

Anti-piracy military patrols to commence in Malacca Strait

MALAYSIA, Singapore and Indonesia will next week (week commencing Jul 19) begin co-ordinated military patrols in the Strait of Malacca, one of the world's most important shipping lanes.

However, the initiative falls short of the joint patrols that many anti-piracy campaigners have called for, and they do not allow vessels from neighbouring states to enter each others waters in hot pursuit of pirates.

Policing of the strait came into sharp focus after warnings from Singapore of the danger of an attack by militants who could turn a tanker into a floating bomb.

Claims

But some security experts reject the claims, saying that there is no evidence that pirates and terrorists are linking up in the Malacca Strait to launch a terror attack against shipping.

Reuters reported Indonesian

armed forces chief General Endriartono Sutarto as saying: "I will go to Batam on Tuesday and inaugurate the pact with the military commanders from Malaysia and Singapore."

Batam is an Indonesian island near Singapore and the southern end of the Strait of Malacca. Last month, Indonesian and Malaysian naval chiefs agreed to create a task force made up of forces from both nations operating under their national commands.

Sidestepped

That sidestepped the issue of sovereignty which has slowed co-operation on strait security. The issue had come into sharp focus after reports that the US Navy was considering becoming involved in security and anti-piracy in the area.

Each country would supply up to seven ships with 100 crew, Indonesian navy chief Bernard Kent Sondakh said at the time.

Indonesia and Malaysia have ruled out a role for outside ships

and troops, despite independent groups who have stressed the limitations of the littoral states' forces.

A top Jakarta minister said yesterday that the US had no objections to that stance. "The (domestic) fear that America will conduct patrols over there is incorrect," Chief Security Minister Hari Sabarno told reporters.

"The important thing is that America is concerned with the security disturbances and piracy there, and does not want to see terrorism in the Malacca Strait."

Singapore has suggested links between the pirates in the strait and regional terror groups such as Jemaah Islamiah, accused of bombing Indonesia's Bali island in 2002 and widely linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qa'eda network. Indonesia has said such fears were overblown.

The International Maritime Board recorded 445 pirate attacks last year, the second highest since it began compiling data in 1992.

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

Vessel	Type	Flag	Class	GT	DWT	Bit	Casualty
ELONA M.	general	DEU	—	—	1,160	—	Sank off Urk evening of Jul 3, probable cause hatches not closed sufficiently. Police investigating. Cargo: Basalt rocks
HYUNDAI HARMONY	container	PAN	KR	13,267	18,002	2002	In collision with cc CSCL Qingdao near entrance of main fairway Cho-do breakwater 07 Jul 2004. Bow area damage. Returned to port, discharged containers & shifted to shipyard, Busan, for permanent repairs 08 Jul. ETC end July.
INDONESIA INDAH	general	IDN	—	—	—	1951	Sank off east coast of Sumatra about 26 Jun 2004. Six crew missing, feared dead. Vessel towed to Mundu Island, south Lampung. Vessel carrying logs.
PONGOLA	general	ATG	NK	7,970	9,810	2000	Grounded due bad weather in Beira access channel 05 Jul 2004 while proceeding to berth. Lightering underway. Refloated 12 Jul and berthed at Beira. To be inspected.
ROMSDAL	ro-ro	NOR	—	1,401	2,030	1988	While arriving Furneset quay 07 Jul 2004 engine stopped and grounded. After discharging cars/passengers at Furneset proceeded under own power to Molde for inspection.
SARAH	general	NIS	GL	2,390	2,568	1971	Grounded in 57 17 N 10 46 E 07 Jul 2004. Salvage vessel ETA today. Refloated and being towed to Frederikshavn for diving survey.
SHOTOKU MARU	general	JPN	—	199	530	1993	Grounded off Karatsu, Kyushu Is, 04 Jul 2004. Damage to starboard side, oil leakage. Refloated same day and sailed from Iwakuni. Bottom plating fractured, sealed. Towed to Hakata.
SOUTHERN TIARE	general	NZL	BV	1,185	1,210	1988	Towed into Napier 05 Jul 2004 after losing part of rudder about 40 miles outside Napier 02 Jul. Discharged & shifted to lay up berth awaiting new rudder to be fabricated. Repairs ETC 14/15 Jul. Cargo: Cattle, sheep & general cargo.
STENA SHIPPER	ro-ro	GBR	GL	12,337	8,765	1980	Struck pier head at Copenhagen 28 Jun 2004. Dryocked Frederikshavn 07 Jul to effect repairs to rudder and propeller.
SUN RAY	general	GEO	—	1,811	2,970	1978	In collision with mv Volgo-Don 5025 20 miles E of Cape Shabla, Bulgaria, 04 Jul 2004. Bow holed. Salvage operations under way. To undergo temp repairs then proceed to destination, Constantza, where arrived 06 Jul.
WELS	chem/oil carrier	DEU	GL	14,332	23,400	1992	Alongside quay Frederikshavn since arrival 28 May 2004 with serious main engine damage. Repairs ETC in September.
XIN WAN DA	general	MNG	—	1,305	1,596	1980	In collision with bulk Orchid Sea in lat 34 36 N long 128 43 E 08 Jul 2004. Reported sank in 80 m of water. Cargo: 1,000 tonnes magnesium

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The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



A.V.KASTNER (Bermuda)

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: The families of crew members killed or injured in a collision between Chesapeake-based tug *Swift* and bulk *A.V.Kastner* two years ago have settled multimillion-dollar claims. The terms were not disclosed. Settlements were reached in roughly 10 claims and counterclaims involving the Feb 25, 2002, collision in the upper Chesapeake Bay. A federal judge in Maryland signed an order Wednesday dismissing the complaints. Suits filed in Norfolk's federal court and Chesapeake Circuit Court were consolidated with actions filed in U.S. District Court in Baltimore. A trial had been scheduled for earlier this year but was postponed as the parties worked on the settlements. Attorneys involved declined to comment, citing the secrecy of the settlement agreements. An injured seaman, Jeffrey M. Slaton, also settled.

AL NASEEM-II (Pakistan)

Karachi, Jul 3 — Port Qasim Authority (PQA) said port operations were partially suspended yesterday after a bunker barge sank in the approach channel of the port. A statement by the port authority said activities at Port Qasim remained suspended for four hours yesterday for navigational security after a barge sank while entering the channel. According to port officials, three-bunker barges *Al Naseem-I*, *Al Naseem-II* and *Al Ahmad*, owned by Karachi based, M/s Naseem Oil, after supplying fuel oil to fishing boats in the vicinity of Korangi Fish Harbour, were returning back to their base point. However, on the way back, one of the wooden barges *Al Naseem-II* was left behind as water started pouring in through the bottom of the barge. The two other barges tried to tow it but failed and it immediately sank in the early hours, yesterday. As a precaution, the port authority stopped all the ship movements as remains of the sunken vessel were posing a danger to vessels movements. Four vessels had their departures temporarily delayed and a further four were temporarily denied entry. The Port Qasim Authority with the help of the Pakistan Navy immediately took the necessary action and successfully removed the debris of the sunken barge and today is carrying out an underwater survey with the help of other "stakeholders" to clear the channel. The PQA quickly engaged its flotilla including buoy tender *Mazdoor*, which specialises in sweeping waters, and two tugs for removing scattered fragments and wreckage of the sunken barge. - Lloyd's List Correspondent.

Karachi, Jul 6 — Port Qasim

Authority (PQA) today confirmed that all the remaining wreckage from the ill-fated barge *Al Naseem-II* has been cleared from the channel and that the port is now operating normally. A source in the Port Authority said that the barge actually sank outside of the channel, but that due to a high tide some of the parts drifted into the channel and were removed late on Jul 5. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

ALASKAN VENTURE

See *Drew Foss*.

ALGOECN (Canada)

Montreal, Jul 2 — Bulk *Algocen* arrived Montreal Jul 1. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 6 — Bulk *Algocen* sailed Montreal 0439, Jul 3, bound for Hamilton, Canada, where it arrived at 2230, Jul 3. Vessel departed 1600, Jul 4, bound for Thunder Bay.

ARKADIY DUDENKOV (Russia)

Yokohama, Jul 6 — A collision occurred at 1825, Jul 2, between general cargo *Arkadiy Dudenkov* (2875 gt, built 1982), which was departing Onahama, and general cargo *Touei Maru No.2* (494 gt), which was manoeuvring to berth at the port, due to strong winds. *Arkadiy Dudenkov* sustained scratches on the port bow, over an area 80 cm long by 15 cm wide, and 70 cm long by five cm wide. *Touei Maru No.2* sustained a scratch on the stern bulwark, over an area of 51 cm long by five cm wide, and a nine-cm-by-four-cm scratch on the stern deck. — Lloyd's Agents.

AUDACIOUS (U.K.)

London, Jul 3 — Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC, timed 1601, UTC: At 0947, UTC, MRCC were informed by a member of the public, by telephone, that fishing *Audacious* (550 gt, built 1999) was aground in Gills Bay, lat 58 38.7N, long 03 07.84W. MRCC requested ferry *Pentland Venture* to stand-by the casualty. Thurso RNLI lifeboat and Duncansbay Coast Rescue team tasked. Thurso lifeboat is on scene and standing-by the vessel. Anchor handling tug/supply *Anglian Earl*, from Shetland, also tasked. Vessel is due on scene at 2300, BST. Vessel's insurers have also arranged for a tug, out of Orkney, to proceed and this is due on scene at 2000, BST. Vessel was initially listing as the tide fell, but by shifting the cargo, vessel has been stabilised. Next high water at Gills Bay is 2215, UTC.

London, Jul 3 — Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC, timed 2124, UTC: Fishing *Audacious* is still aground, although a local tug has secured a line and has moved the vessel about 180 degs. Anchor handling tug/supply *Anglian Earl* is due on scene at 2330, BST, which will coincide with high tide and it is hoped the vessel will be refloated by midnight.

London, Jul 4 — Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC, timed 0010, UTC: Fishing *Audacious* refloated at 2136, UTC, Jul 3, and

proceeding under own power with escort to Scrabster, where ETA 0040, Jul 4. Vessel to be inspected by divers later today.

London, Jul 4 — Following received from Coastguard Aberdeen MRCC, timed 0025, UTC: Fishing *Audacious* arrived Scrabster harbour 0025 today. Inspection due to take place at 0700, UTC, in Scrabster Harbour. Search and rescue operations terminated 0025, UTC.

London, Jul 4 — A tug has freed fishing *Audacious*, which ran aground off the Caithness coast. The five fishermen, who were heading west for the Atlantic fishing grounds, were stranded on the Banff-registered vessel for almost 12 hours. Their vessel hit rocks two miles west of John o'Groats around 0945, UTC, yesterday. A tug refloated the vessel at 2136, UTC, yesterday and escorted it in to Scrabster Harbour to check for damage. A spokesman for Aberdeen Coastguard said an inspection of the vessel would take place to make sure there was no damage or fuel leakage. He said there would be an investigation into the incident.

BANGA BIRAJ (Bangladesh)

Chittagong, Jul 5 — C.c. *Banga Biraj* and c.c. *Eagle Strength* are still lying in the same position at Chittagong. We have been informed by the local agents of *Eagle Strength* that there is no further development and the "file" is awaiting approval from concerned Ministry, Government of Bangladesh.. — Lloyd's Agents.

BARGE ACCIDENT OFF DOVER, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 7 — A press release from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, dated today, states: Dover Coastguard are currently dealing with an incident involving a jack up barge which broke up over night at Palm Bay due to the rough weather. Dover Coastguard were called at just after 0500 this morning to report that the barge was breaking up. The barge, which is about ten metres square and two metres high with four legs was working on bore holes for Southern Water. The barge was evacuated when gale force winds were forecast, but overnight waves broke the legs away from the platform. Two of the three ton legs have now washed ashore, whilst the other two remain half a mile off shore. The barge platform has now washed onto some rocks. Andy Roberts, East Kent Sector Manager for the Coastguard says: "The contracting company, Norwest Holst have taken some diesel oil and hydraulic fluid, which is in barrels, off the barge platform and are working on a plan to remove the platform from the rocks at high tide which is about 1600."

BLUE FEEDER (Cambodia)

See "Cyprus" under "Port State Control."

BOKA STAR (Tonga)

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

BRITOIL 4 (Singapore)

New Mangalore, Jul 2 — Repairs to barge *Britoil 4* have been completed and the vessel is expected sail from New Mangalore on Jul 2 for Jakarta. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

New Mangalore, Jul 6 — Barge *Britoil 4* left New Mangalore Jul 2 for Batam, Indonesia. — Lloyd's Agents.

BUGALED BREIZH (France)

London, Jul 7 — New clues to the supposed hit-and-run accident which sank fishing *Bugaled Breizh* are expected to become available shortly following the lifting of the vessel yesterday morning. The trawler was being towed by Stolt Offshore vessel *Discovery*, towards Falmouth. It was expected to arrive early today. In Falmouth, it will be mounted on a barge to be transported to Brest. There, it will be inspected in the hope of finding information on why it sank.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: The crew of salvage vessel *Discovery* lifted fishing *Bugaled Breizh*, which is believed to contain some of the bodies of its French crew, off its resting place on the seabed south of the Lizard on Monday night (Jul 5). Last night the trawler remained underwater about 45 ft off the seabed as *Discovery* towed it at a speed of about one knot towards Falmouth. At one point the vessel had to stop and wait for the tide to turn because the water was going out faster than the vessel was coming in. The French government is saying little about the salvage operation, which it is masterminding. However, it is believed the salvage crew may head for Porthkerris, on the Lizard Peninsula, if they find they cannot make it to Falmouth before the weather turns. A spokesman for Falmouth Coastguard said: "The trawler is being towed very slowly. The salvage crew will be kept busy today checking ropes and chains to see if there is any sign of anything snapping. At the moment it is going at about one knot and it is five or six miles away." The trawler is likely to be lowered back to the seabed to escape battering during the storms expected today and tomorrow, before being towed to Falmouth. There it will be transferred to a crane barge to be transported back across the Channel to Brest. All five crew on the Breton-registered trawler died when she sank off the Lizard, in January. It is hoped that the trawler will yield answers for the crew's families as to why the tragedy happened. Three of the crew have never been found and relatives have been told their remains could still be on board. The French government claims the trawler was the victim of a high seas "hit and run" by a much larger vessel. Others believe a submarine could have caused the tragedy.

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Coastguard Falmouth MRCC, timed 2100, UTC: Fishing *Bugaled Breizh* is currently being held at anchor in Falmouth Bay, about five to six miles outside port, awaiting an improvement in the weather. Very strong winds are being experienced at present.

CAMEL ACE (Belize)

Busan, Jul 2 — General cargo *Camel Ace* arrived Incheon Jun 30 and sailed Jul 1. — Lloyd's Sub-agents. (See issue of Jul 2.)

CANADIAN MARINER (Canada)

Troy, Michigan, Jul 6 — Bulk *Canadian Mariner* which was reported rolling while being raised in Lock No 3, Welland Canal, on Dec 7, 2002, sustaining three fractures to the port side below the No. 3 hatch, three metres above the waterline, departed Toronto at 1400, local time, Jul 6, under tow of tug *Commodore Straits* and with tug *Vigilant 1* on the stern. Tug *Lac Vancouver* is expected join the tow at Cape Vincent tomorrow. The *Canadian Mariner* tow is en route to Three Rivers. It is expected the *Canadian Mariner* will eventually be towed overseas for scrap. — Great Lakes & Seaway News.

CAPE AFRICA (Taiwan)

London, July 2 — Following received from the bulk *Cape Africa* Joint Operations Committee, timed 1100, today: The cargo-lightening vessel, bulk *Bandar*, removed the first load, approximately 76,000 tonnes, of iron ore cargo from bulk *Cape Africa* earlier this week and is presently in Saldanha Bay discharging this cargo. Approximately 68,000 tonnes of cargo now remains on *Cape Africa* and, weather permitting, it is planned that this will be removed during the course of next week. *Bandar* is expected to return to False Bay on Sunday (July 4). As with the first phase of the lightening operation, the second phase is weather dependent and will begin during the hours of daylight but can continue 24 hours a day, wind and swell conditions permitting.

CAPTAIN DIAMANTIS (Greece)

See "Brittany, France" under "Pollution."

COLE (U.S.A.)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A Yemeni security court today charged six Yemenis with planning the bombing of guided-missile destroyer *Cole* in October 2000, saying they belonged to Osama Bin Laden's terrorist network. Seventeen American sailors were killed when two suicide bombers in an explosives-laden boat rammed the vessel as it refuelled in the port of Aden. Today was the first hearing in the trial of the *Cole* suspects. The trial, held in the Yemeni capital San'a, has already been delayed many times. Among the six charged was the man accused of masterminding the attack, Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, who is in US custody. The other five accused were in court. Mr Nashiri was accused of planning and funding the attack on *Cole* and training the cell members who carried it out. Judge Najib al-Qaderi read a list of charges that included forming an armed gang to carry out criminal acts against the interests of the state; belonging to al-Qaida; resisting the authorities; and forging documents. The defendants present

refused to plead and asked for lawyers. The judge scheduled a new hearing next week, saying lawyers should be appointed in the meantime.

CONGER (Cyprus)

London, Jul 7 — Bulk *Conger* sailed from Rotterdam 0930, Jul 6, bound Hamburg.

CSCL QINGDAO (Malta)

Busan, Jul 8 — C.c. *CSCL Qingdao* (39941 gt, built 2001), inbound Busan, with some 30,000 tons of containers, was in contact with c.c. *Hyundai Harmony* (13267 gt, built 2002), outbound Busan for Ho Chi Minh City, with some 8,000 tons of containers, near the entrance of the main fairway, near Cho-do breakwater, in dense fog, at approximately 0909, Jul 7. *CSCL Qingdao* sustained damage to its port side where its side shell was reportedly indented or cracked over some 5 to 6 metres long. The damage also extended down below the waterline. Nine containers stowed on deck of *CSCL Qingdao* fell overboard and drifted in the port, blocking the entrance fairway for about one and a half hours soon after the accident. It is understood seven containers were soon recovered by tugs and the remaining two containers are assumed to have been sunk and are being searched for by divers. *CSCL Qingdao* arrived at Busan, completed cargo operation at the port and shifted to anchorage Jul 7 for further examination and repairs. *Hyundai Harmony* sustained damage to its bow area, where its bow chock and deck were heavily damaged and its bulbous bow was also damaged. *Hyundai Harmony* returned to a berth at the port and discharged all containers on board the vessel and shifted to Daesun Shiprepair yard, Busan, this morning for permanent repairs. No oil leakage or personal injuries were reported. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

DIAMOND RAY (Malta)

Busan, Jul 2 — Vehicle *Diamond Ray* is still lying at repair yard in Ulsan. The permanent repairs of *Diamond Ray* are delayed and now will be completed by Jul 5. — Lloyd's Sub-agents. (See issue of May 18.)

Busan, Jul 7 — Vehicle *Diamond Ray* is still at repair yard in Ulsan. The permanent repairs are delayed and now they will be completed by Jul 9. — Lloyd's Sub-agents. (See issue of Jul 5.)

DIEPPE (France)

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: The first officer on passenger ro/ro *Dieppe* (17672 gt, built 1981), which struck the harbour wall at Dieppe on Saturday (Jul 3), was over the legal drink-drive alcohol limit, it was revealed yesterday. The vessel, carrying more than 150 passengers, was holed in the accident. Police who breath-tested the first officer five hours later found he was still nearly three times over the legal drink-drive limit. The ferry hit the wall in the early hours of Saturday while arriving from Newhaven. Water flooded an engine-room after pouring

through a 2-ft hole torn in the hull at sea level. All the passengers were safely evacuated with no injuries. The ferry is expected back in service at the end of this week.

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: Demands for an inquiry after passenger ro/ro *Dieppe* from Newhaven crashed into the sea wall at Dieppe and took on water have come from an MP. Norman Baker, member for Lewes, called for a statement from Transmanche Ferries after claims that one of the sailors in charge was drunk. The firm has said services are reduced, but has not commented on the claim. The vessel, has now been taken to a dry dock for repairs after the incident early on Saturday (Jul 3). Reports from a French news agency today said that the ferry hit the barrier while entering Dieppe harbour, taking on 200 tonnes of water after the crash. The report also said the ferry reached the cross-Channel gangway for passengers to disembark and that fire crews were brought on board to pump water which was threatening the engine-room, and to seal off the breach in the hull. Transmanche Ferries said the crash happened at 0115, BST, Saturday. A spokesman said the ferry would be out of action for 10 days. He said the vessel hit the jetty while turning, causing a gash of about 50cm in the hull, and the ferry was safely evacuated. He added that the company would not be commenting on newspaper claims that one of the sailors had been drunk. An investigation is under way by the maritime agency covering the Cherbourg area.

London, Jul 7 — The second master on board passenger ro/ro *Dieppe* has been suspended after his vessel struck an entry jetty at Dieppe in the early hours last Saturday. An investigation is being conducted by France's Marine Accident Investigation Bureau. An alcohol test carried out five hours after the accident found a level of 0.69 milligrammes of alcohol per litre in the officer's blood. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited on board *Dieppe*, which belongs to the cross-Channel operator, Transmanche Ferries; but the officer has claimed that he drank a glass of whisky after the accident. There is no suggestion at this stage that alcohol consumption was the cause of the accident. The vessel's manager, Compagnie de Management d'Orbigny, said that it appeared that the officer had been taken by surprise by the strong current at the entrance to the port. The vessel was holed, but was able to complete entry and berthing manoeuvres without assistance and disembark the 123 passengers. The hole has since been patched and the vessel was due to leave for nearby Le Havre for repair yesterday. Repairs are expected to take about two weeks.

DONATELLA D'ABUNDO (Italy)

See under "Miscellaneous."

DONG HUA MEN (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

See *Tireless*.

DREW FOSS (U.S.A.)

Vancouver, Jul 2 — Tug *Drew Foss* was able to recover barges *Alaskan Venture* and *ZB355* almost immediately, and no damage was caused. — Lloyd's Agents.

DUNIYA JUKHAV

London, Jul 6 — Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 0830, UTC: Ore/oil *Duniya Jukhav* (78543 gt, built 1979), which earlier today emitted a satellite activation, is currently anchored in lat 30 02.2S, long 39 29.0E, with gearing problems. Vessel, which is on passage to India to be broken-up, has indicated that no assistance is required, at present. (Note — *Duniya Jukhav* sailed Rio de Janeiro Jun 8.)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 1135, UTC: Master of ore/oil *Duniya Jukhav* reported that the vessels' gearing problems had been repaired, but the vessel was subsequently experiencing steering problems. Vessel remains anchored while crew attempt to effect repairs.

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 1810, UTC: Ore/oil *Duniya Jukhav* is still anchored in approximate position lat 30 02S, long 39 29E, with crew attempting to carry out steering repairs.

London, Jul 8 — Following received from Cape Town MRCC, timed 1154, UTC: Ore/oil *Duniya Jukhav* is still anchored in the Mozambique Channel, effecting repairs.

EAGLE STRENGTH (Panama)

See *Banga Biraj*

ELEFThERIA (Panama)

Piraeus, Jul 2 — Bulk *Eleftheria* arrived Piraeus Jul 1. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Jul 2.)

ELONA M. (Germany)

London, Jul 5 — General cargo *Elona M.*, 1160 dwt, cargo of basalt blocks, sank off Urk in the IJsselmeer, evening Jul 3. The cause of the sinking is most probably that the hatches had not been closed sufficiently. The vessel was bound for Amsterdam when water entered the engine-room. When the lifeboat of Urk, *Koningin Beatrix*, arrived at the place of the accident, the aft part of the cargo vessel was already under water and the two crew members were rescued.

ENA 2 (Germany)

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Non specific tanker *Ena 2* that sank in the port of Hamburg has already leaked about half the 980 tonnes of sulphuric acid it had on board, its owner said today. The managing director of the vessel's proprietor Norddeutsche Affinerie, Werne Marnette, told reporters that more of the poisonous substance had spilled into the harbour than previously thought. The sinking late Monday (Jun 28) of *Ena 2* after collision with c.c. *Pudong Senator* during docking has caused fears of a major environmental accident. Authorities have opened a criminal probe against the captain on charges of water polluting and endangering vessel

travel after a blood test showed that he had been drinking heavily. Marnette said that water tests showed the effect on the Elbe to be "relatively small" and that fish in only a small part of the harbour had been killed by the leak. Some 430 tonnes of a mix of water and sulphuric acid are still in the hull of the stricken 62-metre vessel. Fire brigade spokesman Peter Braun said that it would now be "too dangerous" to pump out the tanks while the vessel is still underwater due to the potential for an explosion. A giant crane will be used to move the vessel before the extraction of the liquid begins.

London, Jul 2 — Understand salvage services are being rendered to chemical tanker *Ena 2* by salvors Harms Bergung Transport & Heavylift GmbH & Co KG, under Lloyd's Open Form, with SCOPIC, dated Jun 28.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Salvage experts have delayed refloating non specific tanker *Ena 2* that sank in Hamburg port with 960 tonnes of sulphuric acid while divers check how its dangerous cargo can best be discharged, emergency services said. Salvage experts are also examining whether a giant crane brought into position to raise the vessel needs additional steel cables to support it. They said divers would examine the tanks to decide how and when they could best be discharged. Eleven people, including nine port employees and two police officers, were admitted to hospital after breathing in toxic fumes, and fish were reported to have died.

Hamburg, Jul 4 — Non specific tanker *Ena 2*, which capsized on Monday (Jun 28) while carrying 960 tonnes of sulphuric acid, raising pollution fears in the port of Hamburg, has been righted without major leakage. "All of Hamburg can be happy now, the danger has passed," Hamburg fire brigade spokesman Peter Braun said. Authorities spent five days preparing the operation because they feared tanks carrying sulphuric acid could burst apart or the vessel could split open. Firemen had to hose down the hull of the upturned vessel to damp down fumes from the acid. Authorities said fears of an explosion had prolonged the rescue. Some acid did leak out through the vessel's ventilation systems into the water and many dead fish were seen floating in waters near where the accident happened. The tanker had been heading for the port's acid processing terminal. — Reuters.

London, Jul 6 — Chemical tanker *Ena 2* which capsized in the port of Hamburg last week has been lifted over the weekend and is now waiting to be towed to a nearby yard. During the salvage operation, however, it was found that nearly all 960 tonnes of sulphuric acid on board have leaked into the River Elbe. But Hamburg environment authorities assured the public this would lead only to minor local disturbances. The tanker is to be cleaned and then towed to the local Grube-Werft shipyard for further inspections. "We will then decide about the further use of the ship," said Werner Marnette, head of copper

producer Norddeutsche Affinerie, which owns the ship. The company chartered out the ship to logistics operator HTL from Jan 1 this year. Previously, Hamburg company Carl Robert Eckelmann had been in charge. The master, who has worked for both companies, has meanwhile been found to have had a blood alcohol level of 2.1 per mil, more than four times the legal limit for motorists in Germany, at the time the tanker was in collision. It has become public that the 36-year-old had been drinking on a previous occasion in December. "We should have insisted with HTL that he would no longer be responsible for acid transport," Mr Marnette said, claiming HTL had been informed about the incident when employing the master from Eckelmann. HTL has rejected that claim. German media have condemned the fact that there is no legal basis to tackle the drink problem properly.

London, Jul 4 — C.c. *Pudong Senator* sailed Hamburg 1830, Jun 28, for Rotterdam, where arrived 1955, Jun 30. Vessel subsequently sailed 0820, Jul 2, bound Felixstowe.

ENERGY SEARCHER (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Norwegian oil services company Northern Offshore Ltd today said drill ship *Energy Searcher* (13469 gt, built 1959) was in collision with passenger *Leisure World* (15653 gt, built 1969) late yesterday morning, resulting in damage to the vessel that will take about two weeks to repair and cost S\$1 million, including lost revenue. The company said the accident occurred while *Energy Searcher* was sailing from Singapore, where it finished its contract with Rims and was continuing to Indonesia to commence a three-month contract with Medco Langsa Indonesia. Northern Offshore said the collision resulted in severe damage, including a hole in one of the vessel's tanks. The company said it still anticipates it will be able to commence a drilling contract with Medco Langsa Indonesia once *Energy Searcher* is fully operational.

London, Jul 5 — Following received from Singapore Port Operations, timed 1845, UTC: *Energy Searcher* was in "minor" contact with *Leisure World* off Singapore, Jul 4.

London, Jul 7 — Drill ship *Energy Searcher* arrived Singapore 1430, Jul 6.

FAMILLE DUFOUR II (Canada)

London, Jul 2 — Ferry *Famille Dufour II* (465 gt, built 1951) struck the wharf while berthing at Tadoussac at 2035, Jun 29.

Montreal, Jul 7 — Ferry *Famille Dufour II* sustained only very minor damage when it struck the wharf at Tadoussac. — Lloyd's Agents.

FE EN PESCA

Buenos Aires, Jul 2 — Fishing *Fe En Pesca*, 26.5 metres, 6.5 metre breadth, 2.74 metres depth, nine crew members, sank 180 nautical miles off Bahía Camarones in the province of Chubut, Argentina, today, as a consequence of a heavy storm. The vessel's crew

members were all rescued alive by fishing *Camerige*, which was able to find the liferaft despite the storm winds of 100 km/hr and Beaufort 8 (gale). *Camerige* is now sailing towards the Argentine Coast Guard's vessel *Fique*. *Fe En Pesca* left Mar del Plata Jun 24. — Lloyd's Agents.

FIRST LIGHT (U.S.A.)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 1350, UTC: Fishing *First Light* (101 gt, built 1983), three persons on board, ran aground on rocks off Woods Hole at 0535, UTC, today. Vessel sustained hull damage and water ingress into engine-room. All crew members were safely rescued. No pollution. Vessel is awaiting commercial salvage.

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Coast Guard Boston, timed 1815, UTC: Fishing *First Light* was refloated by commercial salvors about one hour ago and is now moored at Woods Hole, where the salvors are carrying out an inspection to ensure that the vessel is structurally sound. It is planned to tow it to dry dock for repairs.

GALILEO (Greece)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated Jul 5, states: The police in Lagos State have commenced an investigation into an explosion which rocked bulk *Galileo* (17537 gt, built 1978), at the Apapa Port late last week. Three members of the crew, including the master of the vessel died during the explosion. Reports said that the dead men were members of the crew "cleaning" some tanks in the vessel, with dock workers off-loading the vessel's merchandise, when the explosion occurred. The police report revealed that the vessel which came from Europe recently, berthed at the Apapa quay. The Ports Authority Police Command, which is investigating the case, was said to have posted a detachment of policemen to guard the vessel and prevent it from being looted by "wharf rats". Meanwhile, a report disclosed this morning that the master of *Galileo* and two other workers on board had been talking with the Marine Police in Lagos over the sudden disappearance of a Greek worker on the vessel. A report, lodged by the vessel's master with the Marine police, said one Dihats Cannis, a general duty worker in the vessel, was missing on the high sea. Preliminary investigations conducted by the Marine police detectives pointed accusing fingers at the ship workers. Security sources said they are working on the theory of foul play, believing that the Greece-born sailor could not have disappeared from the vessel on high sea without the knowledge of the ship workers. "We are suspecting foul play. The man could have been thrown by one of the ship workers into the sea," a security source said. Meanwhile, divers were said to have searched the sea, where the vessel was berthed, for possible recovery of the corpse of the deceased, but their search was fruitless. (Note — *Galileo*, 170 metres long, cargo bulk wheat/fertilizer, arrived Apapa-Lagos Jun 29.)

GENNI BAY (Canada)

See *GMS 620*.

GIRL IRENE (United Kingdom)

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: A lifeboat crew cooled the burning deck of fishing *Girl Irene* (31 gt, built 1966), with seawater after an explosion ripped through its engine-room. The Amble-based vessel called for help after its battery exploded, starting a fire in the engine-room. Amble's two lifeboats were scrambled to a position, four miles off the Northumberland coast last night. One of the lifeboats used its hoses to pump sea water onto the trawler's deck, while the sole crewman was rescued. A spokesman for Amble lifeboat station, said the emergency services were alerted by a distress call from *Girl Irene* at 2337, BST, yesterday. A two-hour operation then began to get the skipper off the burning vessel and tow it - still ablaze - back to Amble. The spokesman said: "The vessel's battery had blown up and started a fire in its engine-room. On reaching the casualty first the inshore lifeboat *Marjory Palmer*, evacuated the vessel's skipper and transferred him to the all weather lifeboat *The Four Boys*. "The all weather lifeboat then proceeded to cool the decks and hull of *Girl Irene* with its fire hoses prior to taking it in tow for Amble harbour." Fire crews then managed to put out the fire.

GLOBAL WINNER (Panama)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from the operators of bulk *Global Winner*: Estimate that *Global Winner* is going to be refloated in several days. Fortunately, there is neither any pollution nor any injuries to the crew.

GMS 620 (Canada)

London, Jul 7 — Barge *GMS 620* (862 gt, built 2001) grounded on Green Rock near the entrance to Knight Inlet, BC, in lat 50 40N, long 126 40W, while in tow of tug *Genni Bay* (9 gt, built 1987) at 0943, PDST, Jul 3.

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Victoria RCC, timed 1830, UTC: Barge *GMS 620* refloated after its grounding incident and proceeded. The barge was loaded with fish food. It is not reported to have been damaged.

HAUKUR (NIS)

London, Jul 6 — General cargo *Haukur* arrived at Akureyri, Iceland, on Jun 26.

HUMBER ARM (Bermuda)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Swedish industrial shipping and forest products specialist Gorthon Lines' wholly-owned Bermuda subsidiary has sold its general cargo *Humber Arm* in damaged condition. The vessel was sold on private terms, after a crankshaft breakdown in the main engine. The vessel was delivered to the new owners yesterday.

HYUNDAI HARMONY (Panama)

See *CSCL Qingdao*.

HYUNDAI NO.105 (Panama)

Ymuiden, Jul 6 — Vehicle *Hyundai No.105* is still lying in the same position, and oil-removal operations are continuing. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

INDONESIA INDAH (Indonesia)

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Six seamen from vessel *Indonesia Indah*, transporting logs from Tulangbawang regency, Lampung, to Banten were feared dead yesterday when the vessel sank in waters off the east coast of Sumatra. "We deployed on Wednesday (Jun 30) a search and rescue (SAR) team consisting of 10 police officers to find the victims with the help of local fishermen," said chief of the SAR team Adj. Sr. Comr Puthut Prayogi, who is also director of the Lampung Air and Water Police. "But the team could only find the boat, which was towed to the waters of Mundu Island, South Lampung," he added. The vessel, with a cargo of some 50 tons of meranti (hardwood) logs, was thought to have sunk last Saturday but the incident was discovered only on Tuesday evening by a passing fisherman. The police SAR team was deployed late as the incident was reported late and no one knew about the incident.

INTERMAC 404 (U.S.A.)

Buenos Aires, Jul 1 — Barge *Intermac 404* with deck load/offshore industry cargo, under tow by tug *Gulf Rambler*, finally sank in lat 39 47.57S, long 49 49.59W, at 1630, local time, Jun 16. — Lloyd's Agents.

JAEGGEVARRE (Norway)

London, Jul 2 — Information received from Sandnes states: While arriving at Svendsby from Breivikeidet, ro/ro *Jaeggevarre* (2055 gt, built 2002) made hard contact with the quay. Only minor damage to the vessel and no injuries to the passengers or crew. One car was damaged. *Jaeggevarre* was back in service early on Jul 1.

JINGAN NO.6 (China)

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: One sailor has died after vessel *Jingan No.6*, 4987, 19 crew members, 60 tons of heavy oil, 20 tons of machine oil and four tons of lubricating oil on board, was in collision with lpg *Saehan Galaxy* (2823 gt, built 1990) off Lushun City at 0630, this morning. The dead was among the 18 rescued sailors on *Jingan No.6*. Another Chinese sailor was still missing. The collision, which occurred in lat 38 21N, long 121 23E, caused *Jingan No.6* to sink, according to the maritime rescue centre of Liaoning province, north-east China. Search-and-rescue work for the missing sailor is still underway with the help of a helicopter from China's north sea rescue aerocade and the warship dispatched by the naval base in Lushun, a naval port in Liaoning. The other 17 rescued sailors were receiving treatment in hospitals in Lushun and Dalian. *Saehan Galaxy* has been required to head to Dalian for maritime investigation.

KIRAN PACIFIC (Turkey)

Ymuiden, Jul 6 — Wijsmuller Salvage BV redelivered bulk *Kiran Pacific* back to its owners at 1900, local time, Jul 5, after the damaged cargo was discharged for storage and certain watertight integrity repair work was carried out, allowing the vessel to be ready to be redelivered to its owners in a safe condition. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

LANGOYSUND (Norway)

London, Jul 6 — Ferry *Langoysund* was reported arriving at Tromso Jun 15 and sailing Jun 17.

LEINSAAT (South Africa)

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Flames swept through lobster fishing *Leinsaats* (61 gt, built 1963, rebuilt 1992) yesterday in Hout Bay harbour a short while after crew members had disembarked following a day at sea. More than R300,000 damage was caused to *Leinsaats* and now seven fishermen will have to find work elsewhere. The vessel's co-owner Mike Stowe said he had no idea what caused the fire and that it would take more than three months to repair the fibreglass cabin and wheelhouse, which was gutted. "We left the harbour early this morning and returned at 1500 hrs. About 30 minutes after the crew had tied it up and left, *Leinsaats* was on fire. South Peninsula acting chief fire officer Ignatius Smart said the service received the call minutes after the fire broke out. "Two motor pumps and a crew of 10 were dispatched. The engine-room and a section of the cabin were destroyed. At this stage we cannot say what caused the fire, but our team will investigate," Smart said.

LEISURE WORLD (Bahamas)

See *Energy Searcher*.

LUCY BORCHARD (Antigua & Barbuda)

London, Jul 7 — Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: At 0145, local time, today, c.c. *Lucy Borchard* (5006 gt, built 1992), Smyrni for Barcelona, grounded in shallow waters in the sea area of Korakia, north-west Chios, in lat 38 34N, long 25 52E. On board were 11 crew who did not sustain injury. Coast Guard Patrol boat 519 proceeded to the area and remains next to the casualty. Tug *Megas Alexandros* is expected to arrive to assist with the refloating.

London, Jul 8 — Cesam reported at 1356, Jul 7 that salvage services were being rendered to c.c. *Lucy Borchard* under Lloyd's Open Form by salvors Tsavlis.

London, Jul 8 — Following received from Piraeus RCC, timed 1055, UTC: C.c. *Lucy Borchard* is still aground in the same position. Two salvage tugs are rendering assistance.

MICHIGAN (U.S.A.)

London, Jul 2 — Tug *Michigan* arrived at Toledo (USA) on Jun 20, departing later the same day.

MICK KENTHO (Denmark)

Copenhagen, Jul 7 — Fishing vessel *Mick Kentho*, home port Neksoe,

Bornholm, caught fire yesterday afternoon, 18 nautical miles west of Esbjerg. The crew of three men evacuated into a liferaft and were picked up by another fishing vessel in the area. Late Monday night the vessel was still on fire. The position is not far from the oil platforms, but reported last night no risk of drifting into the safety area. — Westax Marine Services AB.

NA MOKU (U.S.A.)

Honolulu, Jul 6 — Reported Smith Maritime tank barge *Na Moku* (2624 gt, built 1976) caught fire at approximately 0245, Jul 4, while secured port side to Pier 3, Hilo harbour, Hilo, Hawaii. The fire reportedly originated at the No.2 pump and was restricted to the pump-room. A tankerman and tank gauger fought the fire until the Hilo Fire Department arrived. — Lloyd's Agents.

Honolulu, Jul 7 — Tank barge *Na Moku* has returned to Honolulu. It still has 23,000 barrels of naphtha onboard. Arrangements are currently being made to discharge the cargo into another barge before repairs are put in hand. — Lloyd's Agents.

NASRIN-2

Karachi, Jul 6 — Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (Blast) has filed a Tk 290 million (about \$5 million) compensation suit against the government for victims of ferry *Nasrin-2*, which capsized in Bangladesh's Meghna river, in July 2003, on behalf of 121 victims of the launch mishap. Blast filed the suit with the third Joint District Judge's Court, against 21 persons belonging to the government, Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA), Sea Transport Directorate; launch company and its owner. *Nasrin-2* capsized on Jul 8 at the Padma, Meghna and Dakatia confluence in Chandpur leaving 150 people dead, about 200 missing and many others injured. The triple-decker vessel was on its way to Lalmoan in Bhola from Dhaka with about 700 passengers on board. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

NAZEK T. (North Korea)

Bucharest, Jul 6 — General cargo *Nazek T.* is still lying in the same position, and salvage operations have not yet commenced. — Lloyd's Agents.

NIPE

London, Jul 7 — Understood bulk *Nipe* which had been anchored in the fairway leading to Douala port since Dec 31, 1998 was delivered to Alang, on Apr 9, under the name *Regent*, to be broken up.

NO LIMIT

London, Jul 5 — Vessel *No Limit*, 90 metres, fully laden with sand, broke in two and sank in the middle lock of Ymuiden, this morning. The vessel was on a voyage to Amsterdam, while mooring in the Middle Lock of Ymuiden, a loud bang was heard and it sank within ten seconds. There were no personal injuries. The vessel with a value of about two million Euro's was

owned by the Veka-Group Shipbuilding BV of Werkendam. The vessel had been delivered by this yard only two weeks ago. A floating crane is on its way from Amsterdam to Ymuiden to discharge the sand from the sunken vessel. The salvage of the vessel will take some days.

Ymuiden, Jul 5 — Wijsmuller Salvage BV was this afternoon instructed by the owners and underwriters of inland waterway sand carrying vessel *No Limit* and the Dutch Authorities to start up operations to save the vessel. The brand new vessel, apparently on its third trip, broke in two while being manoeuvred into the Middensluis (middle lock) at the lock complex in Ymuiden. The vessel, 110 metres in length, one of the biggest of its kind, is resting on the lock bottom with its mid sections while its bow and stern remained above water but were slowly sinking. Excess pumping capacity in the meantime has been applied by the Wijsmuller salvage teams while tugs are standing by for amongst others providing power for the operations to control the stabilisation of the sections. Work has been started in the meantime to move from the stabilisation process into the improvement phase with the sinking now under control by discharging cargo underwater and extended patching and pumping operations. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

London, Jul 7 — The fully laden sand ship *No Limit*, which broke in two and sank in the lock of Ymuiden on the morning of Jul 5, has been discharged by a crane. Earlier today, the vessel, which has been bent, has been towed to Amsterdam by two Wijsmuller tugs. There the vessel will go into a dry-dock and will be repaired, after investigation by the authorities. (See issue of Jul 7.)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Den Helder MRCC, timed 1000, UTC: Vessel *No Limit* is today proceeding to Amsterdam in tow. Ymuiden locks are now fully operational.

Ymuiden, Jul 7 — At 1500, MET, Wijsmuller Salvage B.V. delivered the refloated vessel *No Limit*, the biggest inland water vessel of its kind, into the dry-dock in Amsterdam. The Salvage Division of SvitzerWijsmuller succeeded within two days to refloat and redeliver the 110 metre vessel, loaded with 4,000 tons of sand, after it broke in two and sank in the Ymuiden locks on Jul 5. After the vessel broke its back, the mid-section ended up on the lock bottom with its stern and bow sticking out of the water. Initially a race against the clock occurred to try and keep both still buoyant but slightly sinking sections afloat, which involved bringing in excess pumping capacity from the Wijsmuller warehouse close by, while divers were engaged patching leakages trying to stem the water getting in. During Monday afternoon this proved to be successful when initially the sinking was stopped and later the buoyancy improved, just before the water level reached critical points which would have down-flooded the stern section. Wijsmuller salvage teams then concentrated on further weight

reduction and buoyancy improving actions, which included the discharge of most of the cargo of sand from the hold sections under water. In the course of Monday/Tuesday night the condition improved further resulting in the vessel getting slowly back into a floating condition in the lock, still with bow and stern sticking out of the water, but now with the hatch-coaming in the middle just above water level. A decision was then taken to keep it a second night in the lock and move it out only during the morning hours of Wednesday, assisted by a sheerleg for contingency purposes, to ensure that the transport would cross the North Sea Canal from Ymuiden to Amsterdam during daylight only. As such the SvitzerWijsmuller tugs *Brabant* and *Pollux* towed the casualty at 0500 this morning, out of the lock to a holding area, where the sheerleg was connected and rigged up for contingency purposes. At 0730 the go-ahead was given by the Wijsmuller salvage-master for the convoy to proceed after having received relevant permissions from the authorities. The convoy moored alongside the shipyard at 1115 after a relatively quick canal transit and was moved into the specially prepared dock at 1400, safely touching the blocks at about 1500 MET. — Wijsmuller Salvage B.V.

NO.1 DAE BU (Panama)

See "Typhoon 'Mindulle'" under "Weather & Navigation."

NONA MARY (Greece)

London, Jul 5 — Understand salvage services were rendered to passenger ro/ro *Nona Mary* by Lybousakis Atlas Shipping Co under Lloyd's Open Form dated Jun 16. (See issues of Jun 18 and 24.)

ORANJE NASSAU (Netherlands)

Maassluis, Jul 6 — Trawler *Oranje Nassau* is still at Ymuiden. According to the owner's spokesman, the machine-room was severely damaged. — Lloyd's Sub-agents. (See issue of Jul 2.)

ORCHID SEA (South Korea)

See *Xin Wan Da*.

ORIANA

London, Jul 5 — Exhibition ship *Oriana* has sunk after being damaged by gales in mid-June. State media reported the ship went down last week after breaking loose from its moorings and being partly flooded during a storm in mid-June.

OSIRIS (Netherlands)

Maassluis, Jul 6 — General cargo *Osiris* remains in dry-dock at Eemshaven Damen Dock 8. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

P&O NEDLLOYD TARANAKI (U.K.)

Sydney, Jul 5 — Ro/ro/c.c. *P&O Nedlloyd Taranaki* sailed Botany Bay Jul 2. — Lloyd's Agents.

PING YANG NO.5 (Cambodia)

Yokohama, Jul 5 — General cargo *Ru Yi Quan* arrived Osaka Jun 16 and sailed for Nagoya Jun 18, then left

Nagoya for Shanghai Jun 19. General cargo *Ping Yang No.5* arrived Kobe Jun 15 and then sailed Kobe for China around Jun 18. Both vessels were not repaired. — Lloyd's Agents.

PITEA (Togo)

See "Drugs Seized on Togo Flagged Vessel off Ghana" under "Miscellaneous."

PONGOLA (Antigua & Barbuda)

Beira, Jul 6 — General cargo *Pongola* (7970 gt, built 2000) is reported to have grounded in the Beira access channel at 1702, Jul 5, while proceeding for berth. Efforts to refloat the vessel are being made by the Port Authority tugs. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Pongola* sailed Durban Jul 3 for Beira.)

London, Jul 6 — Understand salvage services are being rendered to general cargo *Pongola*, under Lloyd's Open Form, by salvors Subtech Diving and Marine Salvage.

London, Jul 8 — Understood general cargo *Pongola* is still aground. Salvors are in attendance, but strong winds are hindering their endeavours to refloat the vessel.

PONT-AVEN (France)

London, Jul 5 — Following received from Etel MRCC, timed 0924, UTC: Passenger ro/ro *Pont-Aven* (41748 gt, built 2004), Plymouth for Santander, with passengers and cars on board, reported a fire in No 4 engine in lat 48 50N, long 05 01W, at 0047, UTC, today. The fire was extinguished after about one hour and the vessel proceeded on voyage.

Bilbao, Jul 7 — Understand from the agents of passenger ro/ro *Pont-Aven*, at Santander, that the incident consisted of a leak of fuel-oil through a joint in one of the engines which gave rise to a lot of smoke. The problem was solved by the crew in 2.5 hours. The vessel arrived at Santander at 1500, local time, Jul 5 and sailed as usual at 1800, same day, bound for Plymouth. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Jul 6.)

PRESTIGE (Bahamas)

London, Jul 7 — A team of specialist companies led by Repsol YPF has recovered 2,500 tonnes of fuel oil from the wreck of crude oil tanker *Prestige*. That represents about 20% of the total volume of oil still trapped in the bow section of the tanker and has been hailed as a promising start to the extraction operation. The work so far has been carried out using two specially designed shuttle bags, but a third is expected to arrive on site this week and should help to speed up the operation. The shuttle bags float slowly to about 60 m below the surface, from where the oil is pumped into another vessel chartered for the operation, *Odin*, before being transferred to the Repsol YPF refinery in Corunna. Five shuttle bags have already been built, three for use in the innovative operation and two as backup in case anything goes wrong. Each has a capacity of 300 tonnes. Experts involved in the operation expect to recover about 90% of all the remaining cargo using the gravity

method, and will subsequently employ a process of bioremediation to speed up the natural biodegradation of the remaining oil. Spain's government has increased by Euro 250 million the level of funds available from the state for compensation claims arising from the *Prestige* oil spill. The government acknowledged that claims would surpass the Euro 160 million limit set by the previous administration.

PRIDE OF AMERICA (U.S.A.)

London, Jul 6 — It is understood that insurers led by Basler Securitatis in Bremen have agreed to pay in full the estimated Euro150 million (\$178m) claim on passenger *Pride of America*. Lloyd Werft refused to comment yesterday on the insurance payment and said a statement would be made tomorrow. The owner NCL America said that it had agreed a new delivery date for *Pride of America* for Jun 6, 2005. The ship was originally scheduled for delivery at the end of April 2004. "The repairs will be extensive and will be fully covered by the settlement reached with the insurers," NCL America said. The completion work represented a continuation of the contractual arrangements already in place between NCL and Lloyd Werft, the owner said. "NCL will fund the completion works as they are carried out and the total cost of the ship to NCL once delivered will not be materially different than if the January incident had not occurred." The \$380m conversion job was insured under a conversion policy for \$300m, including delay and delivery cover. The risk is being led by the German market holding 50% with participation of London and other international insurers insuring the rest. In the German consortium, Basler Securitatis in Bremen is the leading insurer, with Allianz and most other German companies still doing hull work participating. Allianz is said to carry below 10% of the risk.

PUDONG SENATOR (Germany)

See *Ena 2*.

REBECCA S. (Netherlands)

London, Jul 4 — Following received from Coastguard Yarmouth MRCC, timed 0645, UTC: Tug *Rebecca S.* (175 gt, built 1999), five persons on board, grounded on sandbank at Scroby Wind Farm, in lat 52 37.92N, long 01 47.52E, while working on the Wind Farm Project. Vessel was holed and experienced ingress of water but has been pumped out and beached to weld up the hole. Caister lifeboat supplied pump and stood by while repairs were effected. *Rebecca S.* intends to transfer equipment to pontoon *Pontra Maris* and then proceed to dry dock in Rotterdam to survey the damage. Caister lifeboat was released at 0618, UTC, once vessel had been refloated. At present, situation is that all ingress of water has stopped and weld area is in position and holding OK.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Lifeboat crews worked for more than 27 hours to save damaged tug *Rebecca S.* at the Scroby Sands

windfarm. The 75ft multicat got into difficulties during a routine trip out to the windfarm at 0345, Saturday when it began taking on water through a hole in its side. Caister Lifeboat crew spent more than a day pumping water out of the barge-like cargo vessel, eventually beaching it behind Yarmouth seafront so riveters could get to work repairing it. Dick Thurlow, coxswain of Caister Lifeboat, said the lifeboat crew had been called out at about 0430 hrs. He said: "When we reached *Rebecca S.* we found its pumps had been unable to cope with the volume of water coming in. "It had taken on hundreds of gallons and the accommodation and living areas were almost completely flooded. It had to be beached actually on Scroby Sands to stop it sinking. "I sent five of the crew on board to help by using our pumps but even after hours of working we had not managed to get rid of more than a few inches of the water." At noon the lifeboat crew took the decision to make temporary repairs and tow the vessel 3km back to Yarmouth beach. It was beached just behind the Sea Life Centre on Marine Parade at 1330 hrs and riveters began patching the hole after high tide. The eight-strong lifeboat crew stayed with *Rebecca S.* and its four crew until 0800, yesterday - more than 27 hours of work. The vessel will sail to Rotterdam for full repairs, with a tug in case of any further problems. (See issue of Jul 6.)

London, Jul 5 — Tug *Rebecca S.* arrived Rotterdam 2135, Jul 4.

London, Jul 7 — Tug *Rebecca S.* sailed Rotterdam 2105, Jul 6, for Ymuiden, where it arrived 0329 hrs, today. (See issue of Jul 7.)

RIVER EMPRESS (Switzerland)

Munich, Jul 1 — Passenger *River Empress* commenced repairs at the Hoogendoorn shipyard, in Werkendam, two weeks ago. Repairs are expected to cost approximately euros 4.5 million. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of May 26.)

ROMSDAL (Norway)

London, Jul 8 — Information received from Sandnes, dated today, states: Ro/ro *Romsdal* (1401 gt, built 1988) when arriving Furneset quay from Molde, grounded outside quay after the engine stopped at 0830, local time, Jul 7. No injuries to the 90 passengers or damage to the 27 cars on board. After discharging the cars and passengers at Furneset, ferry proceeded by its own means to Molde for inspection. The ferry requires drydocking but there is not a free dock in the area. Therefore it may take some time before the ferry is back in normal service.

RU YI QUAN (China)

See *Ping Yang No.5*.

SAEHAN GALAXY (South Korea)

See *Jingan No.6*.

SARAH (NIS)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Aarhus RCC, timed 1025, UTC: General cargo *Sarah* (2390 gt, built 1971) ran aground in lat 57 17N, long 10 46E, at 0120, UTC, today. A salvage

vessel is due on scene this afternoon. (Note — *Sarah* sailed Amsterdam Jul 5 for St. Petersburg.)

Ymuiden, Jul 7 — Wijsmuller Salvage BV was today contracted to provide salvage services to general cargo *Sarah*. Tug *Svava* was instructed this morning to proceed to the casualty location and will assist in refloating the vessel, subject to permission from the authorities. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV. (See issue of Jul 8.)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Aarhus RCC, timed 1800, UTC: General cargo *Sarah* remains aground. Salvors are on scene and have been given permission to attempt refloating. It is planned that, on successful completion of this operation, the vessel will be towed into Frederikshavn.

Ymuiden, Jul 7 — General cargo *Sarah* was refloated by Wijsmuller Salvage BV about 2000, MET. The SvitserWijsmuller tug *Svava* was initially used to make sounding surveys around the vessel to determine the best refloating route. It then connected up to the casualty and was able to refloat it. *Sarah* is now being escorted by *Svava* into Frederikshavn for a diving survey. — Wijsmuller Salvage BV.

SARAH JANE

Vigo, Jul 2 — Ref *Sarah Jane* is still undergoing repairs at Varaderos Domaio, Vigo. — Lloyd's Agents.

SEABULK PENGUIN I (Marshall Islands)

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: One man died instantly and three others sustained serious burn wounds following an explosion on a ship in the dry dock at the Walvis Bay Harbour at around 1600 hrs on Sunday (Jul 4). Police reported that the four men, all employees of Wesco Salvage, were welding a tank aboard anchor handling tug/supply *Seabulk Penguin I* (1137 gt, built 1975), when a gas bottle exploded. Other sources reported that the men were spray-painting the hull at the time. The vessel, which is of West African origin, is cradled on a syncrolift at the harbour for annual repair work. It is used to carry supplies to drill rigs at sea. NamPort CEO Sebby Kankondi said yesterday that his company would investigate the incident. He said the cause of the explosion could not yet be determined for certain. Kankondi said no NamPort employees were involved in the incident and that the maintenance area was contracted for use to Wesco Salvage. He said he had visited the site of the incident, but could not comment on the damage caused to the vessel.

SELJE (Norway)

London, Jul 7 — Following received from Sandnes, dated today: Ro/ro *Selje* has completed repairs and is back in normal service between Anda and Lote.

SHOTOKU MARU (Japan)

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: A small tanker (product tanker *Shotoku Maru*, 199 gt, built 1993), Iwakuni for Yatsushiro, cargo 528 kilolitres of type A crude oil, ran aground in a rocky area off the coast of

Shima, Fukuoka, at about midnight, leaking about 80 kilolitres of oil into the sea, coast guard officials said. The vessel sustained damage to its starboard side after running around, officials said. The oil slick spread to the east-northeast with a width of between about 50 and 200 metres and a length of around 1.5 kilometres, police said. Coast guard officials said they were working to clean up the slick with absorption mats and that it appeared unlikely it would spread. The tanker was refloated by a tug and refloated at about 0740 hrs. Neither the master of the ship nor the crewmembers were injured, officials said. The tanker sailed Iwakuni yesterday. Conditions were clear and the sea was reportedly calm at the time of the accident. Visibility was also reportedly good.

London, Jul 5 — Following received from Coast Guard Japan, timed 2343, UTC, Jul 4: The vessel that grounded off Fukuoka was product tanker *Shotoku Maru*, JJ3799.

Moji, Jul 5 — Product tanker *Shotoku Maru* grounded off Karatsu, Kyushu Island, at about 0001, Jul 4. The vessel was refloated at about 0740 the same day. A quantity of marine diesel oil had leaked from one cargo tank, causing a slick about 300 metres wide by five km long. The spilled oil was treated by Japanese Coast Guard vessels. — Lloyd's Agents.

Moji, Jul 7 — Product tanker *Shotoku Maru*: After refloating, a diver's examination revealed that the bottom plating was fractured at four locations. These were sealed with wooden wedges and underwater cement. The vessel was then towed to Hakata where the cargo was transhipped to another coastal tanker. — Lloyd's Agents.

SILVER STREAM (U.K.)

Hull, Jul 6 — Fishing *Silver Stream* is still lying in the repair yard at Grimsby. Understand the vessel has effected repairs and is presently awaiting the outcome of an insurance investigation. — Lloyd's Agents.

SIMOON (St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Mersin, Jul 6 — General cargo *Simoon* arrived at Mersin from Volos on Jun 21 and departed bound for Porto Marghera on Jun 23. — Lloyd's Agents.

SK NO.1 (South Korea)

Yokohama, Jul 6 — General cargo *SK No.1* (4385 gt, built 1979), bound Funabashi, experienced engine trouble in the Bungo Strait at 1015, Jun 29. The vessel was towed to Oita and anchored at 1905 same day. The vessel's crew effected repairs and the vessel proceeded at 1720, Jun 30, bound Busan. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *SK No.1* subsequently arrived Busan Jul 1.)

SKIATHO (Greece)

Piraeus, Jul 6 — General cargo *Skiatho* did not require repairs, and sailed Jul 2 bound Skiathos Island following an inspection by Volos Port Authority. — Lloyd's Agents.

SOUTHERN TIARE (New Zealand)

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: General cargo *Southern Tiare* (1185 gt, built 1988), Chatham Islands for Napier, loaded with cattle, sheep and general cargo, was towed into Napier yesterday afternoon, local time, after losing part of its rudder about 40 miles short of Napier.

Wellington, Jul 7 — General cargo *Southern Tiare* departed Waitangi Chatham Islands, 0630, Jul 2 for Napier and by late afternoon was experiencing 5-7metre swells which the vessel ran with for around 48 hours. However when approximately 13 miles from Mahia Peninsular a problem was experienced with the steering. After checking out all electrical systems nothing was found to be wrong so on a visual check it was found the rudder had fallen off. Adsteams Gisborne tug *Titirangi* was despatched at owners request and vessel was towed to Napier where both harbour tugs took over the tow about three miles from the port. Vessel was berthed at 1400, Jul 5 and discharged, later shifting to a lay up berth to await a new rudder to be fabricated. — Lloyd's Agents.

Wellington, Jul 8 — Understand it is hoped to have general cargo *Southern Tiare* back in service by Jul 14 or 15 from Napier. — Lloyd's Agents.

SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE (New Zealand)

Wellington, Jul 5 — Investigation by the Transport Accident Investigation Commission into the part c.c. *Spirit of Enterprise* accident at approximately 1420, Aug 16: As *Spirit of Enterprise* crossed the Manukau Bar, it encountered several large swells, causing it to pitch heavily. The ship's rudder struck the seabed with sufficient force to fracture the rudderstock causing the loss of the rudder, thus disabling the ship. Safety issues identified were: Insufficient "real time" environmental information, pre-accident cracking of the rudderstock, possible pre-damage to the rudderstock from a previous grounding and the jamming of the flap actuating mechanism, adequacy of the rudderstock size despite the high-strength steel design. Safety recommendations were made to the Manager Marine Services of Ports of Auckland Limited and the Chief Executive Officer of Bureau Veritas classification society — Lloyd's Agents.

SPIRIT OF ONTARIO I (Bahamas)

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Passenger ro/ro *Spirit of Ontario I* was forced to cancel its scheduled trip between Toronto and Rochester yesterday morning due to a hydraulic fluid leak, said the ferry's operator, Canadian American Transportation Systems. It was the third time in a week that mechanical problems have delayed or cancelled runs by the vessel, which made its inaugural voyage two weeks ago and operates twice a day between the two cities. The hydraulic leak, which affected the steering system, has now been fixed, said Howard Thomas,

president of the ferry's operator. The vessel sailed for Rochester last night. (See issue of Jul 1.)

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Passenger ro/ro *Spirit of Ontario I* was up and running again yesterday, just a day after mechanical problems cancelled two trips to Toronto. Ferry operators said the mechanical problems were now fixed and the vessel's Toronto to Rochester service was operating normally.

STELLAMARE (Netherlands Antilles)

New York, Jul 1 — Semi-sub HL vessel *Stellamare* is still under repair at Bethlehem. — Lloyd's Agents.

STENA SHIPPER (U.K.)

London, Jul 7 — Understood ro/ro *Stena Shipper* (12337 gt, built 1980) is presently drydocking at Frederikshavn, effecting repairs to damage sustained when it struck pier head at Copenhagen on Jun 28, causing damage to rudder and propeller. Repairs expected to be completed next week. (Note — *Stena Shipper* arrived Copenhagen Jun 28 and sailed Jun 30, subsequently arriving Landskrona the same day.)

STINICE (Croatia)

London, Jul 2 — Chemical/oil carrier *Stinice* passed through the Straits of Gibraltar at 1609, Jun 23 and at 2357, Jul 1, passed Istanbul, on passage Milazzo for Constantza.

Bucharest, Jul 5 — Chemical/oil carrier *Stinice* arrived Constantza Roads Jul 3. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Jul 6.)

SUN RAY (Georgia)

Varna, Jul 5 — At around 2215, local time, Jul 4, general cargo *Sun Ray* (1811 gt, built 1978) was in collision with general cargo *Volgo-Don 5025* (3940 gt, built 1970), 20 miles east of Cape Shabla, Bulgaria. *Volgo-Don 5025* sank in 18 metres of water. Ten crew members were rescued, two are still missing. *Sun Ray* is reportedly ruptured. There are no injured crew members. Salvage operations are under way. A group of experts from the "Marine Administration" (Harbourmaster), together with representatives of the "Border Police" were announced to have left for the place of the collision for the purpose of investigation. — Lloyd's Agents.

Sofia, Jul 5 — Two sailors from a Russian cargo ship are missing after it collided with a Georgian container vessel and sank in the Black Sea off Bulgaria's north coast late yesterday, Bulgaria's Transport Ministry said today. Rescue efforts to locate the two missing crewmen from the sunk general cargo *Volgo-Don 5025* were continuing, the ministry said. Ten other crewmen were picked up by the other vessel, the Georgian-flagged general cargo *Sun Ray*, after the accident, it added. "The rescued sailors are all in good condition. No one is injured," the ministry said in a statement. "*Sun Ray* has a hole in its bow, but is able to sail on its own and is still in the accident area," the statement said. A team of specialists

has been sent to the site of the accident — about 23 nautical miles northeast of the Bulgarian town of Shabla, to investigate the cause of the collision. "Investigators will have to figure out what caused the accident, but the sea was not rough last night," a Bulgarian Sea Administration official told Reuters. The 3,940-tonne Russian ship was transporting about 4,000 tonnes of scrap metal from Russia to Turkey, while *Sun Ray* was on its way to the Romanian port of Constantza, the ministry said. — Reuters.

Varna, Jul 6 — The search area for the missing crew from general cargo *Volgo-Don 5025* was expanded yesterday. Salvage vessels *Tangra* and *Misar* have been involved in rescue/salvage operations, along with a military helicopter. No pollution has been sighted as yet. General cargo *Sun Ray*, which sustained a ruptured forepeak, will undergo temporary repairs and then proceed to its scheduled destination port of Constantza. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 7 — General cargo *Sun Ray* arrived at Constantza on Jul 6.

SUNSHINE KING

Manila, Jul 2 — No pollution has been observed from general cargo *Sunshine King*. Salvage operations have not yet commenced. — Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Jul 2.)

SUPERFERRY 12 (Philippines)

See "Collapse of Crane, Shipyard, Cebu, Philippines" under "Miscellaneous."

SUPERFERRY 14 (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 4 — Passenger ro/ro *Superferry 14* is to be towed to Herma Shipyard in Mariveles, Bataan, this week, the Philippine Coast Guard reported. The vessel has been anchored off Sisiman Bay in Mariveles town since the explosion on board Feb 27. It was listing to starboard but was righted by a salvage crew on Jun 29. It is not clear, however, if the vessel is to be scrapped or repaired at Herma Shipyard. The Philippine Coast Guard has ordered the owners of the vessel to remove it from Sisiman Bay as it poses a hazard to both the environment and passing vessels. *Superferry 14* has also attracted scavengers and thieves. Recently security personnel guarding the vessel arrested five people looting the contents of containers still inside it. — Lloyd's List Correspondent. (See issue of Apr 23.)

SWIFT (U.S.A.)

See A.V.Kastner.

THOR HAWK (DIS)

Kochi, Jul 7 — C.c. *Thor Hawk*: Understand that the main engine parts including crankshaft are to be replaced. Repairs will be progressed on arrival of crankshaft and other parts from Germany. Anticipate further three weeks stay at Kochi to complete repairs. Cargo in containers destined to Mumbai are still on board. — Lloyd's Agents.

TIRELESS (Marshall Islands)

Antananarivo, Jul 6 — While chem.tank *Tireless* (18812 gt, built 1980) was berthing at Toamasina Jul 3, the vessel came into contact with general cargo *Dong Hua Men* (14538 gt, built 1978), which was discharging cement. Both vessels are presently undergoing a survey. — Lloyd's Agents. (Note — *Dong Hua Men* arrived Toamasina Jun 22. *Tireless* sailed Durban Jun 28 for Toamasina.)

TOUEI MARU NO.2

See *Arkadiy Dudenkov*.

TRIDENT 20 (Liberia)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Transocean Inc reports that its drill platform *Trident 20* (11797 gt, built 2000) sustained damage Jul 3 resulting from a fire in its engine-room while operating offshore Turkmenistan in the Caspian Sea. The cause of the fire is under investigation. There were no injuries resulting from the incident. At present, the rig's crew has been reduced to essential personnel only. The platform has been under a firm three-well contract with Petronas in the Caspian Sea since April 2004, with contract completion previously expected during December 2004, subject to extension options. The company does not know how long the necessary rig repairs could take, although preliminary estimates range from approximately two to three months. The company has been advised by Petronas that it currently intends to suspend the contract, allowing time for the rig repairs.

URSA (North Korea)

Istanbul, Jul 2 — General cargo *Ursa* (3629 gt, built 1969), Thessaloniki for Theodosia, experienced an engine breakdown at 0840, local time, Jul 2, and anchored off the Dardanelles to complete the necessary repairs. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 6 — General cargo *Ursa* passed through the Dardanelles Jul 3, bound Theodosia.

Istanbul, Jul 7 — General cargo *Ursa* completed necessary repairs, by own means, and upon inspection/formalities sailed from Canakkale at 1600, local time, Jul 3. — Lloyd's Agents.

URVAAG

Trondheim, Jul 8 — Owners of fishing *Urvaag* inform they presently do not intend to repair the vessel, but have not yet reached an agreement with the insurance company. Vessel is still in port at Averoy where it will stay until a final decision is made, hopefully in September. — Lloyd's Agents.

VOLGO-DON 5025 (Russia)

See *Sun Ray*.

WELS (Germany)

London, Jul 7 — Understood chemical/oil carrier *Wels* has been moored alongside quay at Frederikshavn since its arrival May 28 with serious main engine damage. Repairs are expected to be completed in September. (Note — *Wels*, Rotterdam for Ventspils, passed Skaw May 26.)

XIN WAN DA (Mongolia)

Busan, Jul 8 — Bulk *Orchid Sea* (7170 gt, built 1986), Busan for Incheon, cargo some 7,000 tonnes plywood and timber, was in collision with general cargo *Xin Wan Da* (1305 gt, built 1980), Incheon for Pohang, cargo 1,000 tonnes magnesium, in approximately lat 34 36N, long 128 43E, off Busan, at 0502, today in dense fog. As a result of the collision *Orchid Sea* sustained damage to its bow area and is presently lying afloat at the site. *Xin Wan Da* reportedly sank in some 80 metres of water and all 11 crewmembers were safely rescued by the marine police boats. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

YANKCANUCK (Canada)

London, Jul 6 — General cargo *Yankcanuck* was struck by the falling boom of a shore crane in the port of Becancour at 2026, EDST, Jul 5. Damage to the vessel is not known. (Note — *Yankcanuck* arrived Becancour Jul 3.)

ZB355

See *Drew Foss*.


Port State Control
**CYPRUS**

Limassol, Jul 1 — General cargo *Blue Feeder* (1277 gt, built 1970), which arrived Limassol Jun 29 from Beirut, was detained the same day due to deficiencies. The vessel was released Jun 30 and sailed for Beirut. — Lloyd's Agents.


Seizures & Arrests
**ANYA (South Africa)**

London, Jul 2 — Diamond mining vessel *Any*, ZR6360, 1549.66 gt, built 1976, owners Lazig Marine (Pty) Ltd, currently under arrest at Luderitz, and the mining equipment on board, is to be sold by judicial auction in Cape Town at 1100, Jul 28 by order of the High Court of Namibia.

APACHE (Honduras)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated Jul 6, states: The master and crew of fishing *Apache* were arrested last week and charged and the ship and its cargo of 60 tons of toothfish impounded in a joint French-South African operation. *Apache* was escorted by the French anti-poaching ship *Albatross* to Reunion where the arrests and the confiscation of the cargo took place. The master, vessel owner and fishing company have been charged will illegal

fishing in France's 200-mile exclusive economic zone around Kerguelen.

BANGA BIRAJ (Bangladesh)

See under "Marine."

BOKA STAR (Tonga)

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

EAGLE STRENGTH (Panama)

See *Banga Biraj* under "Marine."

GIANNIS (Malta)

London, Jul 5 — Bulk *Giannis* sailed Rotterdam at 0120 hrs, Jun 3, bound Gdansk.

KAWKAB (Egypt)

Venice, Jul 5 — General cargo *Kawkab* was put up for auction at Venice on Jun 15 and sold to unknown interests. For the time being the vessel remains at Venice. — Lloyd's Agents.

NORTHELLA (U.K.)

Valetta, Jul 7 — Oceanographic research *Northella* was sold at auction on Jul 2 to Cassar Ship Repair Ltd. The vessel is still at Valletta. — Lloyd's Agents.

PANCIU (Tonga)

London, Jul 4 — General cargo *Panciu*, under arrest at Freetown since Oct 28, sailed Freetown Jun 10 for Tema.

PIRRO (Bolivia)

London, Jul 2 — General cargo *Pirro*, which had been under detention at Durres since Sep 13, 2002, departed from Durres on Jun 8, bound for Izmir.

SAINT RAPHAEL II (Greece)

London, Jul 5 — Following reported in Jul 2 edition of "Newsfront," published in Piraeus: Seized end June, non specific tanker *Saint Raphael II*, has been seized by private creditors against the owners Alkyonis Petrelefis II, Naftiki Eteria. Two additional seizures for Euros 3,856.88 and 3,856.84 respectively have been imposed on the vessel by a separate private creditor.

SENTINEL (Comoros)

Genoa, Jun 21 — General cargo *Sentinel* is still under arrest at Genoa. — Lloyd's Agents.

STAR (Romania)

Santo Domingo, Jul 7 — General cargo *Julin II*, ex *Star*, sailed Barahona Jul 4, bound Curacao. — Lloyd's Agents.

TAI PING QUAN (China)

London, Jul 7 — General cargo *Tai Ping Quan* is currently reported to be still at Western Anchorage No.1, Hong Kong, under arrest.

TRUBCHEVSK (Russia)

Busan, Jul 2 — Ref *Trubchevsk* is still under arrest at Busan. It is unknown when the vessel will be sold by court auction. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.


Pipeline Accidents
**BAHAWALPUR PROVINCE, PAKISTAN**

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: An explosion damaged a gas pipeline in tehsil Uch Sharif of Bahawalpur. According to police sources the explosion occurred near compression plant number AC4, after which a blaze broke out in the pipeline, followed by the evacuation of nearby houses. The cause of the blast is not yet known. Engineers of Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited were rushed to the site to repair the damaged pipeline. The supply of gas to the power plants at Multan, Kot Addu, Muzaffargarh and Kabirwala has been suspended. Managing Director of Sui Northern Gas Rashid Loon told that one line was damaged by the blast and the supply of gas continues from the other two pipelines without any interruption. He said that it may be an act of terrorism, adding that repairs will be completed within 24 hours.

MANGISTAU, KAZAKHSTAN

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: Damage to a trunk pipeline in Kazakhstan has caused 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes of crude oil to spill into the Mangistau region. The spill started at the 283rd kilometre of the Uzen-Atyrau-Samara trunk pipeline on Tuesday (Jul 6), a source in Kazakhstan's emergencies agency told Interfax. The pipeline is being repaired, and patrols have been started along the perimeter of the zone affected by the accident.


Pollution
**BRITTANY, FRANCE**

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated Jul 7, states: Bulk *Captain Diamantis* (40609 gt, built 2000), Swinoujscie for Jorf Lasfar, was ordered to head for the port of Brest after it was suspected of polluting the sea off the Brittany coast, authorities said. The vessel was spotted by a French Navy aircraft early today trailing a slick 2.8 kilometres long and 30 metres wide some 330 kilometres southwest of the Brittany coast. French authorities said they had photographic evidence of the marine pollution and said the master of the vessel would have to post bond before being allowed to continue his voyage. (Note — *Captain Diamantis*, Swinoujscie for Jorf Lasfar, passed Dover Jul 5.)

HAMBURG, GERMANY

See *Ena 2* under "Marine."

MANGISTAU, KAZAKHSTAN

See under "Pipeline Accidents"

POINT FORTIN, TRINIDAD

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: More than 200 barrels of oil spilled in an area reserved for drilling and exploration, the state-owned oil company said. The spill occurred yesterday in an isolated area near Point Fortin in southwestern Trinidad when someone apparently opened a storage tank. Identification is required to enter the drilling site regularly patrolled by security, but officials said it is possible someone could have sneaked into the area and opened the tank. Petrotrin, the state-owned oil company, owns the land but leases it to local company Venture Production Ltd. for drilling, Petrotrin spokesman Arnold Corneal said. Between 200 and 300 barrels — more than 8,400 gallons — spilled onto the ground before it was discovered by a worker early yesterday and stopped, Corneal said. Venture had put barriers in place to stop the oil from entering streams and was attempting to clean the area with solvents, Corneal said.

**ARGENTINA**

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Heavy rain and snow pummelled Argentina's southwestern Andean region, killing five people and forcing the evacuation of 1,300 residents, authorities said today. Three Brazilian women visiting the Andean resort of Bariloche died yesterday along with their Argentine driver when a tree hit their car. At least 400 people were evacuated from the tourist area. The fifth victim died after mudslide destroyed a home in El Bolson in Rio Negro province, an area bordering Chile where 500 people were evacuated. Another 400 people had to leave their homes in three western towns.

CHILE

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Floods caused by heavy downpour in southern Chile left three people dead and 9,000 homeless yesterday, said the authorities. Local officials said the homeless have been placed in shelters and about 20 tons of relief materials are being distributed to the affected people. On Wednesday (Jun 30), the province of Valdivia was hit by rainstorms, the Calle Calle and San Pedro rivers overflowed and several areas were flooded. The regional government has declared alert of emergency in some parts of the province and ordered a suspension for schools as a security measure. Official forecasts said the storms will last in some regions this week.

CHINA

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 11 people were killed and 34 are missing after a huge mudslide caused by floods in south-west China's Yunnan province, state media said today. Six people were seriously injured by the flow of mud and rock, which also left 360 people stranded and washed away 2,100 houses, Xinhua news agency reported, quoting the provincial civil affairs department. One thousand cattle were also killed by the accident, caused when Yingjiang and Longchuan counties received 221 mm of rainfall in 14 hours yesterday. Aid is being sent to the two counties and 3,900 people have been evacuated from the "disaster-hit" area. Economic losses caused were estimated at 280 million yuan (US\$33.7 million), the report said.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Three people were killed and 143 injured, six of them seriously, when a violent hurricane hit eastern China's Anhui province, uprooting half a million trees, state media reported. The wind was measured at force 12 (hurricane), when the gale hit Xiao county early yesterday with a strength unprecedented in the county's recorded history, the Xinhua news agency said. In an area heavily reliant on agriculture, the hurricane had a devastating effect, injuring more than 30,000 domestic animals and destroying the harvest on 170,000 hectares of land. A total of 18,000 houses collapsed and power was down for an eight-hour period, according to the agency.

INDIA

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 20 labourers engaged in construction work were feared dead when the trucks in which they were travelling were washed away in flood waters in Arunachal Pradesh yesterday. According to official sources, heavy rain in the neighbouring state damaged a water pond situated between Pakke and Kesang near Sijusa, bordering Tezpur in Assam. The gushing water washed away 30 nearby villages of Tezpur and Biswanath sub division inside Assam. One sluice gate at Itakhola was also washed away by the drained water of the pond in Arunachal Pradesh.

MISSOURI RIVER, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: The commercial barge season on the Missouri River will be shortened by 47 days because of new water conservation measures in a revised operating manual, the Army Corps of Engineers said. Run-off above Sioux City, Iowa in June was 56 percent of normal and run-off from mountain snowmelt has been disappointing, said Larry Cieslik, chief of the water management office in the corps' Omaha, Neb., office. Run-off into six upstream reservoirs this year is forecast to be 15.7 million acre-feet, down from the normal of 25.2 million acre-feet. Water releases from the reservoirs will remain at minimum service levels. "The navigation season will be shortened 47

days, in accordance with the revised master manual and its more stringent drought conservation measures," Cieslik said. The commercial navigation season will end between Oct 6 at Sioux City and Oct 15 at the river's mouth near St. Louis, the corps said. "The latest court decision to allow the Army Corps of Engineers the flexibility to make changes that reflect the need to conserve water and protect the rights of upstream states is a change over the old system," South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds said in a statement. The level of the three northernmost reservoirs will fall even more in July, the corps said. Lake Oahe will end the month 33 feet below average, Lake Sakakawea will end the month 28 feet below average, and Fort Peck will drop to 35 feet below average.

NICARAGUA

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Recently floods and mudslides have claimed 25 lives in Nicaragua, authorities said today as a new tropical depression approached the Caribbean coast. Civil Defense Chief Mario Perez Cassar said nine people remain missing more than a week after heavy rains triggered scores of mudslides at Cerro Musun, a hill about 95 miles north-east of the capital. The rains also provoked deadly flooding at Cruz de Rio Grande, 210 miles north-east of Managua. Thousands of homes were damaged, and Perez Cassar said rains destroyed 4,840 acres of rice, corn, bananas and other crops 124 miles north-east of Managua, along the Rio Prinzapolka.

TYPHOON "MINDULLE"

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Rescuers have recovered the bodies of five more drowning victims in the Philippines, raising the death toll from typhoon "Mindulle" to 12 with 13 others still missing and feared dead, civil defence officials said today. A man and a woman drowned in the northern province of Cagayan while two 12-year-old girls died in the north while crossing a swollen creek in Pangasinan province, the civil defence office said in a report. Rescue workers recovered the body of another flash flood victim who had earlier been reported as missing on the southern island of Mindanao. Seven others were previously confirmed dead. Thirteen others were missing and feared drowned. The civil defence office said 13 others were injured in landslides, when roofing was ripped from buildings and branches sheared off trees. The typhoon has displaced nearly 180,000 people from 48 towns and three cities, destroyed or damaged nearly 400 houses, and caused damage to crops and infrastructure. Parts of the northern section of the main island of Luzon were still without electricity and some major roads were cut off by landslides, overflowing rivers or floods, or toppled trees and power pylons. The army has been mobilised to rescue families marooned by floods in the north, the report added. A cargo vessel

ran aground on Tuesday (Jun 29) and later sank off Masinloc town, north-west of Manila. Eighteen crew members and four passengers were rescued. "Mindulle" struck the country on Tuesday and is now threatening southern Taiwan and eastern China.

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: The death toll from Typhoon "Mindulle's" rampage through the Philippines rose to 16 with 17 other people still missing and feared dead, civil defence officials said today. Most of the dead and missing were washed away by flash floods in the northern Philippines while 16 more were injured by landslides, hit by roofing ripped from buildings and branches sheared off trees, the civil defence office added. The typhoon has displaced nearly 180,000 people from 48 towns and three cities and destroyed or damaged more than 6000 houses. More than 4000 people are still sheltered in evacuation centres, the office said. Initial estimates of damage to crops and infrastructure rose to at least 353.9 million pesos (A\$9 million) with more reports of damage coming in. Parts of the northern section of the main island of Luzon were still without electricity and some major arteries were cut off by landslides, overflowing rivers or floods, or toppled trees and power pylons. The army has been mobilised to rescue families marooned by floods in the north, the civil defence office added. The storm also disrupted rail traffic and domestic flights on Taiwan's east coast today. "Mindulle's" winds had weakened to 108km/h from 145km/h yesterday as it moved north-west from the Bashi Channel between Taiwan and Philippines, the Central Weather Bureau said. Forecasters, however, warned of possible flash floods and landslides as "Mindulle" was set to hit Taiwan's southeastern coast tonight. "Mindulle" was expected to make its way north to the capital, Taipei, tomorrow, the weather bureau said.

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Typhoon "Mindulle" weakened on its way out to Taiwan yesterday, but disaster officials said it left the death toll swelling to at least 19 in northern Luzon. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo ordered the release of more funds to provinces that suffered the brunt of the typhoon. Total relief assistance, mostly coming from private donations, has so far reached 1.3 million pesos, according to the Department of Social Welfare and Development. The National Disaster Coordinating Council placed agricultural and infrastructure losses at 353 million pesos. Cagayanos expressed grief over the death of nine people from flash floods in five towns and the destruction of more than 232 million pesos worth of palay and corn in Cagayan.

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: The death toll from typhoon "Mindulle" in the Philippines rose to 24 today while 19 other people were still missing and feared dead, rescuers said today. Nineteen of the dead drowned or were involved in accidents following widespread flooding in Luzon, while four others drowned in

flooding on Mindanao island. The body of another victim, a harbour pilot who fell into the water while helping a vessel seek shelter at Manila pier, was recovered in Manila Bay today, the Coast Guard said. Nineteen other people remained missing three days after the typhoon struck, and are presumed to have died, the civil defence office said. Twenty-two people were injured as the weather destroyed or damaged nearly 10,000 houses and displaced some 385,000 people. Parts of northern Luzon were still without electricity and some major arteries were cut off by landslides, overflowing rivers or floods, or toppled trees and power pylons. The army has been mobilised to rescue families marooned by floods in the north, the civil defence office added.

London, Jul 2 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Tropical storm "Mindulle" near lat 25.0N, long 121.8E, at 0600, UTC, Jul 2. Movement past six hours 020 deg at five knots. Position accurate to within 60 nautical miles, based on centre located by satellite. Maximum sustained winds 45 knots with gusts to 55 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds 40 nautical miles south-west quadrant, 60 nautical miles south-east quadrant, 80 nautical miles elsewhere. Forecast for 1800, UTC: Position lat 26.1N, long 121.9E. Maximum sustained winds 40 knots with gusts to 50 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds 50 nautical miles south-west quadrant, 60 nautical miles south-east quadrant, 80 nautical miles elsewhere. Forecast for 0600, UTC, Jul 3: Position lat 27.7N, long 122.9E. Maximum sustained winds 50 knots with gusts to 65 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds 90 nautical miles north-east quadrant, 80 nautical miles north-west quadrant, 60 nautical miles elsewhere.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Heavy rainfall is forecast for the Korean peninsula until Monday as Typhoon "Mindulle" is approaching the nation, the Korea Meteorological Administration said today. With a radius of 250 km and packing winds of up to 26 metres per second, the typhoon is moving northward from Taiwan at the speed of 15 km per hour. The weather agency issued a heavy rain warning in South Cholla Province at 1630 today.

Taipei, Jul 3 — A typhoon lashed heavy rain over Taiwan, triggering widespread flooding and killing at least 14 people before weakening and heading toward southeast China, officials said today. A land warning for Taiwan was lifted as typhoon "Mindulle" weakened into a tropical storm but persistent rain caused landslides and mudslides in the mountainous regions in the centre and south of the island, officials said. The Central Weather Bureau warned of more torrential rain in the next few days. Falling rocks hit a truck on a mountain road in the southern county of Chiayi, killing two passengers and injuring the driver, the disaster response centre said. Others drowned, including a woman and her grandchild trapped in their flooded home in eastern Taiwan. Eight people were

missing — most of them swept away by swollen rivers. Crop damage was estimated at T\$532 million (US\$15.8 million), the Council of Agriculture said. Heavy downpours flooded streets in many parts of the island, submerging cars and forcing hundreds to evacuate their homes. Power was cut to more than 80,000 households. The government has mobilised 77,000 soldiers to join the rescue and help mop up in worst-hit areas. — Reuters.

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Tropical storm "Mindulle" pushed toward South Korea today after killing at least 37 people in the Philippines and Taiwan, officials said. Thirteen others were missing and feared dead. In Taiwan, the death toll rose to six, as flooding continued to disrupt traffic four days after "Mindulle" first struck the island. Taiwan's Council of Agriculture estimated damage to crops and infrastructure at \$15.65 million, much of it from devastation of fruit farms. The storm also killed 23,000 poultry. In the Philippines, "Mindulle" killed at least 31 people, while 11 others were missing and feared dead, officials said today. The storm destroyed more than \$11.7 million worth of crops and livestock in the Philippines, and \$7.94 million in infrastructure, disaster officials said. Today, a bulldozer driver was swept to his death by rising water in central Taiwan's Nantou region, police said. A man was killed by falling rocks as he went to a store in southern Taiwan's Chiayi region, and an elderly woman drowned in the central region of Taichung. In the same area, two people were missing after floodwaters swept them away, police said. Three people were killed earlier. Train traffic was gradually returning to normal today, after rail service had been suspended in some areas Thursday and Friday. Several domestic airports were still closed. Rescue teams in central Taiwan's mountains were clearing rubble from landslides, and bridges were closed because of flood damage. The Central Weather Bureau said the rains would last at least until Tuesday, and warned more landslides were likely.

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated today, states: Mudslides buried houses and rescuers battled floodwaters to evacuate trapped villagers today as tropical storm "Mindulle" swept over Taiwan and battered the Chinese coast. At least 53 people have been killed in the storm. The storm pushed on towards South Korea but torrential rains at its fringes continued today in many of Taiwan's mountainous areas and doused parts of south-eastern China. In Taiwan, where a total 19 people have been killed in the past few days and nine others were missing, mudslides covered about 30 houses on a hill in central Nantou County. Five bodies were recovered from the rubble, the National Disaster Relief Centre said. Another mudslide in nearby Taichung County killed three people and a woman and her grandson drowned in their flooded home there, police said. In China, a mother and her son drowned after falling out of a boat

on a lake in Huzhou city, about 80 miles south-west of Shanghai, the official Xinhua News Agency reported. Before hitting Taiwan and China, "Mindulle" killed at least 32 people in the Philippines and left 11 others missing, its National Disaster Co-ordination Centre said today. The military dispatched about 1,000 soldiers to rescue hundreds of villagers and tourists trapped in mountainous regions of Taiwan, officials said. Television news showed rescuers struggling with their overturned raft in a raging river in central Taichung County before reaching a family of seven trapped in their hillside house. In Nantou's Jenai village, where a wooden bridge was washed away by floodwaters, soldiers used ropes to pull residents from a cliff and across a creek. At a nearby resort destroyed by rock slides, about 150 tourists were placed in a temporary shelter as roads were washed away and they were unable to vacate the area, officials said.

Busan, Jul 5 — While Panama chemical/oil carrier *No.1 Dae Bu*, ex *No.1 Woo Mee* (ex *Jeil No.15*), 998 gt, (built 1992), in ballast, was anchored at W-A anchorage, Yosu, the vessel dragged anchor and grounded in the port due to strong wind and high swell under the influence of No. 7 typhoon "Mindulle" at approximately 1005, Jul 4. So far, no personal injuries or loss were reported, but slight oil leakage from the vessel was reported. Understand that a local salvage company, Kumho Salvage Co., Busan, was urgently appointed by the owners agents and their tugs and floating cranes are attending the site. *No.1 Woo Mee* was sold to an Indonesian owner and renamed in June. The vessel was at Yosu to carry out maintenance and repairs etc. before sailing to Indonesia. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: At least two people were killed and several hundreds of houses and buildings in the country were inundated from heavy rainfall in the aftermath of typhoon "Mindulle", which was downgraded to a tropical depression at sea, some 200 kilometres off Cheju Island. The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) said the typhoon weakened to a tropical storm at 0900 hrs with a maximum speed of 17 metres per second, easing fears about severe casualties and property damages. The KMA lifted typhoon warnings issued across the country. The KMA said additional rain of 80-150mm will fall nationwide until this afternoon. Southern regions of the Korean peninsula reported 80-149mm of rain accompanied by strong winds during the weekend. Two people were killed due to torrential rains, one drowned in a Sachon stream in Kangnung, Kangwon Province and the other killed when a building under construction collapsed in Changwon, South Kyongsang Province. "Mindulle's" accompanying heavy rain and strong winds also caused the cancellation of about 130 flights between Seoul and the southern regions. One house was destroyed by rain in Kohung on the

southwestern coast, displacing four people. More than 10 were killed or injured in traffic accidents partly due to heavy precipitation. Some 71 houses and 65 stores in Mokpo and other South Cholla Province areas were inundated with floodwater following 150mm of rain fall. North Cholla Province received some 30mm of rain every hour, inundating 10 houses along the coastal road in Kunsan and some 100 stores in low-lying areas from tidal waters at Kimje. Thirty two hectares of farmland were swept by rain and four roads were submerged as the sea level rose in Mokpo, South Cholla Province and Kimje, North Cholla Province. Masan in South Kyongsang Province, already the hardest hit by Typhoon "Maemi" last year, embraced relatively light rainfalls during the night but suffered from rising tides which flooded 20 raw fish restaurants in a fish market in Sinpodong and in the low-lying roads near the Daewoo Department Store. The weather agency said that although the typhoon was downgraded to a tropical depression, rains continue to fall, calling for continued caution and appropriate preparation. "Mindulle" has brought 128mm of rainfall to Kwangu, 96mm Haenam, 87.5mm Huksando, 85mm Miryang, and 81mm Pohang as of 1400 today.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Typhoon "Mindulle" caused damage that could exceed NT\$10 billion (\$296 million), the China Times reported, without saying where it obtained the information. The death toll from the typhoon rose to 21, the United Daily News reported, citing Minister of Economic Affairs Ho Mei-yueh. Torrential rains, forecast to continue until tomorrow, triggered landslides and floods that swept away cars, homes and bridges in central and southern Taiwan, according to the island's weather bureau. Two power plants were overrun by mudslides, and three others were shut by floods, the United Daily News said.

Tungshih, Taiwan, Jul 6 — Rescuers in Taiwan flew in food and drinking water to tens of thousands of people in mountain villages today cut off by days of catastrophic floods and landslides. At least 22 people have died in Taiwan from downpours triggered by typhoon "Mindulle" and 14 were still missing, officials said, after some areas in central and southern Taiwan received a year's worth of rain in five days. Rescuers were using helicopters to ferry supplies and pick up the injured in mountainous areas, after floods and landslides swept away roads and bridges and destroyed farmland. Lin Chung-chi, fire chief in the mountainous Nantou County in central Taiwan, estimated between 10,000 and 20,000 people were trapped in two nearby villages without power, food or potable water. The floods have receded and the remnants of "Mindulle" have moved north toward Japan, but weather officials said a heavy rain warning remained in force. A spokesman for the Central Weather Bureau said accumulated rainfall over the past few days in some areas had

nearly reached the annual average precipitation figure of 98 inches. The government estimated the cost of agricultural damage at T\$4 billion (\$118 million) and allocated T\$11.27 billion in aid to help victims and rebuild devastated areas. Many of those missing or killed in the latest disaster were buried by mudslides or swept away by swollen rivers. Rescuers said there was little hope of finding any of the missing. A reservoir supplying Taichung county was damaged by rubbish carried by floodwaters, affecting around 550,000 households, said Chen Shen-shien, director general of the Water Resources Bureau. Water supply would be restored to most households by tomorrow, although repair crews were as yet unable to reach 20,000 homes in remote areas. More than 9,300 households were still without power after flooding knocked out electricity to as many as 213,000 homes over the weekend. Taiwan Power Co. has estimated damage to its equipment and lost revenue at around T\$10 billion (\$297 million). "Mindulle" has killed at least 45 people, including 23 in the Philippines. — Reuters.

Busan, Jul 7 — Chemical/oil carrier *No.1 Dae Bu* is still lying aground in port, without a decision. The vessel has been examined by salvors and surveyors, but it is understood that so far no salvage contract has been agreed. Bunker oil on board the vessel was reportedly completely pumped out for disposal on shore, at the request of the marine police, soon after the accident. It is also understood that the vessel sustained heavy damage as a result of the accident. The engine-room has been flooded with seawater and most of its bottom, below the waterline, including the propeller and rudder, appear to have been damaged. — Lloyd's Sub-agents.

TYPHOON "TINGTING"

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Powerful Typhoon "Tingting" was heading north-north-east across the Pacific from the Ogasawara Islands, south of Tokyo, early today, moving away from the Japanese archipelago, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. But the agency warned that high waves are expected in the southern Izu Islands and on the Pacific coast of Honshu through today as the typhoon moves over waters south-east of the Izu Islands. (See issue of Jul 2.)

London, Jul 2 — Following received from the Meteorological Office: Tropical storm "Tingting" near lat 31.7N, long 146.4E, at 0600, UTC, Jul 2. Movement past six hours 040 deg at eight knots. Position accurate to within 40 nautical miles, based on centre located by satellite. Maximum sustained winds 55 knots with gusts to 70 knots. Radius of 50-knot winds 65 nautical miles. Radius of 34-knot winds 160 nautical miles. Forecast for 1800, UTC: Position lat 33.0N, long 148.3E. Maximum sustained winds 50 knots with gusts to 65 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds 170 nautical miles north-east quadrant, 150 nautical miles elsewhere. Forecast for

0600, UTC, Jul 3: Position lat 34.3N, long 150.5E. Maximum sustained winds 50 knots with gusts to 65 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds 160 nautical miles north-east quadrant, 140 nautical miles elsewhere.

UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: Strong winds and rain are expected to lash parts of England and Wales for a second day, after storms cut power to more than 100,000 homes yesterday. Engineers were drafted in to restore electricity to homes in five counties in the east and south-east of England. Forecasters predicted another day of heavy rain and strong winds, with the north bearing the brunt of it. A severe weather warning is still in place, with local flooding expected and no improvement in sight until tomorrow. With temperatures set to fall as low as 13C, British Gas put its winter emergency contingency plan into operation as it prepared for a surge in demand with people switching their central heating on. An English National Opera performance in Trafalgar Square was cancelled because of the weather, and the Hampton Court flower show was closed for the day. The Princess Diana Memorial Fountain in Hyde Park was flooded, just one day after it was officially opened by the Queen. Officials had to turn off the water supply and clean out leaves that had blown off trees and clogged an outflow area. The Highways Agency, which is responsible for motorways and trunk roads in England, urged drivers, especially of high-sided vehicles, to take extra care. "Heavy rain and spray are likely to lead to reduced visibility. Drivers should slow down and keep well back from the vehicle travelling in front," a spokesman said. More than 40,000 houses across the east and south east of England were still without power last night. A spokesman for power firm EDF urged people to stay away from any downed power lines, as some could still be live. The company - which operates in the east and south-east region - said it could not predict when all supplies would be restored, as the weather front was still moving through the area. Gusts of more than 50mph were recorded in Mumbles and in the Brecon area of Wales yesterday. Conditions were expected to worsen overnight, with heavy rain and high winds. The highest winds were expected in the Severn Estuary, affecting Cardiff and Newport. A crane blown over in the Cathays area of Cardiff caused road closures, and firefighters in mid and west Wales received a number of calls about fallen trees. "The combination of strong winds, heavy rain and depressed temperatures are making it feel more like November," said a Met Office spokesman. Falling trees closed a number of main roads, particularly in Kent and Hertfordshire. The A30 in Dorset was also blocked by a tree. There were also delays on services run by the Southern, South Eastern, South West Trains and Thameslink train companies. Ferry company P&O had to cancel its fast-ferry Portsmouth-

Cherbourg and Portsmouth-Caen services because of the high winds, while its Dover-Calais operations suffered delays.

Earthquakes



ISRAEL

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A moderate earthquake shook Israel today but caused no damage or injuries, Israeli paramedics said. The magnitude-5 quake was felt throughout the country, with its epicentre in the coastal city of Tel-Aviv, Israel TV said. Buildings shook for several seconds.

JAPAN

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Earthquakes registering estimated magnitudes of 3.3 and 3.5 hit Izu-Oshima Island south of Tokyo this morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage from the 1022 hrs and 1027 hrs quakes. The quakes were focused about 10 and 20 kilometres underground, respectively, in the waters near the island.

NEW ZEALAND

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated today, states: An earthquake that measured 4.0 on the Richter scale hit the Gisborne region at 1623 today. Geological and Nuclear Sciences reported the quake was at a depth of 20 km and centred 20 km south of Gisborne City. A Gisborne police spokesman said he had not felt the quake and had not heard of any reports of damage.

TAIWAN

Taipei, Jul 6 — An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale struck north-east Taiwan today, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage, officials said. The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 1532 hrs (0732 UTC), was about 50 kms north-east of Ilan on the north-east coast, at a depth of 10 kms, the Central Weather Bureau said in a statement. — Reuters.

TURKEY

Tunceli, Jul 2 — Eighteen people were killed and 27 injured when an earthquake hit remote villages in the eastern Turkish province of Agri today, devastating the local stone and earth houses. Soldiers worked with residents to rescue people trapped in the rubble and set up tents and mobile kitchens for those made homeless, Anatolian news agency said. Istanbul's Kandilli Observatory said the quake measured 5.1 on the Richter scale. An official at the local governor's office said the village of Yiginical, with about 100 houses, suffered severe damage in the quake, which struck three villages in Dogubayazit district near the Iranian

border at 0130 hrs (1830, UTC, Jul 1). There have already been several aftershocks. "Work is continuing on clearing away the rubble. There is also damage in other villages, but there are only slight injuries there," an official said. Agri Governor Huseyin Yavuzdemir told CNN Turk television he did not think the death toll would rise. "The search and rescue is finished... There is no one in the rubble. These are not buildings that can withstand earthquakes, they are made of earth and stone. Some of the houses are made of concrete and those are fine," Yavuzdemir said. — Reuters.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: At least 19 people were killed and 31 injured by an overnight earthquake in northeastern Turkey. The tremor hit three villages in the province of Agri, near the border with Iran. A local government official said today that one of the villages had suffered severe damage. Emergency workers are trying to clear away the rubble. The quake had a magnitude of 5.0, according to preliminary reports. The number of dead rose from a reported 16 people earlier, even though the local governor had said at the time that he did not expect casualties to increase.

UNITED STATES

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A small earthquake rattled parts of Ventura and Los Angeles counties today, but there were no reports of injuries or damage, authorities said. The magnitude-3.4 tremor struck at 0905 hrs and was centred about five miles south-west of Westlake Village, about eight miles below the surface, according to the Southern California Seismic Network operated by the U.S. Geological Survey and the California Institute of Technology. The area is near the western end of the Santa Monica Mountains. Sheriff's dispatchers in Ventura and Los Angeles counties said they had not received any reports of damage or injuries.

Volcanic Activity



MOUNT ARENAL, COSTA RICA

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: Costa Rica's National Emergency Commission has issued an alert following an eruption of the Arenal volcano, one of the Central American country's key tourist attractions. The Arenal volcano, some 150 kilometres north of the capital, has a cone of some 1,633 metres and erupted yesterday sending an avalanche of lava down one side of its summit, according to the authorities. No fresh eruptions have been reported today, but the CNE has prohibited people approaching the volcano in a bid to highlight its potential danger to visiting tourists.

MOUNT EGON, INDONESIA

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated today, states: A volcano in eastern Indonesia, Mount Egon, began spewing fumes and ash onto its slopes, prompting authorities to raise the alert level but there were no report of victims or damage. "Mount Egon started rumbling and belching smoke and ash yesterday as dusk was falling," said Domi Pereira, the Sikka district secretary, speaking by telephone today from Maumere, some 25 kilometers west of the volcano. Pereira said authorities had raised the alert level over the 1,703 metre volcano by one rung — still two rungs before an eruption. He said that the ash had only covered areas on the slopes but that there had been no evacuation of the local population. "We have only warned them to be prepared, while at the same time setting up water tanks and temporary shelters in anticipation of an eruption," Pereira said. The water tanks were necessary, he said, because the ash had polluted local rivers, the source of water for the population.

Political & Civil Unrest

**AFGHANISTAN**

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: US-led coalition troops have captured or killed close to two dozen suspected militants in southern Afghanistan during the past week, US military spokesman Major Jon Siepman said. US-led coalition forces, seeking to quell rising insurgency in the south and south-east in the lead-up to historic elections, have had several contacts with militants in southern and southwestern Afghanistan, he said. "In the last week alone, the coalition has killed or captured nearly two dozen anti-coalition militants," Siepman told a news conference in Kabul. "Roughly a dozen killed and another dozen captured," in various incidents, he said. Officials in south-eastern Zabul province said coalition and Afghan army soldiers killed at least 12 suspected Taliban fighters in a joint operation yesterday, including a man thought to be a top commander of the ousted militia. The operation was launched after insurgents fired rockets on an Afghan National Army post in Zabul's Day Chopan district, about 300 km south-east of Kabul. "The joint US and Afghan operation killed at least 12 Taliban including their top commander Sediqullah Sediqi," provincial deputy security commander Colonel Ghulam Jailani Farahi said today. "The search operation is still ongoing to chase the remnants of Taliban fighters in the area," he said via satellite phone, adding that five militants had been arrested. However, Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi said that Sediqi had not been captured or killed by coalition forces. Zabul, along with southern Kandahar province and

central Uruzgan, is believed to be a Taliban stronghold. Regular attacks on coalition and Afghan troops, aid workers and reconstruction companies occur in all three provinces. In a separate incident, three civilians were killed and two soldiers injured when suspected Taliban attacked Deh Rawood district in Uruzgan early yesterday. The pace of violence has recently increased in south, south-east and eastern Afghanistan ahead of presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled for September threatened by Taliban. Some 20,000 US-led coalition troops, usually aided by Afghan national army or pro-government militiamen, are fighting Taliban remnants, Al-Qaeda militants and other insurgents in Afghanistan.

Herat, Afghanistan, Jul 7 — Suspected Taliban guerrillas killed six policemen and wounded four others today during a foiled attempt to kidnap four Turkish engineers in western Afghanistan, police said. The officers were killed in a clash in the Chakab area of Farah province where police prevented the kidnap of the foreign engineers who were working on a highway project, local police officer Shah Mohammad said. Today's attack was the second on police guarding the highway in Farah less than two weeks. In late June, gunmen in military uniforms killed seven officers in an ambush in Farah's Del Khak district, an attack police said was the work of the Taliban or drug traffickers. Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi said the radical Islamic militia carried out today's attack. He said 10 officers were killed. — Reuters.

BANGLADESH

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated today, states: Shops were closed and private vehicles off the roads as Bangladesh was shut down by its 12th anti-government strike by the opposition in six months. Fifteen women activists and an MP from the main opposition Awami League party were arrested following a scuffle with police in the capital Dhaka, an officer at the scene told AFP, but there were no reports of violence. Today's strike was called to protest a bomb attack at a rally of an Awami League lawmaker last month in northeastern Bangladesh where one person died and up to 50 were injured. Since February, the Awami League has enforced a series of general strikes, a common form of protest in Bangladesh, despite appeals from business leaders and foreign donors. The critics say the impoverished country can ill afford the 60 million dollars each strike is estimated to cost in lost business and productivity. Earlier strikes were called as part of a stepped-up campaign by the Awami League to oust the government, a four-party Islamist-allied coalition led by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party. The opposition accused the government of failing to improve law and order but the government said it was working hard to address a grim situation inherited from the last Awami League government.

COLOMBIA

Bogota, Jul 7 — A brother of Colombia's education minister has been killed by Marxist rebels who kidnapped him three years ago even though his family paid ransom money, the government said today. The body of Bernardo Ernesto Velez White, brother of education minister Cecilia Maria Velez White, was found on the weekend with a bullet wound in the head in mountains in the northeastern province of Antioquia, an official said, asking not to be named. He had been dead for several months. Velez White had been kidnapped in the same area by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in March 2001 and his family made two separate ransom payments for his freedom, the official said. — Reuters.

INDIA

London, Jul 4 — Two people have been killed and at least 21 hurt in a blast in the Indian-administered Kashmir city of Srinagar. A bomb hidden in a hand cart exploded in the city centre near its main tourist attraction, the Dal Lake. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, which comes as India and Pakistan held recent talks on the disputed region. Police say separatist militants have carried out attacks in recent weeks to scare off the increasing number of tourists to the region.

London, Jul 4 — At least eight people belonging to a lower caste have been shot dead in India's poor eastern state of Bihar. The attack happened in Chakwai village in the state's Nawada district yesterday, police officials say. Three people were also wounded in the incident, which police say is a revenge attack, linked to recent violence between upper and lower caste militias. Police say they have sealed off all roads leading out of Nawada district in an effort to trap the attackers. The shooting was the result of rivalry between two groups — one led by Akhilesh Singh, representing the interests of Bihar's landowning classes and the other headed by rival Ashok Mahto, they said. The attack was apparently in retaliation for the killing of two Akhilesh Singh supporters in a recent blast.

IRAQ

Baghdad, Jul 2 — Rockets hit two central Baghdad hotels today. Insurgents used a bus and a pickup truck as makeshift launchpads to fire rockets that hit the two hotels used by foreigners and Iraqi officials, witnesses said. Guards turned reporters away from the Baghdad Hotel where three people were wounded or killed. The Ishtar Sheraton Hotel was struck on the 10th floor, but no one was hurt. Nearby, police found a pickup truck on its side with 17 rocket launchers and a crude firing mechanism inside. Police said they believed three rockets had been fired and the force of launching them had flipped the truck over. A similar mechanism was found on the bus, which burst into flames near the Sheraton in Firdaws Square. U.S. and Iraqi security forces have been on high alert this

week, fearing spectacular attacks to disrupt the formal return of sovereignty to an Iraqi interim government. Jordan is ready to become the first Arab country to send peacekeepers to Iraq, if the new government requests it, King Abdullah said yesterday. Iraqi leaders have previously said they do not want troops from any of Iraq's neighbours. About 160,000 U.S.-led foreign troops remain in Iraq to help fledgling Iraqi security forces fight insurgents and Muslim militants using violence to undermine the interim government. The government hopes the drive to bring Saddam to account for decades of war, killing and torture will curb the violence. "I think the trial will slow down the attacks and the insurgency because Saddam Hussein loyalists will lose hope," said Deputy Foreign Minister Hamid al-Bayati. Downcast but defiant, Iraq's former dictator appeared before an Iraqi judge yesterday, questioning his authority and saying the "real criminal" was President Bush. "I am Saddam Hussein, president of Iraq," he repeated, before grilling the unnamed young judge about his authority. Saddam refused to recognise that he was guilty of a crime in invading Kuwait in 1990, jabbing his finger toward the judge and saying: "I'm surprised you're charging me with that as an Iraqi, when everyone knows that Kuwait is part of Iraq." — Reuters.

Baghdad, Jul 2 — Iraqi guerrillas holding two Turkish hostages said in video footage given to Reuters today that the captives were being released after promising to stop working for U.S. forces in Iraq. The video footage showed the two Turks kneeling in a room and vowing not to work with American forces as masked gunmen stood above them. The guerrillas then read a statement saying the men were being released. The two Turks, Soner Sercali and Murat Kizil, are employees of Turkish firm Kayteks. The company announced earlier this week it would stop doing business with U.S. forces in Iraq. — Reuters.

Baghdad, Jul 3 — U.S. soldiers discovered a car bomb production site and detained 51 people for questioning during a two-day search for illegal weapons in Baghdad, the military said today. Soldiers found four vehicles, which were apparently being modified for use in bomb attacks, at one site, while searches elsewhere netted rocket-propelled grenade launchers, explosives and bombs designed to be used in roadside attacks. Soldiers also found more than 12 million Iraqi dinars (\$8,275) in three safes at the car-bomb production site, along with AK-47 rifles, ammunition, timers and computer boards. Three people were detained. At other locations, U.S. troops detained 48 suspects and found weapons including bombs, rocket-propelled grenade launchers, explosives and detonators. The army said it believed suspects detained during the raids belonged to a cell responsible for killing two U.S. soldiers with roadside bombs. "The soldiers believe they have captured the financier, the explosive device manufacturer, the spotter, and the

trigger man," the statement said. The army did not give dates for the search, saying only that it took place recently. — Reuters.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: A Pakistani man held hostage by militants in Iraq has been freed, Pakistani officials and members of his family say. Amjad Hafeez was ferrying food supplies when he was kidnapped in an attack on an American base north of Baghdad last week. He surfaced in a video broadcast on Sunday (Jul 27), showing him with militants. In the video, Mr Hafeez appealed to President Musharraf to close down the Pakistani embassy in Iraq and repatriate all Pakistanis in the country. But the foreign ministry issued an emphatic rejection - Pakistan would not accede to the demands of any hostage takers, a statement said, and it condemned all forms of terrorism.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated today, states: Iraqi oil exports were hit by a rupture to a main pipeline in the south as the caretaker government said it would announce emergency powers to tackle the country's rampant insurgency "very shortly". In the latest violence, five Iraqi national guards were killed in an attack on a checkpoint south of Baghdad. A US marine also died of his injuries as a British soldier was wounded in a bomb attack in the southern city of Basra. An official at the oil terminal in Basra's main pumping site, said exports had fallen from 84,000 barrels per hour to 40,000 after the pipeline was breached. It was not immediately clear if the pipeline had been sabotaged or had sprung a leak. The rupture was at the site of one of two sabotage attacks last month which effectively halted Iraqi exports for almost a week. "I can confirm the pipeline was breached. The cause was unknown," a British military spokesman said, adding that repairs and investigations were continuing. Meanwhile the caretaker government, which has identified security as a top priority since being handed power by the US-led coalition on Monday (Jun 28), said it would announce new powers to deal with Iraq's 14-month-old insurgency soon. In the continuing bloodshed, five Iraqi national guards were killed and five wounded in an attack on a checkpoint in Mahmudiyah, medical sources said. He said three of the wounded were seriously hurt. A US marine died after an attack west of Baghdad while a British soldier sustained minor injuries in a bomb attack on a military convoy. "A marine assigned to 1st Marine Expeditionary Force died of wounds received in action yesterday in the Al-Anbar province while conducting security and stability operations," the US military said.

London, Jul 4 — As of 1100, Jul 3, (0800, UTC) the flowrate at Basrah Oil Terminal and Khor Al Amaya Oil Terminal has reduced due to pipeline rupture. The southern pipeline is one of the two feeding the storage tanks that supply the offshore terminal with crude. It has suffered major damage during the recent pipelines sabotage attacks but was successfully repaired on Jun

25. However the pipeline is ruptured again. The South Oil Company hasn't revealed yet whether it's just a rupture or a sabotage attack. Repair works are in progress but no forecast on completion can be done so far. At present only the smaller northern pipeline is operational. Basrah Oil Terminal continues pumping works but at a reduced rate of approximately 40,000 bbls per hour. Currently there are three vessels alongside BOT, two of them being loaded.

London, Jul 5 — The repair works to the southern pipeline that ruptured during the morning of Jul 3, are still in progress. Unfortunately no forecast on completion can presently be made. Basrah Oil Terminal is operational, however the flowrate is low, i.e. approximately 41,000 bbls per hour.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: Saboteurs today blasted a strategic crude oil pipeline that runs from Iraq's northern oil fields to the south, police said. Fire crews and police from at least three nearby cities worked into the night to extinguish the blaze near Musayyib, about 50 miles southwest of Baghdad. Pipelines in that area have been hit several times in the past few weeks, most of them connected to a major Baghdad refinery. It was unclear whether the pipeline hit today was used for export or how the damage would affect Iraq's oil output, most of which comes from Iraq's southern fields. "We still haven't been able to put the fire out," said an Iraqi police officer from the nearby city of Fallujah. In addition, a senior official of the state-run South Oil Company said today that Iraq had shut down a key oil export pipeline near Basra after attacks on two major pipelines. The official said the shutdown reduced exports by 10%. The company yesterday reported a breach — from pipeline failure, not sabotage — on the smaller of two main export pipelines that carry crude oil to terminals in the south. The new government has organised an armed force to protect the pipelines and to prevent frequent insurgent attacks, but with over 4,300 miles of pipelines, officials said, providing adequate security is a difficult task. Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi had previously said that recent attacks have cost the country \$1 billion in lost revenue.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Saboteurs have once again done some damage to Iraq's oil exports. Officials say the country's export level has been cut to about half after a hole was blown into a key pipeline that feeds one of two southern terminals, according to Reuters wire service. Oil company officials say it will take at least four days to fix the line at a cost of tens of millions of dollars. The Saturday (Jul 3) attack was followed Sunday by another one, this one striking the pipeline that links the country's northern and southern oil fields, the wire service reported. Iraq's prime minister says attacks by saboteurs have so far cost the country nearly \$1 billion. Oil exports are the country's main source of funding for reconstruction after the war.

Baghdad, Jul 7 — Four U.S. Marines were killed by guerrillas in the Sunni Muslim heartlands west of Baghdad, the U.S. military said today. It said the Marines were killed yesterday while “conducting security and stability operations” in al-Anbar province, but gave no details. — Reuters.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Three explosions near the residence and offices of Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi has wounded three men and a woman, police on the scene said. “It took place between 0900 hrs and 0915 hrs,” police officer Saad Chanchul said. One of the devices struck a house about 20 metres from Dr Allawi’s political party the Iraqi National Accord and his residence, which are about 500 metres away from the heavily fortified Green Zone, Chanchul added. Another device exploded on the road near the residence, a second police officer said. “Four Iraqi civilians were injured and taken to hospital,” he said.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated Jul 6, states: A gas pipeline feeding electricity power plants in central and northern Iraq was attacked and set ablaze near the oil city of Kirkuk, energy officials said, warning of more power cuts. “A device exploded along the pipeline about 90 kilometres south of Kirkuk, sparking a fire,” said Huner Hassan, the head of Northern Gas Company which is based in Kirkuk, 255 kilometres north of Baghdad. Hassan said the “strategic” pipeline served many electricity power stations in the north as well as a gas canister factory in Taji, north of Baghdad — a key source of power for people’s homes. “This is going to affect electricity production for the country and the production of gas for domestic use,” he added, without giving figures for the extent of the impact. The head of electricity for northern Iraq, Sabah Chakur, warned that “electricity production will be affected” by the attack. “The fire is still raging,” he added. The two officials said the gas line linked the treatment centre for the Northern Gas Co to gas fields in Abu Ajil, which stretched to the Tikrit and Taji areas, passing several power stations in northern Iraq. Only hours earlier, Prime Minister Iyad Allawi said militant attacks on Iraq’s fuel trucks and pipelines had resulted in a huge drop in electricity production in the past three days. “Iraq has suffered from a loss of 800 megawatts in its power supply, instead of the progress we were making by approaching 5,500 megawatts, including 600 megawatts in Iraq’s Kurdistan,” Allawi said in a statement. Electricity production in Iraq’s power plants is a current topic, with the average household supplied for only between 10 and 12 hours a day. However, the US-led coalition announced shortly before it handed power to Allawi’s interim government that electricity production was at 4,800 megawatts, 10 percent more than pre-war levels but below a July target of 6,500 megawatts.

London, Jul 8 — The repair works at the southern pipeline, that ruptured

last Saturday (Jul 3), were successfully completed at approximately 1700, local time, Jul 7, and the operations at Basrah Oil Terminal resumed at high flowrate again, which is approximately 71,000 bbls/hour.

Manila, Jul 8 — President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo ordered an immediate halt today to the deployment of workers to Iraq after the reported hostage-taking of a Filipino by militants demanding the withdrawal of Manila’s troops. Arroyo held an emergency cabinet meeting to decide a response to the abduction and the militants’ reported threat to kill the man unless Manila withdraws its troops within three days. Arroyo sent her top Middle East envoy, Ambassador Roy Cimatu, to Iraq to assess the situation, and a spokesman said the government wanted to take a similar low profile approach to that used by Turkey in securing the release of hostages. The government had not yet confirmed the nationality of the hostage shown on Arabic satellite channel Al Jazeera dressed in an orange jumpsuit and kneeling in front of three gunmen, Saludo said. The Philippines, a staunch Asian ally of the United States and a major recipient of U.S. military aid, has about 50 military personnel in Iraq assisting in reconstruction. At least 4,000 Filipino civilians also work there, many employed by contractors and working in U.S. military bases. Three Filipino workers have been killed in attacks by insurgents opposed to the U.S. military presence in Iraq. Government officials say Filipinos are probably the biggest single group of foreign workers in Iraq, with many not officially registered. — Reuters.

London, Jun 8 — There is still no vessel loading being carried out at Khor Al Amaya Oil Terminal, following damage to a supply pipeline south of Basrah on Saturday (Jul 4).

IRAQ-KUWAIT

Rijeka, Jul 7 — The situation of ro-ro *Boka Star* is unchanged, the vessel is still laid-up and under arrest. The future of the vessel remains uncertain. — Lloyd’s Agents.

ISRAEL

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Two Palestinians were killed by Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip as 35 suspected militants were detained in a major operation in the West Bank town of Jericho. Meanwhile, a day after ordering the government to change the route of parts of its West Bank separation barrier, the supreme court also called a temporary halt to work on another section. Nine-year-old Omar Mohammed Abu Zreihan died after being shot in the head during an incursion in the Brazil neighbourhood of the southern Gaza town of Rafah, medical sources said. Around 15 armoured vehicles had entered Rafah, which was the scene of a major Israeli offensive around a month ago, in an operation that the army said was designed to find tunnels used to smuggle in weapons under the border with Egypt. An Israeli source had no

information on the fatal shooting but said that there had been “several incidents in which Palestinians launched anti-tank missiles and threw grenades at the forces. Our forces returned fire.” Medics also said that they had received the body of a 26-year-old follower of the Palestinian Islamic militant movement Hamas who had been shot dead in a gunfight with Israeli forces in northern Gaza. Ismail Nabhan was killed in exchanges of fire around Jabalya, next to the town of Beit Hanun, where soldiers are involved in a large-scale operation designed to put an end to the firing of rockets on southern Israel. Around a dozen other Palestinians were also wounded yesterday afternoon, including a number who were hurt when a helicopter fired a missile, according to an Israeli army spokesman. Palestinians said another missile landed in a field but did not cause injuries. Meanwhile, the Israeli military accused the Palestinian Authority of allowing the West Bank town of Jericho to become a “shelter for terrorists” and moved in to arrest around 35 suspects. At least 20 jeeps and five tanks moved into Jericho at around 0500, local time, with aerial cover provided by two helicopters, where they remained for around five hours. All entrances were sealed off while a curfew was imposed. The sound of sporadic gunfire could be heard throughout the morning as troops searched through houses although only four injuries were reported. Jericho is the only autonomous Palestinian town that has not been reoccupied by the army at any stage since the start of the intifada but the Israelis have long believed its status has enabled it to become a hiding place for some of the most wanted militants. The commander of the operation, Colonel Roni Belkin, said that the army had decided to act after repeated requests to the Palestinian Authority to carry out arrests themselves had failed to bring action. “We have found that Jericho has come to be a shelter town for terrorists,” Belkin said. “Most were managing terror or had committed terror acts themselves. Despite repeated requests to the Palestinian Authority apparatus, no action had been taken.” He said that around 35 people had been arrested, from a variety of Palestinian factions.

London, Jul 4 — Israeli troops have shot dead two Palestinians in separate incidents near the West Bank city of Nablus, while an Israeli man was also killed by gunmen near Jenin between the West Bank settlements of Mevot Dotan and Shaked. The Israeli army said one of the Palestinians killed was attempting to enter the Jewish settlement of Har Bracha with an automatic weapon, while the other was shot dead in the Balata refugee camp by Israeli soldiers who came under fire. The man killed near Har Bracha opened fire on soldiers, an Israeli Army spokesman said. When his body was found, he had an assault rifle and ammunition. Palestinian medical sources said that the youth shot dead

near Balata refugee camp was 18-year-old Mahmud Lehawani. They said he was hit in the chest when Israeli soldiers opened fire on a group of stone-throwers. However, an army spokesman said that troops had shot and killed "an armed gunman who fired at the force." He added that another man who was trying to set off explosives near Balata was shot and injured.

Gaza, Jul 5 — Israeli helicopter gunships fired missiles into metal foundries in the Gaza Strip late yesterday after a day of renewed violence in which three Palestinians and an Israeli settler were killed. A Palestinian militant was killed trying to infiltrate a Jewish settlement, another Palestinian was shot dead after a car-chase involving Jerusalem police and a youth was killed in a Gaza town. Late yesterday, six people were wounded when Israeli helicopters fired missiles at the two metal foundries in Gaza. Israel has stepped up such attacks against workshops it says are used to manufacture rockets fired into its territory from Gaza. The first foundry was in the 's Jabalya refugee camp. The second in Gaza's Zeitoun neighbourhood. The Israeli army said both workshops were used to manufacture Qassam rockets fired by Palestinian militants in recent days toward the nearby Israeli town of Sderot. — Reuters.

Nablus, West Bank, Jul 6 — An Israeli special forces officer was killed in a West Bank raid today, in which two Palestinian militants and two bystanders were also killed, witnesses and military sources said. Israeli commandos raided a residential building in the Ein Beit-Ilma refugee camp of the West Bank city of Nablus before dawn, killing two men from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), residents and military sources reported. The Israeli army said a special forces officer was killed and three other soldiers wounded in a gunbattle. Witnesses said the commandos also shot dead two neighbours — a Palestinian academic and his 16-year-old son — when they stepped out of their flat. Israeli helicopters had fired at least four missiles at the building. Palestinian security sources identified the dead PFLP militants as Yaman Faraj, the group's military commander in the West Bank, and a lieutenant. Shortly after midnight, Israeli soldiers backed by tanks and helicopters swept into the Gaza refugee camp of Rafah in another in a succession of searches for tunnels used to smuggle in weapons from nearby Egypt. — Reuters.

Gaza, Jul 8 — Israeli troops killed at least seven Palestinians today in the fiercest fighting in northern Gaza since the army invaded 10 days ago to stop rocket attacks on southern Israel. Palestinian witnesses in the town of Beit Hanoun said five of the dead were gunmen, including Nahed Abu Odah, local commander of the armed wing of the Islamic militant group Hamas, and two were non-combatants. Colonel Avi Levy, commander of Israeli forces in the area, said his men reported eight or

nine Palestinians were killed and that one soldier was wounded. — Reuters.

KENYA

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated today, states: Police have fired tear gas and water cannons at hundreds of student demonstrators in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. The protesters have called for the resignation of President Mwai Kibaki. Demonstrators defied a Government ban and took to the streets and several main roads were sealed off as they tried to make their way to Uhuru Park on the edge of the city. Students threw stones at police who responded with tear gas and mounted police struggled to control the crowd. The protest was organised by opposition activists who are calling on Mr Kibaki to introduce constitutional reform.

NEPAL

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: The mayor of a key tourist town in Nepal has been shot dead. Police said they suspected the mayor of Pokhara, Harka Bahadur Gurung, was killed by Maoist rebels. Mr Gurung was shot as he was being driven to his office today and died later in hospital. The driver and a bodyguard were injured. Police said Maoists had warned this week they would avenge the recent killing of six rebels but no one has yet admitted carrying out the attack.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Twelve policemen and a civilian have been killed in an ambush by Maoist rebels in southern Nepal, police say. A police spokesman said a police car was attacked during an operation to rescue a businessman kidnapped by the rebels south of the capital, Kathmandu. In a separate incident, two rebels were killed in a clash with the security forces near the capital, police said. The ambush took place in the town of Birgunj near the Indian border, about 200 kilometres south of Kathmandu. The rebels reportedly hit the vehicle with explosives before opening fire, police said. The civilian killed was believed to have been a police informant. Nepal's security forces sealed off the area, combing nearby villages and jungle for the attackers, police said.

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 25 people were killed overnight in attacks by Maoist rebels fighting to end Nepal's monarchy, including a municipal official gunned down in the capital Kathmandu, officials said. At least 11 soldiers, a policeman and 12 rebels were killed in a battle with the Maoists on the border of the southwestern Dang and Surkhet districts, police said. The security personnel and the rebels were killed in clashes as the soldiers tried to cross the Babai river in western Nepal overnight. The security forces later retaliated against the rebels both on land and by air. Police said they were waiting for detailed reports on the incident. Separately, suspected rebels also shot Mahesh Man Shrestha, chairman of the 12th ward of Kathmandu, in front of his office. Mr Shrestha was declared dead on arrival at a hospital, police said.

Kathmandu is divided into 35 wards, whose chairpeople are in charge of organising municipal services including the deployment of police. In other violence in the capital, two policemen were shot by suspected Maoists and were undergoing treatment in hospital, police said. (See issue of Jul 6.)

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: At least 22 security personnel and Maoist rebels have been killed in a prolonged battle in western Nepal, the military says. Officials say a number of soldiers are still missing after they were ambushed by the Maoists. Eleven soldiers were shot dead yesterday by the rebels as they were trying to cross a river in the remote district of Salyan, officials say. The army says 11 rebels were also killed in the fighting which took place in an area that is a rebel stronghold. Yesterday Nepal's new Deputy Prime Minister Bharat Mohan Adhikary promised renewed peace efforts to end the insurgency. He told reporters in Kathmandu that the government was ready for maximum flexibility and was willing to resume peace talks with an open mind. Peace negotiations with the Maoists have failed twice over a key rebel demand for elections to an assembly that would draw up a new constitution.

PAKISTAN

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A gas pipeline in Bahawalpur, which was ruptured as a result of a blast and caught fire today is undergoing repair work. Gas supplies to power plants in the region were disrupted after the blast, officials said. The police sources said the mishap took place near gas compression plant number AC4 in Uch area of Baluchistan, some 560 km south-west of the capital, Islamabad. The fire was extinguished after quite long efforts and repairing working has kicked off. When the fire and blast erupted on the 34-inch diameter pipeline it created a deep ditch, another gas pipeline was also affected. Bomb disposal squads immediately rushed to the blast-hit site and declared the place safe. The mishap is being investigated to see if it was an act of terrorism and what kind of explosive was used in the blast, said a source.

PERU

Ayacucho, Jul 1 — Thousands of protesters overran the southern Peruvian city of Ayacucho today and set fire to government buildings and hotels after police used tear gas to break up a protest by teachers. At least 39 people were hurt, said the local hospital and 15 were arrested in what a senior regional official called "anarchy." The situation in the city remained tense tonight, officials said. Television pictures earlier in the day showed crowds running wild in the narrow streets of the Andean city and witnesses said buildings had been burned and bank teller machines ransacked. The government blamed followers of the Shining Path rebel group who it said infiltrated the

protests to cause mayhem. "These acts which destroy private property and threaten the lives of Peruvians have basically been arranged by the terrorist group," Prime Minister Carlos Ferrero told a news conference. The government ruled out calling a state of emergency, but Interior Minister Javier Reategui said he was sending more police to Ayacucho. Witnesses said protesters called a day of action after the clash with police. "When the police fired shots, people went crazy," Yuri Revollar, head of the SUTEP teachers' union in Ayacucho, told Reuters. Teachers want better working conditions and the repeal of a law they say threatens the right to free public education. Protesters tried to take over public offices, according to Ayacucho regional President Omar Quezada and media reports. He said earlier in the day police had lost control and "anarchy is reigning at the moment in Ayacucho." Witnesses said the three-story regional government building had been burned out and two hotels — one belonging to the mayor — had also been partially burned. At the government building, some computers and other equipment were brought out by demonstrators and burned. Robert Huaynalaya, a teachers' union official in Lima, told RPP radio two teachers were killed in clashes with police in Ayacucho, but the Interior Ministry denied the report. Media reports said the injured included one person hit by a tear-gas canister in the stomach and another with a gunshot wound. Most had been struck by rocks. A 60-year-old teacher and a police officer were in serious condition, according to one witness. The head of Peru's fire service, Tulio Nicolini, said he had information from the fire chief in Ayacucho that two people suffered gunshot wounds and others had been hit by rocks. He said firefighters tried to put out fires in a hotel owned by the mayor, in the town hall and in the regional government building, but "people wouldn't let us." — Reuters.

PHILIPPINES

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Philippine security forces and Muslim rebels have said they will join forces to root out foreign militants based on the country's southern islands. The largest Muslim rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front or MILF, has said it will work with the army. The joint action will target kidnapping syndicates and Jemaah Islamiyah militants hiding in the south. The agreement is due to be approved during peace talks in Malaysia later this month.

RUSSIA

Moscow, Jul 1 — Five people died today in fresh clashes in Ingushetia, a Russian province next to rebel Chechnya where nearly 100 people were killed last week in attacks. In the latest violence, Russian news agencies reported that two senior police officers were killed during a search for "bandits" in a house in the Ingush town of Malgobek. Three armed men were also killed and several were detained.

Police have been hunting insurgents who last week briefly seized control of large parts of Ingushetia, killing nearly 100 people in one of the most savage attacks in the region. Many of those who led last week's raids were ethnic Ingushes allied to separatist Chechens whom Moscow has been battling for a decade. — Reuters.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh, Jul 2 — The Saudi Interior Ministry said today police killed one militant and arrested another in a shootout yesterday in which a policeman was also killed. Security sources had said two militants were killed in the second shootout in as many days with suspected members of the Saudi wing of al Qaeda in the capital Riyadh. The Interior Ministry said in a statement, carried on the state news agency SPA, that the two men were among militants who fled a security raid on militant hideouts in Riyadh on Wednesday (Jun 30) when police killed a logistics operative for al Qaeda. "A member of the National Guard alerted security forces about the two wanted men. When security forces closed in on them, they opened fire and security forces responded, killing one of them and wounding the other who was arrested." — Reuters.

SRI LANKA

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A woman has set off explosives that killed herself and wounded four people at a police station after officers picked her up, suspecting she was planning a suicide bombing. "We are not sure about the identify of the person, but it looks like a terrorist act," police spokesman Rienzie Perera said. The woman was taken to the police station after officers found her movements suspicious and suspected she might be planning a suicide bombing, Mr Perera said. Tamil Tiger rebels were known for attacking Sri Lankan security forces with suicide bombers during their nearly two decades of civil war. But a Norwegian-brokered cease-fire has halted the fighting.

Colombo, Jul 7 — Five people were killed and 11 wounded when a suspected Tamil Tiger suicide bomber blew herself up in a police station in the Sri Lankan capital today, shattering more than two years of relative peace. Police said the woman detonated the bomb as she was being frisked but the target was government minister Douglas Devananda, a Tamil who is a vocal opponent of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels. "A female has gone into the ministry of Douglas Devananda and wanted to meet him ... permission was not granted. People from ministerial security followed her and these officials took her into the police station. While they tried to search her she exploded herself," said police spokesman Rienzie Perera. "It is obvious Douglas was the target," he said. The bomber was among the five dead, police said. No one claimed responsibility and the Tigers offered no immediate comment on the

blast, which happened on Colombo's main thoroughfare, near the prime minister's official residence and across the road from the US and British embassies. However, police and army officials said they believed the Tigers were responsible. — Reuters.

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: Tamil Tiger rebels in Sri Lanka have told international truce monitors they were not involved in yesterday's deadly suicide bombing in the capital, Colombo. Five people died and 10 were wounded when a woman, strapped with explosives, blew herself up in a police station. A spokeswoman for the Scandinavian truce monitoring team says the Tamil Tigers have denied any link to the suicide attack and say they are committed to the country's two-year-old ceasefire. Spokeswoman, Disa Finnboga, says the monitors are investigating the bombing and have called on the Tigers and the government to take all steps needed to prevent further violence. Police say the suicide bomber had planned to assassinate a government minister, who is also the leader of a Tamil political party opposed to the Tigers. The government has not directly accused the Tigers of plotting the bombing but has strongly condemned the attack.

SUDAN

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Sudan pledged today to disarm Arab militias, known as the Janjaweed, who have driven more than one million Africans from their homes in western Sudan, and said Khartoum would allow human rights monitors to be deployed. The pledge was given at the end of a visit to Sudan by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who has focussed attention to the situation in the western Darfur area, which the United Nations has called the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. The government of Sudan commits itself to the following: "Immediately start to disarm the Janjaweed and other armed outlaw groups, allow the deployment of human rights monitors," the government and the United Nations said in a joint communique.

Khartoum, Jul 7 — Fighting between Arab and African tribes has killed at least 70 people and displaced thousands more this week in the Darfur region of western Sudan, a member of parliament for the area said today. Khalil Ahmed Abdullah told Reuters the clashes had escalated from a dispute between individuals to a tribal conflict which had displaced 35,000 people from an area in the south of Darfur over the past four days. "Only 14,000 of them have been accounted for. We don't know where the others are," Abdullah said in Khartoum. He said the clashes did not involve Darfur rebels and Arab militia, known as Janjaweed, who the rebels say are conducting a campaign of ethnic cleansing in the area with government backing. Khartoum denies the accusation. — Reuters.

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated Jul 7, states: The US has warned Sudan that it may face sanctions if it fails to disarm quickly militias accused of

“ethnic cleansing” in the Darfur area. “We’re talking about days,” said the US ambassador to the UN, John Danforth. The UN Security Council met to discuss the humanitarian crisis that has seen more than one million people displaced. The situation in the vast Darfur region remains totally intolerable, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan told the gathering via video-link from Kenya. Mr Annan and US Secretary of State Colin Powell visited Darfur last week. A draft UN resolution proposed by the US envisages travel and arms sanctions on the pro-government Janjaweed militia. Human Rights Watch has described the militias as a tool created by the Sudanese government and called for the authorities to share responsibility for the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. According to the charity Oxfam, the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate - people are still arriving in camps where food is running out, drinking water is scarce and makeshift shelters are collapsing. The Security Council met in closed session for several hours and is to meet again tomorrow. Council members disagree over how long the Sudanese government should be given to resolve the situation itself. Some countries, including Pakistan, say that Sudan should be allowed sufficient time to demonstrate that it means what it says. But the US remains sceptical over Sudan’s commitment to act. The US draft resolution threatens to escalate the sanctions within 30 days if results are not evident.

TURKEY

Istanbul, Jul 2 — At least one person was killed and 15 wounded today in a bomb attack on a convoy carrying the governor of eastern Turkey’s Van province, but the governor was unhurt, local media reported. Hikmet Tan, governor of an impoverished, mountainous province bordering Iran, was travelling to his office when the explosion occurred in Van town centre. “I was going to work when there was a large explosion around 0915 hrs. All windows were shattered around the car... Nothing happened to me, the bodyguard or driver,” Tan told CNN Turk. Tan said it appeared he was the target of the attack. The first television pictures from the scene showed people running from the area as police arrived to investigate. Burst water pipes flooded the street after the blast. There was no immediate claim of responsibility. — Reuters.

YEMEN

London, Jul 4 — More than 100 people have died in clashes between followers of a rebel cleric, Hussein al-Houthi, and Yemeni forces, the authorities said. Interior Minister Rshad al-Alimi told parliament that 86 supporters of the cleric had been killed since mid-June, as well as 32 soldiers and policemen. The government has accused the Shia cleric of setting up an armed group and unlicensed religious centres. The minister said a siege in mountainous northern Yemen continued. Sources close to Mr Houthi said the death toll was closer to 200, according to reports.

The government also said 120 members of the security forces and 21 supporters of the cleric had been wounded during the clashes in Saada province. Over 185 followers of the preacher had been arrested, the government said. Hussein al-Houthi is a member of the Zaidi community, a moderate Shia sect in the north of the mainly Sunni country. The government accuses him of setting up an armed group called Believing Youth and of staging violent anti-American protests. Anti-US sentiment in the region is high following the occupation of Iraq and some Yemeni clerics are known to preach hatred of the West.



PAKISTAN

Karachi, Jul 5 — A notable rice trader belonging to minority Hindu community and the president of the Hindu Panchayat, Larkana district of Sindh Province- Santosh Kumar, and his driver were kidnapped by five armed men on the Indus Highway near Pakho town yesterday. Mr Kumar owned a rice mill in Gaji Khuhawar town. Meanwhile, speaking at a press conference, the general secretary of the Sindh Balochistan Rice Millers and Traders Association, Akbar Shaikh said that kidnappings would cast a negative impact on the rice business in Sindh and Balochistan. He warned that 750 rice mills in Sindh and Balochistan would be closed if Mr Kumar was not rescued/released soon. — Lloyd’s List Correspondent.

Karachi, Jul 8 — The minority Hindu business community observed a partial strike yesterday at Larkana city, one of big commercial cities in Sindh Province in Pakistan, to lodge a protest against the kidnapping of the president of the Hindu panchayat and owner of a rice mill-Santosh Kumar, on Sunday (Jul 4). All small shops and markets in taluka headquarters, Kambar, Shahdadkot, Ratodero, Nasirabad, Nao Dero Dokri, Badan Warrarh remained closed. A large number of people took part in a rally and gathered at the Larkana press club. They demanded that the Sindh Police and local administration find/rescue their leader. They warned if he not found/released soon, they would stage a protest rally across the entire county. Todate the police have not been able to locate him but are making every effort to trace him. — Lloyd’s List Correspondent.



BANGLADESH

See under “Political & Civil Unrest.”

CHILE

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Workers at a large copper mine in northern Chile voted to strike to bolster their demands for higher pay but promptly renewed talks with the company yesterday. A union representing 653 workers, or 97 percent of the Dona Ines de Collahuasi mine work force, voted by 99.4 percent late Tuesday to walk off their jobs, union leader Ezequiel Rodriguez said. By mid morning yesterday talks had resumed. The workers are demanding a 4.85 percent salary increase. The company offered 2.5 percent, according to union leaders. Anglo American and Falconbridge of Canada each owns 44 percent of the company. The talks yesterday could pave the way to establishing a bilateral commission at labour courts, which would allow a five-day deadline before the strike starts.

FRANCE

London, Jul 1— A press report, dated today, states: Workers at French state-owned power firms have staged the latest in a series of anti-privatisation strikes. The action followed the France National Assembly backing of a bill which would lead to a partial sell-off of Gaz de France and Electricite de France. The distribution network of EdF was targeted but output was not cut, a union strike official said. Six previous strikes have seen workers cut supplies to Spain, the Eiffel Tower and the homes of politicians. Unions have voiced concerns that any sale of the power networks would lead to redundancies. They are also concerned at the erosion of worker benefits, retirement rights and job security and have warned that privatisation will lead to higher prices. Today’s national strike coincided with the opening up of the electricity and gas market across the European Union which will see EdF and GdF face increased competition. As well as allowing for a partial share sale, the government’s bill will let the firms offer a wider range of products and services. There have been six previous strikes in the past three months and production has been hit since Jun 15 when parliament began debating the bill. On that day EdF workers achieved their biggest cuts in output of 13-15% of generation capacity. They have continued to cut production on weekdays since then.

INDIA

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: The four-day-old containers’ strike, which hit movement of goods at the Kochi port, was called of this evening after the government agreed to rollback the decision to levy additional charges for overload. The decision to end the strike was announced by Cochin Container Carrier Owners’ Welfare Association president M K M Nair shortly after Chief Minister A K Antony announced the government decision. After the Cabinet meeting, Antony said the government had decided to restore the previous rates prevailing for the containers at Kochi port. “We are calling off the strike

as the government has assured that status quo would be maintained and there would be no harassment," Nair said. He said the containers would begin operations tonight and they would become normal by tomorrow.

Kochi, Jul 2 — We can now confirm withdrawal of the trailer owners' strike at Kochi port as from night shift on Jul 1, following settlement of their demands. — Lloyd's Agents.

ITALY

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: Public transport was paralysed in Rome, Milan, Palermo and other major Italian cities by a 24-hour strike to protest management's failure to renew a pay deal. Traffic jams and long queues of frustrated commuters formed in Rome, where the worst-hit were tourists who found themselves waiting up to an hour in taxi queues at Rome's main station. The strike was called by the leftwing CGIL, Roman Catholic CISL and moderate UIL unions in protest at the failure of public authorities to renew a pay deal affecting 120,000 staff in the urban public transport sector. Many commuters took their cars to work or decided to take the day off, while several million Italians have also been on holiday since the weekend. The unions said a minimum service would be guaranteed during rush hours. By early afternoon, the unions said about 100 percent of workers were following the strike in Naples, but local transport companies put it lower, at 73 percent. Unions said the figures was 88 percent in Rome, 63 percent in Milan and 56 percent in Palermo in Sicily.

NIGERIA

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: Energy giant Total's subsidiary has shut down oil and gas production in Nigeria in the face of a threatened labour strike that raised management fears for the "safety of life and property," a company spokesman said today. Elf Nigeria, subsidiary of Franco-Belgian owned Total, closed production of the 235,000 barrels of oil and 187 million cubic feet of natural gas it normally produces each day, the company's Nigeria spokesman said. The shutdown accounts for roughly 10% of Nigeria's total production of 2.5 million barrels per day. The unusual, "precautionary" shutdown began on Friday (Jul 2) to "avoid any damage to life and property" including sabotage to equipment, the Elf Nigeria spokesman said. Suspension would last indefinitely, the spokesman said. Company workers from Nigeria's two major oil unions threatened last week to go on strike unless the company grants demands that local workers receive "conditions and pay comparable to those" of expatriate Europeans and Americans, said Elijah Okougbob, deputy secretary general of the blue-collar National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas workers, or Nupeng. Nigeria faces growing labour unrest in its oil sector with two major strikes threatened later this month. One is threatened by workers of the state-owned Nigeria

National Petroleum Corporation unhappy over pensions. Energy workers upset by plans to privatise refineries are also threatening a nationwide strike.

NORWAY

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Transocean Inc today announced that a strike has been called by OFS, one of three unions representing offshore workers in Norway, on Transocean semisubmersible units operating in the country. OFS called the strike after it was unable to reach an agreement with the Norwegian Shipowners Association, which represents rig owners in Norway. The rigs affected immediately are the *Polar Pioneer*, *Transocean Searcher* and *Transocean Leader*. The semi-submersible *Transocean Arctic* is also located in Norway, but is not currently under contract. Agreements have been reached previously with NOPEF and DSO, the other two unions representing workers on offshore units. Current well operations must be completed and wells must be safely secured prior to the implementation of the work stoppage. At that time, the rigs will be de-manned to a minimum safe level. The company estimates that it will require between five to 10 days to secure the rigs. At this time, the company cannot estimate the possible length of the strike or its financial impact.

RUSSIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: Workers and pilots at Bashkiria Airlines went on strike this today demanding that their salary be indexed to inflation and a higher summer payroll, the Russian Information Agency Novosti reported. Three flights have been delayed indefinitely as a result as strikers picket the administrative building. A flight set to depart at 1030, Moscow time, from Ufa to Istanbul was delayed, as were two returning flights to Ufa. Only one flight - which departed at 0820, Moscow time from Nizhnevartovsk - was made after the strike was announced at 0800 hrs. The strikers have a list of 26 demands, including coordination of all company documents with the labour union. There are about 450 people in the summer shift labour union, Novosti reported. Bashkiria Airlines, which operates from the internal republic of Bashkiria but is owned by the federal government, is set to be privatised by the end of 2004.

SOUTH KOREA

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Workers ended a five-day strike today at Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's largest automaker, after management agreed to a wage hike. The 41,000-member labour union staged walkouts from last Friday (Jun 25) to yesterday, demanding a 10.48 per cent wage increase. The workers had planned to stage a partial walkout today as well, but cancelled that plan after the union and management settled on a 6.18 per cent wage increase. The deal is subject to a vote by

union members on Monday. Hyundai Motor estimated it lost about \$228 million US, or 19,000 cars, during the strike. (See issue of Jul 2.)

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Management and workers hardened their positions in a week-old strike that has crippled US-owned KorAm Bank, South Korea's sixth-largest lender. CEO Ha Yung-Gu condemned the occupation by workers of the bank's headquarters and said union demands for independent management from new owner Citigroup constituted a breach of management rights. "The labor union's demands, including KorAm's independent management from Citigroup and opposition to delisting... run counter to the management's rights," Ha said today. Finance and Economy Minister Lee Hun-Jai said yesterday the government could send in police to end the occupation after Ha filed criminal complaints with the authorities. KorAm workers voted for an indefinite strike last Friday (Jun 25) that has shut down nearly 80 percent of KorAms 225 branches, with about 2,600 of the 3,828 employees joining the walkout. Workers and management were to resume talks later today but prospects for a settlement appeared slim.

UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Fresh negotiations are due to begin in an effort to resolve the 30-week-long Civil Service strike in Northern Ireland. The talks, to open today, are the first between the trade union and the government since March. Leader of the public union, Nipsa, John Corey, said yesterday that it had received a letter from Finance Minister Ian Pearson containing new commitments to resolve the dispute by negotiation and to engage in intensive and urgent discussion. However, Mr Pearson has signalled that today's talks would be in relation to the 2004 Civil Service pay award. The union wants a deal on 2003 pay. "I want to be clear to all concerned and to the public that when we enter into negotiations, it will be about 2003 pay and 2004 pay," Mr Corey said. Glyn Roberts of the Federation of Small Businesses said he hoped the move represented a step nearer to ending the strike. Yesterday, more than 100 civil servants in Londonderry staged a second unofficial walk-out in protest at the suspension of about 30 colleagues. Twenty-eight people were suspended for refusing to carry out duties, which, they said, were not their responsibility. Nipsa members staged a walk-out at Waterside House in the city, the Department of Education Teachers' Pay and Pensions Branch, on Monday (Jul 5). Staff returned to work yesterday but left their desks again when they learned that at least two other colleagues had received suspension letters. Nipsa has been involved in strike action since December over what they said was the government's refusal to give civil service staff any cost of living increases in rates of pay since April last year. The government has imposed a pay package

which will add 3.67% to the wage bill of the Northern Ireland Civil Service. However, union officials say that was part of a pre-agreed increment and takes no account of the rise in the cost of living.

UNITED STATES

New York, Jul 1 — A partial strike action by local truckers is in effect in the New York/New Jersey area. In an effort to push their desire for fuel surcharges being accepted by shipping lines, many owner-operators and some trucking lines have initiated strike action or significant slowdowns at NY/NJ ports. This has resulted in noticeable delays in moving containers in and out of the ports, although not to an extreme degree at this point, since the action is not a general strike. — Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Goods from China to plumbing supplies are piling up at docks in Charleston as a strike by independent truckers continues. Truckers concerned about low wages and rising fuel prices are staying off the job and about 70 have been walking the picket lines at State Ports Authority terminals. Most other ports around the nation hit by strikes earlier this week report truckers have gone back to work. Ports officials and shipping companies are concerned the continuing walk out in Charleston is slowing shipments of goods. State Ports Authority spokesman Byron Miller estimated that volume at the authority's container terminals is off about 25 percent. "There are more containers sitting at the terminals than there normally would be," he said, adding the authority can't do anything because the dispute is between the truckers and the companies that hire them.

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: Workers for a company responsible for much of Hawaii's interisland barge traffic have walked off the job, making it more expensive to get everything from food to appliances to much of the state. Talks between the union representing 60 tug workers and officials from Young Brothers Ltd.-Hawaiian Tug & Barge broke off at 2200 yesterday, two hours before the three-year labour agreement ended. The company cancelled three barge sailings today out of Oahu, to Maui, and Kauai, and cancelled future sailings until further notice. The islands should feel the impact of the work stoppage starting tomorrow, said Calvin Shigemura, vice president of Armstrong Produce Ltd. The barges that were to set off today held thousands of pounds of watermelon for the Fourth of July weekend. Shigemura said if his customers, which include hotels and supermarkets, still want produce, it will have to be flown in - at quadruple the price of sea cargo. The strike also affected cruise ships: State Department of Transportation spokesman Scott Ishikawa said a Norwegian Cruise Line ship lacked tug assistance today but was able to leave Kauai on its own thanks to good weather. Young Brothers Ltd.-Hawaiian Tug & Barge is one of

the largest tug-barge operators in Hawaii, with a fleet of 13 tugs and 10 barges. Company vice president Bill Chung said it was delivering what cargo it could and hoped to return to full service in a week or so, using a "contingency work force" or contracting with other companies. Members of the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific, the marine division of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union, picketed this morning outside company headquarters. Jonathan Lono Kane, the union's regional director, issued a statement saying the unresolved issue was accrued time off. "Our members are out at sea on tugs for up to three days straight and are on duty 24 hours a day," Kane said. "Eight hours later, they load and go out again. The (time off) ratio is an issue of health and safety and this is the message we tried unsuccessfully to convey to management." Chung said company officials thought their offer was "generous" and contended the union wanted workers to get eight hours of time off for working as little as 15 minutes a day. Chung said unionised workers currently earn about \$69,000 for working eight months a year with accrued time off and more than \$100,000 if they work the entire year.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Trucks with unionised drivers from as far as Jacksonville trickled into the Port of Miami to pick up backlogged cargo today, as an ongoing strike by independent truckers continued to cripple transport of most freight in and out of South Florida's busiest seaport. "Stay out!" dozens of picketing truckers yelled to strikebreakers. Across the nation, independent truckers are striking at various seaports demanding higher pay to help offset rising costs for fuel, insurance and other basics. The national strike began Monday (Jun 28) and ends Sunday (Jul 4), but truckers in Miami vow to stay out "until our demands are met," said spokesman Eduardo Verdayes. South Florida's trade community is anxious, because Miami depends more on independent truckers to move cargo than most other seaports. Plus, an emergency meeting called yesterday afternoon by Port of Miami Director Charles Towsley to mediate a settlement ended with no resolution. Dante Versaci, an executive with the Miami-based Florida Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association, which helps clear cargo. "Almost nothing has been moving out of the Port of Miami, and the strike by truckers from Miami is also slowing freight out of Port Everglades in Broward County." The Miami truckers, who get paid about \$45 per load, are asking for a 40 percent pay increase per load and a fuel surcharge linked to fuel prices. They also want compensation for the many hours they wait inside port terminals to pick up and unload cargo — \$50 for every hour after the first hour they've waited, Verdayes said. Furthermore, the group seeks a state and federal investigation into what they call "insurance fraud." A two-week strike in 2000 had ended with an

agreement to reduce their insurance payments, but strikers claim the trucking companies that dispatch them still deduct hefty payments, often using other names for those fees. Verdayes estimated the truckers take home an average \$500-700 a week, after the companies deduct \$150-\$200 for insurance and other fees. That's too little to meet rising expenses for trucks, fuel and maintenance and to cover living costs for their families. Fuel costs alone now run about \$200 a week, as diesel prices have soared, he said.

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Negotiators for the union representing tug workers and Young Brothers-Hawaiian Tug are back at the table today to try and end the two-day tug strike. Young Brothers President Glenn Hong says he feels the two sides have issues they can discuss face-to-face. The strike began Thursday (Jul 1) after talks broke down Wednesday night. It has forced Young Brothers-Hawaiian Tug and Barge to cancel all of its sailings until further notice. Young Brothers says its ports will be open for normal business hours to deliver cargo to customers but it will not be receiving any cargo at this time. The strike threatens delivery of food and other goods to the neighbour islands. Three barge sailings canceled yesterday were headed from Oahu to Maui, Honolulu and Kauai.

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated today, states: Negotiators for striking tug workers and the company responsible for much of Hawaii's interisland barge traffic reached a tentative agreement early today that could end a four-day walkout, officials said. Terms of the deal between Inlandboatman's Union of the Pacific and Young Brothers Ltd.-Hawaiian Tug & Barge were being withheld until union members voted today to approve or reject the contract. "We are very pleased with this agreement and are recommending ratification to our members," the union's regional director, Jonathan Lono Kane, said in a statement. The company said it would announce sailing schedules after the vote. "Both sides worked very hard to bring back service to our communities," company President Glenn Hong said in a statement. The 60 tug operators walked off the job Thursday (Jul 1) after negotiations broke down during the night. The company ships everything from food to cars and appliances among Hawaii's six main islands. It kept its ports open to deliver cargo to customers during the strike but no new cargo was accepted for shipping. A major stumbling block during negotiations was accrued time off. Kane had said the issue of time off was a matter of safety because of the long hours worked by tug operators in Hawaii's extremely busy harbours. The company had responded that workers were raising false issues about safety. The strike had sent businesses that needed to ship goods looking to make alternative shipping arrangements.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: Striking tug workers approved a contract today with the

company responsible for much of Hawaii's interisland barge traffic, ending a four-day walkout. The Inlandboatman's Union of the Pacific ratified the agreement with Young Brothers Ltd.-Hawaiian Tug & Barge, said Jonathan Lono Kane, the union's regional director. The workers will now accrue six hours off for every day worked, in addition to receiving improved medical benefits and pension plans. The contract does not include a salary increase, he said. Under the previous contract, the workers got four hours off for each day worked, Kane said.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Striking tug workers in Hawaii have approved a new contract, ending a four-day walkout. Sixty workers at two of Hawaii's tug-barge companies went on strike on Thursday (Jul 1). A major stumbling block during negotiations was accrued time off. A union official said the issue of time off was a matter of safety because of the long hours worked by tug operators in Hawaii's extremely busy harbours. The strike had sent businesses that needed to ship goods scrambling to make alternative shipping arrangements.

Awards & Settlements



INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT, AUSTIN, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: The husband of a woman who slowly suffocated while trapped in a milk plant machine with a hidden power switch should receive \$17 million in damages, a Central Texas jury has decided. A supervisor at a Borden Superior Dairies plant who knew how to turn off the machine had refused to do so after Faye Martinez was trapped, a lawyer in the case said. Jurors deliberated for a day after a 1 1/2-week-long trial in Judge Margaret Cooper's 353rd District Court before reaching the decision yesterday. The judgment against the plant's owner, Milk Products LP, includes \$10 million in actual damages and \$7 million in punitive damages for the death last year. Gary Rodriguez, a plaintiff's lawyer, said no one at the east Austin plant turned off the machine or called 911 for 20 minutes after employees noticed Martinez was trapped. "The supervisor knew how to turn off the machine but he wouldn't do it and went looking for maintenance because he said it was their job to handle, and he didn't want to hurt the machinery," said Rodriguez. He said the plant had modified the machinery so that the off button was hidden, and there was no sign indicating where it was located.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: A twin born brain-damaged has been awarded £4.75m in

damages and has won a public apology from health chiefs. Omar Butt, who has cerebral palsy, was born after his brother Seamus at the Royal London Hospital in November 1994. Mr Justice Gross approved the award against Barts and the London NHS Trust, which always accepted responsibility for the boy's condition, today. Paul Rees QC, acting for the trust, said: "We give an unreserved apology on behalf of the trust to Omar and his parents. "That, of course, cannot turn the clock back but it is what is appropriate. "There was no dispute on liability, judgment was entered by consent and there have been substantial interim payments. "The fund will provide for his needs and will give to all his family peace of mind - and in that future we wish them all well."

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: A Lake Superior Court jury today awarded Pat and Cyndi Sawaska, of Dyer, Illinois, \$3.5 million for the wrongful death of their two-year-old son more than four years ago. Merrillville attorney Barry Rooth said the couple's son Kyle died May 19, 2000, after going into shock at St. Margaret Mercy Healthcare Centre in Hammond. He was admitted to the pediatric intensive care unit the same day for treatment of vomiting and dehydration. Rooth said the pediatrician attending Kyle consulted with Dr. Gloria Buentello, a pediatric gastroenterologist, on his treatment. According to Rooth, Buentello testified during the trial that although she was concerned Kyle had received several enemas that could have caused an electrolyte disturbance, she failed to order new tests to determine if that was the case. Instead, she relied on tests from the previous day. Rooth argued if Buentello had not failed to order new tests, the problem with Kyle's potassium would have been diagnosed and easily corrected. The jury found the Sawaskas suffered damages totaling \$5 million and Buentello was 70% responsible for Kyle's death.

OIL POLLUTION, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: The Justice Department, US Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Mississippi today announced a settlement with Genesis Energy, Inc, Genesis Crude Oil, LP, and Genesis Pipeline USA, LP (Genesis) for penalties and natural resource restoration and damages. Genesis will spend over \$3 million as a result of an oil spill which discharged 336,000 gallons of crude oil near Soso, in Jones County, Mississippi, reaching the Leaf River and making it the largest oil spill in Mississippi since the enactment of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. "Maintaining the integrity of our nation's industrial infrastructure, such as oil pipelines, is a critical priority for the Justice Department. Today's action is a substantial step toward restoring the environment in the Leaf River watershed," said Tom Sansonetti,

Assistant Attorney General of the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. Under the settlement lodged today in the US District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi, Genesis will pay a \$1 million civil penalty, to be split evenly between the United States and the State of Mississippi, and perform a land acquisition and conservation supplemental environmental project within the Leaf River watershed at a cost of at least \$2 million. The spill, which was discovered on Dec 20, 1999, flowed into a tributary of the Leaf River. The settlement announced today provides for Genesis to restore the stream bed and riparian zone of the tributary, as well as injured wetlands, and to monitor groundwater. In addition, Genesis will pay over \$110,000 to federal and state natural resource agencies for natural resource damage assessment costs, oversight, and a wood duck nesting project to be completed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. "We are pleased to see a settlement in this case," said Charles Chisolm, Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. "Our agency will continue to work with Genesis and state and federal agencies to restore and protect this valuable watershed." The settlement resolves claims under the federal Clean Water Act and Oil Pollution Act and the Mississippi Air and Water Pollution Control Law. This settlement is in addition to the roughly \$20 million Genesis spent on the removal action to clean up the spill. Today's settlement agreement is subject to a 15-day public comment period and final court approval.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: U.S. Pipe & Foundry will pay \$6.5 million and change work procedures in settling a lawsuit filed by its black employees alleging discrimination on the job. The Birmingham-based firm announced it has agreed to create a fairness advisory council, to share job openings with all employees and to train supervisors not to discriminate. The settlement stems from a December 2000 lawsuit filed by employees in federal court at Birmingham. It was amended to include employees at other plants in Alabama, Tennessee and New Jersey. The employees will share \$4.5 million of the settlement. Attorneys for the employees will be paid about \$2 million. The Birmingham News reported today. The agreement covers all current and former black employees of the company's plants in Bessemer, North Birmingham, the general office in Birmingham, and factories in Tennessee and New Jersey, between January 1998 and the date of the preliminary settlement agreement. Part of the settlement includes expanding tuition reimbursement for vocational training. Employees seeking training for technical skills will receive the same reimbursement as those getting education at two-year and four-year

colleges, according to the agreement. U.S. Pipe has also agreed to make supervisory jobs within reach of more employees. It will furnish training for workers "desiring to move into management or supervisory positions," the agreement says. The company also agreed to evaluate the fairness of any tests it might impose as a condition for supervisory positions.

WRONGFUL DISMISSAL, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: A former StorageTek executive who said he was fired after complaining he had been shorted on more than \$100,000 in sales commissions has been awarded nearly \$12 million in damages by a California jury. An attorney representing Ted Marx said the \$11.9 million decision is thought to be one of the largest "wrongful termination" verdicts in California history. The Superior Court of California jury in Los Angeles levied \$9 million in punitive damages Monday (Jun 28) against Louisville-based Storage Technology Corp. It also levied \$2.9 million in compensatory damages last Friday to cover lost wages, commissions and emotional distress. Marx had charged that the data-storage company owed him more than \$110,000 in commissions when it intentionally changed its written compensation plan to deprive him of the commissions. The changes were made in about April, 2001. StorageTek spokesman Joe Fuentes said the company was "disappointed" with the jury's decision. "We think the results were incorrect." He added that the company had "presented the facts and stated our case" and was reviewing the results. In a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, StorageTek said it would "vigorously seek to overturn and/or reduce the award." Marx, who filed his suit in August, 2002, worked as a StorageTek account executive in Southern California from January, 1986, until he was fired in late December, 2001. Marx charged that after complaining internally about the new pay plan, the district sales manager in downtown Los Angeles and the regional sales manager in Louisville threatened to punish him if he pursued his complaint. The supervisors ultimately followed through on their threats by reducing his sales territory and cutting customer accounts, Marx alleged. After filing a complaint in September, 2001, with California labour regulators, Marx said his supervisors continued to shrink his territory and imposed conditions meant to harass him and force his resignation. Three months after filing the complaint, Marx said he was fired in a "malicious and oppressive manner." He also said that by the time he left, his supervisors had shrunk his sales territory and cut customer accounts representing about 80% of his potential earnings. Marx, in his suit, had argued he was an employee in good standing. He said that in 2000 the company had given him a raise and cut his sales quota as an incentive to stay on board.

Railway Accidents



AKOLA AREA, INDIA

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A goods train derailed near Akola this morning disrupting rail traffic on the Mumbai-Kolkata route, Railway sources said. There has been no loss of life in the accident which occurred at 0430, they said. Eleven bogies of the train jumped tracks they added. It was going to Kolkata from Mumbai. The tracks are being cleared and traffic is expected to be restored within six hours, the sources said.

ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: A Union Pacific freight train derailed early today and one tanker car spilled motor oil, the company said. No one was injured when two locomotives and nine cars derailed about 0030 hrs, Union Pacific spokesman John Bromley said. The car hauling motor oil was on its side and environmental crews had the spill contained by afternoon, he said. Three of the other nine cars were on their sides, the rest remained upright but partly off the tracks. They contained plastic pellets and paper. One car carrying sulfuric acid derailed but did not tip over and was not breached, Bromley said. The 100-car train was en route from Livonia to Fort Worth, Texas, when it came off the tracks in north Alexandria. City police and a state police hazardous materials crew was at the scene, authorities said.

GLENWOOD AREA, MINNESOTA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: As of this morning, Highway 55 west of Glenwood, in Pope County, remained closed due to a train derailment. Shortly after 1700 hrs, yesterday, MnDOT crews closed a section of Highway 55 when several tanks left the railroad track and ended up in a ditch. The incident took place near the intersection of Highway 55 and Pope County Road 15. Because of safety concerns, residents within a mile radius of the derailment were evacuated. Details are sketchy, but it was believed that six or seven of the tanks contained anhydrous ammonia. The Alexandria Fire Department was called out this morning to assist Pope County officials in the clean-up effort, which is expected to take at least 14 hours.

ROTHERHAM AREA, YORKSHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated Jul 5, states: Faulty repairs to a set of railway points in South Yorkshire have cost engineering firm Jarvis a £400,000 court fine. The failure led to the derailment of a goods train near Rotherham in November 2002, Sheffield

Crown Court heard. Jarvis Facilities pleaded guilty to breaching health and safety law. Lawyers for the company told the court Jarvis had abandoned its rail maintenance contract following the incident at Aldwarke junction. The firm blamed the decision on the fragmented nature of the railway system, saying it was impossible to exercise control over emergency repairs. Mr Denney pleaded guilty on behalf of the company to a charge of failing to ensure the health and safety of someone not in their employment - a train driver. The court heard that the accident happened after the empty coal train was diverted onto a stretch of track which had a rail missing. Jarvis engineers had installed a straight piece of track as a replacement for a crossing until a new crossing could be made. But they failed to lock out the points which let trains onto the section. The judge accepted that few passenger trains used the cross-over section serviced by the points. He also accepted that trains using the section never travelled faster than 25mph and the signalling system meant they could not have crashed into any other train.

Robberies & Thefts



MONEY, ROMANIA

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A security guard staged the biggest theft in Romania's history by driving off with £1.6 million after his colleague got out to buy a pack of cigarettes. The 30-year-old man made off with the money he had collected from banks across the country to deliver to the headquarters in the capital Bucharest - and police have confirmed they have begun a massive manhunt for him. CPI Security is facing a massive bill if the man is not caught because their insurance does not cover theft of the money, local media reported.

Computer Systems



BANKHOOK.A

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Security experts have identified a new Trojan horse, Bankhook.A, which targets banking and financial information. Reported on Tuesday (Jun 29) by its filename img1big.gif, Bankhook.A is a keystroke-logging trojan that typically poses as an image file to gain entrance into PCs to steal banking and financial information. Bankhook.A threatens Windows 2003, XP, 2000, NT, ME, 98, and 95 operating systems. So far,

Bankhook.A has only earned a moderate threat rating because of its infrequency. However, Panda Labs, a Glendale, California-based security firm, has rated the trojan's damage potential as severe. "Bankhook.A is a DLL (Dynamic Link Library) that registers itself in order to ensure it is run whenever the browser Internet Explorer is launched," according to a Panda Labs security alert. Bankhook.A installs a Browser Helper Object (BHO) on Internet Explorer versions 4.X and higher. One of two sets of code in Bankhook.A performs the initial install, while the other performs the BHO install. Once the BHO is up, it seeks secure access to the URLs of several dozen banking and financial sites around the globe and "grabs any outbound POST/GET data from within IE before it is encrypted by SSL," according to John Bambenek, a handler at the Internet Storm Center, Bethesda, Maryland. The outbound data — which can include user names, passwords and credit card numbers — is sent over an HTTP connection created by Bankhook.A to a Web address. "Bankhook.A is difficult to recognise, as it does not display any messages or warnings that indicate it has reached the computer," according to Panda Labs.

Miscellaneous



COLLAPSE OF COAL MINE, DUKKI, BALOCHISTAN PROVINCE, PAKISTAN

Karachi, Jul 7 — The roof of a privately owned coalmine shaft collapsed in Dukki, 150 kms east of Quetta in Balochistan Province, Pakistan, yesterday. As a result, two miners were killed. Mohammed Arshad, an official in the government department responsible for miners' welfare, said wooden supporting beams gave way, burying the two men under tons of debris, about 600 feet underground at the mine, in the mountainous region of Dukki. The two bodies have been retrieved, he said, adding that no other people were inside the mine at the time of the accident. — Lloyd's List Correspondent.

COLLAPSE OF CRANE, SHIPYARD, CEBU, PHILIPPINES

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: One person was killed while 31 others were injured, six of them in critical condition, after a crane at the Keppel Cebu Shipyard crashed to the ground today. The crane was holding up a gangplank with at least 32 crewmembers and workers of passenger ro/ro *Superferry 12* when it crashed from an undetermined height. The Maritime Industry Authority in Central Visayas (Marina 7) and the Lapulapu City police are looking into the incident at the shipyard's compound in

Barangay (village) Looc, Lapulapu City. Superintendent Louie Oppus, chief of the Lapulapu police, said six people who were in serious condition were confined at the Chong Hua Hospital in Cebu City while the rest of the injured were treated at the Mactan Community Hospital in Lapulapu City. The lone fatality was identified as Pablito Roque, fourth engineer of *Superferry 12*. Oppus said the injured victims belonged to the different sub-contractor companies that undertook the repair of the vessel.

DAHOMY EXPRESS (Bolivia)

See "Vessels Denied Entry Into US Ports" under "Miscellaneous".

DONATELLA D'ABUNDO (Italy)

Messina, Jul 4 — Passenger ro/ro *Donatella D'Abundo* (11779 gt, built 1972), in regular service between Naples and Tunis with 260 passengers on board and an unspecified number of vehicles, has made an emergency return to Naples after receiving warning of a car bomb on board. We understand that a vehicle not related to any passenger has been found. Vessel is presently in the roads in the Bay of Naples with a full security alert in place. We understand that authorities are endeavouring for emergency disembarkation of passengers. Anti-terrorist unit presently on board. — Lloyd's Agents.

Messina, Jul 6 — Passenger ro/ro *Donatella D'Abundo* was thoroughly searched by army bomb-squad and anti-terrorist units, and the bomb warning was determined to be a hoax. — Lloyd's Agents.

DRUGS SEIZED ON TOGO FLAGGED VESSEL OFF GHANA

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: The French navy has seized several tonnes of cocaine aboard Togolese tug *Pitea* off the coast of Ghana in what appears to mark a new route for international drug traffickers, authorities said. Six people were arrested in Lome after the Togolese-registered *Pitea* was intercepted by a French warship on Sunday (Jul 4), the Togolese interior ministry said. French maritime authorities added that the tug, which was sailing from Venezuela and had seven men and one woman aboard, carried "more than two tonnes of cocaine". The seizure was the result of a joint operation by Togolese and French narcotics agents based on information provided by Spanish intelligence, according to Togolese officials. Preliminary analysis of the haul indicated that the cocaine was of high quality and would have a street value of 40 to 120 million euros in France, a source close to the investigation said. French officials said the find illustrated a major change in trafficking patterns over recent years with large quantities of cocaine being rerouted because of a crackdown by US authorities from their Key West base in Florida. Drug traffickers are increasingly abandoning the northern route and instead launching their operations from the "Amazonian triangle" in South America through

eastward routes through West Africa, they said. The cocaine is said to be unloaded and repackaged in West Africa before being shipped either by land or by sea to Europe. Several similar operations were recently uncovered. A few weeks ago, British officials working with their Ghanaian counterparts seized 700 kilograms of cocaine in Ghana, officials said. Several people were arrested, including Britons and Colombians.

HEIGHTENED SECURITY DIRECTIVE, PANAMA CANAL

Panama City, Jul 7 — The Panama Canal Authority has warned vessels to tighten security against a possible terror attack or face being denied passage through the waterway linking the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Juan Hector Diaz, the authority's security chief, said yesterday that security had been ramped up to protect the canal, which handles 14,000 vessels per year, the majority from the United States, Japan and China. "It's for the well-being of everyone," Diaz said. "It's in Panama's interest to protect itself from a vessel that could be risky for the canal installations." The threat to deny vessels passage comes as the canal authority this month implemented the global sea anti-terror law, known as the International Ship and Port Facility Security code. "The new Panama Canal Authority security requirements will apply to all vessels arriving at Panama Canal waters," the authority said. "Vessels that are not able to fully comply with these requirements shall be considered in violation of Panama Canal regulations, which may result in delays or denial of transit," the authority said. Panama's government, which has run the canal since US forces handed over control in December, 1999, has stepped up security since the Sep 11, 2001, attacks on the United States. Global security experts see the canal as a medium-risk site for a terror attack, not among the world's most vulnerable but still attractive as a target given its importance to world commerce. — Reuters.

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH ISPS CODE

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: The Coast Guard said today that 20 foreign-flagged vessels calling on U.S. ports did not meet international security rules that took effect yesterday. A total of 228 foreign vessels arrived in the United States yesterday. The Coast Guard did not disclose how many have called on U.S. ports since then. Foreign ships must have a signed certificate from their flag country that says they comply with the new standards aimed at foiling terrorists. The Coast Guard boarded and inspected 123 foreign ships yesterday to check identification and make sure they met new requirements, such as having working alarm systems. The 20 that failed the security test were denied entry, detained or ordered to leave port. Of those, 12 were smaller vessels that have a history of failing international standards for safety or

environmental protection, the Coast Guard said. The Coast Guard also said it closed or restricted 19 port facilities, fewer than the 32 it had anticipated closing on Monday. There are 3,200 port facilities at 361 ports in the United States.

OUTBREAK OF "BIRD FLU"

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: China said today it had confirmed new cases of bird flu in poultry in an eastern province, nearly four months after declaring victory over the highly-contagious disease. Dead chickens were found on a farm in Anhui province on Saturday (Jul 3), and tests have since confirmed that they died of bird flu, the government said on state-run television. Since the farm is in an isolated area and the birds were hatched locally, agriculture experts believe the disease was brought to the area by migrating birds, the report said. China has alerted the governments of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau as well as the relevant United Nations organisations, the report said.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A strain of bird flu that is deadly to humans has resurfaced in Thailand, while China and Vietnam authorities have also confirmed the virus. Thailand's Deputy Agriculture Minister Newin Chitchob says the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu has been confirmed in the province of Ayuthaya and Prathumthani, close to the capital Bangkok. The Government has ordered a mass cull of chickens in a five-kilometre radius around the affected farms. The same region was affected by a mass bird flu infection earlier this year which triggered a nationwide cull of tens of millions of poultry. Vietnam declared itself free of bird flu three months ago but authorities in Hanoi say they are now trying to contain another suspected outbreak of the deadly H5N1 strain.

SEIZURE OF CIGARETTES, PLYMOUTH, DEVON, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: A smuggled haul of 3.8m cigarettes has been seized by customs officers at a Devon ferry port. The cigarettes were discovered hidden in a lorry which arrived on passenger *Pont-Aven* from Santander, northern Spain, at Plymouth on Tuesday (Jun 29). A customs spokesman said the duty evaded was about £600,000. The 46-year-old lorry driver, from Portugal, was questioned by customs officers and released on bail without charge pending further inquiries.

VESSELS DENIED ENTRY INTO US PORTS

Washington, Jul 1 — The US Coast Guard has denied entry to a total of six vessels for failing to comply with new global anti-terrorism codes, the head of the Coast Guard said today. "There were about 265 vessel arrivals today," Admiral Thomas Collins, commandant of the Coast Guard, said. "The current total is that there were six vessels out of that whole group who were denied

entry." He said the six had lacked valid security certificates required under the new UN maritime security codes. He did not say what countries the vessels had come from. — Reuters.

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: As new international security standards come into effect to help secure ports, the U.S. Coast Guard has turned away five foreign-flagged ships from the Port of Miami, a Coast Guard spokesman said today. Spokesman Luis Diaz said four ships were expelled and one ship was denied entry to the port because they did not have the proper paper work, thereby not meeting the new security standards that began today. Ships are required to be in possession of an International Ship Security Certificate upon entering another country to guard against the use of ships in a terrorist attack. According to Diaz, one ship was turned away from the port after being boarded by a Coast Guard inspection team and four others were expelled after undergoing dockside inspections. The ship that was refused entry was the Bolivian flagged general cargo *Dahomey Express* (274 gt, built 1962). The Coast Guard was unable to release any information about the other four ships that were ordered to leave the port, Diaz said.



Fires & Explosions

COAL MINE, FUYUAN, YUNNAN PROVINCE, CHINA

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A gas explosion in a coal mine killed seven miners and their bodies have been found at the spot in Fuyuan of south-west China's Yunnan Province. They were found dead in a sitting position round a windpipe. Preliminary observation showed they had died of carbon monoxide poisoning, according to Cai Jianfang, chief engineer with the mine. The gas explosion occurred last Saturday (Jul 3) when a 40-metre-long cable caught fire, resulting in burning of the wooden frames and coal layer in the pit. According to Cai, the coal mine immediately evacuated miners working in the pit and organized rescuers to put out the fire. Seven workers, however, were separated by flames in the pit. When a narrow lane leading to the seven was dug, they were found already dead. Rescue on miners in the pit has been completed. But rescuers are still working hard to extinguish the surging flames, Cai said.

FACTORY, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A ferocious six-alarm fire, apparently ignited by lightning, roared through a blocklong mattress factory in Brooklyn yesterday, generating blast-furnace heat and a huge cloud of smoke

that enveloped an entire neighbourhood and was visible for miles. Nine firefighters were injured and dozens of nearby residents were evacuated as firefighters struggled for hours to contain the flames. Fire officials called it the city's biggest fire of the year. Passing witnesses saw a lightning bolt flash down in a thunderstorm, heard it strike on a rooftop and spotted the first plumes of smoke as the flames broke out shortly after 1500 hrs at the Paradise Mattress Company, a two-storey red-brick building at 1209 DeKalb Avenue, between Bushwick and Evergreen Avenues in Bushwick. The first firefighters on the scene were confronted with a cloud of grey smoke so dense that it blotted out the sky and obscured objects 10 feet away, making it difficult even to find the fire location. Within minutes the number of alarms was raised and then raised again to summon more assistance. By 1600 hrs, six alarms had been sounded, summoning 225 firefighters and 75 units of apparatus, including water-gushing tower ladders. The factory was closed for the Independence Day holiday, and no one was in the building at the time, but firefighters had no way to know that for sure without going into the burning structure. Chief Hayden said that 30 firefighters were sent in initially to search for potential victims and to evaluate the dangers of the fire. Within 15 minutes, they were pulled out. Over the next five hours, as flames and smoke enveloped the building and turned the neighbourhood into a surreal cloud city, firefighters used tower and aerial ladders to pour cataracts of water into the building. By 2000 hrs, the main body of flames had been knocked down, but fire officials said they were prepared for an all-night effort to ensure that the fire was out. By early evening, however, it was clear that the factory had been destroyed, along with 1,500 to 1,800 mattresses and the jobs of about 25 employees. While the fire remained under investigation, its cause officially described as undetermined, there appeared to be little doubt that a lightning strike had been responsible. Firefighters at the scene later confirmed that lightning had struck an air-conditioner on the roof, touching off the blaze.

FACTORY, GENOA, ITALY

Genoa, Jul 8 — An explosion occurred at Acciaierie di Cornigliano furnace Jul 6. Various labourers were injured. Damage to the plant is being ascertained and a one hour strike of workers carried out Jul 7. — Lloyd's Agents.

FACTORY, NAPLES, ITALY

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: A fire in a fireworks factory outside the southern Italian city of Naples has claimed five lives. An unexplained explosion led to the fire at the family-owned Vallefuoco factory in Giugliano, police and firefighters said today. Early reports said three people were killed, but two people initially listed as missing following the incident were later confirmed dead. "We were

having lunch a few hundred metres from a workshop, when there was a very loud explosion which could be heard throughout the neighbourhood," said Gabriele Vallefucio, one of the three brothers who own the business.

FOREST, CANADA

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Some 50 gold mines in the Klondike region of the Yukon Territory in northwest Canada have been evacuated because of raging forest fires near the town of Dawson, according to a fire official today. Michael Hale, a fire service spokesman, said the fires were currently blazing across about 100,000 hectares. "The fires have led to the evacuation of an area of about 50 small gold mines," Hale said. "We have one major fire and three minor ones that are currently burning 100,000 hectares of forest," he explained. "These are the worst fires we have had in four years and it led to an evacuation." However, the evacuation effort has been hindered by miners reluctance to leave their potentially valuable mines, Hale said.

FOREST, PORTUGAL

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Portuguese firefighters were today evacuating residents from outlying homes in the southern Algarve region, one of Europe's top tourist destinations, where a forest fire continued to rage in searing summer heat. Homes around Tavira, in the east of the Algarve, were being evacuated from the path of the blaze, which has been burning for more than 24 hours. "Some people began to panic. We had to help out people who were scattered in various isolated areas which made it complicated," the mayor of Tavira, Macario Correia, told cable news channel SIC-Noticias. More than 200 firefighters equipped with 34 vehicles and two water-dropping aircraft were combatting the fire and more reinforcements were on the way, Antonio Gualdino of the National Rescue Operation Centre told TSF radio. The fire forced local authorities to close several stretches of the Infante motorway, which runs the length of the Algarve from east to west. The fire in the Algarve was one of nine which broke out yesterday across Portugal, where early summer temperatures have risen to 40 degrees Centigrade in some places. But by this afternoon firefighters said only the blaze in the Algarve, where temperatures have been at their highest, was still burning out of control. Portugal's department of health issued a heat warning for five central and southern areas yesterday under a new alert system introduced last month.

NICKEL MINE, KALGOORLIE AREA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated today, states: A Western Australian Goldfields mine site has been evacuated after a machinery explosion. The Department of Industry and Resources says the Cawse nickel mine, about 100 kilometres north of Kalgoorlie, was shut down when a pipe split on an autoclave.

The machine uses high pressure steam to filter the nickel as it is brought to the surface and a column of hot mud and debris was flung out when the pipe burst. OMG Mining operates the nickel plant and says there were no injuries. The department says its inspectors are conducting an investigation at the mine site.

PREMISES, NEPROSTENO, FYR MACEDONIA

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: A big fire blazed up last Friday (Jun 25) in the premises of the dry mortar industry "Renova" in Neprosteno, owned by Sefki Idrizi from Dzepciste. The power of the fire spread initially over the compressor station, moved afterwards to the warehouses of raw materials and ready-made products. The fire destroyed 60 tons of different additives, 2,500 tons of ready-made products, 20 tons cement, electrical appliances, etc. "Renova" is a shareholder of "Karbon" Zagreb, whose products were also placed in these warehouses.

PREMISES, NEW ORLEANS, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 4 — A press report, from New Orleans, dated Jul 3, states: A two-alarm fire heavily damaged a French Quarter building where Fats Domino, Ray Charles, Jerry Lee Lewis and other famous musicians made recordings. The blaze yesterday caused heavy fire and water damage to the building that was once J&M Studio. The building, designated a historic landmark by the city, now houses apartments and a laundry business. The cause of the blaze was under investigation, but fire officials did not suspect foul play.

RECYCLING PLANT, COLWICK, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Around 30 firefighters spent nearly four hours tackling a blaze at a recycling plant last night. Crews were called to Waste Cycle in Colwick, Nottingham, at 2140, BST. Six appliances attended the fire and water from the Trent was used to extinguish flames. A mechanical digger was used to move the stockpiled material, but 50 to 100 tonnes was destroyed and around a quarter of the building was damaged. Fire crews returned to the scene this morning to damp down.

SCHOOL, TOKOROA, NEW ZEALAND

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated today, states: Fire and police teams are dealing with the fallout from a major blaze at Tokoroa High School. Chief fire officer Ian Wellings said between 15 and 20 classrooms were affected, seven of them badly burnt. The blaze is being treated as suspicious, and investigators are at the scene. Meanwhile Tokoroa's mayor Gordon Blake said the town is putting on a brave face after the blaze, which has seen a whole block of classrooms cordoned off. He said that while he expected a pile of ashes, the

two-storey building is still standing, despite extensive damage to the top floor. Mayor Blake hopes some of the building can be repaired by the time students get back from school holidays. Board of Trustees Chair Dean Ria said that from a distance, you can see right inside the building and tell it has been completely gutted.

SCHOOL, WINDER, GEORGIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated Jul 7, states: An elementary school in Winder that was struck by lightning Sunday night (Jul 4) may have sustained more than one million dollars in damage. Barrow County Schools Superintendent Ron Saunders said yesterday insurance adjusters and contractors are assessing the damage at Holsenbeck Elementary School after lightning hit the building's media centre Sunday night. Saunders says the media centre and front office suffered the most damage, with 95 percent of the library area ruined by the fire. He says the lightning struck the library and hit a water pipe, dumping almost three inches of water onto the school's floors. He estimated that repairing the damage could cost \$1 million or more. The water was removed and the floors were dried Monday (Jul 5). Eighty percent of the classrooms were damaged by fire as well, but Saunders hopes the classrooms can be reopened to teachers preparing for the school year as early as Jul 27. He hopes to have the school opened to the public by Jul 29.

SHOPPING CENTRE, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated Jul 4, states: A number of families were forced to leave their homes following a serious fire at a shopping centre in east London. Crews were called out to the Selborne Walk Centre in Walthamstow, at about 0150 BST, today. Nobody was hurt in the blaze but a surveyor said there was considerable damage to the centre which was now unsafe. The cause of the fire is currently unknown and is being investigated. About 150 firefighters tackled the blaze which is believed to have started in the back of the shopping centre. There has been extensive damage to the top floor of the building. Assistant Divisional Officer Guy Forster said: "The crews have worked extremely hard and did a very good job at preventing the fire from spreading further." Checks are being made to discover if any of the building can be reopened later. Walthamstow High Street and Selborne Walk remain closed to the public.

WAREHOUSE, MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jun 30, states: A huge fire and explosion at a Marion County warehouse is still smoldering today. It started shortly after midnight at the Petro Gas Station and Truck Stop in Marion County, on Highway 318. Because of the flames, firefighters had to evacuate about 50 people. Firefighters dumped thousands of

gallons of water on the fire. The warehouse stored potentially dangerous materials, including tyres and fuel. Early estimates say the fire cost the business owner more than one million dollars in damage, supplies and lost business. The cause remains unknown.

WILDFIRES, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated Jul 1, states: Hundreds of people including about 200 workers at the state's largest gold mine fled a wildfire in Alaska's interior and headed toward Fairbanks. The evacuations were ordered yesterday afternoon as the winds picked up and the 117,000-acre blaze threatened cabins and clusters of homes. Firefighters and state troopers went door-to-door and telephoned homes, telling residents to pack their belongings and head for Fairbanks, 30 miles to the south, where a shelter was set up at a high school. About half the workforce of the Fort Knox gold mine north of Fairbanks was also evacuated, and mine officials worked to shut down the \$600 million operation. The wildfire was headed in the general direction of Fairbanks, Alaska's second-largest city, but officials said it was still several days away. In California, residents were evacuated for several hours today from some areas of rural Pala as a fast-moving wildfire burned 200 brushy acres in a rugged area of northeastern San Diego County, authorities said. As temperatures dropped and humidity rose during the evening, firefighters began to get the upper hand. By 2100 hrs the fire was reported 25 percent contained, with no threat to structures and no injuries reported, a California Department of Forestry (CDF) spokeswoman said. Full containment of the fire was expected before daybreak and full control of the blaze was predicted by tomorrow evening, the CDF said. The cause of the fire was unknown. Some 350 firefighters fought the fire that was east of Interstate 15, west of Pala Temecula Road and north of state Route 76, the CDF public information officer Audrey Hagen said. On hand were 30 engines, 10 fire crews and two bulldozers, she said. Earlier in the evening three air tankers and four helicopters also fought the blaze. In Nevada, firefighters got a break from the weather today as light winds and slightly higher humidity helped them battle an 1,100-acre complex of wildfires west of Reno. But the largest of the fires was still only 20 percent contained this evening as firefighters braced for another ridge of thunderstorms packing lightning and stiffer winds out of the Sierra. The fires, sparked by lightning yesterday, continued to send up a pall of smoke that drifted south along the Sierra some 30 miles to Carson City. One of the fires in the complex initially threatened a subdivision north of the town of Verdi, 10 miles west of Reno. Equipment and firefighters from throughout western Nevada responded quickly, stopping the growth of that blaze with flames 40-feet high. Today, some 260 firefighters on hand crews were joined by helicopters in the assault on two larger fires

burning in steep terrain and heavier fuel on Peavine Peak. Additional crews were summoned from as far away as Boise, Idaho; Salt Lake City and Elko. Forest Service spokeswoman Christie Kalkowski said firefighters made significant progress on the fire today, holding the fire lines on the northern boundaries despite gusty winds early in the day. Baratti said total containment of the fires was estimated at 20 percent. She said there was no estimate of when the fires might be fully contained. In Arizona, successful burnout operations on the north and east sides of the Willow Fire Wednesday night reduced the risk to Payson, Pine and Strawberry, but the blaze was still growing, fire officials said today. The three communities will not be declared safe before next week at the earliest, Operations Section Chief Roy Hall said today. "The way we've progressed with successful burnout, we're looking at through the Jul 4 weekend," Hall said. "But really, the day you see us go away is the day you can say it's over." Today, firefighters hope to continue burnout operations, strengthen the fireline, and continue work on the Pine/Strawberry fuel break. The lightning-caused Willow Fire, which began on Jun 24, 17 miles from Payson is now within three miles of the town. Despite heavy columns of smoke from internal burning yesterday, the fire was held at 32,000 acres through yesterday evening. By this afternoon the fire expanded to 40,800 acres with five percent containment.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Dense smoke from a wildfire in Alaska's Interior kept firefighting aircraft grounded as hundreds of people fled with their pets and belongings. The fire about 30 miles north-east of Fairbanks has tripled in size in recent days to an estimated 215,000 acres as wind and hot, dry conditions made a bad situation worse. The latest acreage figure was down by 10,000, based on revised mapping, and fire officials said an expected rise in humidity and drop in wind speeds could help firefighters. Since Tuesday, a handful of subdivisions and scattered cabins have been evacuated and hundreds of people have sought safety in Fairbanks, which was not threatened but was overcome with dense smoke. The American Red Cross set up a shelter for displaced residents at a high school in Fairbanks, Alaska's second-largest city. There were 62 active fires in Alaska today, burning on more than one million acres. Most were in remote areas and simply being monitored. So far this year, 333 fires have burned nearly 1.7 million acres in Alaska.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: In Arizona, firefighters reinforced lines to keep a 51,000-acre fire away from three mountain towns. The lightning-caused fire was about four miles away from Payson, a community of about 14,000 about 70 miles north-east of Phoenix.

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: In Nevada, smoke had died down today from a 1,200-acre wildfire 10 miles west of Reno. The fire had crept up to subdivisions near the

California-Nevada line, but no evacuations were ordered.

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Weather conditions should improve over the fire lines in Alaska and the South-west United States, today. The likelihood of higher humidity and possible rain will be welcome in Arizona, where the Willow Fire near Payson was eight per cent contained at 65,000 acres. In south-eastern Alaska, where multiple blazes this week forced the evacuation of hundreds of rural residents, fire consumed more than one million acres of timber. Crews battling the Willow Fire have been using controlled burns and backfires, some of them started from aircraft, to slow down the advancing flames and hold the main body of the fire on the south bank of the East Verde River. The fire is burning in the Tonto National Forest, which remained open to holiday vacationers although they were advised to be very careful with fire.

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Two wildfires burning in the south-east part of Arizona moved closer to cabins and continued to threaten an observatory that houses the \$120 million Large Binocular Telescope, one of the world's most powerful optical instruments. One of the fires on mountainous terrain grew to 6,179 acres yesterday and had burned to within less than a mile south-east of the \$200 million-plus Mount Graham International Observatory. "It's threatened, but I think it's defensible," said Duane Archuleta, an operations chief for the fire management team. "It's going to take some work of course." That lightning-started wildfire and a nearby 6,130-acre blaze prompted the evacuation of the observatory and 85 cabins on the mountain Friday (Jul 2). The observatory has a 200-foot defensible space designed to help crews protect the property. By yesterday, the flames were about three miles away from the communities of Turkey Flat and Columbine and state officials issued a health advisory warning residents of nearby towns about the smoke. No structures were threatened, said Jennifer Plyler, a fire spokeswoman. "They have some time," she said. "It's not bumping up against structures like the observatory." About 1,000 firefighters aided by 10 helicopters, 12 bulldozers and two Lockheed C-130 military air tankers were fighting the fire. No serious injuries were reported but one firefighter was hospitalised for treatment of heat exhaustion. The fires were a few miles apart and were expected to join in the next couple of days, said Paul Summerfelt, a deputy incident commander. Plyler said fire management teams hoped to have the fires fully contained by Jul 27, and were aiming at keeping them from growing beyond a combined 50,000 acres. Elsewhere in Arizona, the threat posed to the city of Payson by a 79,500-acre wildfire was lessened after crews strengthened protection lines near the forest community, officials said yesterday. The fire, which started Jun 24, was 10% contained. A firebreak on

the Willow fire's north-eastern flank was built about two miles from Payson, a city of about 14,000 people some 70 miles north-east of Phoenix. "We feel confident it will hold," US Forest Service spokesman Jim Payne said. In Alaska, an evacuation order remained in effect yesterday for 277 homes and businesses still threatened by a blaze near Fairbanks that has spread over 306,000 acres, up from 280,000 the day before. Most people displaced by the fire were urged to stay away yesterday, though state troopers let some homeowners return to retrieve possessions or check on property, fire officials said. The fire, started Jun 13 by lightning, was about 30 miles north of Fairbanks.

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated Jul 5, states: Firefighters today widened a defensive ring around a mountaintop observatory, trying to hold back two wildfires and protect a powerful telescope under construction. The crews in south-eastern Arizona used bulldozers and fire retardant around the Mount Graham International Observatory, which has two operating telescopes and the \$120 million soon-to-be-completed Large Binocular Telescope. The ground crews were helped by an air tanker aircraft dropping retardant. "The building's not going to burn, but the smoke and heat could do some real damage to the instruments inside," said Prueett Small, a fire official. Researchers from around the world use the observatory, which is an extension of the University of Arizona. When fully operational in 2005, the Large Binocular Telescope will be the world's most technologically advanced optical telescope. It's expected to yield images nearly 10 times sharper than those from the Hubble Space Telescope. The observatory, consisting of eight buildings, encompasses 8.5 acres of pine forest on Mount Graham's 10,470-foot Emerald Peak and is surrounded by a 200-foot-wide clearing. It also has a sprinkler system that officials said would be turned on if flames came within a quarter of a mile. One of the two threatening fires was a lightning-sparked blaze that had grown to more than 6,200 acres by today. It was burning less than a mile south-east of the observatory. A nearby blaze that had grown to more than 6,500 acres prompted the evacuation of the observatory and 85 cabins on the mountain on Friday (Jul 2). That fire was about three miles north-west of the observatory. In central Arizona, the threat posed to the city of Payson by an 84,300-acre wildfire eased after crews reinforced their fire lines near the forest community. The US Forest Service also sent a tanker aircraft to help with that blaze. The aircraft arrived in Arizona yesterday, said Ken Frederick, a fire information officer. In Alaska, an evacuation order remained in effect for 277 homes and businesses threatened by a blaze some 30 miles north of Fairbanks that had spread across 307,000 acres. The blaze began to die down somewhat today, with help from light rain and high humidity. Similar conditions aided firefighters

battling a 200,000-acre fire about 50 miles north-east of Fairbanks. There are 62 active fires in Alaska. So far this year, wildfires have burned more than 1.8 million acres in the state. In central Washington, two fires near Lake Chelan have burned a total of nearly 5,500 acres. There were no reports of structural damage or serious injuries. Hundreds of firefighters were trying to make headway against the two fires before expected high winds later in the week. Helicopters scooped water from the Columbia River and Lake Chelan to drop on hot spots.

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated Jul 6, states: Firefighters in Arizona stood guard around a \$200 million mountaintop observatory and wrapped sheets of aluminum around summer cabins today to protect them from an approaching wildfire. The flames were less than two miles from Turkey Flat, a community of 74 cabins on the side of Mount Graham. Officials said the fire could spread quickly in the hot, dry weather, but no structures had burned as of this evening. "This was a big active day for fire but we're still holding our own," said Dan Oltrogge, an incident commander for the team fighting the fire. The lightning-sparked fire and a nearby fire on another part of the mountain in south-eastern Arizona had earlier prompted evacuation of the Mount Graham International Observatory and a total of about 90 cabins in Turkey Flat and another community. Oltrogge said the fires had charred between 25,000 and 30,000 acres combined. He didn't have a breakdown on the size of each fire. They were 10% contained. The observatory's eight buildings and 8.5 acres of pine forest on Mount Graham's 10,470-foot Emerald Peak were surrounded by a 200-foot-wide clearing, and fire crews planned more controlled burns to expand the buffer zone. It also has a sprinkler system that officials said would be turned on if flames came within a few hundred yards. Fire officials said that could happen by tomorrow. Officials said although the observatory building would probably not burn, smoke and heat could damage its delicate instruments. Fire crews' main concern Tuesday was Turkey Flat, lower on the mountain about 150 miles south-east of Phoenix. Firefighters removed heavy vegetation from around cabins and drenched the homes with water, while wrapping them with aluminium to deflect heat. Elsewhere in Arizona, a fire had blackened 85,000 acres of the Tonto National Forest near Payson, a town of some 14,000 people. The blaze was not threatening any homes or communities. In central Washington state, firefighters attacking two wildfires that have burned nearly 10,000 acres near Lake Chelan braced for expected high winds today. The winds could blow one of the fires, which flared to 3,200 acres today about three miles east of the lake, toward houses and other structures, said Ray Steiger, a spokesman with the incident management team. Firefighters were building fire lines to protect two small residential subdivisions. Officials

recommended evacuation to residents of about 45 homes. In Alaska, an evacuation order remained in effect today for 277 homes threatened by a 307,000-acre fire north of Fairbanks.



AIRCRAFT PUT BACK TO BEIJING, CHINA

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: A mechanical problem and fuel leak forced an Air China aircraft to return to the Capital International Airport in Beijing on Monday (Jul 5). The CA981 flight to New York took off about 1500, two hours later than scheduled. Around 1630, the crew said a mechanical problem was discovered and fuel was leaking. The aircraft had to turn back. The 200-odd passengers changed to another aircraft and departed at 2030.

AIRCRAFT PUT BACK TO SYDNEY AIRPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A Qantas flight bound for Hong Kong has returned to Sydney as a precaution after the captain was alerted to a possible operational problem with the aircraft, Qantas said today. Flight QF187 left Sydney for Hong Kong at 1520, AEST, with 189 passengers on board. A Qantas spokeswoman said the aircraft, a Boeing 767-300, was circling above Sydney to burn off fuel in order to reach a suitable weight for landing. The flight was expected to land at Sydney airport about 2000 hrs. "About three-quarters of an hour into the flight there has been a message in the cockpit and the captain has elected to return to Sydney as a precaution," the spokeswoman said. "The message related to a minor issue but the captain has erred on the side of safety, as they always do, and as a precaution they're heading back to Sydney." The spokeswoman said there were no security issues involved. "It relates to the operation of the aircraft," she said. All passengers would be transferred to another flight to Hong Kong tonight and engineers would examine the aircraft for possible problems once it was on the ground, she said.

C-FBPU

London, Jul 2 — Piper PA 24, C-FBPU, was about 1,000 feet into the take-off roll on runway 16 at Trail airport when at 80 mph, it hit a bump in the runway, the landing gear retracted and the aircraft slid along the runway at 1945, PDT, Jun 18. The pilot secured the engine immediately and the aircraft came to a stop on the runway. The pilot was uninjured and exited the aircraft. There was no fire but substantial damage to the belly and engine compartment.

C-FBVU

London Jul 7 — The pilot of Cessna 185F, C-FBVU, on floats, with one passenger on board, landed Jul 4 and spent the night on a small lake 50 miles east of Sault Ste. Marie due to bad weather. The following day (Jul 5) the pilot departed the lake after assessing the weather to be suitable. He departed in a south-westerly direction from the north end of the lake where the wind was calm. Once airborne, he realised that the wind was quite strong and he had to turn downwind in order to clear the hills surrounding the lake. The aircraft lost speed in the turn, stalled and crashed into the wooded hillside. The pilot was uninjured and the passenger received minor injuries. Both occupants were wearing seatbelts with no shoulder harnesses. The aircraft sustained major damage.

C-FMOL

London, Jul 7 — While North-Wright Airways Ltd. DHC-6 Twin Otter, C-FMOL, was departing from an approximately 1,500 foot long gravel strip at Mile 222 of the Canol Road (near the Tsichu River), NWT, on Jul 4, the take-off was initiated to the north and into wind. Immediately after becoming airborne the aircraft encountered a strong right cross-wind and settled back onto the strip. The left wheel contacted willows that had overgrown the edge of the strip. The aircraft veered left into the willows at about 60 knots, and began to decelerate. Prior to flying speed being regained, the aircraft rolled off the end of the strip and came to rest in a shallow creek. The right wing partially separated from the fuselage at impact and the forward fuselage, nose gear and right main gear sustained substantial damage. The pilot and first officer were uninjured. The purpose of the trip was to move hunting gear and outfitter supplies back to an airstrip at Mile 170 of the Canol Road (Godlin Lake). The aircraft was at or near gross weight at the time of the occurrence.

C-FOBE

London, Jul 7 — Reported that while Green Airways Ltd float-equipped Noorduyn Norseman Mk. VI, C-FOBE, was landing on Birch Lake, Ontario, on Jul 5, the second compartment of the right float ruptured on touchdown and the aircraft veered and nosed down on its right hand side. The four occupants exited the aircraft from the left side before the aircraft submerged completely. Reportedly, the right float had been leaking substantially, mainly in the second compartment, before the occurrence.

C-FZNL

London, Jul 7 — The Big Salmon Air Ltd. Cessna A185E, C-FZNL, had been airborne for approximately 4.3 hours, on Jul 2, on a fire patrol in the central Yukon, when the engine (Teledyne Continental IO-520-D) lost power. A forced landing was conducted onto a short gravel bar at the edge of Husky Dog Creek. The wheel-equipped aircraft struck brush and small trees during the

landing roll and nosed down. The pilot and forestry observer were uninjured, however, the aircraft sustained substantial damage. The insurance company has arranged for the operator to recover the aircraft and the Transportation Safety Board will be advised once the reason for the engine failure is known.

C-GBGS

London, Jul 2 — Cessna 150K, C-GBGS, was on a local flight at the owner's private strip in Newtonville, Ontario when the aircraft stalled during the overshoot and impacted the trees and ground at the end of the runway at 2100 EDT, Jun 29. Both occupants received minor injuries and the aircraft was substantially damaged.

COLLAPSE OF TERMINAL, PARIS AIRPORT, FRANCE

Paris, Jul 6 — Weaknesses in the concrete used for the roof of a futuristic Paris airport terminal were the main cause of the collapse that killed four people on May 23, an official report said today. Citing a report that steered clear of apportioning blame, the French Transport Ministry said it was still not totally clear why the accident happened at Terminal 2E of Charles De Gaulle airport over two years after it was built. "The view of the commission is that the main cause of the sudden collapse is linked to the perforation of the concrete roof by the struts supporting it," the ministry said today of the initial findings of an investigative commission. "It is likely that this perforation was facilitated by the prior and gradual weakening of the concrete," it added. The report did not comment on the future of the terminal, built at a cost of euros 750 million and designed to handle 10 million passengers a year. Permanent closure of the showcase building would be a big blow to the finances and image of operator Aeroports de Paris (ADP) as it prepares for partial privatisation. Part of the terminal was opened to staff last month but ADP has pledged to raze the cylindrical boarding-area building to the ground if the structure is found to be fundamentally flawed. A public prosecutor is carrying out a separate inquiry into the collapse, which could establish who is to blame. The terminal was used mainly by national carrier Air France and was opened just over a year ago. Hailed as a triumph of engineering and design, the terminal has a domed roof dotted with windows bathing it in light, but the collapse raised questions both about its design and whether it was built too fast. The report said it was unlikely that the collapse was linked either to the foundations of the building or to the pillars on which the whole terminal was supported above the ground. — Reuters.

CRASH INTO SEA OFF COTONOU, BENIN

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated Jul 5, states: A Boeing 727 bound for Lebanon crashed on take-off at Cotonou on Dec 25, 2003, due to uneven distribution of weight, French aviation experts said on Friday (Jul 2),

confirming an earlier finding. "The direct cause of the accident was not the large amount of excess weight on board, but the distribution of the load," said France's Accident Investigations Bureau (BEA). The agency is drafting its report on the crash, which killed 139 people. Friday's statement confirmed the BEA's preliminary findings released by the Benin government in March. The French experts also criticised lapses in technical support on the ground in Cotonou, urging Benin and other West African states to invest in "control structures for aircraft making stopovers." The bodies of 139 of the 161 people — 151 passengers and 10 crew — on the Lebanese-owned Union des Transports Africains (UTA) aircraft were recovered after the crash, in which 21 people survived. Most of the passengers and victims were Lebanese nationals returning home for the holiday period. There were also Bangladeshi peacekeepers, Guineans, Sierra Leoneans and Americans on board. Meanwhile, Lebanon is requesting information from Bangladesh about the Cotonou disaster to make sure no Lebanese corpses were mixed up with Bangladeshi ones.

CRASH INTO SEA OFF LIVERPOOL, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Police divers have recovered the bodies of a man and woman whose plane crashed into Liverpool Bay. The pair, thought to be in their 50s and from the Merseyside area, died when their Piper PA28 Cherokee came down shortly after 1245 BST, yesterday. The pilot had told air traffic control he was experiencing problems shortly before being lost from radar screens. It is thought the plane was on a leisure flight from Liverpool John Lennon Airport. Police and RAF helicopters were involved in a search following the crash - the wreckage was located around 1800 hrs, about two miles off the Wirral coast, just north of Wallasey. The bodies were brought ashore and post-mortem examinations are due to take place today. The aircraft remains in the water, and police say it is likely to be removed today or tomorrow. Some debris has been recovered and stored for examination by air accident investigators. They have been at the scene and have launched an investigation with the assistance of the police and Civil Aviation Authority.

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: The wreckage of a light aircraft which crashed into Liverpool Bay at the weekend killing its two passengers has been raised. Salvage workers on the *Mersey Mammoth* salvage vessel used a crane to winch the wreckage from the seabed. The haulage team managed to remove the remains of the PA28 Cherokee from nine metres of water before it was further broken up by the tide. Martin Gardner from Haydock died with his wife Nora when their pleasure flight across Merseyside turned to disaster. A full scale search was launched by emergency teams after Mr Gardner's Mayday call to air traffic control on Sunday afternoon (Jul 4).

CRASH, JAFFREY AREA, NEW HAMPSHIRE, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: A pilot was injured when his plane crashed just after take-off yesterday evening. The single-engine Piper plane crashed about 200 yards from Silver Ranch Airport, said Jim Peters, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration. Police were notified around 1715 hrs and found the plane about an hour later in a heavily wooded area, Peters said. WMUR-TV reported that the pilot crawled out of the wreckage and flagged down a medical helicopter. Rescue workers had to use chainsaws to cut a path to get to him. The pilot, who was reported in serious condition, was flown to the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, Mass. No one else was on board.

CRASH, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

London, Jul 1 — A press report, dated today, states: Two people were killed and three injured in a light aircraft accident in Moscow region. The Li-2 aircraft crashed at 1845, Moscow time, while performing a training flight from Myachkovo aerodrome in Moscow region. According to the information obtained from the Emergency Situations Ministry information department, the Li-2 took off from Myachkovo aerodrome located in Ramenskoye district of the Moscow region and having travelled a distance of two and a half kilometres caught on a roof of a residential house in the settlement of Zaozyorny. The Emergency Situations Ministry confirmed that two people were killed and three injured as a result of the accident. The aircraft itself was seriously damaged.

CRASH, MOUNT KEARSARGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: A teenager was killed and his father injured when their plane crashed yesterday afternoon on Mount Kearsarge in dense fog. The plane was on its way from the Lebanon to Concord when it crashed just before 1530 hrs, off Route 103, according to Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Jim Peters. Justin Young, 17, was killed. His father, Steven Young, 48, suffered multiple injuries and was reported in fair condition Tuesday morning at Concord Hospital. Peters said the float plane is owned by a company called New Hampshire Waterbirds of Bedford. After the crash, Young used a cell phone to call 911. He described his location as approximately 15 miles west of Concord and said the plane was equipped with an emergency locator device that may have fallen off sometime before the crash. Soon after, the pilot stopped talking, although the cell phone remained active, Peters said. His call sparked a massive search, but it took about 3.5 hours to find the wreckage. The fog was so thick that searchers in planes and helicopters couldn't see anything and even searchers on the ground could see no more than 25 or 30 feet. Young

attracted rescuers by blowing a whistle. It took more than 45 minutes to carry him to safety down a steep slope and slippery rocks. Rescuers cut a trail to help reach the ambulance.

CRASH, MOUNT KEARSARGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, UNITED STATES
See N6248V.**CRASH, NORTH-EAST VALLEY, ARIZONA, UNITED STATES**

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated, Jul 2, states: A commercial business helicopter crashed in the Northeast Valley early yesterday afternoon, slightly injuring two Valley men and starting a small desert brush fire that guided rescuers to the scene. The two men were flown by emergency helicopter to Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn on Drinkwater Boulevard and Osborn Road, Division Chief Joe Ducote of the Phoenix Fire Department said. The men did not appear to have life-threatening injuries, Ducote said. It was not known where the helicopter was headed when it crashed about 1330 hrs or from where it took off. The crash site, southeast of Tatum Boulevard and Jomax Road, was in undeveloped desert, making it difficult for rescue workers to reach at first.

EMERGENCY LANDING, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: An emergency aboard an Air New Zealand aircraft during a flight to Honolulu forced it to return to Auckland today, New Zealand's National Radio reported. The report said the aircraft, carrying 137 passengers, developed a wing flap fault and dumped fuel before it landed safely. The flap was being inspected to find out what went wrong. National radio quoted an Air New Zealand spokesperson as saying passenger safety was not compromised at any time. The passengers were transferred to another Honolulu flight.

EMERGENCY LANDING, BEIRUT, LEBANON

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: A Cessna 172 made an emergency landing on a busy Beirut highway. There were no injuries and no visible damage to the aircraft, which landed on a road on the southern edge of Beirut. Soldiers sealed off the area. Airport officials said the Cessna 172 was on a training flight when it developed mechanical problems.

EMERGENCY LANDING, LEH AIRPORT, INDIA

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated yesterday, states: A Delhi-bound Alliance Air Boeing 737-200 aircraft made an emergency landing when it developed engine problems immediately after taking off from Leh airport in Jammu and Kashmir's Ladakh region today. A total of 64 passengers, mainly Delhi-based businessmen, were on board the aircraft. The pilot noticed a problem with the aircraft's engine soon after it took off the high-altitude airport in Leh at 1000 hrs. Sources at the

airline said the pilot immediately informed the control tower and a full emergency was declared at the airport. Air traffic was stopped at the airport for an hour on safety grounds. A senior airline official said: "The aircraft had to jettison its fuel and it then made a safe landing at 1055 hrs at Leh airport. All the passengers were taken off and the aircraft was taken to an isolated bay for inspection." A team of engineers will be flown to Leh airport from Delhi to rectify the engine fault.

INCIDENT AT SHANNON AIRPORT, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated today, states: An Aer Lingus plane has been grounded at Shannon airport after it was hit by a baggage handling truck this morning. The truck was offloading luggage from the plane, which had no passengers on board at the time. Aer Lingus said serious structural damage was caused but nobody was injured in the incident. Flight EI 1372 had been due to fly to London at 0855 hrs.

MID-AIR COLLISION, WELHAM GREEN, HERTFORDSHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated today, states: Two people were killed and two others injured when a helicopter collided with a light aircraft in mid-air above Hertfordshire today. The helicopter plunged into a field opposite St Thomas More Church in Station Road, Welham Green, Hertfordshire, after the collision. Wreckage from the plane dropped into woods off Dixons Hill Road in the village just before 1200, UTC, today. A total of 13 ambulance and fire service crews attended the incident. Police cordoned off the area around Dixons Hill Road, Swanlands Road and Station Road. A Hertfordshire Constabulary spokeswoman said: "We're still trying to get confirmation of the exact details but it appears both have crash landed after colliding in the air and are in separate fields in the Dixons Hill Road area."

N280AT

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: A U.S.-registered small jet crashed into an airport hangar during take-off today and burst into flames, killing seven people, officials said. The dead included all six aboard and a Panamanian man on the ground. The US Embassy said it was trying to confirm reports that four Americans and two Italians were aboard the plane. The plane, which was ferrying a patient from Ecuador to Washington, D.C., crashed at Panama City's Tocumen International. Witnesses reported hearing an explosion and then seeing a ball of fire. "All those aboard were killed," said Humberto Chavarria, assistant director of Panama's Civil Aviation Authority. "The pilot lost control, veered off course and crashed." The plane had stopped in Panama to refuel. Other flights at the airport continued normally today, authorities said.

London, Jul 7 — Israel Aircraft Industries IAI 1124 (Westwind I),

N280AT, crashed near Panama City at 1500, Jul 2, after refuelling in Panama during a flight from Ecuador to Milan, Italy. The aircraft was destroyed. Seven persons were killed.

N4123R

London, Jul 4 — A press report, dated Jul 3, states: Larry Sanders, of Alexandria, Virginia, was on his way from Springfield, Kentucky to Haskell Texas, when his aircraft went down east of the spa city at Indian Mountain. Sanders was apparently trying to land for fuel, but he was lost on the Hot Springs airport radar at 1030 yesterday. NTSB officials have been on the scene today to investigate what went wrong. The pilot did not file a formal flight plan.

London, Jul 7 — Piper PA-32-300 (Cherokee Six), N4123R, crashed near Hot Springs, Arkansas, at 1545, Jul 2, while on a flight from Springfield, Kentucky, to Hot Springs. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed. (See "Crash, Hot Springs, United States" in issue of Jul 6.)

N47984

London, Jul 7 — Piper PA-28-181 (Cherokee Archer II), N47984, crashed near Narsarsuaq, Greenland, at 1107, Jul 6, while on a flight from Goose Bay, Canada, to Narsarsuaq. The one person on board was killed.

N513TS

London, Jul 2 — Eurocopter AS 350B-2 (Ecureuil) N513TS crashed near Scottsdale, Arizona, at 2035, Jul 1, while on a flight from Scottsdale. The aircraft was destroyed. Two of the three persons on board were seriously injured.

N6248V

London, Jul 7 — Lake LA-4-200 (Buccaneer), N6248V, crashed on a hillside near Concord, New Hampshire, at 1915, Jul 5, while on a flight from Lebanon, NH, to Concord. One of the two persons on board was killed and the other was seriously injured.

N6550F

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: A single-engine plane with an advertising banner trailing behind crashed while flying between Staten Island and New Jersey, but the pilot escaped unhurt, authorities said. The plane landed in Jamaica Bay, near Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn, at about 1555 hrs, yesterday, authorities said. The cause of the accident was unclear, but the pilot - identified only as a 25-year-old man - failed to find a safe place to land after the craft began losing altitude over the bay. He managed to climb out of the plane after it hit the water and was rescued by a passing water scooter, said Capt. Martin Zweig of the United States Park Police, which patrols the area where the plane went down. London, Jul 7 — Cessna 182Q (Skylane), N6550F, crashed into Jamaica Bay, New York, at 1956, Jul 4, while on a flight from Sandy Hook, NY, to Coney Island, NY. The aircraft

sustained substantial damage. The one person on board was not injured.

POWER FAILURE AT LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 6 — A press report, dated Jul 5, states: A power outage at a Logan International Airport terminal in Boston shut down security screening systems and other equipment this afternoon, and delayed dozens of flights. The outage lasted more than four hours and was caused by a problem at two electric substations, according to Phil Orlandella, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Port Authority. The outage shut down security screening systems, the equipment used to process passengers and luggage, as well as elevators and escalators in Terminal E, Orlandella said. It also delayed 15 international flights and 13 domestic flights, he said. The Transportation Security Administration screened passengers and checked luggage by hand before power was restored this evening, Orlandella said. The cause of the outage was under investigation.

Product Recalls



DAIMLER CHRYSLER MOTOR VEHICLES, JAPAN

London, Jun 29 — A press report, dated today, states: DaimlerChrysler AG's Daimler-Benz unit in Japan will recall a total of 121,306 Mercedes-brand sedans starting tomorrow to fix faulty brake parts, the country's transport ministry said. The recall involves 49 models including the A-class compact cars and E-class sedans, the ministry said in a statement. Mercedes-Benz, Japan's second-largest imported brand by unit sales, needs to repair a defect that could weaken the brakes in 89,693 units and fix a part that controls the braking mechanism in 31,613 units, the ministry said.

FORD MOTOR VEHICLES, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 3 — A press report, dated Jul 2, states: Ford Motor Co. is preparing to recall 25,000 Taurus, Sable and Thunderbird sedans because part of the seat could loosen or break away, a Ford spokesman said today. Ford has told dealers to stop selling and delivering the vehicles, which are all from the 2004 model year. The company is concerned that seats will not adequately protect occupants if there is a collision. Involved in the recall are Taurus and Sable sedans with power seats made in Atlanta or Chicago between Nov 17, 2003, and Jan 15, 2004, and Thunderbirds with driver power seats built between Dec 15, 2003, and Jan 20, 2004. Spokesman Glenn Ray said the company will soon begin contacting owners of affected vehicles and offering free repairs.

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated Jul 7, states: Ford Motor Co. said today it has voluntarily recalled more than 170,000 of 2003 and 2004 model vehicles for a variety of defects. The largest group includes 92,000 of 2003 F-Series Super Duty pickup trucks and Excursion sport utility vehicles, spokesman Glenn Ray said. He said there may be a problem with the battery ground connection to the engine block on models with six-litre diesel engines. In the worst case, he said, a smoldering fire could result from a loose ground connection. He said there have been 35 reports of alleged fires related to the problem, but no accidents or injuries. Separately, Dearborn, Mich.-based Ford has recalled 53,500 of 2003 model Crown Victorias and Lincoln Towncars. "These are fleet cars only," Ray said, mainly used as taxis or limousines. He said a fracture may develop on the rear axle shaft, resulting in a loss of power for the rear wheel drive vehicles. No accidents or injuries have been reported related to the defect, Ray said. Ford also has recalled 25,800 of 2004-model Ford Taurus, Thunderbird and Mercury Sable vehicles due to defective welding on the frame of the power front seat. The car seats may become loose and squeak or rattle, Ray said. He said no injuries or accidents have been reported related to the seat frame welding problem.

GAS-POWERED HAND TOOLS, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 3 — A report from Washington, DC, states: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announces the recall of 540,000 Echo-brand grass trimmers, brush cutters, hedge clippers, power blowers and power edgers in voluntary co-operation with Echo Inc., of Lake Zurich, Ill.. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. The fuel lines on these tools can develop an "alligator surface" appearance which could develop into a condition that will allow leakage of gasoline and fuel vapor, posing a fire hazard to consumers. Echo has received three reports of fuel leakage with no reported injuries or property damage. Sold at home Depot, home centers, hardware stores, and power equipment dealers nation-wide from February 2003 to May 2004 for between \$149 and \$300. Manufactured in United States. Consumers should stop using the recalled tools immediately and contact an Echo dealer for a free repair.

HONDA MOTOR VEHICLES, UNITED STATES/CANADA

London, Jun 30 — A press report, dated today, states: Honda Motor Co. is widening a recall of vehicles in the U.S. and Canada to 1.14 million units, among its largest, covering Accord and Acura cars that have the same transmission fault that triggered a light-truck recall this year. Japan's third-largest automaker is voluntarily recalling 536,950 vehicles, with V-6 engines and 5-speed automatic transmissions, in addition to those already announced in April.

**KIA MOTOR VEHICLES,
SOUTH KOREA**

London, Jul 7 — A press report, dated today, states: Kia Motors Corp., South Korea's second-largest automaker, will partially recall 43,488 vehicles because of defective seatbelts, the Ministry of Construction and Transportation said today. The recall affects 18,217 Sephia compacts, 18,364 Shuma compacts and 6,907 Sportage sports utility vehicles built between Jun 1, 1998 and May 31, 2000, the ministry said.

**LAPTOP COMPUTERS,
WORLDWIDE**

London, Jun 28 — A press report, dated today, states: Hewlett Packard Co said the global recall of 900,000 laptop computers will have little impact on its earnings this year, even though it will have to bear the initial cost. "At the moment, HP aims to bear the cost alone, but we're still negotiating with suppliers to reach a solution to the problem," Isaiah Cheung, director of HP's Mobile Business in China, told reporters at a press conference. In a statement released at the weekend, the company, one of the world's largest PC makers, announced a global recall of Compaq and HP laptops after routine testing detected a design flaw in certain laptop memory modules sourced from four third-party suppliers. HP named the suppliers as South Korean's Samsung Electronics, Germany's Infineon Technologies AG, Taiwan's Winbond Electronics Corp and Micron Technologies Inc. A breakdown of figures showing the number of laptops to be recalled in China was not available, Cheung said. However, she said China accounted for around 5 pct of HP's total global laptop sales last year. Only those laptops sold between March 2002 and July 2003 are being recalled.

**MAZDA MOTOR VEHICLES,
NEW ZEALAND**

London, Jul 8 — A press report, dated today, states: More than 4000 late-model Mazdas have been recalled, only weeks after two other big recalls. Mazda New Zealand has recalled 4171 Mazda6 vehicles made between June 2002 and February 14 this year because of possible problems with fuel tanks and indicators. The recall affects 4033 Mazda6 and 138 Mazda Atenza cars. The Atenza is the Japanese import version of the Mazda6. Thousands of

Ford and Mitsubishi vehicles were recalled less than a month ago. The Mazda6 recall has been made because the car's plastic fuel tank has been found to be vulnerable to high temperatures which could cause it to expand, crack and leak fuel. And a poor contact can intermittently stop indicators working. Mazda New Zealand managing director Peter Aitken said only three cases of the fuel tank problem had been detected out of more than 250,000 vehicles. He said the risk of damage to the fuel tank was minimal and that the recall was a precautionary measure.

**NISSAN DIESEL MOTOR
VEHICLES, JAPAN**

London, Jul 2 — A press report, dated today, states: Nissan Diesel Motor Co said today it will recall 177 trucks to fix their front-axle bearings to prevent the vehicles from catching fire. In a report filed with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Nissan Diesel said the trucks subject to the recall were manufactured between June 2001 and March 2004.

**PORSCHE MOTOR VEHICLES,
JAPAN**

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: Porsche Japan KK said today it is recalling 828 vehicles in five station wagon models for free replacement of defective rear seat belts. The five models are the Cayenne, the Cayenne with an air suspension system, the Cayenne S, the Cayenne S with an air suspension system and the Cayenne Turbo, the Japanese subsidiary of Porsche AG of Germany said in a report to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

POWER TOOLS, UNITED STATES

London, Jun 30 — A press report, dated Jun 29, states: A landscaping equipment company is recalling about 540,000 power tools because the fuel lines may develop a cracked appearance that could allow a leak and pose a fire hazard. Echo Inc., of Lake Zurich, Illinois, has received three reports of fuel leakage but has not received any reports of injuries or property damage. The recalled products — including hedge clippers, power pruners and power edgers — were sold at Home Depot, hardware stores, home centres and power equipment dealers nationwide for \$149-\$300, the

Consumer Product Safety Commission said today. The tools were made in the United States and were sold from February 2003 to May 2004.

**VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT MOTOR
VEHICLES, UNITED KINGDOM**

London, Jul 5 — A press report, dated today, states: A suspected fault with a rear shock absorber mounting bolt has forced VW to recall 1,697 Passats. Cars built from August to November last year are affected. The problem is believed to have been caused by incorrect factory tooling, and the firm is contacting owners.

**GREECE**

London, Jul 7 — CMA CGM has cancelled direct calls at Piraeus and started up a feeder service instead. For the past few weeks, the line has been running a shuttle from its Malta hub to the Greek port. A 450 teu feedership was put onto the route because of severe delays at Piraeus that were badly disrupting CMA CGM's *Sunda Express* from Southeast Asia to Europe, said Nicholas Sartini, CMA CGM vice president responsible for the Europe-Asia trades. P&O Nedlloyd has taken similar action, with a feeder between Cagliari and Piraeus started a month ago after the line also experienced serious congestion that was badly affecting service schedules throughout the east Mediterranean. Cargo volumes into Piraeus are growing ahead of the Olympics, adding to the jams that carriers are suffering. But lines expect to continue with these dedicated services after the games are over, because of the perennial problems faced in Piraeus that are unlikely to be resolved in the near future.

INDIA

See under "Labour Disputes."

UNITED STATES

See under "Labour Disputes."

Following received from Bimco date July 14

Australia

Abbot Point	14-Jul-2004	Coal: 1 vessel berthed; 5 vessels due by 25/7; up to 2 days berthing delay expected subject to cargo availability and berth congestion
Dalrymple Bay	14-Jul-2004	Coal: 3 vessels berthed, 4 anchored; 49 vessels due by 28/8; vessels berthing in order of cargo availability; depending on type of cargo required, delays of up to 5 days can be expected, although 1 vessel may have to wait 14 days.
Hay Point	14-Jul-2004	Coal: 2 vessels loading, 3 anchored; 11 vessels due by 1/8; 1-6 days berthing delay expected subject to cargo availability and berth congestion. The outloading system will be out of action from 12-23/7 for conveyor belt replacement. During this time, berth 1 will be closed from 12-18/7 and berth 2 from 19-23/7.
Newcastle	14-Jul-2004	Coal: Kooragang 4, 5 and 6: 2 vessels loading, 3 waiting; 22 vessels due by 26/7; Dykes 4+5: 1 vessel loading, 1 waiting; 17 vessels due by 30/7; 1-4 days delay expected prior to berthing due to planned maintenance at Kooragang terminal and heavy shipping schedule. Grain: 2 vessels due by 20/7, both to load wheat; up to 1 day's delay at present due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Port Kembla	14-Jul-2004	Coal: 1 vessel anchored; 11 vessels due by 15/9; CB1: 3 vessels due by 27/7; up to 9 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability. Grain: 2 vessels due by 22/7, both to load wheat; 3-4 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Port Hedland	14-Jul-2004	Iron ore: BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Mt. Newman (Nelson Point), "A" berth: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 2 anchored; 7 vessels due by 23/7; 1-8 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; maintenance dredging for ca. 4.5 hours will be carried out ca. 13/7; shiploader No. 2 will be shut down for maintenance for 96 hours from 21.00 hrs. 18/7 to 21.00 hrs. 22/7 "B" berth: 4 vessels anchored; 9 vessels due by 20/7; 1-9 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; maintenance dredging for ca. 4.5 hours will be carried out ca. 13/7; BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Goldsworthy (Finucane Island): 1 vessel berthed and loading; no delays expected; Westyard "D" berth: 1 vessel berthed, 1 anchored; 3 vessels due by 19/7; 1-6 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability. Due to heavy demand for product, acute cargo shortages are being experienced at wharf stockpiles. Vessels will continue to berth as product becomes available.
Dampier	14-Jul-2004	Iron ore: Parker Point: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 7 anchored; 9 vessels due by 26/7; 1-10 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; cargo shortages are evident, long delays are anticipated and vessels may berth out of turn; there will be an 18 hour maintenance shutdown starting 18/7 and a possible 36 hour maintenance shutdown starting ca. 27/7; East Intercourse Island: 1 vessel berthed and loading, 8 anchored; 11 vessels due by 22/7; up to 16 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; shippers will always consider a shift to a lay-by berth for loaded vessels awaiting HW; cargo shortages are evident, delays are anticipated and vessels may berth out of turn; a 72 hour planned maintenance shutdown will commence 21/7.
Port Walcott	14-Jul-2004	Iron ore: 2 vessels berthed and loading, 7 anchored; 13 vessels due by 23/7; 1-9 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability; as a result of a heavy schedule for July and maintenance requirements, it is extremely likely that vessels will berth out of order. In the next few days there will only be one lump re-screening plant available, which will mean not being able to load two lump vessels at the same time.
Geelong	14-Jul-2004	Grain: 2 vessels waiting, 1 to load wheat, 1 barley; 5 vessels due by 19/7, 1 to load wood-chips, 2 wheat, 2 canola; up to 12 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Portland	14-Jul-2004	Grain: 4 vessels due by 28/7, 1 to load wood-chips, 1 faba beans, 1 barley, 1 wheat; no delays expected.
Port Adelaide	14-Jul-2004	Grain: No. 27 berth: 6 vessels due by 25/7, 3 to load wheat, 1 canola, 1 barley, 1 faba beans; 1-3 days delay expected due to berth congestion.
Wallaroo	14-Jul-2004	ETSA maintenance will take place from 19-21/7 and there will be no movements or shipping during this period
Port Pirie	14-Jul-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	14-Jul-2004	Grain: 3 vessels due by 25/7, 2 to load wheat, 1 wheat/canola; up to 1 day's delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Geraldton	14-Jul-2004	Iron ore: 1 vessel anchored; up to 1 day's delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability. Grain: 1 vessel waiting to load wheat; 3 vessels due by 18/7, all to load wheat; 1-6 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability..
Kwinana	14-Jul-2004	Grain: 15 vessels due by 9/8, 4 to load barley, 11 wheat; 2-7 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Albany	14-Jul-2004	Grain: 5 vessels due by 27/8, all to load wheat; up to 11 days delay expected due to berth congestion and cargo availability.
Esperance	14-Jul-2004	Iron ore: 3 vessels due by 31/7; no delays expected. Grain: 6 vessels due by 31/7, 2 to load feed, 1 oats, 2 barley, 1 unknown cargo; up to 5 days delay expected due to cargo availability and berth congestion.

Brazil

Paranagua	13-Jul-2004	Fifteen vessels berthed of which 2 soya loaders, 1 full container discharger, 4 fertiliser dischargers, 4 reefer loaders, 1 sugar loader, 3 other loaders/dischargers; 22 vessels waiting in roads of which 9 to load (2 pellets, 1 sugar, 1 reefer, 1 soya, 4 others), 13 to discharge (11 fertiliser, 2 full containers); 45 vessels due over the next 7 days.
Rio Grande	13-Jul-2004	Two vessels berthed of which 1 fertiliser discharger, 1 sawn timber loader; 3 vessels waiting in roads; 33 vessels due over the next 10 days.
Santos	13-Jul-2004	Twenty-three vessels berthed of which 1 fertiliser discharger, 2 full container loaders/dischargers, 1 bulk fuel oil loader, 1 bulk soya loader, 5 chemical products loaders/

Port Conditions

Sao Sebastiao	13-Jul-2004	dischargers, 2 bulk pellets loaders, 10 sugar loaders, 1 other loader; 25 vessels waiting in roads; 94 vessels due over the next 7 days; Private terminals: Terminal 37: 2 full container loaders/dischargers; Tecondi: 1 full container loader/discharger; Termares: 1 Ro/Ro loader/discharger; Rodrimar: 1 fertiliser discharger; Cosipa: 1 bulk coal loader; Ultra fertil: 1 fertiliser discharger; Cargill: 1 bulk sugar loader, 1 bulk soya loader; Santos Brasil: no vessels; Cutrale: no vessels; Dow: 1 chemical products discharger. Four vessels berthed, 1 waiting in roads; 4 vessels due over the next 10 days.
Vitoria	13-Jul-2004	
Bulgaria Jul 12		
Bourgas	12-Jul-2004	Nine vessels in port operating, of which 5 loading (1 scrap, 2 coils, 2 containers), 4 discharging (1 billets, 1 iron ore, 2 containers); 3 vessels waiting in roads, all to load, of which 1 coils, 2 empty; 8 vessels due of which 4 to load (1 coils, 1 scrap, 1 containers, 1 steel sheet), 4 to discharge (1 containers, 2 zinc concentrate, 1 salt).
Colombia		
Buenaventura	13-Jul-2004	Shore crane operational. Ten vessels berthed (3 containers, 3 general cargo, 4 bulkers), 1 bulker anchored; 25 vessels due (17 containers, 6 bulkers, 1 tanker, 1 PCC), with 2 days delay expected for bulkers.
Egypt		
Suez Canal	11-Jul-2004	Twenty-one vessels transiting Northbound, 23 Southbound.
Georgia		
Supsa	12-Jul-2004	Terminal shut down for maintenance of off-shore cargo lines until approx. 19/7.
Israel		
Ashdod	13-Jul-2004	No labour problems. Two general cargo vessels loading at berth, 10 vessels discharging at berth (8 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 3 vessels loading/discharging at berth (2 containers, 1 tanker); 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchor to discharge; 1 vessel under repairs/dry-docked, 1 awaiting orders; 15 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Haifa	13-Jul-2004	No labour problems. Four vessels discharging at berth (2 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 4 vessels loading/discharging at berth (1 containers, 1 car carrier, 1 tanker, 1 passenger vessel); 1 bulker waiting at anchor to discharge, 2 tankers waiting at anchor to load/dischARGE; 3 vessels under repairs/dry-docked, 1 awaiting orders; 24 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Kazakhstan		
Aktau	12-Jul-2004	Oil products: 3 vessels berthed, all loading crude oil; 5 vessels in roads, all to load unknown cargoes; 3 vessels due by 13/7.
Pakistan		
Karachi	13-Jul-2004	Two vessels loading at berth (1 MOL, 1 ethanol), 5 discharging at berth (2 DAP, 1 general cargo, 1 jute, 1 phosphate), 3 container vessels loading/discharging at berth; 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to load, 2 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (1 crude oil, 1 fuel oil); no vessel under repairs/dry-docked, 2 awaiting orders; 1 HSD vessels due, with no berthing delays expected.
Port Qasim	13-Jul-2004	Two vessels discharging at berth (1 palm oil, 1 iron ore), 1 container vessel loading/discharging at QICT berth; 3 container vessels waiting at anchorage to load, 6 vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge (3 containers, 1 iron ore, 1 VCM, 1 fuel oil).
Poland		
Gdansk	12-Jul-2004	Ten vessels loading at berth (4 coal, 4 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 3 discharging at berth (2 bulkers, 1 general cargo); 3 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage; 2 vessels waiting in roads (1 coal, 1 bulker); 23 vessels due.
Gdynia	12-Jul-2004	Two general cargo vessels loading at berth, 3 vessels discharging at berth (1 general cargo, 2 bulkers); 1 general cargo vessel awaiting orders; 20 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; no vessels waiting at anchorage, none waiting in roads; 51 vessels due.
Russia		
Novorossiysk	12-Jul-2004	Eight vessels in port operating, of which 5 loading (1 bulk cement, 2 steel billets, 1 steel sheets/pipes, 1 bulk sugar), 1 discharging bulk sugar, 2 discharging/loading containers; 4 vessels waiting in roads, all to load, of which 1 coils, 1 equipment, 1 WRIC, 1 bulk cement; 59 vessels due of which 58 to load (4 HBI, 1 pig-iron, 7 coils, 4 bulk ammonium nitrate, 7 aluminium, 4 steel sheets, 1 pipes, 3 bulk urea, 3 steel billets, 2 flowers, 5 bulk NPK, 1 bulk coils/slabs, 2 scrap, 1 zinc, 4 copper, 1 bulk cement, 2 slabs, 1 vehicles, 1 lead, 1 paper, 2 diesel oil, 1 UAN solution), 1 to discharge/load containers. Oil terminal: 2 tankers berthed, both loading, of which 1 crude oil, 1 fuel oil; 3 tankers in roads, all to load, of which 2 crude oil, 1 fuel oil; 7 tankers due, all to load crude oil.
Tuapse	12-Jul-2004	Oil products: 2 vessels berthed, 1 loading gasoline, 1 naphtha; 1 fuel oil vessel in roads; 6 vessels due by 13/7, of which 2 crude oil, 4 gasoil.
Turkmenistan		
Okarem	12-Jul-2004	Oil products: 1 vessel berthed loading crude oil; 3 vessels in roads, all to load crude oil.
Ukraine		
Ilechevsk	12-Jul-2004	Eight vessels in port operating, of which 5 loading (1 sulphur, 4 steel products), 2 discharging

Port Conditions

<p>Mariupol</p> <p>Odessa</p> <p>Sevastopol</p> <p>United States</p> <p>Beaumont, TX</p> <p>Corpus Christi, TX</p> <p>Kalama, WA</p> <p>New Orleans, LA</p> <p>Tacoma, WA</p> <p>Vancouver, WA</p> <p>Yemen Jul 11</p> <p>Hodeidah</p>	<p>12-Jul-2004</p> <p>12-Jul-2004</p> <p>12-Jul-2004</p> <p>13-Jul-2004</p> <p>13-Jul-2004</p> <p>13-Jul-2004</p> <p>13-Jul-2004</p> <p>13-Jul-2004</p> <p>11-Jul-2004</p>	<p>ore, 1 loading/discharging containers; 3 vessels in roads, all to load, of which 1 manganese ore, 2 steel products; 23 vessels due, of which 15 to load (10 steel products, 4 oil, 1 paper), 6 to discharge steel products, 2 to load/discharge containers.</p> <p>Eight vessels in port operating, all loading, of which 2 steel, 3 coal, 1 equipment, 1 fire-clay, 1 sulphur; 1 steel vessel undergoing survey; 2 vessels in roads, both to load, of which 1 steel, 1 coal; 39 vessels due, of which 36 to load (19 steel, 1 ferrous metals, 7 coal, 1 sulphur, 5 fire-clay, 1 fertiliser, 2 sunflower beans), 2 to discharge (1 equipment, 1 bauxite), 1 to discharge/load fluorspar/coal.</p> <p>Eleven vessels in port operating, of which 9 loading metal, 2 discharging sugar, 1 discharging/loading containers; 3 vessels in roads, of which 1 to load metal, 2 to discharge sugar; 59 vessels due, of which 20 to load (19 metal, 1 ferrous metals/coal), 1 to discharge chemicals, 38 to discharge/load containers.</p> <p>One vessel in port loading fuel oil; 1 vessel in roads to load steel; 5 vessels due, all to load, of which 2 fuel oil, 3 steel.</p> <p>Louis Dreyfus terminal: 1-2 days delay expected.</p> <p>Interstate grain terminal: 1-2 days delay.</p> <p>Kalama export terminal: 3 days delay expected.</p> <p>Mississippi River terminal berthing delays: Cenex-Harstates/Myrtle Grove: 2-3 days delay expected; Cargill-Westwego: 2 days delay expected; ADM/Ama: 2-3 days delay expected; Bunge/Destrehan: 1 day's delay expected; ADM/Destrehan: 2-3 days delay expected; ADM/Reserve: undergoing maintenance until September; Cargill/Reserve: no delays; Peavey/Paulina: 2 days delay expected; Zen-Noh/Convent: 2 days delay expected; Cargill/Baton Rouge: no delays; Mississippi River mid-stream buoys - estimated berthing delays based on new vessel presented as load-ready and weather permitting: Mile 121.5 ADM (Gemini) - Destrehan: 1 day's delay expected; Mile 158.0 Cargill (K2) - Convent: 4 days delay expected; Mile 180.0 Cooper (America) - Darrow: 1 day's delay expected.</p> <p>Temco terminal: 2 days delay expected.</p> <p>United Harvest terminal: 2 days delay expected.</p> <p>All berths are vacant; 1 wheat flour vessel berthed, no vessels anchored; expected waiting times: general cargo/containers/bagged cargoes: no delays; bulk cargoes: up to 2 days.</p>
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