has suggested sabotage may have been the cause of an explosion in the Tikhoretsk-Baku pipeline, the public relations group of the FSB in Dagestan told RIA Novosti. According to the FSB, "external influences" have been established in the explosion. They noted that at the moment of the explosion, the 720 mm diameter section of the pipeline was pumping hydrocarbons under 24 atmospheres of pressure. Conclusions about type of explosive will be made after the investigation, the group said. According to Transneft, the line operator, work to repair the damaged section of the pipeline will be completed today and then Caspian oil from Azerbaijan will again be delivered to terminals on the Black Sea (Novorossiisk). The Emergencies Ministry told RIA Novosti that there were no injuries in the explosion and that there was no damage to the environment. The volume of oil lost was 110 cubic meters. The explosion occurred on the night of Jun 20 on a section of the pipeline in Almallo, a settlement north of Makhachkala. Two Emergencies Ministry special firefighting units and five fire trucks arrived at the scene. The fire was extinguished by 0422 hrs.

Pollution



ARAL SEA (Singapore)

London, Jun 17 — Following received from the United States Department of

Justice, dated Washington, DC, Jun 16: Thomas L. Sansonetti, the Assistant Attorney General for the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division, and Paula D. Silsby, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Maine, announced today that the chief engineer for crude oil tanker *Aral Sea* (58129 gt, built 1999) has pled guilty for his role in concealing the overboard discharges of oil contaminated bilge waste from *Aral Sea* through false log books and statements designed to deceive the U.S. Coast Guard. The defendant, Chief Engineer Jarnail Singh, worked on board *Aral Sea*, which is owned by Harike Shipping, Inc., and operated by Tanker Pacific Management PTE LTD. The government's investigation began on May 21 when members of the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office discovered waste oil in the overboard piping of the tanker during a routine inspection in Portland. The chief engineer of the ship was asked about the operation of the ship's oil water separator, which is a piece of pollution prevention equipment required by MARPOL, a treaty ratified and implemented by the United States. MARPOL and U.S. law limit the oil content of discharges from ships to not more than 15 parts per million. The oil water separator is the required equipment that, when operated correctly, will prevent discharges in excess of 15 parts per million. In response to the Coast Guard's question to Singh regarding the oil water separator, Singh told the Coast Guard that it was working properly. Singh also told the Coast Guard inspectors that he did not know how oil could have gotten in the overboard piping. Upon further investigation, the Coast Guard learned that while the vessel was at sea, Singh had directed that the oil water separator be "tricked" by running fresh water through a sensor designed to stop discharges containing oil instead of using a sample of the actual discharge. The tricking of the sensor can allow oil in excess of the legal limits to be discharged overboard, and explains the oil found in the overboard piping by the Coast Guard inspectors. During the course of the Coast Guard inspection, Singh also presented the Oil Record Book, a log required by MARPOL and U.S. law in which all discharges are to be accurately recorded. The log created the false impression that the ship's equipment was being operated properly. For his false statements and presentation of false records to the Coast Guard during the inspection, Singh faces a maximum penalty of up to five years imprisonment, a fine up to \$250,000, and probation for up to three years. The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Service with assistance from the Coast Guard Marine Safety Office, the Coast Guard First District Legal Office, and the Coast Guard Head Quarters Office of Investigation and Analysis. The case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maine and the Environmental Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice. The investigation is continuing.

(Note — *Aral Sea* arrived Portland May 21 and sailed May 27.)

ASPROPYRGOS, GREECE

London, Jun 23 — Product tanker *Sadalsuud* arrived Bar Jun 11 and sailed Jun 14 for Eleusis. (See issue of Jun 9.)

CHALKIS, GREECE

Limassol, Jun 17 — General cargo *Avantis III* arrived Limassol Jun 16. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Jun 11.)

NIGERIA

See under "Political & Civil Unrest."



CHINA

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Egg-size hail stones pounded China's northern city of Handan, injuring 32 people and causing serious damage to houses, farmland and trees, state media reported today. The 30-minute hail storm on Sunday also caused a blackout in the city in Hebei province, the Xinhua news agency said. It caused an estimated 105 million yuan (12.7 million US dollars) in damage and affected some 640,000 people. The 32 people who were injured were in a stable condition, Xinhua said. Officials were sent to the area to coordinate rescue efforts and the government was allocating funds to help the city, it said.

GERMANY

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: Two people were killed, several injured and widespread damage was caused in storms, including a tornado, that have hit Germany, state police said today. Wind gusting at up to 115 kilometres per hour tore down trees and damaged houses and property in the states of Saxony-Anhalt in the north, neighbouring Lower Saxony and the southern region of Bavaria. A boat with three people aboard was caught in a storm on the Chiemsee lake in Bavaria yesterday. A 62-year-old man drowned, police said. In Lower Saxony, a falling tree killed a man in the afternoon and another fell in the evening on a group of 16 students, badly injuring two of them. A tornado struck the village of Micheln in Saxony-Anhalt injuring at least six people, damaging some 300 buildings and tearing roofs from homes. Around 200 rescue workers were mobilised today to reconnect electricity supplies and re-open roads that were blocked around the village.

TROPICAL STORM "MINDULLE"

London, Jun 24 — Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: Tropical storm "Mindulle" was near lat 16.6N, long 138.9E, at 0600, UTC, today. Movement past six hours 250 degrees at 13 knots. Position

accurate to within 60 nautical miles. Present wind distribution: Maximum sustained winds 45 knots, gusts 55 knots. Forecast valid at 0600, UTC, Jun 25: Lat 16.2N long 134.5E, maximum sustained winds 60 knots, gusts 75 knots.

TURKEY

Ankara, Jun 19 — A freak tornado killed at least three people, injured 14 others and caused widespread damage in a small town near the Turkish capital Ankara, local media reported. Television showed damaged buildings, uprooted trees and overturned vehicles in Cubuk, about 50 km north of Ankara. Two young children were among the dead. "It was like a bomb had exploded outside," the Anatolian state news agency quoted one witness as saying today. Much of the country experienced summer storms today and parts of Istanbul witnessed heavy flooding. Authorities sent emergency aid including tents and blankets to the town. — Reuters.

TYPHOON "DIANMU"

London, Jun 18 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Typhoon "Dianmu" near lat 19.3N, long 131.3E, at 0600, UTC, Jun 18. Movement past six hours 330 deg at 10 knots. Position accurate to within 40 nautical miles, based on centre located by satellite. Maximum sustained winds 120 knots with gusts to 145 knots. Extratropical. Radius of 64-knot winds 70 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds 100 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 170 nautical miles north-west quadrant, 160 nautical miles south-west quadrant, 150 nautical miles elsewhere. Forecast for 1800, UTC: Position lat 20.9N, long 130.2E. Maximum sustained winds 120 knots with gusts to 145 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds 60 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds 90 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 170 nautical miles north-west quadrant, 160 nautical miles south-west quadrant, 150 nautical miles elsewhere. Forecast for 0600, UTC, Jun 19: position lat 22.4N, long 129.5E. Maximum sustained winds 115 knots with gusts to 140 knots. Radius of 64-knot winds 50 nautical miles. Radius of 50-knot winds 70 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 140 nautical miles south-east quadrant, 145 nautical miles south-west quadrant, 155 nautical miles elsewhere.

Tokyo, Jun 21 — Typhoon "Dianmu" has hit land in western Japan, lashing a wide area with strong winds and heavy rains after leaving three people dead at the weekend. Transport was snarled, tens of thousands of households lost power and several oil refineries halted shipments. Two university students were found dead yesterday after being swept off a beach by high waves, and another man died while windsurfing on Saturday (Jun 19) just off the southern island of Okinawa. Two people were missing. "Dianmu" hit land at Cape Muroto on Shikoku island, about 500 kilometres west of Tokyo, at around 0940 hrs local time (0040, UTC), according to Japan's meteorological

agency. Television footage showed huge waves overwhelming breakwaters at Muroto, but no major flooding or damage was reported. The storm was moving north-northeast at a speed of 50 km/h, with winds averaging 126 km/h. The meteorological agency said it was expected to cross western Japan and head out to the Sea of Japan later today. Gusts of up to 180 km/h were recorded in Shikoku early today, the meteorological agency said. At least 137 flights, including several to international destinations, were grounded at airports in southern and central Japan, Kyodo news agency reported. Train and ferry services across a broad swathe of western Japan were cancelled, including some Shinkansen "bullet train" services, and a number of schools closed. Some 27,000 households were without electricity, Kyodo said. At least eight refineries had halted crude oil unloading and product shipment by sea, including Nippon Oil Corp's 340,000 bpd Negishi refinery near Tokyo. Up to 300 millimeters of rain is expected to fall in western and central Japan over a 24 hour period. — Reuters.

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated today, states: Typhoon "Dianmu" rolled over the island of Honshu, disrupting flights and fuel shipments and causing power outages as it moves north toward Hokkaido. Japan Airline System Corp. and All Nippon Airways Co., the country's two biggest carriers, said they cancelled at least 100 domestic flights today to avoid flying into the typhoon. Rail and highway transportation was also disrupted, including cancellation of some trains between Nagoya and Osaka. Japan Energy Corp., Idemitsu Kosan Co., Cosmo Oil Co. and Kyushu Oil Co. said they stopped shipping fuel from their refineries. Kansai Electric Power Co., the country's second largest utility, Shikoku Electric Power Co. and other power utilities in western Japan said electricity was cut to thousands of homes and businesses as the typhoon moved over southern Japan. The center of the typhoon, with wind of up to 160 km an hour and as much as 3 inches of rain an hour, was approaching the southern city of Tokushima at about 1100 today, according to the country's Meteorological Agency. Strong winds and heavy rain is expected in Shikoku, Kinki and Tokai area. Three people were killed and two went missing because of the typhoon, Agence France-Presse and NHK said.

London, Jun 21 — Following received from Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm "Dianmu" was located near lat 34.8N, long 135.7E, approximately 205 nautical miles west of Tokyo. It has tracked north-east, 35 degs, at 26 knots over the past six hours. The position is accurate to within 60 nautical miles and based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds of 55 knots, gusts 70 knots, becoming extratropical. Radius of 50 knot winds: 25 nautical miles in the north-east, south-east and south-

west quadrants, over water and 20 nautical miles in the north-west quadrant, over water. The maximum significant wave height is 23 feet. At 0600, Jun 21, the centre is predicted to be near lat 43.6N, long 142.2E, with maximum sustained winds of 40 knots and gusts to 50 knots.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: Typhoon "Dianmu", which influenced weather conditions on the peninsula over the weekend, brought heavy rain that left some 400 people homeless and caused the blocking of roads and railways. Though the rain stopped yesterday afternoon, the rainy season is forecast to start Friday (Jun 25). "Dianmu" struck western Japan, but caused over 300 millimeters of rainfall in some regions of Korea, particularly in the southern parts of the peninsula. Munkyeong, in North Kyongsang Province, reported a total of 366mm of rain from Friday (Jun 18) to Sunday (Jun 20). Chongju received 332 millimetres of rainfall, Chechon 321, Taejon 296, Tonghae 300, Hampyong 248, and Chonju 243, according to the Korea Meteorological Administration. The rain inundated 222 homes, leaving 522 people homeless nationwide. It also swept over a total of 29,794 hectares of farmland and caused power failures to 26,800 houses across the nation, according to the Central Disaster and Safety Countermeasures Headquarters. Two people lost their lives while four others went missing. Some parts of the railroads between Chongnyangni in Seoul and Kangnung were inundated around 1900, Jun 20, delaying trains for one to eight hours. Rail services recovered at 0800, Jun 21. The rain stopped yesterday and clear skies are forecast. (See issue of Jun 22.)

London, Jun 22 — Following received from Meteorological Office, dated today: At 1800, UTC, Jun 21, the centre of tropical storm "Dianmu" was located near lat 41.5N, long 139.7E, approximately 80 nautical miles north-west of Misawa, Japan, and had tracked north-north-east, 20 degs, at 31 knots over the last six hours. Position is accurate to within 60 nautical miles and based on the centre being located by satellite. Present wind distribution: maximum sustained winds of 35 knots, with gusts to 45 knots, extratropical. Radius of 34 knot winds: 100 nautical miles in the north-east and south-west quadrants and 80 nautical miles in the south-east and north-west quadrants. Maximum significant wave height is 20 feet. This is the final tropical cyclone warning on this system by the joint typhoon warning centre.

UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: Gale-force winds have wreaked havoc in the south of England, with landslips, fallen trees and severe flooding. Weather warnings were in place for the whole of the south of the country, as the heavy rain moved northwards. Flooding led to road closures in Dorset and Cornwall, while heavy downpours caused difficulties in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. People were evacuated from their homes in

Porthtowan, north Cornwall last night after a landslip. Ferries crossing the Channel were cancelled because of the adverse conditions, including P&O sailings from Portsmouth to Cherbourg and the Condor's Poole to St Malo route. In London, Metropolitan Line Tube services were disrupted after a tree fell on the track near Rickmansworth at around 0600, BST, today. Flooding at Waterloo station caused the closure of the entire Waterloo and City Line.

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: Storms battering the south coast have caused another part of the West Pier in Brighton to fall into the sea. The remains of the concert hall on the Victorian structure, which survived two fires and previous gales, fell into the sea this afternoon. The Grade I listed pier, built in 1866 but closed to the public in 1975, is one of two piers in Brighton. The latest collapse means the ballroom is isolated in the sea after being cut off from the rest of the pier. The area was cordoned off by coastguard officials to ensure people's safety.

Earthquakes



INDONESIA

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: An earthquake measuring 5 on the Richter scale rocked Manokwari, West Irian Jaya, at about 2055 today. Antara correspondent in Manokwari reported that the quake caused panic to local residents who rushed out of their houses to seek safer places.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A tectonic earthquake measuring 5.0 on the Richter scale jolted Bengkulu province this morning but there were no immediate reports of casualties or material damage. Kapahyang geophysical station head Armién Pamimin said today the epicentre of the quake was located at lat 05 08S, long 101 39E. The quake's epicentre was located in the Indian Ocean, or 150 kilometres south-west of Bengkulu, at a depth of 40 kilometres," he said. The quake was felt by people living in Bengkulu city and its environs at two to four on the Mercalli scale, he said.

IRAN

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: An earthquake measuring 3.2 degrees on open-ended Richter scale, rattled the city of Sardasht in this northwestern province this morning. The seismological base of Tehran University's geophysics institute recorded the tremor which occurred at 0919, local time. There were no immediate reports of any casualties or damage to property caused by the quake.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: A mild earthquake measuring 3.4 degrees on the richter scale jolted Abdanan in the western province of Ilam this morning. The seismological base of Kermanshah affiliated to the Geophysics Institute of Tehran University registered the epicentre of the tremor at 0829, local time, in an area located 220 km south-east of the provincial capital city of Ilam.

JAPAN

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A moderate earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.1 shook northern Japan today. There were no reports of injuries or damage. The 1117 hrs quake was centred about 20 miles beneath the sea bed, to the southeast of Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido, Japan's Meteorological Agency said. The quake was not felt on Japan's main island of Honshu. There was no danger of a tsunami the agency said.

NEW ZEALAND

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: The West Coast has been rattled by a 5.1 quake. The quake was felt in Greymouth, Hokitika and Arthur's Pass around 1630 hrs. It was 15 kilometres deep and centred 40 kilometres south of Greymouth. Greymouth Police Sergeant David Cross said it was not strong enough to bring down buildings. He says there have been no reports of any damage so far.

TAIWAN

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: A moderate earthquake shook south-eastern Taiwan today, the Central Weather Bureau said, but no damage or injuries were immediately reported. The magnitude 4.5 quake was centred about 21 km north-east of the town of Pinan, in the sparsely populated Taitung region, the weather bureau said.

UNITED STATES

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A tremor with a preliminary magnitude of 5.2 shook Southcentral Alaska yesterday afternoon, according to the Alaska Earthquake Information Centre in Fairbanks. The quake, centred about 20 miles south of Skwentna and felt as far as Anchorage and Palmer, hit at 1329 hrs. Seismologists estimated that it had a depth of 50 miles. At 1144 hrs, a 4.3 quake occurred 17 miles south of Talkeetna. That quake, about 27 miles deep, was felt as far south as Anchorage, said the Alaska Earthquake Information Centre.

Volcanic Activity



BEZIMYANNY, RUSSIA

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: Bezimyanny

volcano, on the Kamchatka peninsula in Russia's northeast, began erupting today. Strong underground tremors were recorded at 0830, local time, a local seismological station told RIA Novosti. The eruption was accompanied by the ejection of ash and gas columns eight to 10 kilometres into the atmosphere. The ash trail stretching to the south-east was clearly visible on satellite photos provided by the Alaska Volcano Observatory. The Bezimyanny volcano last erupted on Jan 14-15. Its eruptions are powerful but short and occur once or twice a year. The eruption did not threaten Kamchatka settlements. The nearest town of Klyuchi is located 40 km north of the volcano. Ash ejection is dangerous for aircraft, tourists, fishermen and hunters.



AFGHANISTAN

Herat, Jun 18 — A renegade commander has taken control of most of a remote Afghan provincial capital after clashes in which 18 people were killed or wounded and the governor forced to flee, combatants said today. The upheaval in the central province of Ghor presents a fresh crisis for President Hamid Karzai and his efforts to impose his authority in the provinces by disarming regional militias seen as a threat to September elections. The overthrow of the Ghor governor came just before Karzai returned from a trip that included a visit to Washington in which he and President George W. Bush gave what many analysts saw as an overly rosy assessment of Afghanistan's progress since US-led forces overthrew the Taliban in late 2001. Renegade Commander Abdul Salaam Khan captured most of the provincial capital of Chaghcharan overnight, Ghor police chief General Zaman said. "We are in the northern part of the city and plan to retake it," he said from the outskirts of the town. He called on the central government to send reinforcements. Khan, speaking from Chaghcharan, said the city was under his control. "The situation is calm. There is no trouble here," he said, adding that several other commanders opposed to the local administration had joined forces with him. Ghor Governor Ibrahim Malikzada said yesterday he had taken refuge in Herat, the main city to the west of his remote and rugged province. Khan said there had been 18 casualties, but did not say how many of these were dead or wounded. Zaman said some people had been killed but he did not know how many. Police chief Zaman said late yesterday that Khan had fired hundreds of rockets that landed in civilian areas. Khan accused the government side of firing rockets into civilian areas. The Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press said at least three people had been killed and 10 wounded and fighting still

raged on the outskirts of Chaghcharan. It is the third time in less than three months that a provincial governor appointed by Karzai has been forced to flee. His disarmament plans triggered similar unrest in the northern province of Faryab in April. Only last weekend (Jun 12-13), stone-throwing supporters of a regional strongman prevented a new governor appointed by Karzai taking office in the northern province of Sari Pul. A Defence Ministry official said it had no immediate plans to rush troops from the fledgling national army to Ghor as it did in response to the unrest in Faryab and earlier in Herat. US military aircraft flew over Chaghcharan overnight, but did not launch any attacks, the combatants said. Tensions rose in Ghor last month after Khan, who is from Afghanistan's largest Pashtun clan, a minority in Ghor, refused to disarm unless Karzai gave him a local government role. The government sent a delegation last month to try to stave off fighting, but it failed to reduce tensions and foreign aid agency workers left Ghor this week, fearing violence. Karzai has vowed to disarm 40% of armed fighters loyal to provincial leaders and commanders by the end of June. The plan is seen as key to stabilising the country as it prepares for landmark elections in September, but has so far moved slowly. An upsurge in violence in recent months around Afghanistan, much in the south and east and blamed on Taliban guerrillas, has raised doubts about the elections being held on time. — Reuters.

Kabul, Jun 19 — U.S. helicopter gunships flushed out Taliban guerrillas today from a government headquarters they overran the night before, a Taliban commander said. Commander Seddiqi said the guerrillas killed at least four government soldiers when they took over the headquarters of Mizan district in Zabul province yesterday. He said three Taliban fugitives were wounded in the clash and the insurgents destroyed the headquarters building. "We took control of Mizan last night, but in the morning American helicopters came and forced us out," he said. — Reuters.

ALGERIA

Algiers, Jun 20 — The Algerian military has killed the leader of an Islamic rebel organisation with ties to al Qaeda, the army said today, dealing a significant blow to north Africa's top militant group. "Units of the People's National Army, engaged in a vast anti-terrorist operation...have killed a number of criminals, including Nabil Sahraoui, alias Mustapha Abou Ibrahim, chief of the terrorist group known as the GSPC, as well as his main aides," the army said in a statement. It said seven militants died in a military operation still going on in the province of Bejaia, some 200 km east of the capital Algiers. They were killed on Thursday (Jun 17) and Friday (Jun 18). The death of Sahraoui, who established links with al Qaeda after taking over the leadership a year ago, was expected to significantly weaken the GSPC (Salafist Group for Preaching and

Combat) — the only remaining major rebel organisation still fighting Algeria's secular authorities. GSPC is believed to be north Africa's largest militant group, with an estimated 500 armed members. "The leadership of the GSPC has been decapitated and it will be difficult to rebuild a strong leadership as most of the top officials are dead, under arrest or have disappeared," said Mounir Boudjema, an Algerian security expert and editor. University of Algiers professor Mahmoud Belhimer said: "It's a big victory for the army but until key social issues, such as housing shortages and unemployment, are addressed rebels will be able to recruit disillusioned Algerians." — Reuters.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A huge explosion has ripped through a power station in the Algerian capital of Algiers. Eleven people were injured, four of them seriously, Reuters correspondent Paul de Bondern said, quoting the interior minister. The minister said it was too early to tell what caused the blast, but witnesses said it was a car bomb, said de Bondern. The main wall of the plant appeared to have been blown away from the outside and there were bits of twisted car metal strewn across the streets and the windows of nearby houses were blown out.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated today, states: The renegade ex-rebel commander behind weeks of violence in eastern Congo today lifted his threat to relaunch the country's devastating war. Brig. Gen. Laurent Nkunda told The Associated Press that he would follow the lead of political leaders from his former rebel group, the Congolese Rally for Democracy, saying they want to keep the peace. In Pretoria, South Africa, Congo's government secured promises today of increased assistance from that country's military, sub-Saharan Africa's strongest. And the United Nations said 25,000 Congolese refugees had now taken shelter in neighboring Burundi to escape this month's violence and tensions in eastern Congo.

Kinshasa, Jun 20 — The Democratic Republic of Congo said today it had suspended three of its top military officials a week after an apparent coup attempt by dissidents in President Joseph Kabila's personal guard. "The chief of staff of the armed forces has been removed for reasons of efficiency and to accelerate the integration process," Information Minister Vital Kamerhe told Reuters. He said the head of the presidential guard and the head of the 'maison militaire', Kabila's team of military advisers, had also been suspended as part of investigations into the events of Jun 11, when security forces put down the apparent coup bid. — Reuters.

INDIA

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 21 people, including a policeman, were injured

when separatist guerrillas exploded a grenade in Jammu and Kashmir today, police said. They said separatists hurled a grenade on a passing security vehicle in Bijbehara market, 45 km from here in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. However, the grenade missed the vehicle, fell on the road and exploded. Bijbehara is the hometown of Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mufti Mohammed Sayeed. Even as police were inspecting the spot of explosion, suspected separatist guerrillas lobbed another grenade at the same site. But fortunately the second one did not explode, police said. "Twenty-one people were injured in the explosion and included a policeman. We took them to the local hospital immediately," said a police officer on phone. The officer said 10 seriously injured victims were referred to Srinagar's Soura medical institute for treatment. Their condition is stated to be critical.

IRAQ

London, Jun 17 — As at 1625, UTC, today, operations at Basrah Oil Terminal have not resumed. Repair works on the northern pipeline are going well and it is hoped to resume operations by tomorrow evening or Saturday (Jun 19). However, the pumping will be resumed at a very slow rate of approximately 7,000 barrels per hour. The southern pipeline is seriously damaged and therefore no forecast on the resumption of pumping operations can currently be made.

Baghdad, Jun 18 — Bombers have killed 41 people in two strikes on Iraq's fledgling security forces, stepping up a bloody drive to sabotage plans for US-led occupation to give way to Iraqi rule on Jun 30. A suicide bomber blew up his white four-wheel-drive car at an army recruiting base in Baghdad yesterday, killing 35 people and wounding 138, in Iraq's deadliest single bombing since a suicide attack on the same target killed 47 in February. Later yesterday a car bomb killed six paramilitary civil defence guards and wounded four near the town of Balad, north of the Iraqi capital, the US military said. Insurgents — thought to include Baathists loyal to Saddam Hussein, Iraqi nationalists and foreign Islamist militants — have attacked government officials, security forces and the oil industry in the run-up to the Jun 30 handover. Oil exports, Iraq's economic lifeblood, remained paralysed yesterday after sabotage attacks on pipelines in the north and south. However, an oil official said some exports could resume today after repairs to a pipeline to a Gulf terminal. Passers-by and army volunteers took the brunt of the Baghdad blast, the city's third suicide bombing this week. Iraq's new defence minister promised a crackdown. "We will cut off their hands and behead them," Hazim al-Shaalan said. Iraqi forces would lead the raids, with only logistical help from US troops, he added. The level of violence in the country also means it is not possible for UN senior staff to re-establish a permanent presence to help with the

political process and reconstruction, Secretary-General Kofi Annan said yesterday. A resolution adopted by the UN Security Council last week gave the world body "a leading role" in preparing for the transition to an interim government and for later elections. The council resolution said a permanent UN presence would resume only "as circumstances permit", and Annan told reporters: "As of today, circumstances do not permit". The US military said a third soldier had died after a rocket attack on a base north of Baghdad on Wednesday (Jun 16). A Hungarian soldier was killed and a Hungarian civilian driver was wounded yesterday when an explosion hit their convoy. Since the US-led invasion to oust Saddam last year, at least 612 US soldiers have been killed in action in Iraq. Also yesterday, suspected Iraqi insurgents released a Turkish truck driver and an Egyptian man taken hostage earlier this month, Turkey's state-run Anatolian news agency said. — Reuters.

Baghdad, Jun 19 — Iraqi engineers have run into delays while repairing a sabotaged oil pipeline and now hope to resume partial exports tomorrow, officials said. "We are having problems, including gas that is delaying welding," said one oil official, who asked not to be named. "We hope to finish repairs and conduct test runs tonight if the gas problem is surmounted. Such repairs are unpredictable by nature," he said. The same official had said yesterday that oil exports could resume today at a rate of 700,000 barrels per day (bpd) if welding finished and test runs on the 42-inch line succeeded. Coalition Provisional Authority spokesman Dominic d'Angelo said the exports could resume tomorrow at a rate of 500,000 to 600,000 bpd if the repairs were completed. "Pressure has to build up in the pipeline first," he said. — Reuters.

Falluja, Jun 19 — US forces have killed 22 people in an air strike on what they say was a safe house linked to al Qaeda operative Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in the Iraqi city of Falluja. US military officers said there was no sign Zarqawi himself — who has a \$10 million price on his head — was in the house when it was destroyed. Furious Iraqis said the dead included women and children. Brigadier General Mark Kimmitt said in Baghdad the house was being used by fighters loyal to Zarqawi, accused by Washington of leading a bloody campaign of suicide bombings and of decapitating a US hostage last month. "We have significant evidence that there were members of the Zarqawi network in the house," Kimmitt said today. "Today coalition forces conducted a strike on a known Zarqawi safe house in south-west Falluja based on multiple confirmations of actionable intelligence." Zarqawi is portrayed by the Americans as a key figure in al Qaeda attacks destabilising the country at a critical time before a US-led coalition formally hand sovereignty to an Iraqi interim government on Jun 30. Pro-American authorities in neighbouring Saudi Arabia said they had killed al Qaeda's leader in the

kingdom, Abdulaziz al-Muqrin, and three other prominent militants. The Saudi operation came hours after the group carried out its threat to behead US hostage Paul Johnson yesterday. Residents of Falluja said two missiles had been fired at the house by a US aircraft this morning, flattening the building. Kimmitt said the US strike had caused secondary blasts as ammunition inside the house exploded. "An American plane hit this house and three others were damaged. Only body parts are left," a witness said, as rescuers dug through the rubble of the shattered house for survivors. "They brought us 22 corpses, children, women and youth," Ahmed Hassan, a cemetery worker, said after the blast. Washington says Jordanian-born Zarqawi has been the mastermind behind a series of bloody suicide attacks in Iraq that have sown chaos and claimed hundreds of lives. It says he was also the man shown beheading US hostage Nicholas Berg in a video posted on the Internet last month. Zarqawi's group claimed responsibility for the assassination of Iraq's Governing Council leader, Izzedin Salim, on May 17. The most recent attack claimed by the group was last Monday's (Jun 14) suicide car bombing in Baghdad that killed 13 people. US commanders say pacifying restive Falluja is crucial for stability ahead of the formal handover of sovereignty. Hundreds of Iraqis were killed in the city in April in fighting between US Marines and guerrillas, sparking outrage in Iraq. The US military agreed a truce and handed responsibility for security to an Iraqi force that includes many former officers in Saddam Hussein's armed forces. Guerrillas bent on disrupting this month's handover of sovereignty brought Iraq's crucial oil exports to a halt this week with attacks on two key southern pipelines. A roadside bomb targeted foreign workers on a road south-west of Basra today. Police said a Portuguese civilian and an Iraqi policeman were killed, an Indian and an Iraqi wounded. Iraq has been unable to export any oil since the attacks. An oil official said welders working in searing heat on the Faw peninsula south of Basra had run into delays but might complete repairs to one of the pipelines later today. The US military reported the deaths of two more American soldiers, bringing to 614 the total killed in action since last year's invasion of Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein. In Beirut, a Foreign Ministry source said kidnappers in Iraq freed the last Lebanese hostage who was seized last weekend. The source said George Frando was in good health. — Reuters.

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated today, states: Oil flowed to a southern port today after crews completed key repairs on a pipeline sabotaged last week by insurgents, a state run-oil company official said. Exports of between 800,000 and 900,000 barrels per day were expected to resume this morning as soon as the oil arrives at the port — a process that could take six hours, an official of the Southern Oil Company said. Repairs

were completed before dawn today on the smaller of two pipelines damaged Tuesday and Wednesday (Jun 15-16), he said. "It is expected that exports will resume this morning," the official said. Iraqi officials halted exports of crude oil Wednesday after sabotage attacks damaged the two southern lines. The pipelines serve as the main artery for carrying the oil to offshore terminals in the Gulf, and transport over 1.5 million bpd. The larger of the two lines sustained more damage and repairs are expected to take up to six days, the official said.

London, Jun 21 — The repair works at the northern pipeline were successfully completed and pumping into the storage tanks resumed at 1335 hrs (1035, UTC) yesterday. They are only pumping into the storage tanks at the moment. The flowrate is at a very low level, since the southern pipeline will take at least another four to five days to complete repair works. Basrah Oil Terminal is not operational so far and no forecast on when operations are going to resume is available.

Baghdad, Jun 21 — Muslim militants in Iraq threatened to behead a South Korean hostage tonight unless his country scrapped plans to send 3,000 more troops — a demand rejected by Seoul. A videotape aired on Arabic Al Jazeera television yesterday night showed 33-year-old Korean businessman Kim Sun-il pleading for his life. A banner in the background named his captors as Jama'at al-Tawhid and Jihad, the group led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, a Jordanian accused of links to al Qaeda. Kim, an Arabic speaker and evangelical Christian who has worked in Iraq for a year as a translator for a Korean firm supplying goods to the U.S. military, was seized in Falluja on Jun 17, the day before Seoul announced its troop plan. — Reuters.

London, Jun 21 — Following received from the Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO), Bahrain: As announced in MARLO Advisory Bulletin 06-04 (dated Apr 30), Coalition maritime security forces are committed to the protection of Iraq's offshore Al Basra and Khawr Al'Amaya Oil Terminals. This commitment will continue for the foreseeable future to include the timeframe after the transition from the Coalition Provisional Authority of Iraq to the Government of Iraq on Jun 30. Maritime security zones established around both facilities are being aggressively protected by patrolling air and sea forces as well as personnel deployed to the terminals. Based on input from oil industry experts, and our own analysis of the threat, we have identified a current industry procedure which makes tankships more vulnerable to security threats. As has been common practice for many years, some tankships preparing for lift operations choose to wait at the terminal's deep-water anchorage. Coalition maritime forces cannot provide the same level of security at the anchorage as at the terminals. Given the suicide boat capability demonstrated in the Apr 24 terrorist attack on the terminals and the obvious

economic target presented by idle oil tankships assembled in a contained area, tankship owners and operators are strongly encouraged to discontinue use of the deep water anchorage. We are aware of the additional logistical burden inherent in suspension of anchorage operations. However, some operators on their own initiative are already doing so via direct coordination with Iraq's State Oil Marketing Organisation (SOMO) as well as with the terminal managers. With careful planning and co-ordination, tankships are arriving at the terminals at their scheduled berthing availability. We request your patience and co-operation in this issue. Any feedback and suggestions are welcome as we work together toward a healthy and secure Iraqi trade environment.

London, Jun 22 — Tankers should avoid an anchorage area 10 miles south of Basrah, as protection from suicide bomber attacks cannot be guaranteed, coalition naval forces have warned. Operators seeking to load at the Iraqi port, or at nearby Khor al Amaya, should discuss closely with the country's Oil Ministry, the US Navy's Bahrain-based Maritime Liaison Office maintains. The terminals are protected by both sea and air forces, Marlo maintains, and security has been beefed up considerably since an Apr 24 attack, involving two explosive-laden speedboats. The anchorage is in international waters, which limits measures available to the coalition. Moreover, tankers at anchor are said to represent an obvious economic target. "We are just not able to provide the same level of security we do at the terminals, Marlo's Mark Devries said. The best solution is for vessels to work with the ministry and the terminals to ensure that their calls are timed to coincide with berth availability.

Baghdad, Jun 22 — One U.S. soldier was killed and six wounded in a mortar attack in northern Baghdad, the U.S. army said today. A civilian contract worker was also wounded in the attack at about 0600, UTC, yesterday, according to a U.S. military statement. It did not give the nationality of the contractor. The attack brought to 620 the number of U.S. soldiers to be killed in action in Iraq since last year's invasion. — Reuters.

Seoul, Jun 23 — President Roh Moo-hyun denounced the beheading of a South Korean hostage by militants in Iraq but said today his country would still send more troops there rather than bow to terrorism. Militants decapitated 33-year-old Kim Sun-il after Seoul rejected their demands to pull 670 South Korean medics and engineers out of Iraq and drop plans to send 3,000 troops. — Reuters.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: Two Iraqi civilians have been killed and a third badly injured in a bomb attack in central Baghdad, police say. The car they were travelling in was left a charred wreck by the explosion, which happened this morning. Reports say one of those killed was a child, and that a passing US military convoy was the target of the

blast. US troops and Iraqi police immediately sealed off the area in the wake of the bombing.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Saboteurs blasted a key oil pipeline transporting crude oil from the northern town of Beji to one of the countries largest oil refineries - another in a series of attacks targeting Iraq's infrastructure, authorities said today. Large plumes of thick black smoke rose above the pipeline burning near the town of al-Mashahidah, 20 miles north of Baghdad. The explosion ripped through the pipeline late yesterday, said Salah Ali Hamid, an oil security guard. The blast cut off supplies to the Dora refinery, which produces gasoline, kerosene and liquefied petroleum gas for the domestic market.

Dubai, Jun 23 — Advised by ISS Umm Qasr that loading operations are going on successfully at Basrah Oil Terminal (BOT). One vessel is about to be completed, following which the loading operations with start at Khor Al Amaya Oil Terminal. Second vessel alongside BOT being loaded at the moment and one VLCC is currently at the anchorage. The repair works on southern pipeline are still in progress. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jun 24 — About 70 people have been killed and hundreds wounded in a wave of attacks across Iraq - less than a week before the handover of power. The worst attacks were in the city of Mosul, where at least 44 people died and 216 were hurt in a series of car bombings, Iraq's health ministry said. At least 22 people died in attacks in the towns of Baquba, Ramadi and Falluja, it said. Four Iraq national guardsmen reportedly died in a car bomb in Baghdad. In addition to the Iraqi deaths, three US soldiers were killed in Thursday's raids, the American military said.

Dubai, Jun 24 — The situation at Basrah Oil Terminal (BOT): One VLCC completed loading yesterday, Jun 23 and sailed today, Jun 24. Following it, ATC loading operations started at Khor Al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT). At the moment there are two vessels alongside BOT, one of them being loaded at the rate of about 30,000 bbls/hour and the other awaiting loadturn. One vessel alongside Khor Al Amaya being loaded at the rate of about 13,000 bbls/hour. Two vessels currently at anchorage, one awaiting berthing at BOT and the other at KAAOT. — Lloyd's Agents.

ISRAEL

Gaza, Jun 18 — Israeli helicopter gunships struck two metal foundries today, injuring four passers-by hours after Palestinian militants fired rockets at an Israeli town. An army spokesman confirmed the attack, saying Israel had destroyed "two weapon workshops that were a part of the weapons production industry in the Gaza Strip," which he said militants had used to manufacture rockets to launch at Israeli targets. Palestinian witnesses said ambulances raced to the scenes shortly after Israel's latest air raid, which came hours after Gaza militants fired a Qassam-type

rocket in the southern Israeli town of Sderot, causing slight damage but no casualties. The army said the foundries were used by militant groups such as Hamas to produce Qassam rockets and other munitions. Israel Radio had reported earlier that the rockets that landed in Sderot were deadlier, more sophisticated and possessed a higher range than the types that had previously struck Israeli towns and Jewish settlements in Gaza. — Reuters.

Jerusalem, Jun 20 — Israeli warplanes struck what the army said were Hizbollah anti-aircraft batteries in southern Lebanon this evening, causing no casualties. Hizbollah television station al-Manar said the planes struck a hill in south-western Lebanon where an Israeli military base stood until the army withdrew from southern Lebanon in May 2000. Lebanese residents said they heard several explosions. A security source in Beirut said nobody was hurt in the strike. The Israeli army issued a statement in Jerusalem saying the airforce attacked Hizbollah gunners that had fired a salvo of anti-aircraft shells into northern Israel earlier in the day. The shells hit an army base but caused no casualties. — Reuters.

Gaza, Jun 24 — Israeli troops shot and killed two Palestinian gunmen who tried to infiltrate a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip, military sources said today. Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades — part of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement — and militant group Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for a "martyrdom operation against the enemies of God," at Dugit settlement in northern Gaza late yesterday. — Reuters.

IVORY COAST

Bouake, Jun 21 — Gunfire broke out in the stronghold of Ivory Coast's rebels today, after the rebels said their political leader had escaped an assassination attempt by fighters loyal to a rival rebel chief. Witnesses said they could hear heavy shooting coming from a northern neighbourhood of Bouake. A rebel official said rival rebel factions were clashing in Bouake after a group of fighters yesterday attacked the convoy of rebel leader Guillaume Soro in Korhogo, another rebel-held town in northern Ivory Coast. Residents said shooting could also be heard in Korhogo this morning. In a statement, the rebels said Soro's convoy had been attacked by heavily armed men with four-wheel drive vehicles in what they called an attempt to assassinate him. They said several attackers had been arrested and from their interrogations it had emerged that they were fighters loyal to Ibrahim Coulibaly — a Paris-based rebel military chief — and had the backing of Ivory Coast's President Laurent Gbagbo and Guinean President Lansana Conte. — Reuters.

LIBERIA

United Nations, Jun 17 — The Security Council today left U.N. embargoes on Liberian diamond and timber exports in place for six more months and asked U.N. experts to take a fresh look by Dec 10 at whether they

should be lifted. The 15-nation council had tipped its hand last week, announcing that after decades of on-and-off civil war, peace in Liberia remained too fragile for the embargoes to be lifted now, as sought by Gyude Bryant, Liberia's interim leader. The U.N. council imposed the ban on diamond and timber exports as well as an arms embargo between 2001 and 2003 after accusing then-President Charles Taylor of fueling conflict in the region through an illicit guns-for-diamonds trade. Bryant said earlier this month that a quick end to the sanctions would help Liberia put the years of conflict behind it, revive its economy and find jobs for former combatants. But a panel of outside experts concluded that while the situation in Liberia was improving, the new government in Monrovia had just begun efforts to certify the origins of rough diamonds and track timber revenues. A resolution adopted unanimously by the council today called for U.N. experts to keep monitoring the sanctions for the next six months and report back by Dec 10 on whether it was time to lift them or again leave them in place. The resolution instructed the experts to consider the impact of the sanctions on the economic and social well-being of the Liberian people in preparing their recommendations. In the meantime, the council encouraged the transitional government to take the necessary steps to ensure money from future exports would be used to benefit the people and not be diverted to buy arms or enrich corrupt politicians. — Reuters.

NEPAL

Kathmandu, Jun 19 — Maoist rebels attacked a police patrol in western Nepal today, killing 18 people, including four civilians, police said. The rebels triggered an explosion as the patrol passed along a road in Nepal's western plains, a rebel stronghold about 400 km west of Kathmandu, blasting a civilian vehicle as well, a police spokesman said. A short gunbattle followed, but there was no word of any rebel casualties. — Reuters.

NIGERIA

London, Jun 22 — A report from La Salle, Quebec, dated Jun 18, states: As a result of a recent oil spill, which destroyed over 20 kilometres of farm land, the Umuogawa-Awarra community in Ohaji Egbema council of Imo State, has made a demand of \$750 million as compensation from Shell Petroleum Development Company. A spokesman for the community, Mr. Ogbonnaya Festus, said, in Owerri, yesterday, that the Egbema Production Centre of Shell has not shown any sign of seriousness since the spillage on Jun 1. According to him, had it not been for the intervention of the State Environmental Sanitation Agency, following a protest letter from the community, the situation would have been worse. Following the development, the community, through its spokesman, advised SPDC to pay the compensation to avoid a possible break down of law and order. It also urged the company to

change its burst pipes, which they claimed has outlived its usefulness, having been there since 1966. The community demanded immediate cleaning of the affected area and the remediation of the soil.

PAKISTAN

Wana, Pakistan, Jun 18 — A top tribal warrior who had sheltered al Qaeda fighters was killed by Pakistani forces along with four of his comrades in an overnight raid in a remote tribal region bordering Afghanistan, officials said on Friday. Nek Mohammad, who protected al Qaeda-linked foreign militants in the semi-autonomous South Waziristan tribal belt, was killed near the region's main town of Wana, 400 km southwest of Islamabad, an intelligence official said requesting anonymity. The death of Mohammad, a turbaned and black-bearded warrior in his late 20s who sympathized with Afghanistan's hardline Islamic Taliban regime ousted in late 2001, will raise fresh fears of a violent backlash by militants in Pakistani cities, senior officials said. Major General Shaukat Sultan, Pakistan's military spokesman, said today Pakistani security forces hit several targets in South Waziristan overnight, but he could not confirm whether Mohammad was among the dead. "We have knocked out several terrorists hideouts," he said in Islamabad. But local officials said security forces destroyed a mud-and-brick house in Karikot village near Wana where Mohammad was hiding, killing him and four others. No other details were immediately available because of the remoteness of the area. — Reuters. (See issue of Jun 15.)

Karachi, Jun 21 — A local press report, dated Jun 20, states: The terminal building of Sui Airport was blown up on Saturday night (Jun 19) by some unknown people, using rockets and high-intensity explosives, officials said. The Sui airport building has collapsed, provincial home secretary Abdul Rauf Khan said, adding that the assailants fired several dozen rockets in the area before blowing up the building with explosive materiel. No loss of life or injuries were reported, as nobody was inside the building at the time of the attack, sources said. The runway and control tower of the airport are safe. The airport had been closed for all incoming and outgoing flights. According to the sources, the assailants started firing rockets at around 2200, Jun 19, and the firing continued till 2330 hrs. Around 56 rockets landed and exploded at various places on the outskirts of the Sui township, including the airport. The Frontier Corps personnel posted in the area returned fire. The exchange of rocket and gunfire continued for around two hours. Soon after, a huge explosion occurred at the airport that completely destroyed the terminal building, comprising the passenger lounge, the VIP lounge and the CAA office. Initial investigation revealed that the assailants had planted high-intensity explosives around the walls of the terminal building. The building has been turned

into a huge pile of debris, the sources said. So far, nobody has claimed responsibility for the attack. Authorities in the town said the airport was under the use of Pakistan Petroleum Limited, the owners of Sui gas wells. It is not a busy airport and is used only for three to four PIA arriving and departing flights a week. — Lloyd's Agents.

Islamabad, Jun 24 — Unidentified men fired rockets and hand grenades to wound seven policemen in a western Pakistani town near the lawless tribal regions where government forces are hunting al Qaeda-linked militants, police said today. Two policemen were seriously wounded when a rocket landed in the courtyard of the police station where they were sleeping at about 2100, UTC, in Dera Ismail Khan town, 320 km south-west of Islamabad, an official said. This is the second attack this month on security personnel in Dera Ismail Khan, the main town near the border with the South Waziristan tribal region where Pakistani forces are hunting for foreign militants and their local supporters. Police inspector Salahuddin Kundi told Reuters "miscreants" fired three rockets and three hand-grenades at the police station from a nearby sports stadium and fled. "One rockets hit a wall, another hit the roof but the one which fell in the courtyard wounded seven of my colleagues. Two men are serious," he said. — Reuters.

RUSSIA

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: Rebel attacks killed seven Russian soldiers and police officers in Chechnya, an official in the Moscow-backed Chechen administration said today. Four soldiers were killed and six others were wounded during 14 rebel raids on Russian outposts over the preceding 24 hours, the official said. In the Chechen capital, Grozny, a police officer was killed and another one was wounded late yesterday when unidentified attackers fired at a police checkpoint. Two other police officers were found dead today in the eastern city of Gudermes after being kidnapped by unidentified abductors the previous day.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: Heavily armed militants attacked police headquarters, border guards' checkpoints and other government offices in Ingushetia, a Russian region bordering warring Chechnya, killing at least 22 people including three high-ranking regional officials, officials said today. The fighters seized the Interior Ministry in Nazran, the largest city in Ingushetia, and attacked the border guards' headquarters there as well as in two villages near the border with Chechnya shortly before midnight Monday, regional emergency officials said. The Ingush catastrophic medical centre said early today that 59 wounded people had been taken to hospital and 16 of them had died. The ITAR-Tass news agency, citing Ingush law enforcement officials, said five of the dead were policemen. Eyewitnesses reported at least six more people dead in an attack on a border

guards' post on the outskirts of Nazran. An official from the Ingush Interior Ministry said it was not immediately clear who the attackers were, but said some of them were shouting "Allahu akhbar" - a frequent rallying cry of Chechnya's separatist rebels as their insurgency increasingly comes under the influence of radical Islam. Ingush police estimated that up to 100 militants, armed with grenade- and rocket-launchers, were involved in the assaults.

Nazran, Jun 23 — Suspected Chechen rebels rampaged through a southern Russian region early yesterday, mounting a brazen onslaught that killed 57 people and raised new doubts about Moscow's ability to stamp out separatist violence. The fighters seized Ingushetia's interior ministry building for several hours and attacked other top security points, prompting President Vladimir Putin to make a lightning trip to the region and criticise his government's handling of the area. Fifty-seven people, including 47 security and police officials, were killed, Tass quoted the region's acting Interior Minister, Beslan Khamkhoyev, as saying. An interior ministry spokesman said the dead included the acting regional interior minister Abukar Kostoyev, who had been in the building when it was captured. Another 60 people were injured. Two rebel fighters had been killed. Khamkhoyev said three suspects, of various nationalities, had been detained. The coordinated strikes, concentrated in Ingushetia's capital Nazran, led to fierce overnight battles as security forces fought to dislodge the rebels from the ministry building. The rebels, who also raided police arms depots and seized weapons, eventually pulled out leaving behind bodies on the streets and the burned-out shells of a police headquarters and a building housing border guards. Tass quoted police as saying a small army of up to 200 guerrillas staged the operation, that began with rebels tricking their way through checkpoints on a main highway. Using false documents that identified them as members of anti-crime and special service squads, they commandeered the checkpoints and then gunned down police who turned out to answer the alarm, Tass quoted police as saying. Television footage showed bodies of combatants and civilians lying in the streets, many of them charred and mutilated from the intense fighting. Witnesses said they had seen the bodies of many police officers in the ministry building. Chechnya's interior minister, Alu Alkhanov, said he had evidence that rebel warlord Shamil Basayev had masterminded the attack. Regional authorities declared three days of mourning. — Reuters.

SAUDI ARABIA

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated today, states: The killing of an al-Qaeda leader in Saudi Arabia has dealt a "major blow" to the organisation, a top Saudi official in Washington has said. Saudi TV has broadcast photos of what it says is the body of the slain al-Qaeda

leader Abdul Aziz al-Muqrin. Foreign affairs adviser Adel al-Jubeir told correspondents a Saudi campaign had destroyed al-Qaeda's capabilities. He said Saudis were "outraged" at the beheading of US engineer Paul Johnson, who was held hostage for a week. Muqrin was killed along with three other militants in a shootout in Riyadh after dumping Mr Johnson's body, Saudi officials said. Mr Jubeir said the body of Mr Johnson had still not been recovered. He said the three other militants who were killed were all members of an al-Qaeda cell. Saudi authorities say the militants were cornered at a petrol station in Riyadh, after witnesses spotted them throwing Mr Johnson's body from their car. Saudi officials said they also seized forged documents, a large number of weapons, and three cars, one of which is believed to have been used in an attack on a BBC team two weeks ago.

SOMALIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Heavily armed militia have shut Somalia's southern port of Kismayo. They have reportedly not been paid. The militia are also reported to have set up road-blocks inside the city and are extorting money from drivers. The protests have prevented vessels from docking and residents fear that the prices of food and other essential commodities will increase. Talks are under way to mediate between the Jubba Valley Alliance regional administration and the militia.

SRI LANKA

Colombo, Jun 17 — Nearly 50,000 people marched through Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna city today in a protest backed by the Tamil Tigers, urging the government to resume peace talks based on a rebel proposal for self-rule, witnesses said. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the government are deadlocked over the agenda for renewed talks to end their 20-year civil war, with the rebels demanding self-rule in the north and east before they begin discussions on a final settlement. Both sides continue to observe a February 2002 ceasefire but talks have been stalled for more than one year and the Tigers have in the past week stepped up their rhetoric, accusing President Chandrika Kumaratunga of not being serious about the peace process. Rebel political wing leader S.P. Thamilselvan was quoted by a pro-LTTE Web site as saying yesterday that there was a lack of political will in Colombo to resume talks, but the government said it was simply taking time to ensure a durable peace. "I would like to reiterate again and again that the Freedom Alliance government remains deeply committed to a peaceful resolution," Media Minister Mangala Samaraweera told a news conference. The Tigers say the Apr 2 election that gave their proxy party almost all of the seats in the Tamil-majority north and east was an

endorsement of their platform for talks on their terms. But a European Union election report released today spoke of widespread fraud in those areas and said a rebel campaign of intimidation and killing of rival candidates all but assured their victory. "If I was making the decision I would have immediately ordered a repoll of the north and east, John Cushnahan, chief EU election observer, told reporters, adding political murders during the campaign sent a "chilling message." — Reuters.

TURKEY

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: A bomb blast aboard a bus killed at least two people and injured seven, private NTV television reported. It was the second explosion just ahead of President Bush's weekend arrival for a NATO summit. The explosion occurred as the bus travelled in a residential area of the city, NTV and CNN-Turk television reported. Ambulances were seen rushing to the scene. Earlier today, a small bomb exploded in front of the Ankara hotel where Bush is expected to stay this weekend. Three people were injured.

UGANDA

Kampala, Jun 22 — Ugandan troops killed at least 36 fighters from the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in two helicopter gunship attacks, averting a rebel plot to attack a civilian camp, Uganda's military said today. Seventeen fighters from the group led by self-proclaimed mystic Joseph Kony were killed yesterday in the Kilak Hills in northern Uganda, said army spokesman Lieutenant Paddy Ankunda. "They had been ordered by Kony to attack one of the internally displaced peoples' camps, to kill civilians and to steal food," he said, adding that a former rebel had warned Ugandan forces of an LRA plan to attack the camp. In an earlier incident, Ankunda said 19 rebels were killed on Sunday (Jun 20) in a helicopter gunship attack in Pader district.— Reuters.



ARGENTINA

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: Kidnappings in Argentina have increased more than fivefold in the last two years, official figures show. According to Buenos Aires' ministry for security, there were 46 reported cases in the country in 2001 and 306 in 2003, Clarin newspaper reported. In cases reported last year, kidnappers netted 3.32m pesos (\$1.15m). Correspondents say the country has long prided itself on the safety of its streets, but has experienced a surge in violent crime.

The primary motive to get involved in kidnapping is because it "makes more money, more quickly", investigators said. Argentina's President Nestor Kirchner has said that many of the kidnappings carried out in and around Buenos Aires were masterminded by corrupt police officers, several of whom have been arrested.

ITALY

Genoa, Jun 21 — Anna Valdata, 74, wife of an industrialist was kidnapped on Jun 20, at Silvano Pietra, near Voghera, in the province of Pavia, Northern Italy. Understand that the demand for ransom is in the region of one million Euro. — Lloyd's Agents.

MEXICO

Mexico City, Jun 17 — Unidentified gunmen shot dead one of Mexico's top kidnap investigators, sending an ominous message to a nation experiencing a new wave of brutal kidnappings. Police commander Jose Fernando Jimenez died yesterday night in a hail of bullets outside his home on the outskirts of Mexico City, judicial officials said today. Jimenez, head of the anti-kidnapping squad in the populous state of Mexico, was probing the deaths of two Spanish brothers who were killed and left in a dumpster last month even after their parents paid their abductors a \$600,000 ransom. The policeman's murder came hours after pressure groups of businessmen and former kidnap victims demanded the government take action to stamp out kidnapping gangs that target Mexico's wealthy and kill scores of hostages each year. Survivors of abductions are bitter that kidnappers can find protection from corrupt police or security firms, while those who do go to jail are often out after 20 years. While official figures show crime rates dipping, Mexico, especially the capital, is still plagued by violent crime and the media has given wide coverage to recent kidnappings. A march through Mexico City is planned for Jun 27, organised by some 80 associations to put pressure on President Vicente Fox. Experts estimate several thousand businessmen or women have been abducted for ransom in Mexico in recent years, the vast majority never reported to the famously corrupt authorities. Private negotiating and insurance firms are also criticised for their role in keeping the kidnapping business booming. "They make money from people's pain and don't report the crime. It doesn't suit them that we solve this. It's their business," said Maria Elena Morera, head of the "Mexico United Against Crime" pressure group. Private negotiators also offer no guarantee of success. Of the 532 kidnap victims officially reported since 1996, 160 were killed during their ordeals. Mexico's Attorney General's office says it has freed 76 kidnap victims this year and apprehended 56 presumed abductors. — Reuters.

Labour Disputes

**FRANCE**

London, Jun 17 — A press report, dated today, states: Electricite de France workers said they reduced power supplies as much as seven percent of capacity in a third day of protests against a government plan to turn the state-owned utility into a corporation and sell shares. Production was lowered by as much as 7,000 megawatts about 1000 hrs, today at hydroelectric, coal-fired and nuclear plants, said Maurice Marion, a spokesman for the CGT union, the biggest at Electricite de France. Production may now rise after a request by the grid operator, to ensure a balance of supply and demand, Marion said. The CGT said it's going to give a petition of 500,000 signatures to the Elysee presidential palace, seeking the withdrawal of the project and a referendum on the future of the two state-owned companies.

NIGERIA

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Shell workers in three Nigerian cities walked off the job today in a "warning strike" intended to force the oil giant to abandon proposed job cuts, union and company officials said. The country's two main oil unions called the strike yesterday afternoon in Lagos, Port Harcourt and Warri. The work stoppage was to continue until tonight, a Shell spokesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Shell pumps about half of all oil produced in Nigeria, which is the world's seventh-largest oil exporter. Nigeria accounts for one-tenth of Shell's global production. There was no violence reported and crude production and exports were not disrupted, a company spokesman said, stressing some workers "are complying, some are not complying" with the work stoppage. Both union and company officials refused to estimate how many workers took part. The protest caught management by surprise because labour groups had not officially informed them of the work stoppage as required by Nigerian law, another Shell spokesman said. Lumumba Okugbawa, deputy general-secretary of the white-collar union, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, said the strike was intended to "sensitize management" to abandon leaked proposals to cut between 30-40 per cent of the company's 5,000-strong work force here. The cuts are part of proposals to trim production costs while boosting production by a half-million barrels a day.

NORWAY

OSslo, Jun 18 — Norwegian oil workers began a wage strike today that will cut more than 10 percent off output from the world's No.3 oil exporter,

stoking already high world oil prices. The government said it had no plans to invoke emergency powers to halt the stoppage by about 200 workers, called after talks with employers collapsed and affecting almost 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) of Norway's three million bpd output. Norway's oil and gas group Statoil said it had started closing the 240,000 bpd Snorre oilfield and the linked 75,000 bpd Vigdis field, the main platforms targeted by the strike. ConocoPhillips said it was shutting 60,000 bpd of production at Ekofisk and another platform that injects 400,000 barrels of water per day to keep up pressure into the subsea reservoir and so force oil to the surface. "If the strike goes on for a long time, the lack of water injection would reduce daily production for the field at large," spokesman Kjell Undall said. Platforms at Ekofisk overall pump about 350,000 bpd of oil. The Norwegian unit of Exxon Mobil said it was continuing output at the 80,000 bpd Ringhorne platform, the only other field affected, for the time being but stopping new drilling and maintenance. Exxon said that it would fly some striking drilling and catering workers from Ringhorne back to the mainland. "For the time being we can produce with the staffing we have," spokesman Jone Stangeland said. "We failed to reach agreement," said Leif Harald Halvorsen at the OLF employers' organisation after talks with the main OFS union broke down today. Disputes included pension rights and union calls for tighter restrictions on temporary workers. "We now have no contact with the unions," he said. Unions accused the OLF of being "arrogant and dismissive." Unions chose to target only a few platforms, aware that big strikes in the past have prompted governments to order workers back under emergency rules allowing intervention if the economy, health or safety are at risk. "We have no current plans for mandatory arbitration," said spokesman Erling Hansen at Norway's Local Government Ministry. — Reuters.

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Striking oil workers are threatening to escalate a labour conflict by pulling additional crew members from an offshore platform. The Federation of Oil Workers' Trade Unions said today it was ordering another 16 workers to strike at ExxonMobil's Ringhorne field by midnight Wednesday. About 200 oil workers went on strike Friday (Jun 18) after failing to settle a new contract during state-led mediation at a time when oil prices have been rising amid escalating violence in Iraq. Norway is the world's third largest oil exporter, after Saudi Arabia and Russia, and the strike was expected to reduce its roughly 3 million barrel per day oil production by about 15 percent, employers said. Union leader Terje Nustad said today that the group had not yet decided whether to step up the strike even further. He said the unions would not consider a complete stop in production, but might reduce flows at some fields "to make the companies bleed." A major disruption of Norway's

production would likely prompt the government to use its power of binding arbitration to order strikers back to work. Inge Peterson, deputy Labour and Social Affairs Minister, said the government was not ready for that step because "it's too limited (a conflict) to consider an intervention now." The contract talks failed largely due to a dispute over pensions, which employers wanted to review as part of a complete revision of contracts. Two other offshore unions, including the 18,000-member Norwegian Oil and Petrochemical Workers, accepted a new contract last week based on a 28 cent per hour pay raise for its members and an agreement to review the structure of current contracts by March 2006. The Federation of Oil Workers' Trade Unions and the smaller union Lederne rejected the same offer and demanded mediation. Jan Hodneland, head negotiator for the employers, said it was not possible to offer some unions more than the others. On Friday, the employers said that the strike would cut production by 455,000 barrels a day. However, Nustad, of the union, said the reduction had been about 316,000 barrels per day because one of the platforms that was supposed to be taken out in the strike had been able to keep producing with other staff. He said the strike by 16 more oil workers will shut down that platform, the Ringhorne, and reduce production by another 140,000 barrels per day, or roughly the same amount as estimated by employers. The strike has also affected Norwegian offshore oil fields operated by Statoil ASA and ConocoPhillips.

London, Jun 23 — Norway's oilfield strike has escalated, with more platforms being shut down and a breakdown in communications between two unions and the authorities. Oil workers in the North Sea are, this week, continuing a strike over pay that started five days ago, shutting down several production platforms and reducing Norway's production by an eighth. Members of the Federation of Oil Workers' Trade Union (OFS) and Norwegian Association of Supervisors went on strike after the breakdown in negotiations with the Norwegian Oil Industry Association (OLF). The loss is more than 450,000 barrels per day in oil production, from Norway's three million daily barrels. The Norwegian government has said it will not step in to dissolve the continuing dispute. Total production loss from the whole strike of around 455,000 barrels per day will lead to daily financial losses of potentially Nkr115m (\$16.6m). Around 175 people working on the Snorre A and Snorre B floating production platforms in the northern sector downed tools on Friday (Jun 18), beginning a controlled shut-down of the platforms. The strike has escalated to ConocoPhillips' Ekofisk Kilo, Bravo platforms and, from last night, on ExxonMobil's Ringhorne platform, said a spokesman for OLF. Total loss of production from the Snorre installations, plus the Vigdis subsea field, will be around 360,000 bpd, said state oil firm Statoil. Ekofisk Kilo and

Bravo were pumping around 69,000 bpd and Ringhorne had an output of around 86,000 bpd, said the OLF spokesman. According to the OLF, the two unions were asking for more than the promised offer to the Norwegian Oil and Petrochemical Workers' Union, which is the biggest union on the Norwegian continental shelf. The OLF and unions, which cover 2,700 offshore workers, are not in talks, so platform closures could continue.

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: Norwegian oil sector employers, grappling with a strike by oil workers, declared a lock-out on all of the country's production platforms, a move expected to result in a near-total output shut-down. The lock-out, which employers said was aimed at ending the conflict, will take effect at 2200 GMT on Monday (Jun 28). The lock-out will allow management to suspend all production activity to break the strike, "which means that nearly all the production on the Norwegian continental shelf will be stopped", oil sector employers' organization Oljeindustriens Landsforening (OLF) said. "The situation is blocked and the conditions for a negotiated settlement of the dispute are not in place," said OLF head Per Terje Vold in a statement. "We see no alternative to a lock-out to end the dispute." Striking unions vowed yesterday to step up their action after midnight on Sunday (Jun 27), a move that would force the daily Norwegian output down to just 75 percent of the usual capacity of around three million barrels per day.

Awards & Settlements



BANNED DRUG INCLUDED IN DIET SUPPLEMENT, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: A jury awarded a Crosby woman \$7.4 million today after deciding that the popular Metabolife diet supplement caused a stroke that left her with brain damage. The three women and nine men on the jury deliberated six hours before unanimously deciding that Metabolife International Inc. acted maliciously by including the now banned drug ephedra in the supplement. The jury awarded Rhea McAllister, 35, \$2.4 million for damage caused by the drug and \$5 million in punitive damages. She is numb on her right side, making the use of her right hand difficult and causing her to drag her right foot, according to her attorneys. She also has short-term memory loss and unpredictable dizziness that makes her reluctant to drive, her attorneys say. The lawsuit is one of the first to be tried since the U.S. Food and Drug Administration banned ephedra in April, and one of a mounting number of cases pending nationwide. An estimated 12 million people used Metabolife in 1999 and the company's

revenues at one time exceeded \$1 billion. The jury found McAllister 30 percent liable for failing to tell her doctor that she was using Metabolife when she first complained of dizziness and other symptoms. During the seven-day trial, McAllister's lawyers said Metabolife tried to conceal thousands of complaints about the adverse reactions to its product. Metabolife sent letters to state and federal regulatory agencies stating that the product had no adverse effects and that the company had comprehensive safety monitoring procedures, according to testimony. The company later admitted that it had received reports of 15,000 adverse events and that it lacked safety monitoring procedures. Michael G. Terry, one of Metabolife's attorneys, had argued that none of the adverse effects could be proven to be caused by Metabolife. Terry also said that McAllister's problems might have been caused by oral contraceptives and that a doctor had pronounced her recovered from her injuries. Metabolife attorney Darrell Barger said several top company officials could not testify because they had been under investigation for two years and were asserting their Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination. The FDA announced in 2002 that it had asked the U.S. Justice Department to investigate allegations that Metabolife had made false statements about the existence of adverse event reports. McAllister's attorneys presented evidence that at least one top company official was indicted in 1989 on charges of manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine, an illegal drug also known as speed. Fibich, during his closing argument, accused the company of developing Metabolife with ephedra, a stimulant, as a form of legal speed. Fibich's lawfirm has five more lawsuits against Metabolife that are scheduled to go to trial this year. The firm has 45 lawsuits filed against Metabolife in Texas and 15 more against the makers of other dietary supplements that contained ephedra. Metabolife and other supplement makers were able to use ephedra in their products after a law enacted in 1995 allowed such supplements to be marketed without FDA approval.

BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: An architect who helped create the world famous biomes of the Eden Project has won nearly £2m in damages. Jonathan Ball from Bude sued London-based law firm Druces & Attlee, claiming it failed to secure his just financial reward from the attraction. The four-week High Court trial began in November 2003. After considering his judgement for six months, Mr Justice Nelson found in favour of Mr Ball. He said Mr Ball had worked hard and succeeded in his aims. Druces & Attlee were brought on board the Eden Project in early days, when Mr Ball was working closely with co-founder Tim Smit. Mr Ball claimed he and Mr Smit accepted the law firm's

advice to set up a charitable trust for the project, but made it clear they also expected to share in the financial success. He said by representing himself and the trust, Druces & Attlee had breached its "fiduciary duty". In his judgment, Mr Justice Nelson said the essence of Mr Ball's claim was simple. He said the firm had set up the trust without advising Mr Ball or Mr Smit that it might defeat their expectations for personal benefit. The judge added that he was satisfied there had been a "breach of fiduciary duty" and the solicitors had acted in a "clear conflict of interest." Mr Justice Nelson awarded Mr Ball £1,809,285 in damages, saying he and Mr Smit had worked very hard and succeeded in their aims.

DISCRIMINATION DUE DISABILITY, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated Jun 22, states: A federal jury has awarded \$4.6 million to a Kokomo woman who claimed auto-giant DaimlerChrysler refused to let her do certain jobs because she is physically disabled. Jury members decided late yesterday in U.S. District Court in Indianapolis that managers at the Kokomo Transmission Plant denied Melinda K. Young a job transfer because she has minimal mobility in her right hand and arm. DaimlerChrysler today called the verdict "perplexing," saying in a statement that it might appeal. "We strongly feel the facts of the case don't support the (verdict)," said Judith Pickering, the company attorney. Three years ago, Young filed a lawsuit alleging that DaimlerChrysler denied her and other qualified handicapped workers jobs in different departments at the Kokomo plant. The suit also claimed retaliation because she filed a discrimination complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in 1998. Young began at the company in 1978 but stopped when she hurt her arm while operating plant machinery. Young's lawyer Richard Darst said she was told to work on before she was trained. DaimlerChrysler refused to rehire Young until 1993, he said. In 1998, Young was working as a test-stand operator when she sought a transfer to the inspection division, claiming the test-stand position was painful because it required repeatedly using both hands to push buttons. Plant officials denied the transfer until she filed the EEOC complaint, Darst said. After Young started in the inspection division, a supervisor told her "we don't let (disabled workers)" in that department, Darst said. Plant officials later moved her back to the test-stand position, Darst said. Mary Gauthier, a DaimlerChrysler spokeswoman, said it was not immediately clear how the verdict might affect how the company deals with other disabled workers.

FALSE ACCOUNTING, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: A federal jury today ordered Franchise Pictures, its owner and several subsidiaries to pay a

combined \$29 million in punitive damages for defrauding its former producing partner by inflating the budgets of 17 films, including such box office duds as "The Whole Ten Yards" and "Battlefield Earth." Jurors had awarded \$77 million in compensatory damages to German film distributor Intertainment a day earlier, bringing the total award to \$106 million. The company had claimed in its lawsuit that Franchise and owner Elie Samaha ran a scheme to fleece it by padding the company's film budgets. Samaha maintained it was Intertainment's idea to pad the budgets to impress stockholders. The deal between the two businesses stipulated that Intertainment would finance 47 percent of a movie's production costs. During the trial, Intertainment said the inflated costs caused it to pay \$115 million more than it should have. The compensatory award was less than that amount because Intertainment reached a deal with its bank that reduced its out-of-pocket losses. Jurors divided the punitive damages, ordering Samaha to pay \$4 million, his company \$1 million, and each of 16 subsidiary production companies \$1.5 million. Samaha attorney Bill Price said the verdict against Samaha should not stand because legally only a party that was first ordered to pay compensatory damages can be ordered to pay punitive damages. Only Franchise Pictures was named in the compensatory verdict, not Samaha. "In our view, the only judgment that can come from this is the \$77 million plus \$1 million against (Franchise)," Price said. The court must still enter the final judgment order, and attorneys for both sides were scheduled to meet with the judge Jul 1 to resolve pending claims in the case.

IMPROPER TERMINATION OF CONTRACT, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Generic drugmaker Barr Pharmaceuticals Inc reported today that an arbitration panel had ruled that Barr's Duramed Pharmaceuticals unit improperly terminated its Cenestin tablets joint marketing contract with Solvay Pharmaceuticals Inc and ordered the unit to pay Solvay \$68 million in damages over the next sixteen months. Barr said a two-member majority supported the damage award, which the panel's chairman said, "far exceeds any damages the evidence would support." The panel gave no explanation for its calculation of the damage award. "We strongly disagree with the panel's opinion and intend to review all opportunities for challenging the award," said Bruce L. Downey, Barr's chairman and CEO. "We continue to believe that Duramed lawfully terminated its agreement with Solvay. We also agree with the chairman's conclusion that the amount of the award is contrary to the evidence." Barr will record a reserve of about \$68 million on the ruling, resulting in a charge of 40 cents per share to its earnings for the quarter ending June 30. Any amounts paid to Solvay will

come from the company's existing cash and marketable securities balances, which totaled \$486 million as of Mar 31. On Mar 31, 2002, Barr gave notice of its intention to terminate, as of Jun 30, 2002, its relationship with Solvay, which covered the joint promotion of Barr's Cenestin tablets, and Solvay's Prometrium capsules. Solvay disputed the company's right to terminate the relationship and claimed it was entitled to damages. The arbitration panel was formed and arbitration began in January, 2004.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A Supreme Court judge today approved a A\$5-million damages settlement for toddler Nathan Liu, who as a four-week-old baby suffered permanent brain damage in a Melbourne hospital's blunder with an intravenous drip. In a case which began yesterday, the court heard that Nathan, of suburban Templestowe, would need 24-hour care for the rest of his life. He is unable to walk, talk and has cortical blindness which means he can only see shadows. Nathan's parents, Guilin and Lin Liu sued the Royal Children's Hospital for negligence over the treatment their son received on September 16, 2001. Nathan, now nearly three, was given 10 times the required amount of Dextrose, a glucose type solution mixed with saline drip. Judge Justice David Ashley today approved an out-of-court settlement reached by the parties.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, IRISH REPUBLIC

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: A three-year-old boy with "devastating brain damage" and suffering from cerebral palsy has secured Euros 3.75 million and costs in settlement of his High Court action for damages. Jamie Casey, suing through his mother, Ms Susan Casey, of Balbriggan, County Dublin, had sought damages for alleged negligence in the circumstances of his birth at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, County Louth. The action was against the North Eastern Health Board. The court heard that Jamie's mother gave birth to twin boys at the hospital on Oct 11, 2000. Jamie was born 32 minutes after his brother Jack. When opening the case, Mr Denis McCullough SC, for Jamie, said the child had suffered devastating brain damage, would never lead a normal life, and was totally dependent on others. It was claimed on behalf of Jamie that, in cases of twin births, it was particularly important that the second child be delivered as quickly as possible after the first twin because the cord could become entangled. It was claimed the cord had become entangled in Jamie's case due to incompetent management; that Jamie had come under stress; and that staff should have intervened sooner than they did. It was also alleged that, in breach of the hospital's own protocol, no doctor was present at the delivery of Jack. Had a doctor been present, there

would have been speedier intervention and Jamie would have been born much sooner than he was, it was argued. However, the protracted birth led to brain damage. In its defence, the health board said it had complied with protocols in continuing to monitor the twins by electronic means, and also by listening throughout the afternoon and up to the time of the birth. The court also heard that three midwives would say that a doctor was present at the delivery of the first and second twin. It was further pleaded that 30 minutes was within the normal parameters for the delivery of a second twin. Yesterday, Mr Justice Johnson was told that terms for settling the dispute between the sides had been worked out subject to the judge's approval. The judge approved a settlement of Euros 3.75 million and costs in favour of Jamie against the board.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: A High Court judge has approved a £3m payout for a "courageous" schoolboy who battled with devastating brain damage sustained during his birth at Mayday University Hospital. Nine-year-old Joseph Young has acute cerebral palsy, restricting his ability to walk and move, due to oxygen starvation sustained in the latter stages of his delivery at the Thornton Heath hospital in 1994. He was also left with nerve damage to his left shoulder. Joseph sought damages from the Mayday Healthcare NHS Trust, alleging negligence in mismanaging his birth so that his body became "stuck" during delivery. He sued through his parents, Joseph and Ingrid Young, of Green Lane Gardens, Thornton Heath. The trust denies liability, but last week reached a settlement with the family through which Joseph will receive £3m for his injuries.

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: Yaffa Elf, from Hendon, who has enormous difficulty communicating because of injuries suffered during her birth won a £2.5million compensation deal this week at the High Court. Yaffa Elf endured acute oxygen starvation when her mother Elaine's uterus ruptured during the latter stages of her delivery. Yaffa, five, is 'bright for her age', according to her counsel, Elizabeth Ann Gumbel QC, her intellect having been left intact. But despite having full cognitive function, the girl has very severe communication difficulties and has to use specialist equipment to express her opinions and wishes. Miss Gumbel said it was her case that an emergency caesarean delivery had been negligently delayed when Yaffa was born at Barnet Hospital on Oct 26, 1998 a claim denied by the hospital's managers, Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust. However, she said the trust had at an early stage admitted 'breach of duty' in that Mrs Elf had been given excessive doses of the labour-inducing drug, Syntocinon before the birth. The trust had

apologised for that but Miss Gumbel said there remained dispute over whether the outcome would have been any different if Syntocinon had been stopped or doses had been reduced. The judge, Mr Justice Eady, approved the settlement.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: A Baltimore County jury has awarded \$1.75 million to the family of a woman who died of a pulmonary embolism after undergoing bladder suspension surgery at St. Joseph Medical Centre. According to the complaint, Erma Joyce Pasquinelli, had a history of phlebitis and despite doctors' orders, the nurses failed to put sequential compression stockings on her legs to reduce the risk of clotting. She died four days after surgery when a blood clot broke off and travelled to her lungs. She had elective surgery and died because the nurses did not do what they were ordered to do, said Andrew G. Slutkin, one of the Pasquinellis' attorneys. Those sleeves are one of the best ways to prevent blood clots. Slutkin, who tried the case along with Michael Snyder, said the nurses also did not get Pasquinelli up and walking around after surgery, as the doctors had instructed. John R. Penhalegon, the attorney representing the Towson hospital, called Monday's (Jun 14) verdict disappointing and said he was looking into grounds for an appeal. The complaint, filed in August 2000, also named doctors Adelmo C. Marana, John Gordon Frizzera, and Steven Marc Berlin, as defendants. The doctors reached a confidential settlement with the family prior to trial — a fact not known to the jury, Penhalegon noted. According to the complaint, Pasquinelli went in for surgery on Apr 7, 1999. A week earlier, she had a pre-operative check-up where she told a nurse about her history of phlebitis, a condition typically accompanied by blood clots. After surgery, Pasquinelli had the sequential compression stockings applied, but they were removed so that she could go to the bathroom. The nurses never put the stockings back on, the complaint stated. When her husband came to visit the next day, he found that she had not been using the stockings, had not been walking around, and had not been given any blood thinners. He also noticed that her legs were very swollen - a common symptom of a blood clot. Pasquinelli was discharged from the hospital the following evening and contacted her doctor over the next few days as she experienced pain in her legs. She died at a relative's home on the Eastern Shore on Apr 13, 1999. After the six-day trial before Baltimore County Circuit Judge Ruth A. Jakubowski, the jury awarded \$500,000 to Pasquinelli's estate, \$500,000 to her husband and \$250,000 to each of their three adult children. Slutkin estimate that the cap on non-economic damages would knock the verdict down to around \$1.5 million.

PRICE FIXING, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Archer Daniels Midland said late yesterday that it had settled for \$400 million a federal antitrust suit which accused the company of fixing the price of high-fructose corn syrup. The US District Court plaintiff class, customers such as PepsiCo and Coca-Cola, who bought the sweetener from the agriculture company in the early 1990s, alleged damages of \$1.6 billion. A jury trial was scheduled for Sep 7. Decatur, Illinois-based ADM could have faced damages of up to \$5 billion. "We are pleased to have reached a resolution with our customers in the food and beverage industries," Chairman and CEO G. Allen Andreas said in a statement. "In light of the potential exposure inherent in litigation, the board of directors concluded that it was in the best interests of the company to dispose of this matter." ADM said the settlement was subject to court approval but that "the parties involved have agreed that all aspects of this dispute with ADM have been fully and satisfactorily resolved." The corn syrup suit civil suit grew out of a federal investigation into alleged price fixing of lysine, a livestock feed supplement, and citric acid. The company admitted guilt in the lysine-citric acid case and was fined \$100 million. Three former ADM executives received prison sentences in 1999 as a result of that scandal. Archer Daniels Midland was never convicted of fixing corn syrup prices.

RAIL ACCIDENT, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 21, states: The family of one of the four victims of the Hatfield rail crash has received £1m damages at the High Court. Stephen Arthur, 46, was one of the four passengers who died when a GNER Kings Cross to Leeds express was derailed by a broken track in October 2000. His widow, Lindsay, from Pease Pottage, West Sussex, was awarded the payout by Railtrack which admitted liability. Railtrack was accused of failing to maintain the track adequately after the east coast mainline express hit a broken rail and derailed killing the four men. The settlement made at the High Court in London today was the last of the four fatal injury claims to be finalised.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: The families of five Minnesota college students who were killed or injured in a 2001 crash on Interstate 55 have settled a lawsuit with the driver and his employer for \$10.5 million. Landmark Ford in Springfield admitted no fault as part of the settlement, which was approved today by Sangamon County Circuit Judge Patrick Kelley. The families filed a wrongful death lawsuit in 2001 against Brandon Hurst, 28, and Landmark Ford. Hurst was driving a company car when the crash occurred. Hurst pleaded guilty in 2001 to reckless

homicide, drunken driving and driving the wrong way on an interstate. He is scheduled for release from state prison in 2010. Authorities said that after a night of drinking Mar 17, Hurst was driving almost 90 mph with a blood-alcohol content more than three times the legal limit of 0.08 percent when his car smashed into a car carrying the students on their way from St. Olaf College to New Orleans. Killed in the St. Patrick's Day crash were driver Christopher A. Hoppe, 19, of Milford, Mass.; Anna K. Bonde, 19, of Livonia, Mich.; and Sarah E. Heitman, 20, of O'Fallon, Ill. Two others were hospitalised.

SALE OF GUN USED IN SHOOTING, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: A judge approved a landmark \$1 million settlement today between two New Jersey police officers and the store that sold the gun used to shoot them. Police officers David Lemongello and Kenneth McGuire of Orange, N.J., were shot with a Sturm, Ruger 9mm handgun in January 2001. Both were disabled and have retired. Their attacker, Shuntez Everett, was killed in a gunbattle with them. The settlement between the officers and the Will Co., which operated Will's Jewelry and Loan in South Charleston, W.Va., was approved by Kanawha County Circuit Judge Irene Berger. The shop sold the gun and 11 others in July 2000 in a "straw sale," in which someone without a criminal record buys guns and turns them over to someone else. The store later contacted federal agents and cooperated in an undercover sting. "This is the first case in which a gun dealer will pay damages, has paid damages for facilitating the gun trafficking in this way," said Dennis Hanigan, an attorney for the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence. The center and Charleston, W.Va., attorney Scott Segal are co-counsel for the police officers. Segal said the settlement "shows gun retailers they have to be careful about who they sell their guns to and under what circumstances." Lawrence Keane, an attorney for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms industry, said there have been other settlements of cases against gun stores by people who were shot, but he did not know if any of those cases involved a "straw sale." The gun used to shoot the officers was bought by Tammi Lea Songer of South Charleston, who turned the guns over to James Gray, a convicted felon who could not buy guns. Gray sold them to convicted felons, including Everett. Songer and Gray spent time in prison for their roles. An attorney for the store, Michael Folio, said the shop is not admitting liability or that it did not follow industry standards, but settled because "it was a decision we found to be in the best interest of all parties. It was a tragedy what happened to the officers. It was a tragedy these people bought the guns by lying and deceiving and deceiving Will Company to begin with." Songer gave the store false federal gun

purchase forms and paid for the 12 guns with \$4,000 cash Gray gave her in the store, the officers' attorneys said. The day after the sale, store workers became suspicious because of the number of weapons Songer bought and contacted the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The agency and the store set up a sting operation in which ATF officers dressed as store clerks, and Songer was arrested when she returned to buy guns again, Folio said. Folio complained the settlement means "if a company like Will Jewelry complies with the ATF laws it appeared that company can be sued and have to pay damages." The lawsuit is still pending against Sturm, Ruger and also names Ohio gun distributor Acusport as a defendant. Acusport sold the gun to another distributor, who sold it to a Baptist minister. He gave or sold the gun to a friend who was a firearms collector. That person pawned it at the shop where the straw sale occurred. Keane, the National Shooting Sports Foundation attorney, said suing the manufacturer and distributor is "an attempt to extort a settlement."

SEXUAL ABUSE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Interest and court costs have boosted a ground-breaking sexual abuse court judgment against the Roman Catholic Diocese of London to more than £1.4 million. Details of the financial judgment in a suit by the Swales family of London against the diocese and retired priest Barry Glendinning were released yesterday. Superior Court Justice John Kerr awarded brothers John, Ed and Guy Swales and members of their family more than £750,000 in a judgment delivered in February. The family's civil suit against Glendinning and the diocese proceeded in stages from last June to December. The suit was brought by brothers John, Ed and Guy Swales, their sister, Melody, and parents Donna and Bob Swales. Trial testimony showed sexual abuse of the brothers occurred between 1969 and 1974, when Glendinning taught liturgy at St. Peter's Seminary in London. The priest became a trusted friend of the Swales family after meeting John, Guy and Ed at a summer camp in 1969. The trial heard how, unknown to the parents, Glendinning introduced the brothers and other children to tobacco and alcohol and sexual activities during camping trips and visits to his seminary quarters. Glendinning pleaded guilty in 1974 to gross indecency involving six children, including members of the Swales family. Glendinning was placed on probation for three years and ousted from his seminary teaching post. The financial settlement revealed yesterday was worked out in protracted negotiations between lawyers for the opposing sides in the suit.

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated today, states: A clique of men who worked with Cynthia Malek at four Bay

Area 24 Hour Fitness health clubs routinely told her they wanted to sleep with her, pulled her onto their laps and touched her inappropriately, a private arbitrator has found after seven years of secret proceedings. The company paid Malek \$2.4 million in damages after she forced her former employer into arbitration, alleging a regime of sexual harassment and retaliation against her when she complained. A Contra Costa County Superior Court judge ruled last week, over the objections of the company, to allow Malek's attorneys to make the award public.

UNLAWFUL DISMISSAL, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: A Placer County, California, jury has awarded \$4.8 million to a Colusa County woman after finding that her former employer, Agilent Technologies Inc., illegally factored her pregnancy into personnel decisions it made leading up to firing her while she was on maternity leave. Colleen Wrynski, a former project manager for Agilent's Roseville branch, said that she felt vindicated by the award because Agilent officials had asserted that she was released for poor performance. The five-week trial centered on the process used to fire Wrynski, 41, who came to Agilent in May 2002 after a 10-year career at Hewlett-Packard Co's. Roseville branch. Six months after she started, Wrynski informed her manager that she was pregnant and planned to take maternity leave, vacation and unpaid leave from June 2001 until January 2002. But Palo Alto-based Agilent, like many high-tech firms at the time, faced a slumping semiconductor market and was looking to downsize its Roseville work force. The company decided to identify the bottom 10 percent of employee performers, counsel them to become more productive and then terminate those who didn't improve. Section manager Aaron Masters added Wrynski's name to the bottom 10 percent list on March 22, 2002, according to documents presented in court. No one told Wrynski that her position was in jeopardy. She started maternity leave on June 7, she said, unaware of any problem at work. Company officials testified that they withheld the information from Wrynski out of concern that the stress might affect her pregnancy. "There were no doctors orders that said that, she and the baby were fine," said jury forewoman Cindy Allen. "So their argument that they treated her differently than anyone else because of her pregnancy is against the law." According to court records, Agilent's Roseville management had decided by Aug 13, 2002, to terminate Wrynski, but did not begin writing her negative job performance review until Aug. 29. Masters informed Wrynski of the firing on Sep 5. "The review was a cover-up," said Wrynski's lawyer, Elisa Ungerman. "They wrote it to justify a decision that had already been made." Today, the jury of eight women and and four men unanimously

awarded \$3,854,320 in punitive damages and \$956,580 for Wrynski's lost wages, lost future earning potential and emotional distress. Agilent plans to appeal the decision, said company spokeswoman Karen Lewis. "This was lengthy, complex trial and we are obviously disappointed with the results," Lewis said. "We're confident that we can win on appeal."

WRONGFUL IMPRISONMENT, CANADA

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: A man who spent five years in prison after being wrongfully convicted of murdering his wife has been awarded \$2.5-million by the Nova Scotia government. Justice Minister Michael Baker said today the money for Clayton Johnson of Shelburne, N.S., covers legal fees and other expenses as well as compensation. "I'm pleased that we have been able to reach an amicable settlement," said Mr. Baker. "This is a fair agreement." Mr. Johnson launched a lawsuit in August 2002 against the province, the RCMP and the provincial public prosecution service. On Feb 18 of that year, the chief justice of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court declared Mr. Johnson an innocent man and dismissed the murder charge that put him behind bars for a crime his lawyers and many forensic experts say never happened. Earlier that day, the Court of Appeal, which was asked to review the conviction in 1998, granted a Crown-defence motion to quash the conviction and order a new trial. Saying there was no longer a realistic prospect of a conviction in the 1989 death of Janice Johnson, prosecutors decided against proceeding with a new trial.



BALUCHISTAN PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

Karachi, Jun 18 — Pakistan Railway said train services remained suspended for over four hours in the Balochistan province of Pakistan yesterday, due to the derailment of a bogey of a goods train bound to Lahore, near Ab-gum railway station in the Bolan district, some 80 kilometres from Quetta. No loss of life was reported in the accident. Railways officials said that the train was going from Quetta to Lahore. "We dispatched rescue teams and at about 1600, local time, the bogey was re-railed," said an official. Investigations were underway to determine the cause of the derailment, he added. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

BATES COUNTY, MISSOURI, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 21, states: Three engineers were hurt after a train accident in Bates County late yesterday night. Authorities said that a train loaded with coal slammed into four grain cars

that were parked on the tracks. KMBC's Dan Weinbaum said it is not yet known who owns the coal train, but the grain cars apparently belong to Missouri Northern Arkansas Railroad. There is no explanation as to why the cars were left there on the tracks. Weinbaum said that the engineers suffered neck and back injuries.

HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: Clean-up crews spent six hours trying to get a derailed train in northwest Harris County back on its track this morning. Officials said two engines and six cars, carrying sand and rock, derailed around 2330 hrs yesterday night, blocking traffic on Farm to Market Road 529 at Old Hempstead Highway, west of Highway 290. Crews were able to get the train upright, enabling them to open one lane of traffic in both directions on FM 529 around 0630 hrs. Investigators said they are still trying to figure out what caused the train to leave the tracks.

MARCH, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: Train services between Peterborough and Ely had to be replaced in both directions by bus services after Whitemoor Station, in March, was closed following the incident. The station is not expected to reopen until the early hours of tomorrow while repairs are carried out. Four carriages of a 39-wagon engineer train, transporting ballast, left the track as it pulled out of the station towards Ely at 0130 hrs. The huge train, which had been on its way to Temple Mills, in East London, with the building material came to a standstill just past the station. Station Road, in March, was temporarily blocked by the train and the line and station were totally shut down in order for workers to try to get the wagons back on the rails. Jenny Sacre, a spokeswoman for National Rail, said: "We apologise for any disruption that this is causing to people's journeys and we will, of course, get it rectified as quickly as we can. "We have got to carry out all the necessary repairs and checks to ensure the line is safe before we reopen the station. "Hopefully that will be in the early hours of tomorrow morning." No one was injured in the incident. The cause of the derailment is being investigated.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: The rail line between Ely and Peterborough has reopened following a derailment yesterday. The route, used by One and Central trains, was closed after a freight train became derailed at March station in Cambridgeshire. Chris Cridford from Network Rail said: "We had in excess of 60 people working throughout the night. The job has gone well, we have worked within our timescale, and hopefully we are up to running speed."

ORISSA STATE, INDIA

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: The engine and three bogies of the 8006 UP Koraput-Howrah Samaleswari Express were derailed between Bhalumaska and Liliguma stations, in the Waltair division of Orissa, today, official sources said. Seven people suffered minor injuries in the accident as the engine and three bogies went off the track. The bogies included a three-tier AC compartment and two general compartments. The derailment occurred at 0745 hrs when the train was passing slowly through hilly terrain. The divisional railway manager of Waltair division rushed to the scene, along with a relief train from Koraput which included a medical van. Traffic on the single line route was suspended following the derailment, the sources said.

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: City officials were investigating a train derailment last night above the Corliss Tunnel near Glenmore Avenue. Lt. Michael Hajduk said at least three tank cars filled with an unidentified chemical derailed in the Norfolk Southern tracks. None of the residents in the area of the spill had been evacuated by late last night, but police were not allowing anyone in the area. Route 51 was closed near the Corliss Tunnel.

RAIGAD DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA STATE, INDIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: The Indian Railways Minister, Laloo Prasad Yadav, said today that yesterday's train derailment which killed at least 20 people was a natural disaster. Mr Yadav earlier said that any official found guilty of negligence would be punished. However, he now says that the crash occurred because of a landslide caused by the wet weather of the monsoon. The passenger train came off the tracks as it crossed a river near the Konkan coast in western Maharashtra. "There is no official who is responsible for this tragedy, it is a natural calamity," Mr Yadav said. "I have seen the site of the accident, and there was a landslide in which earth and boulders covered the tracks. The driver was forced to brake hard." My Yadav said that an investigation into the accident would still be carried out by the commissioner of railway safety. He said that throughout the monsoon season, a pilot engine would run in front of every passenger train on the Konkan Railway to provide clearance and early warnings of possible landslides. Authorities in Maharashtra said the track had now been cleared, although normal services are yet to be restored. The first 11 coaches of the train went off the rails, and local people helped passengers trapped in carriages. Around 115 people were injured, some seriously. Officials said the rains and hilly terrain hindered rescue operations at the site, because the only approach was through

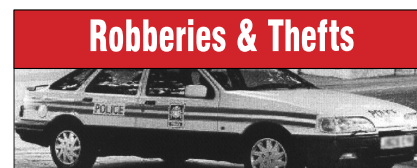
a winding road over the hills. Mr Yadav promised compensation for the victims' families and said compensation of 100,000 rupees (\$2,200) would be paid to the family of each person killed. (See issue of Jun 18.)

SUKKUR AREA, PAKISTAN

Karachi, Jun 21 — Pakistan Railway said two bogies of Karachi bound cargo train derailed in Sukkur division in Sindh Province of Pakistan Saturday (Jun 19) morning. Railway officials said cargo train FK-1 was coming from Punjab Province and when it reached near main railway crossing of Padidan railway station, suddenly two bogies-48750 and 5280 derailed. The driver of the train used emergency brakes and stopped the train. No casualty was reported but traffic of down track was blocked for quite some time. The technical staff of railway reached the spot immediately and started rescue operation as well restoring the traffic. An inquiry is being ordered. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

SULTANPUR AREA, INDIA

Karachi, Jun 22 — Bangladesh Railway said that at least 50 people were injured when four bogies of the Kanchan Express, a Thakurgaon bound inter-city train, derailed at Sultanpur, in Dinajpur district, north-west of Bangladesh yesterday morning. According to sources, the incident occurred at around 1000, local time, when the Kanchan Express, which left Parbatipur at around 0800, derailed at Sultanpur. The track was cleared this morning. An enquiry is being ordered. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.



PAINTINGS, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Police are interviewing a number of people over the discovery of paintings, claimed to be worth millions of dollars, in a Gold Coast garage. They include a piece said to be the work of renowned French artist Paul Cezanne. Artist and art restorer John Opit reported the paintings stolen from his Limpinwood property near Murwillumbah in northern New South Wales four months ago. He told police they included a Cezanne piece valued at more than \$50 million but art critics questioned its authenticity. Police yesterday found several paintings in the garage of a Robina duplex. New South Wales police spokesman, Norris Smith says they are undergoing forensic tests. "No arrests have been made at this stage, however detectives from Burleigh Heads and also New South Wales are continuing their investigation," he said.

Computer Systems



FAILURE OF BANK'S COMPUTER SYSTEM, CANADA

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: Royal Bank of Canada issued more apologies yesterday for its massive computer problem earlier this month and announced a claims process for customers who lost money because of the glitch. "With the processing disruption behind us, our primary objective now is to make it right for those who were directly impacted," said Gordon Nixon, the bank's president and chief executive officer. "I want to thank those who were inconvenienced for their patience and understanding, and once again offer them my sincere apology." RBC's computer system broke down from May 31-Jun 4, causing havoc for millions of customers who were not sure of their balances and waited days for payroll deposits and other transfers. The bank blamed human error during a program change for the glitch. Yesterday, RBC said it had begun reversing bank service charges, fees and overdraft interest for clients affected by the problem and those adjustments would be completed by Jun 30. RBC will also reimburse customers at other banks who may have been hit with charges as a result of the mishap. In addition, the bank has hired Crawford Adjusters Canada to deal with "non-banking related costs and losses that may have been incurred by clients of RBC and other financial institutions." Crawford, a subsidiary of Atlanta-based Crawford & Co, specialises in claims administration and class-action services. RBC customers have until Sep 30 to file special claims. Anything under \$100 will be handled by the bank, and claims over that amount will be dealt with by Crawford. Customers must complete a form which asks them to state the reason for their claim and explain how it is directly connected to the computer trouble. Claimants must also provide supporting documents and outline "the efforts you made to minimise your costs or losses." Compensation will only be paid "for substantial costs and monetary losses directly resulting from the processing disruption," the bank said. Beja Rodeck, an RBC spokeswoman, said the bank has no idea how much the overall compensation program will cost. "We really don't know for sure right now because the total cost is going to depend on the number of claims," she said. "We are confident that this won't be material and it won't significantly impact our earnings." The bank has estimated that 2.5 million accounts were affected, representing about one-quarter of all its accounts. RBC is facing a class-action lawsuit in Quebec over the glitch, which is seeking \$500 in damages for every affected customer.

The bank said that the computer problem had been solved and it had hired consultants from IBM Canada Ltd to make sure it does not happen again.

Miscellaneous



BRAZILIAN SOYBEAN CARGOES REJECTED BY CHINA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: China's quarantine bureau has refused entry to four Brazilian soybean cargoes from May 19 to Jun 11, the bureau said yesterday, citing contamination in a case that has sparked a trade spat between the two countries. China has now rejected five Brazilian cargoes altogether since April after authorities found carboxin — a fungicide harmful to humans that is usually sprayed on soybean seeds — in the shipments, quarantine authorities said. China imported 20.7 million tonnes of soybeans worth US\$5.4 billion in 2003, one third from Brazil, the world's second largest producer of the oilseed. Yesterday, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, widely known as the CIQ, said its offices in Guangdong, Fujian, Xiamen and Shenzhen found four cargoes tainted with the fungicide. A first cargo in the port of Xiamen was turned away and left China after it was found to be contaminated at the end of April, the bureau officials have said. The market is now tracking the fate of two more Brazilian cargoes — one each in the ports of Qinhuangdao and Longkou. "We're still checking. There is no conclusion yet," a quarantine official from Qinhuangdao said. In Longkou, the buyer of the Brazilian cargo said some contaminated beans were found and it was waiting for the quarantine bureau to make a decision. So far, the Chinese quarantine bureau has suspended permission for 23 Brazilian suppliers to export soybeans to China. A trip to China by senior Brazilian agriculture ministry officials to resolve the dispute over soybeans has been delayed, Brazil's agriculture ministry said on Tuesday (Jun 15). During a meeting between deputy quarantine chief Ge Zhirong and the Brazilian Ambassador on Tuesday, China expressed satisfaction with new sanitary standards introduced by Brazil last week, an official from the Brazilian embassy said.

London, Jun 23 — China has yet to reach a comprehensive agreement on how it will inspect soybean cargoes from Brazil, which will delay an expected resumption in soybean trade between the two countries, according to a government department. The State Grain Administration has denied that an agreement between Brazilian Agriculture Ministry officials and China's Quality Inspection Bureau on stricter contamination standards would lead to an immediate resumption in trade. China has not given its approval

for shipments to resume, said a Brazilian government official. The two sides seem to have a different understanding of what the agreement said, Li Ke, head of research at the body's China National Grain & Oils Information Centre, said. There is no way to get inspections done yet, so the trade is not going to resume any time soon. Officials from China and Brazil have been in talks since last month on new standards to remove herbicide-laced seeds from cargoes of beans.

COLLAPSE OF COAL MINE, DASHIQIAO, CHINA

London, Jun 15 — A press report, dated today, states: Another three people were confirmed dead in a disused coal mine pit collapse in north-east China's Liaoning Province by today, bringing the death toll to five. The accident happened at 1120 yesterday in Dashiqiao city. A magnesia workshop above the pit fell into the 10-metre-deep tunnel after the sudden collapse. Eight workers were buried and two of them were killed at the scene. Another two bodies were found this morning and one of the injured died in hospital. The disused coal mine was built by Japanese troops during the World War II. The workshop has been used for 20 years. It was not a production safety accident, said the local supervision department of production safety.

GAS WELL BLOWOUT, PERTH BASIN, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 16 — Following received from Origin Energy Developments Pty Ltd, dated today: Incident at exploration well Tarantula 1: The site remains stable with gas and water continuing to flow to atmosphere through the drill pipe and a water deluge system in place to minimise the risk of ignition. A team of well-control experts has been on site since Saturday afternoon (June 12) and has finalised procedures to re-establish control of the well. Equipment required for this operation has been sourced and is expected to be on site by the end of this week. A carefully supervised operation to re-establish control of the well will then be undertaken.

London, Jun 24 — Following received from Origin Energy Developments Pty Ltd, dated today: Incident at exploration well Tarantula 1: The program of work to regain control of the well has been successful with the well being capped yesterday afternoon. The well is no longer flowing from the drill pipe. It is expected that the well control specialists and emergency support personnel will be released from the site over the coming days. Activities are now continuing in order to evaluate the downhole condition of the well. Following this, a decision on the need to cement the hole will be made and over the next few weeks development options for the well and field will be considered.

OUTBREAK OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE, BRAZIL AND PERU

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: The Argentine

government says it has temporarily banned meat imports from Brazil after the country reported an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. Brazil - the world's second-largest beef exporter - announced its first cases in three years last week. The ban by Argentina follows Russia's suspension of meat imports on Monday (Jun 21). The Peruvian authorities have also reported their first outbreak of foot-and-mouth in four years.

SEIZURE OF DRUGS ON CAMBODIAN VESSEL, ATLANTIC OCEAN

Brest, Jun 21 — General cargo *Winner* is still detained in the military harbour here as per court instructions. No change is anticipated within the next few weeks. — Lloyd's Agents.

SLIPWAY CRADLE FAILURE, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Sydney, Jun 17 — The operator of bunker barge *Bunker V* that has been stranded on the old Duke & Orr slipway in the port of Melbourne for two weeks has hit out at the state government and the port corporation for allowing the facility to decline dramatically in recent years. However, the Port of Melbourne Corporation has responded that the problem does not lie at its door, as an independent engineering assessment of the facility found it to be quite satisfactory. The POMC said it did not own the cradle, which failed, and it has invited tenders from companies to operate the repair facility. Ralph Woodward, marine operations manager with the Korevaar Marine Group said it the Victorian Government's decision to spend \$20 million on the redevelopment of Queenscliff as a port for pleasure craft was in sharp contrast to its approach to the commercial sector. He said the government had consistently failed to address the chronic lack of adequate maintenance facilities for the port of Melbourne. The Korevaar-operated barge *Bunker V* had been on the slipway for five weeks undergoing major survey work, including the installation of new bow thrusters when, on May 31, a cradle mechanism seized halting the vessel's return to the water. The vessel's absence has impacted on the port's ability to provide fuel supplies to calling ships. Mr Woodward said the state of "the one and only slipway between Fremantle, Sydney and Launceston" where these vessels may be docked to complete mandatory surveys and any other emergent repairs was deplorable. It has now reached such a deplorable condition that the principal bunkering barge in the port has remained stranded on it for two weeks, he said. "It is understood that the present lessee of the slipway from Port of Melbourne Corporation has only been granted a 90-day lease," said Mr Woodward. "Quite reasonably he is not prepared to sink capital into the enterprise with such limitation on improvement or development." He said Korevaar had attempted to alert the government, the POMC and other potentially affected parties, but to no avail. POMC chief executive Stephen

Bradford said the corporation is currently assessing tenders for the future occupation of the area and its operation as a slipway. "The fact that it will be a slipway going forward is not in doubt," he said. Mr Bradford said the tender process was the reason why the current slipway lease was so short. "The current tenant was invited to tender and has done so," he said. "The port has given that tenant generous financial support in operating the slipway." Mr Bradford said the POMC had, in April, engaged engineers to undertake a full professional assessment of the port's assets inside the area in question and it had been established that the port assets, including the slipway rails, were in good condition. "I don't believe that it is our asset that is at fault," he said. — Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

WEAPONS SEIZED ON BOARD VESSEL AT ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Piraeus, Jun 22 — C.c. *Breeze* renamed *Petra Express* arrived Piraeus Jun 17 and sailed Jun 18 for Egypt. — Lloyd's Agents.

Fires & Explosions



CHURCH, FORTITUDE VALLEY, BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: A fire has destroyed a church building in Queensland. Police said fire fighters were called to the Glad Tidings Christian Church on Barry Parade in the inner Brisbane suburb of Fortitude Valley around midnight after an alarm was activated. Smoke and flames were seen a short time later and witnesses also reported seeing a man leaving the scene of the fire. Nobody was injured. Cause of the fire under investigation.

COAL MINE, RIO TURBIO AREA, ARGENTINA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: At least seven miners are known to have died in a fire at a coal mine in southern Argentina, officials said. They died when flames and smoke swept through the coal mine in the southern province of Santa Cruz, after the fire broke out on Monday evening (Jun 14). A further seven men are still missing, believed to be trapped in a shaft 600 metres underground. The fire broke out deep in the tunnels at the remote Rio Turbio mining complex, some 2,100 km south-west of Buenos Aires. Some 50 miners managed to escape soon after the blaze started. Search teams used night scopes and other high-tech equipment to try and locate the missing miners. Rescue workers said they hoped the remaining seven miners had managed to reach ventilated areas deep in the mine. However, authorities yesterday told

local news agency Diarios y Noticias that hopes were fading of finding any more survivors.

DEPARTMENT STORE, ENFIELD, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: A fire at one of Enfield Town's oldest stores caused £1million worth of damage to stock and hundreds of thousands of pounds in lost revenue. The blaze at Pearsons department store in Church Street began at a cosmetics counter on the ground floor of the building at about 0710 hrs on Saturday (Jun 12). Although the fire was small, it caused plenty of smoke damage, which billowed through the building, right up to the second floor. An investigation is being carried out by the fire brigade. The normally busy store was closed for up to three days while goods were assessed and an ozone generator was brought in to purify the air. Pearsons' 150 staff were redeployed to the company's warehouses, but were able to return to the store on Sunday (Jun 13) to carry out a stock check. The store, which has been established in Enfield Town since 1931, reopened its doors to the public at 1200 hrs on Tuesday (Jun 15).

FACTORY, ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: A factory has been destroyed in a major fire at a Birmingham industrial estate. The blaze broke out at premises used to store polystyrene on the Key Industrial Estate in Erdington tonight. The fire then spread to a number of neighbouring factories on the estate on Kingsbury Road. More than 100 firefighters tackled the flames and police warned residents living nearby to stay indoors and keep their windows closed. It was thought the smoke could have been harmful. The fire was eventually brought under control and residents were given the all clear.

FOREST/SMOG, INDONESIA

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated today, states: A smog shrouding Malaysia worsened, delaying some flights to Indonesia and forcing authorities to consider shutting schools temporarily due to health concerns, officials said. Malaysian environment officials blame forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia's Sumatra island for the haze. The smog over Kuala Lumpur and the rest of the west coast has thickened due to increased open burning in Sumatra and is aggravated by hot and dry weather, an official from the Environment Department's control room said. Northern Malaysia's Penang state and the southern states of Malacca, Negri Sembilan, and Johor, along the western peninsula coast facing Sumatra, were experiencing "unhealthy" air quality. At the Batu Berendam airport in Malacca, visibility was down to one kilometre, delaying flights to Pekanbaru in Sumatra, an airport official said.

Education minister Hishamuddin Hussein said he would consider closing some schools if the air quality deteriorated further. Southern Malacca state chief minister Mohamed Ali Rustam has ordered outdoor school activities to stop temporarily. The Kuala Lumpur International Airport saw no disruptions to flight schedules despite visibility being reduced to three kilometres yesterday, a spokesman for Malaysia Airports said, adding that visibility improved slightly today. In 1997 and 1998, haze caused by forest fires in Indonesia enveloped parts of South-east Asia, including Malaysia for months — causing serious health problems and traffic hazards and disrupting airline schedules. The haze then caused an estimated 9.3 billion dollars in economic losses.

NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, VERMONT, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: The Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant was shut down today after a transformer caught fire in a non-nuclear part of the plant, officials said. The fire was put out, and no radiation was released, they said. The operators declared an “unusual event,” the lowest of four emergency classifications set by the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The nuclear reactor was automatically shut down as soon as the fire was detected, plant spokesman Rob Williams said. The cause of the blaze had not been determined. “Since the fire lasted longer than several minutes, by procedure we declared an unusual event,” Williams said. Ten to 20 gallons of oil from the transformer flowed into the Connecticut River through a storm drain, Williams said. A clean-up crew was called in to contain the spill. The transformer is used to step up the voltage of the electricity generated at the plant so it can be transmitted more efficiently. Officials did not know how badly it was damaged, and Williams said he could not estimate when the plant might be back on line again. Williams said the transformer was installed less than two years ago. An anti-nuclear group, the New England Coalition, quoted what it said was a witness account that the transformer exploded before burning. Williams said he could not confirm the report. As part of the plant’s emergency procedure, officials in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts were notified. The plant is in Vernon, at Vermont’s south-east tip near the other two states. Vermont’s lone nuclear plant, which began operations in 1972, is seeking permission from regulators to boost its power output. In April, about 20 cracks were discovered in the plant’s steam dryer, a component that has been prone to cracking at other plants that have increased their output. Also that month, two fuel rod segments were discovered missing from the plant’s spent fuel storage pool. Officials believe they were most likely shipped to a disposal facility.

OFFICE BUILDING, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: An independent expert hired to investigate a deadly fire at a county building found no evidence of arson, contradicting the Chicago Fire Department’s ruling that someone started the blaze. The expert, Jeff Eaton, could not determine the cause of the Oct 17 blaze that killed six people, said Abner Mikva, chairman of the panel investigating the fire at the Cook County Administration Building. “All we can say is it’s of unknown origin,” Mikva told the Chicago Tribune in a story published today. “There’s no evidence that we can find at this point that there was a human cause.” The Fire Department has ruled the blaze “incendiary” in nature, which means it was started by a person and that the flames were fuelled by gasoline. Eaton is one of several experts scheduled to testify before the county-appointed panel on Wednesday (Jun 23). Mikva said experts hired by the panel had concluded that the fire’s cause is not relevant to why the victims died. When the fire broke out, the building did not have sprinklers, and doors in its stairwells automatically locked. All six victims died of smoke inhalation in one of the stairwells. The Cook County state’s attorney’s office is investigating the blaze under the belief that someone set it. Prosecutors have said their investigation is based on a medical examiner’s ruling that the deaths were homicides. A state-funded panel investigating the fire is expected to release its findings by the end of the month.

PREMISES, JASPER, GEORGIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated today, states: The damage estimate from Monday’s (Jun 14) fire at the huge Bargain Barn in Jasper now stands at \$11 million. “We still have the fire under investigation. We’re finding this to be an extremely difficult fire to investigate,” State Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine said. He said the fire burned hot and long. It appears to have destroyed needed evidence. “Because of the tin nature of the building and the roof, it really concentrated the fire and made it like a giant oven,” Oxendine said. Oxendine said arson has not been ruled out. The building and its contents were insured, but it’s not clear if it was enough to replace the business. The owner has said he wants to start again.

PREMISES, MUNDINGBURRA, TOWNSVILLE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA - F&E

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: A suspicious fire overnight destroyed a Catholic church building in the Townsville suburb of Mundingburra. Queensland Fire and Rescue Service officers were called to the Blessed Mary MacKillop Parish Centre around 2240 hrs but were unable to save the parish office and church community centre from being severely damaged, although the church

survived. Nobody was injured and the cause was under investigation.

PREMISES, PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: A fire ripped through a downtown section of Haiti’s capital, destroying more than 30 businesses, officials said yesterday. No injuries were reported. Firefighters extinguished the blaze that began late Tuesday and lingered into yesterday morning along a one-block stretch in Port-au-Prince, authorities said. More than 30 stores and warehouses on both sides of the street were destroyed with damages estimated at about \$1 million, said Reginald Boulos, president of the Haitian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Some were buildings and others were food stands that belonged to an open-air market.

PREMISES, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: Lightning struck a Long Point Hammock home around 1700 hrs, yesterday, sparking a fire that caused millions of dollars in damage to the three-storey, plantation-style home overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. The 7,400-square-foot home, recently featured in Savannah Magazine, is so big that it was like dealing with several houses ablaze, said Gary Cole of the Southside Fire Department. “The house was huge and (sitting) out by itself, making it hard to get to,” said Cole. “We had the flames out before dark, but we had to leave a unit there overnight so we could ensure we were ready to handle any hot spots.”

WAREHOUSE, ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Karachi, Jun 18 — Civil Defence Department of Abu Dhabi said a huge fire broke out in a privately owned warehouse of gas cylinders at the Musaffah industrial area, just outside Abu Dhabi city in Untied Arab Emirates, yesterday afternoon. It also badly damaged a nearby carpentry and a diesel store before it was brought under control after nearly two hours of hectic efforts by large number firefighting units. The cause of the fire was not immediately known but police are investigating. A Civil Defence statement said gas cylinders stacked randomly in that warehouse without adequate safety measures which caused the fire to spread to nearby shops. — Lloyd’s List Correspondent.

WAREHOUSE, NEW FARM, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Fire damaged a warehouse in the northside suburb of New Farm, Queensland, overnight. Police on patrol in Macquarie Street found the warehouse complex alight shortly before midnight. Two of the three storage buildings in the complex were damaged but the blaze was not believed to have been deliberately lit. Nobody was injured in the fire, cause of which under investigation.

WILDFIRES, CANADA

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: The British Columbia wildfire season is underway as fire crews battled to contain two major fires that raged in the province today. A 1.5-square-kilometre wildfire burning near the town of Lillooet, about 300 kilometres north of Vancouver, was growing. The inhabitants of six homes near the blaze, dubbed the Dickie Creek fire by officials, were put on evacuation alert and some elderly people left the area voluntarily because of smoke concerns. The fire is less than three kilometres of the nearest homes and heavy smoke was making it difficult to get an exact measure of its size. Steep terrain has made some parts of the blaze inaccessible to fire crews. Thirty new wildfires have ignited in the province since Jun 18. Ground crews were assisted by air tankers with helicopters providing additional support. Fire crews also battled to save a power line threatened by an even larger fire, about three square kilometres in size, in remote area, in north-western B.C., near Fort Nelson. No homes are in jeopardy.

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: Crews in British Columbia are battling to keep a forest fire from getting any closer to homes near Lillooet, 300 kilometres north of Vancouver. As of this morning, the blaze had crept about 200 metres from seven homes, whose residents have been put on evacuation alert. Some have already left because of thick smoke produced by the Dickie Creek fire, which has doubled in size to three kilometres since it began on Friday (Jun 18). A fire of approximately the same size is burning near Fort Nelson in northwestern BC. Officials say lightning storms on Friday sparked the outbreak of more than 40 wildfires in the province on the weekend.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Fire crews fighting a major wildfire that has the entire town of Lillooet on evacuation alert may get some rest as the blaze slowed its rapid spread today. Fire information officer Kevin Matuga said the 15-square-kilometre blaze did not grow significantly overnight and the fire behaviour is moderate. He said most of the vegetation that fuelled the fire was consumed during the fire's rapid spread on Sunday (Jun 20). Another wildfire in northwest B.C. has 375 people on evacuation alert in Terrace. The blaze, which was started by lightning on Sunday, is only about a kilometre away from the nearest property at Copperville Estates. At Vanderhoof, a 10-square-kilometre fire is burning in the forest near the Kenney Dam, where the pine beetle scourge has left timber rotting and dry. Flames are spreading over the eastern flank of the Nechako River to the northeast, forcing the evacuation of one residence and a logging camp. Meanwhile, hot, dry weather has led to a campfire ban on the South Coast and Vancouver Island. The B.C. Forest Service said open fires for cooking, warmth and ceremonial purposes will be banned in the Coastal

Fire Centre as of midnight Thursday. Fires contained in stoves using gas, propane or briquettes are still permitted.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated Jun 22, states: Ontario is sending aircraft and firefighters to help battle forest fires that are threatening communities in British Columbia. Separate wildfires threatening homes in two areas of BC had about 3,000 people ready to flee their homes on an hour's notice today. Four CL-415 waterbombers were flying from Ontario to Prince George to help put down the flames. Ontario is also sending about 125 firefighters, fire behaviour experts and emergency management personnel. They're expected to arrive in BC before the end of the week. The town of Lillooet, 350 km north-east of Vancouver, is threatened by the 15-square-kilometre Town Creek fire, burning just three kilometres away from the town on a rim of the mountain. Three smaller fires merged on Sunday to form the blaze. Fire officials said early today the fire was 20% contained. Lightning strikes have started dozens of fires across the province in the past few days. High temperatures and winds have fuelled them. A total of 123 fires were burning in BC yesterday, including a 1,000-hectare fire burning through a forest of trees killed by the mountain pine beetle west of Prince George.

WILDFIRES, RUSSIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Almost 3,000 hectares of woodland have been destroyed across Russia over the past 24 hours, sources from the information department at the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations told Itar-Tass today. The most difficult situation has developed in Siberia, where almost 8,000 hectares of taiga are engulfed in flames. Ministry specialists also forecast new fires in the Far Eastern region. According to the minister, the biggest fires are fixed in the Chita region, Yakutia and in the Khabarovsk region. All in all, 129 fire centres, covering the area of over 10,000 hectares, are registered in Russia at the present moment. This year, fires have already destroyed over 270,000 hectares of woodland. A total of 2,215 people, 312 vehicles and 21 aircraft are combating the fires.

WILDFIRES, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Three replacement aircraft so far have been effective in fighting fires in Alaska's wildlands since the federal government cancelled the contracts of the four tankers normally used, fire officials say. The state Division of Forestry has two large tankers on contract from Canada. But the D-6s can not be used to help extinguish fires on wildlands within federal protection areas, which cover most of northern Alaska.

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Bureau of Land Management spokesman Wendell Peacock said that the 3,660-acre

Dammeron Complex fire was expected to be contained, or surrounded, by Saturday (Jun 19). The blaze comprised two lightning-caused fires that had burned into each other. In western New Mexico's Zuni Mountains, an 8,400-acre wildfire was 40 percent contained. Fire information officer Jim Whittington said yesterday that three juveniles admitted starting the Sedgwick Fire as they tried to put out a campfire in a restricted area. The youngsters told investigators they put out the campfire using water, sand and a stick, then rested the stick against a tree, Whittington said. The hot tip of the stick apparently fell off into a clump of pine needles, starting the blaze, he said. Authorities were not releasing the names or ages of the three, who have not been charged, Whittington said. Meanwhile, the Peppin Fire, which has burned 64,488 acres and a dozen cabins in south-central New Mexico since it was sparked by lightning last month, was 95 percent contained and was expected to be fully contained by Sunday.

London, Jun 20 — A press report, dated Jun 19, states: The weather gave firefighters a break today as they battled a fire that burned nearly 300 acres and prompted evacuations along the Rio Grande in central New Mexico. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said today that it had authorised the use of federal funds to battle the Bernardo fire. Crews contained at least half of the 288-acre blaze and worked to bolster their fire lines today, said Laura Mulry, spokeswoman for the state Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. High winds that firefighters had feared never materialised today, Mulry said. The blaze flared yesterday afternoon near the Valencia and Socorro county line, scorching brush along the river as well as a mobile home and an abandoned house. The New Mexico Boys Ranch and several nearby homes voluntarily evacuated for several hours last night until the fire died down. The fire was caused by humans, Mulry said, but authorities had no suspects and did not release any specifics. Officials were investigating. Warm, dry air will be a concern for the next several days, Forest Service officials said. In western New Mexico, a Jun 12 fire linked to a campfire burned about 8,600 acres but was 75% contained by today, officials said. Meanwhile, a lightning-sparked wildfire in the Capitan Mountains has cost more than \$7 million to date, burning 64,448 acres. The fire, which began in May, is 95% contained, officials said. In southern Utah, a 3,400-acre fire that was the site of a fatal air-tanker crash was contained today, the Bureau of Land Management said. Wayne Turner was killed on Thursday (Jun 17) when his Dromader M-18 crashed. He was fighting a complex of two lightning-caused fires that had burned together north of St. George and had forced people in about two dozen homes to evacuate. The federal investigation into the crash was expected to take several months.

London, Jun 23 — A press report, dated Jun 21, states: Crews continued mop-up work today on the larger of two wildfires burning in New Mexico, while firefighters on the smaller blaze completely contained the flames this evening. Some 26 people are assigned to the 64,488-acre Peppin Fire in the Capitan Mountains, largely doing rehabilitation work such as seeding along fire lines dug by bulldozers and putting in water bars to prevent erosion, said Brian Scott of the Smokey Bear Ranger District. The blaze, sparked by lightning May 15, is 95 percent contained. It has cost \$7.15 million to fight so far, Scott said. The 358-acre Bernardo Fire burning in a thickly wooded area along the Rio Grande near the border of Valencia and Socorro counties also has been reduced to the mop-up phase. Officials declared the fire 100 percent contained today, said fire information officer Dan Bastion. Authorities believe the fire was human-caused, but the exact cause remains under investigation, he said. The Bernardo Fire burned a house and mobile home on one piece of property near the river. Officials said no one lived in either home. The Peppin Fire burned 12 cabins early on. The 8,595-acre Sedgwick Fire in the Zuni Mountains near Grants was declared 100 percent contained yesterday afternoon. The human-caused fire started Jun 12.



C-GFDV

London, Jun 24 — Bell 212 helicopter, C-GFDV, was engaged in water-bucketing from Eliguk Lake, British Columbia, to support fire-fighting operations nearby. As the pilot descended to the lake surface with the water-bucket attached, the tail rotor struck the water, causing the helicopter to enter the water and submerge. The pilot escaped with minor injuries.

C-GKGE

London, Jun 18 — North American T-6G (Texan), C-GKGE, crashed near Oroville, Washington, Jun 16 while on a flight from Oroville to Billings, Montana. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH INTO LAKE LIDO, JAVA, INDONESIA

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: Two Australians and three Indonesians were killed when a Cessna Aves 185 trainer plunged into Lido lake in Wates Jaya district, Bogor regency, at 1230, local time, today. The aircraft, on a parachute jumping mission, plunged deep into the tourist lake shortly after take-off. Five passengers on the small aircraft owned by Lido Aero Club might have been killed instantly because none of them had been recovered up to 2000 hrs.

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated today, states: Five people, including two Australian parachutists, were killed, yesterday, when a Cessna aircraft nosedived into Lake Lido, in an Indonesian mountain resort south of Jakarta. Police said William Ellison and Priscilla Hall were among those on the Cessna when it plunged into the lake. Police divers were searching the muddy bottom of the lake last night in search of wreckage. Some witnesses reported that the aircraft looked like it was experiencing engine trouble. Local reports suggest the aircraft was making its fourth flight of the day. "It is a small Cessna plane usually based at the Lido resort for parachute jumps," a policeman from the Cijeruk subdistrict police post said. No wreckage or bodies have yet been recovered.

CRASH, CARSON CITY AREA, NEVADA, UNITED STATES

See N63BB.

CRASH, FORT LAUDERDALE AREA, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: A small plane crashed into the roof of an auto body shop shortly after take-off today, killing two people on the plane and critically injuring the third, authorities said. No one on the ground was hurt. The plane went down about a half-mile from the runway at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport after taking off on a flight to nearby Pompano Beach, said Kathleen Bergen, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration. Only three people were on board, she said. One wing of the Piper Cherokee was visible sticking out of the roof of the building and television video from helicopters showed the fuselage lodged inside. Bergen said the plane was registered to the Pompano Senior Squadron Flying Club.

CRASH, JONUTA AREA, MEXICO

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: A drug-laden plane crashed and traffickers battled police and soldiers in southeastern Mexico, local officials said today. Jonuta Police Chief Teofilo Cabrales said his office alerted Mexico's army after receiving an anonymous phone call reporting the presence of heavily armed men early yesterday in the area about 445 miles east of Mexico City. "We began a chase and a gunbattle occurred," Cabrales said. As police battled with the armed men, he said, a small plane that had been flying overhead crashed. "It seems that it was trying to land and crashed against a tree," he said. Cabrales said that the pilot died in the crash and the plane turned out to be laden with marijuana. The police chief said that authorities eventually arrested five of the suspected drug traffickers while 15 others managed to flee down a river aboard boats.

CRASH, LIVERPOOL, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: An investigation has begun after a light aircraft was forced to crash land at Liverpool airport. The plane's pilot, who escaped uninjured, radioed the airport he was unable to lower the undercarriage. Emergency crews at Liverpool John Lennon Airport were put on alert as the plane, with only the pilot on board, landed just before 0200, BST, today. The airport was closed for three hours after the incident, but later re-opened and is now operating normally. Merseyside Police were also called in after reports the plane's undercarriage had failed to lower. Airport spokesman Robin Tudor said: "The airport was closed for three hours following the incident but fortunately it only affected one incoming EasyJet flight from Palma, which was delayed."

CRASH, ST. GEORGE AREA, UTAH, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: A single-engine air tanker battling a wildfire in southern Utah crashed yesterday evening, killing the pilot. The small aircraft had been flying above a fire about 15 miles north of St. George when it went down about 1800, Bureau of Land Management spokesman Wendell Peacock said. Television footage showed the aircraft burning on the ground. The pilot's name was not immediately released and the cause of the crash was still being investigated. The aircraft was basically a crop duster retrofitted to drop water, retardant or seed, Peacock said. It was not one of the larger, multiengine air tankers that the government grounded after a number of fatal crashes.

CRASH, ST. GEORGE AREA, UTAH, UNITED STATES

See N8214J.

CRASH, ST. LOUIS AREA, MISSOURI, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: A vintage aircraft crashed outside of a St. Louis suburb, killing both men on board, authorities said. The wreckage was found in a field six miles north of St. Peters on Sunday, a day after the 1947 Mono Coupe two-seater took off from Creve Coeur Airport, said Lt. Craig McGuire of the St. Charles County Sheriff's Office. Airport officials notified the Federal Aviation Administration and local law enforcement when the plane did not return to the airport as scheduled. The cause of the crash remained under investigation Sunday.

EMERGENCY LANDING, GATWICK, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jun 19 — A press report, dated Jun 18, states: An aircraft with around 200 passengers on board had to make an emergency landing at Gatwick Airport after claims that burning could be smelled. The aircraft, belonging to First Choice Airways, was forced to turn back yesterday, 15 minutes after leaving for Kerkyra in Corfu at 1845,

BST. A fleet of fire engines was sent onto the tarmac and firefighters helped passengers and crew off the aircraft. No one was hurt, but engineers are said to be carrying out checks on the plane.

EMERGENCY LANDING, RAJKOT AIRPORT, INDIA

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: Eight civil aviation officials had a providential escape yesterday when a nine-seater Dornier aircraft made an emergency landing at Rajkot airport, 225 km from Ahmedabad. Nobody was injured in the incident, though the aircraft blocked the runway disrupting air traffic. The pilot made an emergency landing after the aircraft carrying Airport Authority of India officials from Pune developed a technical fault, official sources said.

INCIDENT AT SYDNEY AIRPORT, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated today, states: A Jetstar flight was cancelled last night after an aircraft door was damaged in an accident on the tarmac at Sydney airport. More than 100 passengers were left stranded after the Boeing 717 was grounded. Jetstar spokesman Simon Westaway said Flight 522 was scheduled to depart Sydney at 1900 hrs, for the Gold Coast but was cancelled after the door was damaged when the plane was moved while still attached to the airbridge. "The aircraft was pushed back too early and the airbridge still had some connection to the aircraft and it affected the door," he said.

MALAYSIAN FLIGHTS DELAYED

See "Forest/Smog, Indonesia" under "Fires & Explosions."

N134AC

London, Jun 22 — Piper PA-34-200 (Seneca), N134AC, operated by Lyle P.Mortensen, while on a training flight from Colorado Springs, Colorado, with two persons on board, while practicing touch and go landing, lost control and crashed at Colorado Springs, at 1845, UTC, Jun 20.

N3902W

London, Jun 23 — Bell 206B JetRanger, N3902W, operated by the Alabama Department of Public Safety, crashed near Graysville, Alabama, at 1500, Jun 22, while on a local flight from Bessemer, AL. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The two persons on board were not injured.

N54134

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 21, states: A small plane carrying a flight instructor and student crashed today in a wooded area in the Florida Panhandle, killing both men, officials said. The victims, who were not identified, were headed to Lockhart, Texas, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. The plane took off from Marianna and crashed 86 miles west in Baker. The Piper Apache was operated by Nyce Flight Services of Horseshoe Bay, Texas, said Nicole Wagner, spokeswoman for the Okaloosa County

Sheriff's Office. The fixed wing, multi-engine plane went off the radar about 1445 hrs and Okaloosa County deputies found debris scattered over two miles in a heavily wooded area about four hours later, Wagner said. The plane broke into about five pieces, Wagner said. The piece holding the victims landed upside down in thick mud, and deputies used air bags to lift it up and extract the bodies, she said. It was not immediately clear why the plane crashed. The FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board were investigating.

London, Jun 22 — Piper PA-23-250 (Apache), N54134, crashed near Baker, Florida, at 1405, Jun 21, while on a flight from Marianna, FL, to Lockhart, Texas. The aircraft was destroyed. The two persons on board were killed.

N63BB

London, Jun 18 — Cessna 337 (Skymaster), N63BB, crashed near Carson City, Nevada, at 1942, Jun 16. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

N6698P

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Four Barton County residents were found dead yesterday in the wreckage of a single-engine aircraft that apparently crashed into a field during a violent thunderstorm Wednesday night (Jun 16). Barton County Sheriff Buck Causey said the crash occurred about 2330 in a field about three miles south-east of Great Bend Municipal Airport. Causey said airport records show the aircraft, a single-engine Piper, took off from the Great Bend airport about 2230, Wednesday. He said he did not know where the group was headed. He said the Federal Aviation Administration notified the sheriff's department early yesterday that an aircraft had disappeared west of the airport. He said deputies searched that area in the pre-dawn hours but found nothing. He said a reserve deputy, Darrell Roach, reported the crash about 0730 after he noticed the tail section in a field near his home. It turned out that the aircraft had crashed into a freshly cut wheatfield, with most of the wreckage ending up in a nearby field of soybeans. Causey said three bodies were ejected during the crash, and that the body of the pilot was found in the debris. "We probably have a quarter-mile of wreckage here," he said. Roach said he suspects the lightning damaged the aircraft. He said the storm, which carried winds of up to 70 mph, was very violent.

London, Jun 19 — Piper PA-24-180 (Comanche), N6698P, operated by Roger B.Richter, while on a flight from Great Bend, Kansas, to Hoisington, Kansas, with four persons on board, crashed two miles east of Great Bend Airport, at 0419, UTC, Jun 17, and was destroyed. All four persons on board died.

N70144

London, Jun 21 — Robinson R44, N70144, crashed near Killingly, Connecticut, at 0700, Jun 18, while on a flight from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania,

to Providence, Rhode Island. The aircraft was destroyed. The two persons on board were killed.

N731MP

London, Jun 22 — A press report, dated Jun 21, states: An airplane used to spray crops crashed in a field today, killing the pilot. Hall County Attorney Jerry Janulewicz said the man was from central Nebraska and was the only person in the plane at the time of the crash and the body was recovered early this afternoon. The accident, which happened a few miles south of Interstate 80 and just east of Nebraska Highway 11 near Wood River, was reported shortly after 1000 hrs, police and rescue personnel said. An employee at Muckels Aerial said the crop duster was one from there and it had taken off from Muckels, located northeast of Prosser. The Federal Aviation Administration was expected to investigate the accident.

London, Jun 22 — Cessna 188 (AG Wagon), N731MP, crashed near Wood River Area, Nebraska, United States, at 1513, Jun 21. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board was killed.

N8214J

London, Jun 19 — Polskie Zaklady Lotnicze Mielec M-18 (Dromader), N8214J, operated by New Frontier Aviation Inc, while on a flight from St.George, Utah, to drop fire retardant, with one person on board, crashed into the side of a mountain near Damron Valley, Utah, at 2346, UTC, Jun 17. The aircraft was destroyed and the pilot died.

N82451

London, Jun 22 — Piper PA-25D-235 (Pawnee), N82451, operated by Dolphin Air Leasing Inc, while banner towing with one person on board, landed in trees, 50 yards from the Gulf Shores Airport, Alabama. The aircraft was substantially damaged and the pilot suffered minor injury.

N99HW

London, Jun 23 — Cessna P210N (Centurion II), N99HW, crashed into Lake Erie, near Dunkirk, New York, at 1046, Jun 22, while on a flight from Flint, Michigan, to Jamestown, NY. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated Jun 23, states: A rookie pilot en route from Michigan to the Chautauqua County/Jamestown Airport was killed yesterday when his single-engine plane spiraled out of control and crashed into Lake Erie about two miles offshore near Dunkirk. State Police divers pulled the body of Robert M. Campbell, 61, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., out of his Cessna Centurion 210 aircraft a few hours after the 1059 hrs, crash near Van Buren Point. The Federal Aviation Administration and the State Police Fredonia barracks are continuing to investigate. "Witnesses said it came spiraling out of the clouds. They felt very confident that a wing came off the aircraft, but that's an unconfirmed

report," Gerace said. The air traffic control tower in Erie, Pa., was conversing with Campbell and reported there was "garbled radio transmission" before it lost contact with the aircraft. The aircraft was registered to Stone House Aviation of Indian River, Mich., and flew out of the small Calvin Campbell Municipal Airport there.

Product Recalls

BABY STROLLERS, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced the recall of 300,000 baby strollers. They say the strollers should stop being used immediately. The Cosco "Rock 'n Roller" stroller has been recalled because its seats can partially detach from the frame and cause infants to fall. Stores including Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Sears, Toys-R-Us and Target sold the strollers from April 1996 to August 2002. The models recalled are 01-654, 01-622, 01-624, 01-646 and 01-656, numbers are printed on a label on the back of the frame. Additional info: The seat cover is usually dark blue or green printed fabric with "Cosco, a Dorel company" on the footrest. There have been 77 reported injuries. They're manufactured by Dorel Guvenille Group USA.

FORD MOTOR VEHICLES, AUSTRALIA

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated Jun 17, states: Ford Australia announces AU Falcon recall. Vehicle models affected include Forte, Futura, XR, Fairmont, Fairlane, LTD, FTE and Ute models built between Jun 1, 1998, and May 22, 2001, including 219,429 vehicles in Australia, 13,362 vehicles exported to New Zealand, and 1,000 vehicles exported to South Africa. Ford believes that over-tightening of the steering rack mounting stud during service could lead to a condition that allows the stud to loosen. In extreme cases, the stud may detach and result in deterioration or loss of steering control. No accidents or injuries have been reported as a result of this condition. Whilst the Department of Transport & Regional Services has reported only two cases of loose studs and one case of a missing stud, Ford's warranty data highlights a further 28 vehicles, from the 233,791 manufactured, which may have experienced this concern. Ford is voluntarily instigating the recall to check that the concern is not more widespread. Vehicles built during the period outlined used a Loctite threadlocking compound, which could be degraded if the stud is over-tightened during service. A change in manufacturing process ensures that vehicles built after May 22 2001 are not

affected. Ford Australia will be contacting customers via mail and advertising in daily newspapers in order to reach all customers. Ford New Zealand has fielded calls from more than 2000 worried car owners since yesterday's recall of more than 13,000 Australian-made Ford Falcons. John Neilson, spokesman for the New Zealand Police Commissioner, said that the recall affects about 300 police vehicles. The Falcon models are also used by some taxi companies. Manager of Ford's customer service division Trevor Auger said that most of the calls so far have been from concerned Ford owners or drivers seeking reassurance and clarification.

LIQUEUR DRINKS, JAPAN

London, Jun 24 — A press report, dated today, states: Suntory Ltd said yesterday it will recall six brands of liqueur drinks as they contain a sweetener not permitted under Japan's Food Sanitation Law. Subject to the recall are an estimated 540,000 bottles. The brands include Tong Feng Hua, Skyy Blue and Shanghai Blue, the company said.

MAZDA MOTOR VEHICLES, WORLDWIDE

London, Jun 18 — A press report, dated today, states: Mazda Motor Corp., Japan's fourth-biggest automaker by sales, said it will recall 130,500 sedans in overseas markets to fix defective fuel tanks. The recall will affect the Mazda6 sedan, known as the Atenza in Japan, spokesman Katsumi Yoshitake said. The company, based in southwestern Japan's Hiroshima prefecture, will send parts to its Chinese partner China FAW Group Corp. to fix 38,000 vehicles in that country, he said. The automaker will also repair 92,500 Mazda6s in the U.K., Germany, Saudi Arabia and Australia. The move comes after Mazda yesterday announced a recall of more than 47,000 Atenzas at home for defective parts in fuel tanks and indicators. The company, which relies more on exports than Japan's other major automakers, ships more than two-thirds of its domestic production to overseas markets. The recall in China affects cars built between Dec. 26, 2002, and March 25 this year, the country's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said in a statement on its Web site. FAW applied for the recall yesterday and hasn't received any complaints about the fault in China, the statement said.

Port Conditions



BANGLADESH

London, Jun 21 — A press report, dated Jun 20, states: At least 600 containers loaded with imported items have been stuck up for several weeks at

the container yard at Chittagong port, causing delay in the berthing of ships and unloading of cargo, sources said. The container congestion resulted from Bangladesh Railway's (BR) delay in carrying them to Kamlapur Inland Container Depot (ICD) in Dhaka. Political programmes, accidents on train lines and some other factors at times affect railway transport and lead to such congestion at the port yard, the sources mentioned. The shipping ministry at an emergency meeting yesterday discussed the issue and asked the BR to take up a crash programme to ease the container congestion. It also asked the railway to arrange special train services to carry the containers, if necessary. Director general of the BR and chairman of Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) were present at the meeting chaired by Shipping Secretary Ismail Zabihullah. The meeting was told only two trains now carry about 120 containers a day to Dhaka from Chittagong port but about 70% the containers arriving at the port are Dhaka-bound. The meeting also discussed building a separate rail track between Dhaka and Chittagong for carrying containers only. The government also plans a four-track railway link on this route in the long term, the meeting was told. The shipping ministry asked the CPA to build an additional rail track in the port area so that at least two trains can stand on the lines at a time instead of one now. The ministry already allocated two crore for take constructing the line, one source said. The shipping secretary told journalists later construction of Pangao container terminal at Fatullah near Dhaka would help end container congestion at Chittagong port. The Pangao project is now under active consideration of the government, he added.

PANAMA CANAL

London, Jun 22 — Seasonal fog is continuing to hamper the efforts of the Panama Canal Authority to clear the backlog of vessels waiting to transit the Canal. Vessels with a beam of 91 feet and over, or those with transit restrictions due to their cargo and/or draughts, are facing delays of three days transiting in either direction. "Non-restricted" vessels with beams less than 91 feet, transiting in either direction, are experiencing delays of two days. The Panama Canal Authority is making every effort to try to reduce the backlog as quickly as possible, transiting an average of 38-40 vessels per day. However, despite arrivals being at somewhat normal levels, seasonal fog continues to hamper their efforts. The Authority will continue to use maximum resources until the backlog has been cleared, given that the next lock repairs are scheduled for Jul 5-15.

SYRIA

Lattakia, Jun 12 — Waiting time is presently one day at Lattakia and five days at Tartous. — Lloyd's Agents.

Port Delays

Country/Port	Date of report	No.of vessels waiting and/or days delay
Australia		
Abbot Point	23-Jun-2004	Coal: One vessel at berth, 1 at anchor; 5 vessels due by 9/7; up to 3 days delay expected.
Dalrymple Bay	23-Jun-2004	Coal: Three vessels at berth, 8 at anchor; 54 vessels due by 3/8; vessels are berthing in order of cargo availability; up to 14 days delay expected.
Hay Point	23-Jun-2004	Coal: Two vessels loading; 12 vessels due by 1/7; up to 1 day's delay expected.
Gladstone	23-Jun-2004	Coal: R.G. Tanna coal terminal: Three vessels at berth, 5 at anchor; 26 vessels due by 16/7; up to 9 days delay expected; Barney Point: 1 vessel at berth, 1 at anchor; 3 vessels due by 20/7; up to 1 day's delay expected.
Newcastle	23-Jun-2004	Coal: Kooragang 4, 5 and 6: Three vessels loading, 5 waiting; 13 vessels due by 29/6; Dykes 4+5: One vessel loading, 3 waiting; 11 vessels due by 30/6; Kooragang and Dyke terminals: 1-5 days delay expected. Grain: 5 vessels due by 4/7, all to load wheat; 7-11 days delay at present due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Port Kembla	23-Jun-2004	Coal: One vessel at berth; 8 vessels due by 24/7; CB1: 3 vessels due by 25/7; up to 2 days delay expected. Grain: 3 vessels due by 29/6, all to load wheat; no delays expected.
Port Hedland	23-Jun-2004	Iron ore: BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Mt. Newman (Nelson Point), "A" berth: One vessel loading at berth, 3 at anchor; 8 vessels due by 29/6; up to 8 days delay expected; "B" berth: One vessel loading at berth, 3 at anchor; 6 vessels due by 1/7; 2-7 days delay expected; BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Goldsworthy (Finucane Island): 1 vessel loading at berth; 1 vessel due 24/6; up to 1 day's delay expected; Westyard "D" berth: 1 vessel loading at berth; 6 vessels due by 28/6; 1-3 days delay expected.
Dampier	23-Jun-2004	Iron ore: Parker Point: One vessel loading at berth, 1 at anchor; 10 vessels due by 2/7; up to 5 days delay expected; 48-hr. planned maintenance shutdown starting 2/7; East Intercourse Island: One vessel loading at berth, 2 at anchor; 15 vessels due by 6/7; up to 10 days delay expected; 72-hour planned maintenance shutdown starting 21/7.
Port Walcott	23-Jun-2004	Iron ore: Two vessels loading at berth, 2 at anchor; 15 vessels due by 10/7; up to 3 days delay expected; 2 ship loaders are being used on a more frequent basis, requiring 2 loading plans: one for single ship loader, 1 for dual loader operation; shippers request that load plans be submitted as early as possible (10 days) so they can coordinate stockpiles more effectively.
Melbourne	23-Jun-2004	1 vessel waiting to load wheat; 4 vessels due by 8/7, 3 to load wheat, 1 barley; up to 1 day's delay at present due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Geelong	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 9 vessels due by 2/7, 2 to load barley, 1 canola, 5 wheat, 1 unknown cargo; 3-18 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Portland	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 4 vessels due by 11/7, 2 to load barley, 2 wood-chips; up to 6 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Port Adelaide	23-Jun-2004	Grain: No. 27 berth: 6 vessels due by 27/6, 5 to load wheat, 1 barley; 2-8 days delay expected due to berth congestion.
Port Giles	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 2 vessels due by 11/7, both to load wheat; up to 1 day's delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Wallaroo	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 2 vessels due by 21/6, 1 to load barley, 1 wheat; up to 11 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Port Pirie	23-Jun-2004	Grain: No. 2 berth: no vessels scheduled. Berth will be closed to shipping from 1/7 to 9/8 for electrical upgrade in silo control room.
Port Lincoln	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 5 vessels due by 2/7, 2 to load wheat, 3 barley; up to 10 days delay expected due to cargo availability.
Geraldton	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 5 vessels due by 10/7, all to load wheat; up to 7 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Kwinana	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 12 vessels due by 25/7, 10 to load wheat, 2 barley; up to 8 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Albany	23-Jun-2004	Grain: 5 vessels due by 7/7, all to load wheat; up to 9 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Esperance	23-Jun-2004	Iron ore: Two vessels due by 22/6; up to 1 day's delay expected. Grain: 5 vessels due by 5/7, 2 to load feed, 1 wheat, 1 barley, 1 unknown cargo; 1-4 days delay expected due to cargo availability and berth congestion.
Bulgaria		
Bourgas	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels in port of which 5 loading (2 coils, 1 bulk ammonium nitrate, 1 scrap, 1 steel sheets), 3 discharging (1 jet cargo, 1 salt, 1 coal); 6 vessels in roads, all to load (2 empty, 1 chemicals, 2 coils, 1 profiles); 11 vessels due of which 7 to load (2 containers, 4 steel sheets, 1 billets, 2 coils, 1 profiles), 4 to discharge (2 containers, 1 coal, 1 iron ore).
Chile		
Arica	21-Jun-2004	Three vessels berthed, 4 berths vacant; 20 vessels due this week.
Iquique	21-Jun-2004	Two vessels berthed, 2 berths vacant; 19 vessels due this week.
Antofagasta	21-Jun-2004	Three vessels berthed, 4 berths vacant; 20 vessels due this week to load/discharge concentrates, bulk copper, containers, general cargo.
Valparaiso	21-Jun-2004	Four vessels berthed, 4 berths vacant; 1 vessel at anchorage: 20 vessels due this week.
San Antonio	21-Jun-2004	Six vessels berthed, 4 berths vacant; 21 vessels due this week.
Puerto Montt	21-Jun-2004	Two vessels at terminal, 1 berth vacant; 6 vessels due this week.

Port Conditions

Punta Arenas	21-Jun-2004	Three vessels at terminal, 4 berths vacant; 13 vessels due this week.
Talcahuano	21-Jun-2004	One vessel berthed at terminal, 1 due this week.
San Vicente	21-Jun-2004	Three vessels berthed, 1 berth vacant; 18 vessels due during the week; Steel pier: 1 vessel at terminal, 1 berth vacant; no vessels due this week; Coronel pier: 1 vessel at terminal, 2 berths vacant; no vessels due this week; Oil terminal: 1 tanker at terminal, 1 berth vacant; no tankers due this week.
Cyprus		
Limassol	22-Jun-2004	Two conventional vessels discharging at berth, 2 container vessels discharging/loading at berth; 6 vessels due 23/6 of which 2 containers, 3 passenger vessels, 1 cruise vessel; no delays expected.
Larnaca	22-Jun-2004	Two conventional vessels discharging at berth; no delays expected.
Egypt		
Alexandria	21-Jun-2004	Twenty-four vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which 21 general cargo, 1 Ro/Ro, 1 reefer, 1 tanker; 6 vessels at inner anchorage, 7 at outer anchorage.
Dekheila	21-Jun-2004	Twelve vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which 8 general cargo, 1 container vessel, 3 bulk carriers.
Damietta	21-Jun-2004	Nineteen vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which 12 general cargo, 4 bulk carriers, 3 container vessels; 5 vessels at outer anchorage, 1 at inner anchorage.
Port Said	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which all container vessels.
Adabia	21-Jun-2004	Four vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which all general cargo.
Suez	21-Jun-2004	Five vessels at berth (loading/discharging) of which 4 general cargo, 1 passenger vessel; 2 tug boats.
Suez Canal	21-Jun-2004	Nineteen vessels transiting Northbound, 23 Southbound.
India		
Mumbai	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems. Two vessels loading at berth, 6 discharging at berth; no vessels waiting at anchorage; expected delays: container vessels: 12 hours; bulkers: 1-2 days on completion of cargo documents; general cargo vessels: berthing within 24 hours of arrival.
Calcutta	22-Jun-2004	Five vessels loading at berth, 15 discharging at berth, 1 discharging at anchorage; 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge; 2 vessels bunkering, 1 under repairs/dry-docked; 23 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Cochin	22-Jun-2004	Two vessels loading at berth, 7 discharging at berth; 4 other vessels in port; 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge; 1 vessel under repairs, 2 dry-docked; 9 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Chennai	22-Jun-2004	Five vessels loading at berth, 9 discharging at berth; 3 other vessels berthed; no vessels waiting at anchorage; 39 vessels due, with the following delays expected: iron ore/scrap: up to 2 days; TNEB coal/steam coal/fertiliser/others: up to 1 day; containers: BRS up to 2 days, non-BRS up to 1 day.
Mormugao	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems. One vessel loading at berth, 2 discharging at berth, 5 loading at anchorage; 12 vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 1 waiting at anchorage to discharge; 5 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 12 vessels due (9 iron ore lumps/fines, 1 steel coils, 1 phosphoric acid, 1 coking coal), with 4-5 days delay expected for coking coal vessels.
Kandla	22-Jun-2004	Conventional vessels: Seven vessels loading at berth, 4 discharging at berth; 5 vessels waiting to load; 24 vessels due, with 3-4 days delay expected; Tankers: 2 tankers discharging at berth, none waiting; 17 tankers due, with no delays expected.
Mangalore	22-Jun-2004	Two vessels loading at berth, 5 discharging at berth; no vessels awaiting berths; 3 vessels bunkering/under repairs; 12 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Jawaharlal Nehru	22-Jun-2004	Two vessels discharging at berth; 1 tanker waiting at anchorage to discharge; 9 tankers due, with no delays expected; no delays expected for berthing at LB-01 and LB-02.
Paradip	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems. Four vessels loading at berth, 5 discharging at berth; 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to load; 16 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Tuticorin	22-Jun-2004	Three vessels loading at berth, 8 discharging at berth; no vessels waiting at anchorage; 9 vessels due, with up to 1 day's delay expected.
Visakhapatnam	22-Jun-2004	Three vessels loading at berth, 6 discharging at berth; 2 vessels waiting at anchorage to load, 1 waiting at anchorage to discharge; 29 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Israel		
Haifa	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems; Two vessels discharging at berth (1 general cargo, 1 bulker), 6 vessels loading/discharging at berth (4 containers, 2 tankers); 3 tankers waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; 4 vessels under repairs/dry-docked, 2 awaiting orders; 19 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Ashdod	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems; One general cargo vessel loading at berth, 11 vessels discharging at berth (8 general cargo, 3 bulkers), 4 vessels loading/discharging at berth (2 containers, 1 car carrier, 1 tanker); 1 bulker waiting at anchorage to discharge, 3 container vessels waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; 1 vessel under repairs/dry-docked, 2 awaiting orders; 10 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Eilat	22-Jun-2004	No labour problems; Two general cargo vessels discharging at berth; 2 vessels due, with no delays expected.

Port Conditions

Mozambique		
Maputo	18-Jun-2004	Twenty-four hour berthing/sailing. Some restrictions to berthing at certain badly-lit wharves. Vessels have to be geared for general cargo berths as no shore cranes available. The Port is working normally and is expected to remain so, hence vessels should berth on arrival, daylight, draft and weather permitting. No berthing delays envisaged. Ten vessels are currently operating, of which 3 loading (1 sugar, 1 citrus, 1 magnetite), 5 discharging (2 rice, 1 wheat, 1 vegetable oil, 1 alumina), 2 loading/discharging (1 containers/sugar/coal, 1 containers/steel plate); 2 vessels on standby; 16 vessels due by 2/7, of which 7 to load (4 citrus, 1 sugar, 2 coal), 6 to discharge (2 wheat, 1 alumina, 1 petcoke, 1 pitch, 1 vegetable oil), 2 to discharge/load containers.
Nigeria		
Qua Iboe	22-Jun-2004	Production at Oso platform remains low. Eket: 1 vessel loading at berth, none anchored, 5 due.
Pakistan		
Karachi	22-Jun-2004	Three vessels loading at berth (2 rice, 1 ethanol), 9 discharging at berth (1 HSD, 1 HSFO, 1 palm oil, 3 DAP, 1 MAP, 1 phosphate, 1 jute); 1 MOL vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 2 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (1 coal, 1 palm oil); no vessel under repairs/dry-docked, none awaiting orders; 6 container vessels due, with no berthing delays expected.
Port Qasim	22-Jun-2004	Three vessels discharging at berth (1 palm oil, 1 coal, 1 other), 1 container vessel loading/discharging at QICT berth; 1 container vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 5 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (1 containers, 1 coal, 1 phosphoric acid, 1 palm oil, 1 ore).
Panama		
Panama Canal	14-Jun-2004	Confirmed locks outage: Gatun lock: 5-15/7 (11 days).
Poland		
Gdynia	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels loading at berth (3 general cargo, 3 bulkers, 2 coal), 3 discharging at berth (2 general cargo, 1 bulker), 10 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage, none waiting in roads; 28 vessels due.
Gdansk	21-Jun-2004	Five vessels loading at berth (2 general cargo, 2 coal, 1 bulker), 5 discharging at berth (1 general cargo, 3 bulkers, 1 tanker); 7 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage; none waiting in roads; 24 vessels due.
Russia		
Novorossiysk	21-Jun-2004	Twelve vessels in port operating, all loading (1 bulk cement, 1 bulk urea, 1 DRI, 1 steel billets/coils/copper/pipes, 1 pig iron, 2 bulk NPK, 1 coils, 2 aluminium, 1 wheat, 1 D/O); 6 vessels in roads of which 8 to load (1 scrap, 1 pig iron, bulk cement), 3 to discharge bulk sugar; 46 vessels due of which 45 to load (6 aluminium, 6 bulk NPK, 4 pig iron, 1 scrap, 6 coils, 1 UANS, 1 pipes/steel billets, 1 steel sheets/coils, 1 coils/lumber/steel billets, 5 copper, 1 steel sheets, 2 slabs, 1 DRI, 1 HGI, 3 bulk ammonium nitrate, 1 vehicles, 1 zinc, 1 bulk cement, 1 steel, 1 D/O), 1 to discharge/load containers; Oil terminal: 3 tankers loading crude oil at berth; 3 tankers in roads, all to load crude oil; 8 tankers due, all to load crude oil.
Slovenia		
Koper	21-Jun-2004	Port working normally; Nine vessels berthed of which 2 vessels discharging/loading containers, 1 bulk carrier discharging grain, 3 vessels loading sawn timber/steel products, 1 reefer discharging refrigerated goods, 1 car carrier discharging vehicles, 1 tanker discharging mineral oil; 10 vessels due over the next 2 days of which 1 vessel to discharge/load containers, 2 bulk carriers to discharge cement/minerals, 4 bulk carriers to load coal, 1 vessel to load timber products, 2 car carrier to discharge/load vehicles, 1 passenger vessel; no delays expected.
Spain		
Sagunto	21-Jun-2004	Twenty-seven vessels in port operating of which 4 loading (2 steel products, 1 cement, 1 bulk fertiliser), 19 discharging (17 steel products, 1 machinery, 1 fruit), 4 Ro/Ros discharging/loading general cargo; Outside commercial wharf: no vessels; no delays expected.
Cadiz	21-Jun-2004	Twelve vessels in port of which 3 Ro/Ros, 1 container, 2 cereal, 1 wheat, 5 under repairs; no delays expected.
Bilbao	21-Jun-2004	Nineteen vessels in port operating (2 tankers, 17 others), of which 6 loading, 5 discharging, 8 loading/discharging.
Ukraine		
Odesa	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels in port operating of which 5 loading (4 metal, 1 metal/ wood), 1 discharging sugar, 2 discharging/loading containers; 5 vessels in roads, of which 2 to load (1 metal, 1 scrap), 3 to discharge ((2 sugar, 1 citrus); 58 vessels due of which 40 to load (34 metal, 1 pig iron, 1 metal/wood, 3 wood, 1 ferroal), 18 to discharge/load containers.
Mariupol	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels in port operating of which 7 loading (3 steel, 2 fire-clay, 1 sulphur, 1 coal), 1 discharging/loading containers; 11 vessels in roads, all to load (5 steel, 4 coal, 2 fire-clay); 34 vessels due of which 31 to load (16 steel, 11 coal, 2 fire-clay, 2 sunflower beans), 3 to discharge (2 equipment, 1 pipes).

Port Conditions

Ilichevsk	21-Jun-2004	Eight vessels in port operating of which 6 loading (4 steel products, 1 barley, 1 oil), 2 discharging/loading containers; 5 vessels in roads of which 4 to load (1 pipes, 1 oil, 2 steel products), 1 to discharge steel products; 18 vessels due of which 14 to load (12 steel products, 1 equipment, 1 wheat), 2 to discharge (1 ore, 1 steel rails), 2 to load/discharge containers.
Sevastopol	21-Jun-2004	Two vessel in port operating, both loading (1 steel, 1 fuel oil); no vessels in roads; 7 vessels due, all to load (4 fuel oil, 3 steel).
United States		
Galveston	22-Jun-2004	ADM-Farmland terminal: 2 days delay expected. Mississippi River terminal berthing delays: Cenex-Harstates/Myrtle Grove: no delays; Cargill-Westwego: 2 days delay expected; ADM/Ama: 3-4 days delay expected; Bunge/Destrehan: no delays; ADM/Destrehan: 3-4 days delay expected; ADM/Reserve: 3-4 days delay expected; Cargill/Reserve: no delays; Peavey/Paulina: 1 day's delay expected; Zen-Noh/Convent: 1 day's delay expected; Cargill/Baton Rouge: no delays; Mississippi River mid-stream buoys - estimated berthing delays based on new vessel presented as load-ready and weatherpermitting: Mile 121.5 ADM (Gemini) - Destrehan: no delays; Mile 158.0 Cargill (K2) - Convent: no delays; Mile 180.0 Cooper (America) - Darrow: no delays. Temco terminal: 2 days delay expected. Kalama export terminal: 2 days delay expected; United Harvest terminal: 2 days delay expected. Columbia Grain terminal: 2 days delay expected; CLD Irving terminal: 1 day's delay expected; CLD, O Dock terminals: 2 days delay expected.
New Orleans,	22-Jun-2004	
Tacoma, WA	22-Jun-2004	
Kalama, WA	22-Jun-2004	
Vancouver, WA	22-Jun-2004	
Portland, OR	22-Jun-2004	
Yemen		
Hodeidah	20-Jun-2004	All berths available; Five vessels berthed of which 1 container, 2 general cargo, 1 loading wheat, 1 urea; no vessels anchored; waiting times: bagged cargo: up to 2 days; bulk cargo: up to 4 days; general cargo, containers: no delays expected.

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