

August 3 2007

Sea Diamond oil clean-up ends

By Nigel Lowry

OPERATIONS at the Greek island of Santorini to remove oil stemming from the sinking earlier this year of the cruiseship Sea Diamond are being scaled down after what is being called "a positive outcome" to the clean-up.

Shoreline response work was completed on July 19 and a new inspection by the coastguard, local authorities and a senior representative of the International Tanker Owners' Pollution Fund found no remaining oil in any of the shoreline areas.

It is estimated that some 300 tonnes of the 410 tonnes on board the Louis Hellenic

Cruises-operated vessel have been recovered.

According to ITOF adviser Michael O'Brien, the 16-week shoreline clean-up involved removing oiled debris and rubbish from the shores, removing layers of freshly-deposited oil, selectively removing oil-saturated sand and pebbles, steam-cleaning rocks and cliffs and sea-water flushing of sand and pebbles. As the wreck, which lies at a depth of about 130 m, continues to leak small amounts of oil, an inflatable boom is being kept above it to catch oil as it rises to the surface.

A small team will remain on site and will be making daily rounds, using a

skimming vessel to gather floating oil.

UK-based London Overseas Consultants, a firm that was appointed to provide specialist marine engineering services after the accident, has concluded that there are very limited options for hastening removal of further oil trapped in the wreck.

Any deposits that may have accumulated in machinery spaces could be partly removed by 'hot tapping' but would not yield significant results nor prevent the gradual migration of oil through the accommodation sections.

However, LOC said it has concluded that tapping the main internal fuel oil tanks is not feasible, while the removal of oil wedges accumulated in the accommodation is seen as practically impossible.

Attempts to remove oil from the fuel tanks or other spaces could worsen the rate of leakage and jeopardise any contractors involved, causing "a real threat to the environment".

Monday saw the maiden departure for Louis of the newly-named Cristal, seen as the long-term replacement for the Sea Diamond in the Cyprus-based group's 14-ship fleet. The Cristal was most recently part of the Sea Containers fleet, within which it traded as the Opera, and is perhaps best known for its stints as NCL's Leeward and Star Cruises' SuperStar Taurus.

Harland and Wolff is front runner for Napoli contract

By Janet Porter

BELFAST shipyard Harland and Wolff is close to landing the contract to dismantle the bow section of MSC Napoli, the containership that was grounded off the Devon coast in January and which was deliberately split in two earlier this month.

Lloyd's List understands a formal announcement could be made in the next day or two, with the yard now in the process of finalising terms and conditions.

If Harland and Wolff is successful in winning the demolition contract, it would mark the first time that the company has undertaken this type of work.

The yard was only recently granted a waste management licence.

The bow section was refloated 10 days ago after being separated by explosives from the stern, and could be towed to Belfast as early as next week.

The more badly damaged aft section, including the accommodation block, is still resting on the seabed and may have to be broken up in situ.

The London P&I Club, which provides liability insurance cover for the ship, has said removal of the wreck plus the cost of operations along the coast and at Portland, where containers from the ship have been taken, will be in the order of \$30m.

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

Vessel	Type	Flag	Class	GT	DWT	Bit	Casualty
<i>BALTIC ACE</i>	product tanker	PAN	—	24,248	39,350	1990	In collision with <i>Sea Crown</i> and <i>Baltic Ace</i> in lat 01 15N, long 104 04E. At anchor. Damage believed minor.
<i>BBC ECUADOR</i>	general	ATG	GL	5,548	6,404	2001	Grounded near Puerto Eden Jun 29. Deviated to Puerto Eden as port of refuge. Arrived Punta Arenas Jul 10 as port of refuge. Sailed Jul 14.
<i>BRAGE R.</i>	dredger	NLD	LR	2,176	3,200	1997	Had engine-room fire in lat 56 42N, long 08 09.30E, Jul 17. Extinguished by carbon dioxide. Towed to Thyboron same day for repairs, which still in hand Jul 23, ETC early August.
<i>EASTWIND</i>	general	PAN	LR	3,006	3,844	1976	Had mechanical failure near Corfu Jul 19. Anchored Corfu roads awaiting inspection.
<i>HAVI</i>	bulker	PAN	BV	19,820	34,291	1977	In collision with <i>Sea Crown</i> and <i>Baltic Ace</i> in lat 01 15N, long 104 04E. At anchor with possible leakage.
<i>HIRAOZAN MARU</i>	bulk cement	JPN	NK	2,983	4,576	2000	Had steering gear and main engine problems due generator malfunction and grounded in lat 33 54.5N, long 130 54.7E, Jul 20. Refloated by salvors Jul 21. Resumed voyage.
<i>MAERSK NEUCHATEL</i>	container	CYP	GL	25,674	33,651	2005	Grounded off Tema in lat 05 38 15.12N, long 00 01 38.22E, Jul 25.
<i>MAERSK ROSARIO</i>	container	ATG	GL	16,129	16,824	2003	In collision with Heng Shan Hai at Km 80, River Parana. At anchor.
<i>NORA MAERSK</i>	container	DIS	LR	27,733	30,194	2000	Reported Jul 20 at Auckland effecting urgent repairs to its bow thruster. Sailed Jul 21.
<i>NORDIC VIKING</i>	fishing	USA	—	194	—	1979	Grounded in lat 60 42N, long 146 11W, Jul 21 diesel fuel spilled. Crew taken off. Removing remaining fuel on board. Engines patched & dewatered. Reported Jul 25 to have been refloated and towed to Seward.
<i>PHILIPPOS K.</i>	general	GRC	—	976	1,666	1962	Had fire in accommodation while under repair at Perama Jul 21. Accommodation and engine-room damaged.
<i>PRIDE</i>	bulk/oil	TUR	NV	43,487	77,677	1981	Grounded at Km 149.5 River Parana Jul 19. Navigation obstructed.
<i>PROMAC</i>	fishing	ARG	—	182	—	—	Reported Jul 23 under tow in lat 47 01S, long 62 42W, bound Comodoro Rivadavia.
<i>SASANQUA</i>	refrig	PAN	NK	7,307	5,388	1993	Disabled about 1,000 miles NW of Cape Verde prev Jul 9 following engine-room fire. Reported Jul 23 under tow, bound Las Palmas.
<i>SEA RICHES</i>	bulker	LBR	NK	17,859	28,287	2001	In collision with <i>Jin Zhou Huo Lin Jian 88</i> on the Huang Pu Jiang river at Shanghai Jul 15. Anchored at Wu Song Kou Anchorage No.6, under MSA order.
<i>TIN TIN</i>	general	PAN	—	109	—	1976	Struck movable exit bridge while leaving shipyard in Savona Jul 21. Ended up on quay. Serious damage to starboard side. Returned to shipyard, detained.

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The following reports are reprinted from Lloyd's List



AFRIC STAR (Liberia)

London, Jul 19 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS refrigerated general cargo *Afric Star* was in lat 54 00 48N, long 08 13 19E, at 1123, UTC, today, speed 12.3 knots, course 268 degrees.

Hamburg, Jul 23 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Afric Star*, which was under repair at Hamburg shipyard Blohm & Voss, sailed Hamburg Jul 19 for Cotonou. -- Lloyd's Agents.

AILSA CRAIG (Panama)

Piraeus, Jul 25 -- Floating production tanker *Ailsa Craig* is still at Perama, and the investigation into the cause of the fire is continuing. -- Lloyd's Agents.

AKADEMIK FYODOROV (Russia)

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated Jul 25, states: Research *Akademik Fyodorov* (12660 gt, built 1987) sustained engine failure, one day after it sailed from the northern port of Murmansk and was drifting in the Barents Sea about 60 nautical miles from the shore, state-run Rossiya TV reported. The Russian expedition that was set to explore and claim the Arctic for the Kremlin, by planting a Russian flag on the seabed at the North Pole, suddenly ground to a halt Wednesday (Jul 25) when the research vessel broke down. *Rossiya*, a nuclear-powered icebreaker, which was leading the expedition, turned back to help and was expected to reach the stricken vessel Thursday. "We are heading back to *Akademik Fyodorov* to give it technical assistance," expedition leader Artur Chilingarov said in televised remarks on board the icebreaker.

Kiel, Jul 26 -- The malfunction of an electric motor necessary to operate the propeller of research *Akademik Fyodorov* was repaired on Jul 26. The damage had caused the vessel to drift in the Barents Sea on Jul 25. The vessel is now continuing its voyage to the North Pole. The malfunction had brought a Russian naval expedition on its way to explore the ocean floor below the North Pole to a sudden halt. *Akademik Fyodorov* had sustained engine failure a day after leaving Murmansk port. The nuclear powered ice-breaker *Rossiya* leading the expedition turned back to help. It met the research vessel at 0200, hrs, Jul 26. Also an assistance team had been dispatched from Murmansk. But the ship's crew meanwhile had coped with the engine breakdown on its own. Jointly the ships started their voyage towards the Franz Josef Land archipelago. The weather on the scene was favourable. -- Correspondent.

ALAKAI (U.S.A.)

See "Hurricane "Cosme"" under "Weather & Navigation".

ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT (Bahamas)

Hamburg, Jul 24 -- According to the local agents of passenger (cruise) *Alexander von Humboldt* and Blohm & Voss shipyard, repairs to the vessel will be completed this Friday (Jul 27). The vessel will then depart from Hamburg, destination unknown. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Kiel, Jul 26 -- Passenger (cruise) *Alexander von Humboldt* was leaving floating dock 16 of Blohm & Voss at 1300, local time, today, assisted by tugs. -- Correspondent.

ALPHEUS (Netherlands)

Kiel, Jul 23 -- Chemical tanker *Alpheus* (built 2003), length 110 metres, caught fire on the Rhine, close to Wesel on Jul 21. The vessel is currently berthed in Wesel as it is unable to proceed under own power. The vessel, homeport Zwijndrecht, is lying at anchor on the Rhine close to the shore. Fire fighters from Wesel extinguished the fire within 15 minutes and thus prevented a possible disaster in the the region had the cargo of 2,000 tons of benzol exploded. The fire was caused by an overheated turbo loader. -- Correspondent.

AMADEO (Panama)

London, Jul 23 -- Product tanker *Amadeo* passed Istanbul, westbound, Jul 21.

ANG PANGULO (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 24 -- Yacht *Ang Pangulo* is presently at the Philippine Navy facility and reported that repair is temporarily suspended and waiting for further instructions. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ARKLOW FAME (Republic of Ireland)

Dublin, Jul 19 -- General cargo *Arklow Fame* repaired and ETD Dublin tonight. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ATLANTIC TRAVELLER (DIS)

Kiel, Jul 23 -- Passenger ro/ro *Atlantic Traveller* (16794 gt, built 1993) has had to cancel three sailings on the Egersund to Hanstholm run due to engine problems. About 3,000 passengers are affected by this. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, Jul 23 -- Experts were taken by aircraft to the stricken Fjordline passenger ro/ro *Atlantic Traveller* to solve the turbo-loader problems which occurred on the way to Bergen, where 640 passengers were waiting to return to Denmark. The vessel is expected to depart from Bergen to Hanstholm at 1430 today. The sailings Hanstholm-Egersund at 1000, Jul 21, Egersund-Hanstholm at 2000 same day and Hanstholm-Egersund-Haugesund-Bergen at 1000, Jul 22, had to be cancelled. -- Correspondent.

BALTIC ACE (Panama)

See *Havi*.

BANGLAR SHOURABH (Bangladesh)

Chittagong, Jul 26 -- Contacted owners of Crude oil tanker *Banglar*

Shourabh, Bangladesh Shipping Corporation, Chittagong, and have spoken with Mr. Abu Hena Mohammed Mamun, General Manager (Ship repairs). Mr. Mamun reported that vessel is drydocked and undertaking necessary repairs, from Jul 10, at Karnaphully Shipbuilders Ltd., Chittagong. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BBC ECUADOR (Antigua & Barbuda)

Callao, Jul 26 -- Following received from owners of general cargo *BBC Ecuador*: General cargo *BBC Ecuador* (5548 gt, built 2001) has sustained serious damage to its hull following the grounding on Jun 29. In order to establish the extent of the damages, the vessel deviated into Puerto Eden as first port of refuge. When the extent of damages became apparent the vessel was requested to be removed to the second port of refuge, Punta Arenas to carry out further inspections of the damages with the aim to consider to allow the vessel to continue to proceed on its scheduled laden voyage from Campana to Callao after some temporary repairs have been carried out. In view of the circumstances of the accident and extraordinary expenses incurred and to be insured for the common safety of vessel and its cargo necessary for the safe prosecution of this voyage to Callao we declare General Average. We shall not allow the delivery of the cargo to receivers at the final port of destination unless sufficient General Average securities have been submitted to the average adjusters to our satisfaction. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- *BBC Ecuador* sailed Puerto Eden Jul 7, arrived Punta Arenas Jul 10 and sailed Jul 14. Vessel subsequently arrived Puerto Montt Jul 19 and arrived and sailed Talcahuano Jul 21.)

BCL IZABELA (Antigua & Barbuda)

Bremen, Jul 20 -- Container Carrier *BCL Izabela* (7170 gt, built 2007) struck the pier during mooring (at Bremerhaven) at 2240 yesterday and sustained damage. The vessel has been transferred to a waiting place and will be investigated instead of leaving Bremerhaven. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 25 -- Container Carrier *BCL Izabela*, Hamburg for Gdynia, passed Brunsbuttel Jul 23.

BHATRA BHUM (Indonesia)

London, Jul 25 -- Following received from Singapore Port Operations, timed 0115, UTC: General cargo *Bhatra Bhum* (7999 gt, built 1979) and Container Carrier *Thor Nexus* (15520 gt, built 1989) were in collision in the TSS Singapore at about 0745, Jul 24. Understand both vessels sustained some damage. *Bhatra Bhum* returned to Singapore. *Thor Nexus* proceeded. Incident is under investigation. (Note -- *Bhatra Bhum* arrived Singapore Jul 19 and according to Lloyd's MIU AIS was in port at Singapore at 0056, UTC, Jul 24. According to Lloyd's MIU AIS *Thor Nexus* was stationary 3.8 nautical

miles from Telok Ramunia, in lat 01 18.13N, long 104 11.25E at 0039, UTC, Jul 24.)

BINA (Indonesia)

Jakarta, Jul 23 -- Product tanker *Bina* is still lying anchored at Tanjung Uncang, Batam. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BLUE WATER PRINCESS 1 (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 19 -- The Philippine Coast Guard convened the Special Board of Marine Inquiry on Thursday (Jul 19) to conduct the official investigation on the ro-ro ferry *Blue Water Princess 1* which sank on Jul 12. The creation of investigating body follows Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's reprimand of the Coast Guard and Maritime Industry Authority for their slow investigation of the sinking. During this week's cabinet meeting, MARINA and Coast Guard officials told Mrs. Arroyo that the formal investigation would be finished by September. The President, however, said that this would be too late and told officials she wants it completed by mid-August. A preliminary hearing by the Board will be held at the Coast Guard headquarters in Manila on Friday where testimonies from the captain and the owner of the vessel will be taken. -- Correspondent.

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: Minutes before it left Quezon province, the ill-fated ro-ro ferry *Blue Water Princess 1* took in additional last-minute passengers. This was the admission today of the vessel's captain Virgilio Retardo, who testified before a Special Board of Marine Inquiry looking into the Jul 12 incident. Radio dzBB reported that Retardo could not explain why the number of passengers rescued from the water far exceeded the reported manifest of 28 passengers and crew. But he admitted many last-minute passengers boarded the craft and that he could not control them. Investigators were also expected to ask Retardo during the hearing how the crew tied the "rolling cargo" in the ship. The rolling of the cargo inside the ship when it ran aground had been blamed for the ship's losing its balance and sinking.

BRAGE R. (Netherlands)

London, Jul 20 -- Following received from Aarhus MRCC, timed 1030, UTC: Dredger *Brage R.* (2176 gt, built 1997) had an engine-room fire in lat 56 42N, long 08 09.5E, at 1025, UTC, Jul 17. The master anchored the vessel, released carbon dioxide into the engine-room and the fire was extinguished. The vessel was subsequently towed into Thyboron. Three crew members were admitted to hospital with smoke inhalation.

Esbjerg, Jul 23 -- Thyboron Harbour-master reports that dredger *Brage R.* was towed into port on Jul 17 because of fire in the engine-room. The vessel's engine-room is being cleaned and repaired at the moment and they expect it to be finished within two weeks. The vessel will return to its

normal service after the repairs are finished. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BREYDON WARRIOR

See *Far Grimshader*.

BRITISH COURTESY (Isle of Man)

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

BUTUAN BAY 1 (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 20 -- Repairs have started on the engine of Roll On Roll Off *Butuan Bay 1*. We have been allowed to start repairs on the parts of the engine which were recently inspected by members of the Coast Guard's Special Board of Marine Inquiry. Carlos Gothong Shipping Lines legal counsel and spokesman Atty Francisco Mijares said. Full repairs will be carried out after the final inspection of the engine by the Board which is scheduled on Aug 1. The afloat repairs are being undertaken at the Carlos Gothong Shipping Lines' Gothong Wharf in Cebu. -- Correspondent.

CELIA (Finland)

Tallinn, Jul 20 -- Understand from the Marine Rescue Centre that the collision between general cargo *Celia* and yacht *Vikan* occurred at Suurupi buoy No. 2 on Jul 17. *Vikan* did not sink and was immediately towed into the Border Guard Harbour, Tallinn. The vessel was subsequently taken out of the water and transported by road to her home port of Haapsalu, Estonia. As a result of the collision the yacht lost her stern part and a mast. No damage to *Celia* was noted. -- Lloyd's Agents.

CLIPPER KRISTIN (Bahamas)

Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Jul 25 -- Combined chemical and oil tank *Clipper Kristin* (7687 gt, built 2006) struck the dolphin at La Hondura dock, CEPESA Refinery Port Installations, Tenerife, at 2000, Jul 22, while berthing. The defences of the dolphin were damaged, and the vessel sustained damage and perforations to its bulbous bow. After carrying out discharge operations at the dock, the vessel is now berthed at the East Dock, waiting to proceed to ASTICAN shipyard, Las Palmas, to undergo repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

CSK FORTUNE (Hong Kong)

See *MSC Heidi*.

CSL ASSINIBOINE (Canada)

Troy, Michigan, Jul 24 -- Bulker *CSL Assiniboine* (22772 gt, built 1977) pulled into the north slip, Sarnia, yesterday afternoon, for repairs to its bow thruster. It will probably take 24-36 hours. -- Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping.

Troy, Michigan, Jul 25 -- Bulker *CSL Assiniboine* left Sarnia at around 2000, yesterday after completing repairs to her bow thruster and is heading to Superior to load coal for New Brunswick. -- Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping.

DAL KALAHARI (Liberia)

London, Jul 24 -- Container Carrier *DAL Kalahari* (50736 gt, built 2005)

announced on Friday (Jul 20) that the port call of Durban was to be omitted from the current rotation in order to bring the vessel back on schedule. *Dal Kalahari* has had engine trouble on her current southbound voyage 705B which has caused it to run late. (Note -- *Dal Kalahari* sailed Cape Town Jul 15.)

DANICA WHITE (DIS)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy."

DAVID LIAM (Republic of Ireland)

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated Jul 24, states: Irish skipper/owner of fishing (general) *David Liam* (69 gt, built 2005), Denis McCarthy, 33, was ordered to pay a total of £18,600 in fines and costs for a series of offences in the Celtic Sea Hake Recovery Zone. McCarthy, of Skibereen, Co. Cork pleaded guilty at Haverfordwest magistrates court Jul 23r in a case brought by the Marine and Fisheries Agency. Royal Navy Protection vessel *HMS Ledbury* had detained *David Liam*, S109, to Milford Haven last weekend (Jul 21-22) after an inspection in the Celtic Sea within UK territorial waters. McCarthy, who had claimed he was fishing for nephrops, was fined £2,500 for using cod ends of 95 mm and 97 mm in his twin trawls - instead of the minimum 100 mm required in the Hake Recovery Zone. He was fined £5,000 for failing to accurately record hake, angler fish and nephrops in his catch log book. McCarthy was fined a further £5,000 for failing to stow his catch of hake separately in his fish room - which he is required to do in the Hake Recovery Zone to enable inspections. He was fined £500 for an unsafe boarding ladder which broke as Royal Navy fishery officers from HMS *Ledbury* boarded the *David Liam* for inspection. There was a further penalty of £4,700 for the value of the fish, and costs of £920. MFA chief executive Nigel Gooding said after the case: "When fishermen blatantly cheat on the rules which are designed to conserve fish stocks they also have a direct impact on the vast majority of fishermen who are operating legally."

DON PEDRO (Canary Islands)

London, Jul 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: The situation on the Spanish holiday island of Ibiza was gradually returning to normal as authorities on Thursday (Jul 19) opened the two remaining beaches, closed after a fuel spill last week. The resort's Figueretes and Talamanca beaches were re-opened after being closed for a week due to fuel leaking from Roll On Roll Off *Don Pedro* that sank nearby last Wednesday, a spokesman from the island's governing council said. Only a small cove in the south of the island remained closed, but was expected to re-open later in the day. The third affected beach, Playa d'en Bossa, re-opened on Tuesday. Maritime rescue authorities meanwhile said they had sealed a series of leaks from the 145-metre long vessel. Plans were set to be unveiled later in the day regarding extraction of the vessel's remaining fuel.

DREAM BEAUTY (Panama)

Yokohama, Jul 20 -- Roll On Roll Off *Dream Beauty* berthed at No.55, Kinjo Wharf, in the port of Nagoya at 1500 hrs, Jul 17. It is speculated that the fire broke out in No.5 car deck as a result of movement in cargo which might have produced sparks that ignited gasoline from the vehicles on deck. Ten vehicles were consequently burnt down. *Dream Beauty* is still on the berth and may shift to a repair dock in Kyushu at 0900 hrs, Jul 21. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 24 -- Roll On Roll Off *Dream Beauty* sailed from Nagoya on Jul 21 bound for Sasebo.

DS MONTROSE (Bahamas)

Ponta Delgada, Jul 21 -- On completion of temporary repairs to the main engine, bulker *DS Montrose* left Ponta Delgada outer roads at 1500, local time, Jul 20, bound for Mobile. -- Lloyd's Agents.

DUBAI TRANS (Panama)

Dubai, Jul 23 -- Roll On Roll Off *Dubai Trans* remains at Hamriyah port. -- Lloyd's Agents.

EASTWIND (Panama)

Piraeus, Jul 20 -- General cargo *Eastwind* (3006 gt, built 1976) sustained a mechanical failure near to the island of Corfu on Jul 19. The vessel is currently anchored in Corfu roads awaiting inspection. -- Lloyd's Agents.

EISHIN MARU NO.8 (Japan)

See *Toyo Maru No.12*.

ELINE (NIS)

London, Jul 20 -- General cargo *Eline* sailed Grenaa Jul 18.

FAR GRIMSHADER (Isle of Man)

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Great Yarmouth boat owner has lost his livelihood after supply *Far Grimshader* (2528 gt, built 1983) struck his boat which was moored at Gorleston on Tuesday (Jul 17) afternoon. The smaller vessel sank within minutes and the accident has left fisherman George Tovell totally devastated and scuppered his plans to take sightseers to the offshore windfarm. The 66-year-old owner of the 36-foot *Breydon Warrior* said: "It was in contact with *Far Grimshader* and it was no match. The ship first smashed it against the harbour wall, breaking it up, after which it sank. There wasn't anybody on board at the time. He said: "It was 25 years old. It had all modern equipment on board, including radar. To buy a replacement with all the electronic navigation equipment is going to cost in the region of £300,000. Insurers now have the task of assessing how much will be paid out and to organise cranes and heavy lifting gear to pull the wreckage out of the harbour. Mike Gibbon, spokesman for Aberdeen-based Farstad, owners of the supply *Far Grimshader*, said: "We don't know at this stage how much the damage to the hull is going to cost to repair the ship. We are having to wait until

insurers have carried out their investigations." The department manager for Yarmouth-based DSL, which rents part of the harbour from Venture Forth, said that the damage to the harbour wall was being assessed. He said: "There has been some damage done to the harbour wall but fortunately it's not part of the quayside that is in much use, so as far as we are concerned, the disruption will be minimal. "The insurers are currently carrying out a damage assessment and will be handing us their findings shortly. At the moment, we can't put a cost on how much it will be repair the harbour wall." (Note -- *Far Grimshader* arrived Great Yarmouth 1030, Jul 20 and was still in port at 0951 today.)

Hull, Jul 23 -- Supply *Far Grimshader*, collision with unknown *Breydon Warrior*: Port Authority and vessel agents advised that the damaged fishing vessel was recovered from the river on Jul 21. Damage to *Far Grimshader* appears to be superficial as it is still trading and no interruptions have been made to undertake repairs. -- Lloyd's Agents.

FIDES FE I (Argentina)

London, Jul 23 -- Following navigation warning, dated today, states: Fishing *Carmelo* towing fishing (general) *Fides Fe I* (74 gt) in lat 35 12S, long 55 58W bound Puerto Mar Del Plata.

FORTEZZA (Panama)

See *MSC Heidi*.

FRYKEN (Netherlands)

Zeebrugge, Jul 25 -- Product tanker *Fryken* (3987 gt, built 1989) sailed Antwerp, via Zandvlietlock, at 0010, local time, today, and subsequently grounded at 0050, local time, reason for grounding unknown. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents. (Note -- *Fryken* arrived Antwerp Jul 19 from Gdansk.)

Maassluis, Jul 25 -- Following from Shipping and Signaling Services Antwerp: Product tanker *Fryken* grounded while avoiding general cargo *Pioneer Bay*, which had already grounded because of steering problems, at around 0045, local time, today, in the River Scheldt. Both pilots planned to come afloat under own power from the sandbank on which they grounded. Around 0100 hrs they decided to wait for tugs to avoid the risk of colliding with each other while coming afloat. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

Zeebrugge, Jul 25 -- Product tanker *Fryken* was reported afloat at 0200, local time, today. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

London, Jul 25 -- Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 0936, UTC: Product tanker *Fryken* refloated at 0028, UTC, today and proceeded to Flushing.

GRAMPIAN

Kiel, Jul 25 -- At 0900 hrs, Jul 24, Liquid Petroleum Gas Carrier *Grampian* broke off its two anchors on the north side of the Caland canal in the Maas. The first ship on the scene was the small *RPA 14* which was then joined by the tug *Smit Polen*. They

succeeded in attaching ropes at the bow and securing the vessel. -- Correspondent.

HAVI (Panama)

London, Jul 20 -- Understand that bulker *Havi* (19820 gt, built 1977), bulker *Sea Crown* (26195 gt, built 1984), and product tanker *Baltic Ace* (24248 gt, built 1990) were in contact in lat 01 15N, long 104 04E, at 0425, local time, yesterday. All three vessels are at anchor in the area. Also understand that *Havi* has leakage. Damage to *Sea Crown* and *Baltic Ace* believed minor.

HD1 (Bahamas)

London, Jul 26 -- Following update received from the operators of passenger ro/ro *HDI*, dated today: *HDI* was lifted out of the water at Cherbourg at 1500, Jul 22, to have the damaged jet removed before returning into service Jul 23. All work went as planned. Every effort is being made to fix the problem as quickly as possible.

HEBRIDEAN ISLES (U.K.)

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 21, states: Passengers on passenger ro/ro *Hebridean Isles* (3040 gt, built 1985) due to leave from Kennacraig last Saturday afternoon (Jul 14) found themselves being asked to transfer to another vessel after damage to pins on *Hebridean Isles'* loading ramp rendered it inoperable. A statement from CalMac attributed this to suspected excess weight by lorries being overloaded or due to abnormal loads being carried in recent weeks. This meant lengthy delays on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, before the vessel was re-introduced to the route. The vessel will now require remedial work, but in the interim will sail using the stern door only, and CalMac apologised for any inconvenience. CalMac emphasised that this is entirely a mechanical problem and there are no corresponding safety issues. *Hebridean Isles* is likely to be withdrawn from service at a convenient time, and the company are currently unsure whether it will require docking or whether repairs can be carried out on site. Further information will be issued as necessary. In the meantime, a portable weighbridge is being taken to Kennacraig for use on the route to check the weight of vehicles.

HENG SHAN HAI (China)

London, Jul 19 -- Bulker *Heng Shan Hai* (40215 gt, built 1998) collided with Container Carrier *Maersk Rosario* (16129 gt, built 2003) while it was heaving anchors at Km 80, Parana River, today. Both vessels are now at anchor in the vicinity. (Note -- *Maersk Rosario* operates between Rosario and Montevideo.)

HENNY (Netherlands)

Maassluis, Jul 24 -- General cargo *Henny* (1241 gt, built 1983) damaged the gate of Boudewijn Lock, Antwerp, at about 0845, local time, today. No known damage to vessel at present. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HIRAOZAN MARU (Japan)

Yokohama, Jul 24 -- Bulk cement carrier *Hiraozan Maru* (2983 gt, built 2000) had steering gear and main engine problems due to generator malfunction in Kanmon Passage while heading for Yatsushiro port, Kumamoto, and ran aground in shallows in lat 33 54.5N, long 130 54.7E, at 2236, Jul 20. Vessel refloated by salvage boats at 0102, Jul 21. Bottom dented with peeling of paint coating over an area of 41.7 m by 9 m and four propellers partly broken. Able to navigate under own power and resumed voyage to original destination with NK approval. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- According to LloydsMIU AIS, *Hiraozan Maru* in lat 33 49 25.32N, long 131 3 29.04E, Kanda 3.8 nautical miles, speed 1.8 knots, at 1136, UTC, Jul 24.)

HOHEWEG (Germany)

Kiel, Jul 23 -- The salvage of fishing (general) *Hoheweg* has commenced. Sheerleg *Samson* is on scene. Divers on board *Otto Wulf* are waiting for the time between the tides when the currents allow them to descend to the wreck and connect the ropes. If they succeed in doing so within one hour, at 1400 hrs, today, the first attempt to raise the wreck is to start. If the ship is able to float after having been pumped out, it will be towed to Bremerhaven. If not, *Samson* is to carry the ship away. The master of the vessel may still be trapped inside. The other three men were found in the recent months. -- Correspondent. (See issue of Jun 26.)

Kiel, Jul 24 -- The third attempt to raise the sunken fishing (general) *Hoheweg* in the North Sea was successful on Jul 23. At 1900 hrs, sheerleg *Samson* raised the ship which had sunk on Nov 6, 2006, to a depth of eight metres. Twice divers descended to the wreck to get the steel ropes fixed. The strong currents caused problems, but the third descent proved to be a success, which had to be achieved urgently as the weather was to deteriorate soon. At 1830 hrs, the raising of the vessel commenced and was completed half an hour later. The wreck was secured and pumped out. Salvage ship *Katrine* went alongside the shell-covered hull which was transported to Bremerhaven in the ropes of *Samson*. Here it will be berthed at Bredo Yard for investigation. During the salvage an exclusion zone was installed around the wrecksite. The wreck buoy was to be removed after finishing the salvage works. *Samson* reached the Labrador harbour in Bremerhaven, together with *Hoheweg* at 0630, hrs, today. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, Jul 25 -- The wreck of fishing (general) *Hoheweg* was moved from the Labrador quay, of the fishing harbour in Bremerhaven into floating dock 3, of the Bredo yard in Bremerhaven at 1450, Jul 24. It was still hanging in the ropes of sheerleg *Samson*. The dock had to be lowered, as the sheerleg was not able to raise the wreck, which actually has a weight of 320 tons due to the weight of sand inside, completely

out of the water. *Hoheweg* was salvaged within 14 hours by the companies "Taucher O. Wulf" jointly with "Dansk Bjergrning og Bugsering", Aarhus, and divers of "Taucher Kirchg%offner" and had arrived in Bremerhaven escorted by *Katrine* and the police boats *Bremen 3* and *Bremen 6*. Experts from the "Bundesstelle f,r Seeunfalluntersuchung" together with investigators from the police will now search the ship in order to find the cause of the shipwreck and are also hoping to find the body of the still missing skipper. The weather alone may not have caused the sinking as it was not that bad. Dents on the starboard side seem to have been caused by the sinking and not a collision. The experts will try to find out whether nets were entangled in the propeller and why a tube is hanging down from the stern. -- Correspondent.

INFINITY MARINE 1 (Panama)

See "Somalia" under "Piracy".

IROISE (France)

London, Jul 25 -- Fishing (general) *Iroise* arrived at Fayal on Jul 5 from Concarneau and sailed on Jul 10.

ISCHIA EXPRESS (Italy)

Naples, Jul 25 -- Passenger ro/ro *Ischia Express* is still in port undergoing surveys. -- Lloyd's Agents.

JIN ZHOU HUO LIN JIAN 88 (China)

See *Sea Riches*.

KATRINA 2 (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 24 -- The Philippine Coast Guard reported that passenger (cruise) *Katrina 2* (98 gt, built 1951) caught fire off Tawi-Tawi in southern Philippines at 0950 hrs, today. The ferry was carrying 20 passengers and 14 crew who were all rescued by passing vessels. Ten were reported to have been rescued by *Federal Rhine* while four were on board tanker *Elba*. Six crew members opted to stay with the ship to battle the blaze. The Coast Guard said that the crew was able to place the fire under control after several hours of firefighting. There were no reported deaths or injuries. Cause of the fire is still to be determined. -- Correspondent.

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated Jul 24, states: Passenger (cruise) *Katrina 2* caught fire at sea in the southern Philippines on Tuesday (Jul 24), but no casualties were reported, a navy regional commander said. Sixteen people were rescued from the vessel which caught fire near Tawi-Tawi province, 1,120 kilometres south of Manila, according to Rear Admiral Emilio Marayag. Marayag said the vessel was on its way to the nearby island of Jolo from Borneo Island in Malaysia. He added that a passing vessel rescued the people, who jumped out of the burning vessel. "We could not ascertain how many people were on board because the vessel came from Malaysia," he said. Marayag said the origin of the fire was not yet known,

but initial investigation showed that it could have started from the vessel's engine-room.

Manila, Jul 25 -- The Philippine Coast Guard reported that passenger (cruise) *Katrina Z* is still stranded off the coast of Tawi-Tawi in southern Philippines. The ferry was travelling from Borneo to Jolo when it caught fire Tuesday morning. The vessel's 16 passengers abandoned ship and were all rescued by passing vessels. Crew members remained on board and were able to place the fire under control. Based on interviews with the vessel's passengers, authorities suspect that the fire started in the engine-room. *Katrina Z* is now waiting for a tug to tow it to Jolo island. -- Correspondent.

Manila, Jul 26 -- The Philippine Coast Guard reported that passenger (cruise) *Katrina Z* has been towed to the Coast Guard station at Bongao town, in Tawi-Tawi island, in southern Philippines. The vessel was towed by tug *Lady Emida* and reached Bongao early today. -- Correspondent.

KLAZINA-C. (U.K.)

Quebec, Jul 23 -- General cargo *Klazina-C.* did not call at any port following the reported engine problems. The vessel was reported off Canadian waters on Jul 16. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

KUANUA (Papua New Guinea)

Port Moresby, Jul 20 -- Roll On Roll Off *Kuanua* is back in Rabaul slipway. - Lloyd's Agents.

LADY HAMMOND (United Arab Emirates)

Karachi, Jul 23 -- Tug *Lady Hammond* is still under repair at Karachi. -- Lloyd's Agents.

LILLIAN (Belize)

See "Republic of Ireland" under "Port State Control".

LIQUID BEAUTY (NIS)

London, Jul 24 -- Combined chemical and oil tank *Liquid Beauty* arrived at Philadelphia on Jul 23 from Montreal.

LT TRIESTE (Italy)

London, Jul 20 -- Container Carrier *LT Trieste* arrived Felixstowe Jul 17 and sailed Jul 18.

Hull, Jul 21 -- Container Carrier *LT Trieste* was in collision with fishing (general) *Hein Senior* off the Netherlands, in the morning of Jul 16. *LT Trieste* sustained damages to its hull. Temporary repairs were carried out at Felixstowe and RINA Class Surveyor passed these temporary repairs. A Condition of Class was issued until Aug 10, when the vessel could be expected to have arrived in India and have made preparations for the work to be carried out. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 23 -- Container Carrier *LT Trieste* sailed Felixstowe at 2002, Jul 18, and passed Gibraltar 2237, Jul 21, bound Port Said.

MAERSK DUNKERQUE (U.K.)

Portsmouth, UK, Jul 25 -- There was a fire on the car deck of passenger ro/ro

Maersk Dunkerque (35923 gt, built 2005), while at Dover on Jul 22. The fire-brigade was called at 0930 hrs, to the Eastern docks, after a fire was reported on the car deck on the channel ferry. As a precaution the passengers were evacuated from the vessel and after one hour the fire was extinguished. -- Correspondent.

MAERSK NEUCHATEL (Cyprus)

London, Jul 25 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, container carrier *Maersk Neuchatel* (25674 gt, built 2005) is aground off Tema, in lat 05 38 15.12N, long 00 01 38.22E, as of 0952, UTC, today.

Accra, Jul 25 -- According to Port Authority Signal Department, Container Carrier *Maersk Neuchatel* grounded about one nautical mile from Tema on Jul 20 and has not been refloated yet. The Signal Department stated that the master said they do not need any help from them and that any assistance would come from the Maersk Group. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, container carrier *Maersk Neuchatel* in lat 05 38 15.12N, long 00 01 38.22E, as of 1421, UTC, today.

MAERSK ROSARIO (Antigua & Barbuda)

See *Heng Shan Hai*.

MARINA (Greece)

London, Jul 26 -- Following received from Piraeus RCC, timed 0926, UTC: Passenger ro/ro *Marina* (7895 gt, built 1971) experienced a bow door failure during the evening of Jul 24 while preparing to depart Piraeus. The vessel is still at Piraeus and has been prohibited from departing, pending repairs.

MEUGANG I (Panama)

Bilbao, Jul 25 -- Part containerised general car *Meugang I*: Situation remains unchanged; still at Santander under arrest, which could last for years. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MICRO GLORY (Micronesia)

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: General cargo *Micro Glory* (790 gt, built 1978), the government operated vessel that takes passengers and freight to other islands in the FSM, was reported in port at Pohnpei on Jul 15. *Micro Glory* had hobbled back to Pohnpei on one engine after striking the reef in Orluk, an outer island of Pohnpei, resulting in a broken propeller, a bent shaft and two holes in its engine-room. The front hold was intentionally flooded with sea water to try to bring the stern up as high as possible in order to facilitate repairs.

Honolulu, Jul 26 -- General cargo *Micro Glory* is still under repair. It is reported they are attempting to effect repairs in the water. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MIGHTY SERVANT 3 (Netherlands)

Cape Town, Jul 23 -- Semi-sub HL vessel *Mighty Servant 3* is still at Cape Town and is expected to remain here

until Jul 28. Understand that repair tenders are being evaluated in order to determine where the contract will be awarded. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MILTIADES (Jamaica)

See *White Mist*.

MINERVA CONCERT (Greece)

Kiel, Jul 26 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* was towed out of the floating dock at Blohm & Voss in Hamburg, at 1400, hrs, Jul 25, after repairs to the damage caused by grounding off Denmark. -- Correspondent.

Kiel, Jul 26 -- Crude oil tanker *Minerva Concert* was berthed at the Blohm & Voss pier, beneath dock 16 on Jul 25 and received bunker fuel. On Jul 26 it had departed from Hamburg. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MIR DAMAD (Iran)

Chittagong, Jul 22 -- After completion of repairs Container Carrier *Mir Damad* sailed from Chittagong at 1500 hrs, Jul 20, bound for Chennai. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MSC HEIDI (Panama)

London, Jul 19 -- The Suez Canal has been declared clear for navigation again following a series of vessel groundings. Both northbound and southbound convoys through the Suez Canal had been suspended earlier today after three transiting vessels (Container Carrier *MSC Heidi*, bulker *CSK Fortune* and bulker *Fortezza*) had run aground. The vessels have now been refloated and exited the Canal, along with all vessels that had been detained due to the groundings. Today's 1st and 2nd southbound convoys are expected to start at about 1500 hrs and the northbound convoy tonight. The Suez Canal Authority is doing whatever necessary to minimise delays and rearrange vessels' schedules. Convoys are expected to gradually revert to normal within two days. (See issue of Jul 23.)

London, Jul 23 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, bulker *CSK Fortune* was in lat 33 52 37.2N, long 29 51 51.42E, at 0618, UTC, Jul 21, proceeding on a course of 314 deg at 13.4 knots, and container carrier *MSC Heidi* was in lat 39 25 48.6N, long 00 18 2.05W, at 0739, UTC, Jul 23, proceeding on a course of 306.9 deg at 6.9 knots.

Port Said, Jul 25 -- Bulker *Fortezza* cleared the Suez Canal with the northbound convoy at 1220, Jul 18, bound for Gibraltar. -- Lloyd's Agents.

MSC NAPOLI (U.K.)

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: Container Carrier *MSC Napoli* has finally been split in two by an explosive charge. The stern section came apart from the bow area after a third round of explosions. A tug began towing the large bow section into deeper water, while the stern, including the accommodation block, remains grounded. Meanwhile, a large boom was in position to catch any oil which may leak from the vessel.

London, Jul 23 -- Shipbreakers have begun bidding for the contract to scrap the bow section of Container Carrier *MSC Napoli* after the vessel was finally separated into two parts on Friday (Jul 20). The London P&I Club, which provides the liability insurance, puts the cost of the salvage at around \$40m, and estimates that the removal of the wreck and related expenses could come to another \$30m. The club itself will be called on to meet the first \$6m, with the balance being pooled. Cargo and third party claims may amount to a further \$100m. After two rounds of explosives were used last week to break through the deck plating and then some longitudinal girders, cutting charges were again placed on Friday that enabled the floating bow section to gently break free. The bow has been anchored to a tug and is likely to stay there until a recycling contract has been awarded. Harland & Wolff and Able UK are among those said to be competing for the work. Meanwhile, an invitation to tender for the removal of the stern, which includes the accommodation block and engine-room, was being issued over the weekend amid speculation that this badly damaged section will have to be broken up.

MUNSTERLAND (Germany)

Kiel, Jul 21 -- Repairs to roll on roll off *Munsterland* were completed Jul 20 and the vessel returned to its normal schedule without tug escort. -- Correspondent.

NATISSA

(St. Vincent & Grenadines)

Marseilles, Jul 24 -- General cargo *Natissa* was refloated on Jul 15. Only small damages sustained. Will be repaired during drydock in Palermo if necessary. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 24 -- General cargo *Natissa* sailed from Fos on Jul 20 bound for Italy.

NAVISON LOGGER (Panama)

See "United States" under "Port State Control".

NORA MAERSK (DIS)

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: Maersk Line have today issued a public statement that Container Carrier *Nora Maersk* (27733 gt, built 2000) was having urgent repairs to its bow thruster and was not sinking in Auckland's Waitemata Harbour. The 200-metre vessel was heavily laden in the stern to lift the bow out of the water so engineers could get external access to the bow thrusters for repairs. However, the repairs were done in the harbour between Devonport and Mission Bay and the relatively unusual sight of a ship with its stern so low and its bow so high prompted many calls to the Auckland harbour master from members of the public worried the vessel was sinking. Maersk operations manager Neville Kershaw said in a statement such repairs were usually done when the vessel was alongside a wharf and the unusual angle was not obvious. He said Auckland wharves did

not have the depth to do the repair alongside and the vessel was too big for a dry dock in New Zealand. He said it was normal practice in many ports around the world, and presented no danger to the vessel. "We've been planning it for a number of days and we have permission from the Harbour Master and Ports of Auckland," Mr Kershaw said. Repairs were expected to be completed tonight and the vessel was to return to Fergusson Container Terminal to reload the cargo and continue its voyage to New Plymouth and America. (Note -- *Nora Maersk* arrived at Auckland on Jul 19.)

London, Jul 22 -- Container Carrier *Nora Maersk* sailed Auckland Jul 21.

NORDIC VIKING (U.S.A.)

London, Jul 22 -- A press release from Coast Guard Juneau, Alaska, dated today, states: The US Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are responding to a diesel fuel spill 25 miles south of Valdez. At approximately 2220, local time, yesterday, (Jul 21) fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* (194 gt, built 1979) ran hard aground near Olsen Bay and Port Gravina prompting a Mayday call to the Coast Guard. All four crew members were safely transferred to a nearby Good Samaritan fishing vessel. Currently, one of the nine fuel tanks on board has been confirmed to be breached, and up to 3,500 to 12,000 gallons of diesel fuel has been leaked. Personnel from Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Valdez, DEC, and contractors from the Alaska Chadux Corporation will be on scene this afternoon to conduct a complete assessment of the spill and coordinate a clean-up effort. The *Nordic Viking* is 127-foot vessel based out of Kodiak.

London, Jul 22 -- Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 2220, UTC: Fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* grounded in lat 60 42N, long 146 11W at 2220, local time, yesterday. The vessel remains aground.

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: Officials are on their way out to grounded fishing *Nordic Viking* that's spilled at least 3,500 gallons of diesel fuel. The US Coast Guard says the *Nordic Viking* ran aground 25 miles south of Valdez late Saturday night (Jul 21). Coast Guard officials say all four crew members were safely transferred to a nearby Good Samaritan fishing vessel, *Seabrooke*. Officials say one of the nine fuel tanks on board was breached. Chief Petty Officer Barry Lane says the Coast Guard isn't yet sure how the vessel grounded. Personnel from Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Valdez, Department of Environmental Conservation will be on scene this afternoon to assess the spill and coordinate a clean-up.

London, Jul 23 -- Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 2015, UTC: Fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* is still aground. A salvage plan is imminent.

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated Jul 23, states: Clean-up crews on Monday (Jul 23) started mopping up

3,500 gallons of diesel fuel that spilled in wildlife-rich Prince William Sound when fishing *Nordic Viking* grounded there, state environmental officials said. Fuel from the *Nordic Viking*, which grounded Saturday night, had reached an island used as a resting place for seals and was coating an unknown amount of shoreline, but officials had yet to find dead or injured animals, said John Brown at the state Department of Environmental Conservation. A clean-up could take weeks, he said. The fuel covered an area at least five miles long and 200 feet wide. The spill is probably larger, Brown said, but dense fog on Monday prevented officials from flying over the sound for an update. The spill is already among the 20 largest of the hundreds that have occurred in the sound in the past decade, said Leslie Pearson, prevention and emergency response manager for the department. The site of the grounding is 25 miles south of Valdez. The *Nordic Viking*, which hauls fish from smaller boats to canneries onshore, grounded for reasons that remain unclear, Coast Guard officials said.

Juneau, Jul 24 -- Fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* grounded at Port Gravina, Prince William Sound, in lat 60 42.83N, long 146 11.67W, on Jul 22. Vessel grounded on a charted rock and breached one fuel tank. An estimated 3,500 gallons of diesel were spilled and salvage efforts are under way. -- Marine Exchange of Alaska.

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated Jul 24, states: Officials said today crews had started removing the remaining fuel on board fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* after it ran aground 25 miles south of Valdez over the weekend. The Coast Guard said today the vessel's engines had been patched and dewatered. About 3,500 gallons of fuel leaked from the vessel, creating a huge, five-mile long sheen. However, the Coast Guard said the major sheen had broken up and was evaporating rapidly. No wildlife has been reported impacted. The Coast Guard said reports of sheening remained in some areas near St. Matthew's Bay and Olsen Bay. Response personnel from the Alaska Chadux Corp, in co-ordination with Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Valdez and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, will begin surface clean-up. The vessel ran hard aground late Saturday (Jul 21), breaching one of its nine fuel tanks. Response crews arrived on scene early Sunday afternoon to assess and control the extent of pollution from the vessel. The cause of the grounding is under investigation.

London, Jul 25 -- Following received from Coast Guard Juneau, timed 1850, UTC: Fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* has been refloated and towed to Seward.

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated today, states: Officials are continuing to investigate the cause of last weekend's fuel spill in the Prince William Sound. The skipper of fishing (general) *Nordic Viking* is part of that investigation. The

Coast Guard says that the skipper initially refused to take a drug and alcohol test after the vessel ran aground. The vessel's owner Bill Prout, said the skipper did end up taking the test. The vessel went aground on Saturday afternoon (Jul 21) 55 miles south-west of Valdez, spilling nearly 4,000 gallons of fuel. As of yesterday, response crews had removed the remaining fuel from the vessel and moved the vessel to a safer location.

OCEAN ACE NO.7 (South Korea)

Yokohama, Jul 24 -- The bow of chemical tanker *Ocean Ace No.7* (1006 gt, built 1987), bound Inchon, came into contact with the starboard midsection of refrigerated general cargo *Sung Jin No.777* (449 gt, built 1979), bound Kanmon, in lat 34 03.1N, long 131 50.6E, at 0810, Jul 20. No oil spill or water ingress was reported. -- Lloyd's Agents.

OLSEN (Norway)

London, Jul 24 -- Tug *Olsen* arrived at Brest on Jul 21 from Felixstowe.

PACIFIC STAR (U.K.)

Port Vila, Jul 20 -- Passenger (cruise) *Pacific Star* arrived at Port Vila on Saturday Jul 14 and did not sail until 1100 hrs, on Tuesday Jul 17, after repairs were completed and all passengers evacuated. The vessel departed for Brisbane, Australia. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 24, states: Engineers are replacing part of the bow and reinforcing the hull of the passenger (cruise) *Pacific Star* which is in Brisbane for repairs after hitting massive seas north of New Zealand. The 10m waves also carried away an external staircase and smashed 20 windows on the main decks. The vessel then sailed to Brisbane where a dry dock inspection revealed more damage than expected. A piece of the bow and framework has to be replaced and a steel plate has to be welded to the hull to reinforce two small sections. The vessel was scheduled to cruise out of Auckland on Saturday (Jul 21). Instead, the company will charter planes to fly 1200 New Zealanders to Brisbane for departure that day, so that the vessel can maintain its schedule. Chief executive Ann Sherry said engineers and shipyard workers were carrying out detailed inspections and repairs to ensure the comfort and safety of passengers. "It takes two days to sail from Brisbane to Auckland and we decided this extra time would be better spent making sure we have thoroughly assessed, cleaned and repaired the ship rather than cut short her period in dry dock," she said. (See issue of Jul 23.)

Sydney, Jul 24 -- P&O Cruises plans to have passenger (cruise) *Pacific Star*, damaged in wild weather off New Zealand two weeks ago, begin its next cruise from Brisbane on Saturday (Jul 28) after repairs are completed. The cruiseship is usually based in Auckland but passengers will be flown to Brisbane to join it. It takes two days to sail from Brisbane to Auckland and we

decided this extra time would be better spent making sure we have thoroughly assessed, cleaned and repaired the ship, rather than cut short her period in dry dock," chief executive Ann Sherry said. "We are spending the extra time in dry dock so our passengers can have absolute confidence in *Pacific Star* whose repairs will be certified by maritime authorities before she is allowed to begin operation again." The *Pacific Star* arrived in the Brisbane dry dock on Friday after three days sailing from Port Vila, bearing damage worse than expected. Repairs included: Replacing the dented upper section of the vessel's bow. The damaged piece of bow and steel framework will be cut out and replaced; Installing a new external staircase at the forward part of the vessel; Welding a new steel plate to reinforce two small sections of the vessel's hull; and starting work to replace about 20 broken windows on the main decks. The new windows are being made and the holes will be covered for the next cruise. -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

PACIFIC VENUS (Japan)

Yokohama, Jul 25 -- Having completed repairs at Aioi, passenger (cruise) *Pacific Venus* arrived at Hakata at 1100 hrs, Jul 23 and departed at 1500 hrs, same day -- Lloyd's Agents.

PASHA BULKER (Panama)

See "Australia" under "Weather & Navigation".

PATRICIA NORES (Spain)

Vigo, Jul 23 -- Trawler (All types) *Patricia Nores* is expected to complete repairs in three to four days. The damage was caused by a collision with Korean vessel *Hsiang Fa Chuen*. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PERTH (U.K.)

Hamburg, Jul 23 -- Local agents of Container Carrier *Perth* report that vessel is still under repair which expected to be completed in approximately four weeks. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PHILIPPOS K. (Greece)

Piraeus, Jul 23 -- Fire broke out in the accommodation area of general cargo *Philippos K.* (976 gt, built 1962) morning of Jul 21 while vessel under repairs at Perama repair zone. Two tugs and two patrol boats were in attendance. The accommodation area and engine-room damaged. No loss of life. No pollution. Vessel's departure prohibited until class inspection. -- Lloyd's Agents. (Note -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, *Philippos K.* in lat 37 57 19.25N, long 23 34 28.64E, at 0143, UTC, Jul 21, Perama six nautical miles, stationary.)

PIONEER BAY (Antigua & Barbuda)

Zeebrugge, Jul 25 -- General cargo *Pioneer Bay* (4450 gt, built 2000), Bremerhaven for Antwerp, passed Hansweert, River Scheldt, at 0001, local time, today, and subsequently

grounded at 0038, local time. Vessel has rudder damage. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents. (Note -- *Pioneer Bay* sailed Bremerhaven 2230, local time, Jul 23, for Antwerp.)

Maassluis, Jul 25 -- Following from Shipping and Signalling Services Antwerp: General cargo *Pioneer Bay* grounded because of steering problems at around 0045, local time, today, in the River Scheldt. Product tanker *Fryken* also grounded while avoiding *Pioneer Bay*. Both pilots planned to come afloat with own power from the sandbank on which they grounded. Around 0100 hrs they decided to wait for tugs to avoid the risk of colliding with each other while coming afloat. -- Lloyd's Sub-agents.

London, Jul 25 -- Following received from Den Helder RCC, timed 0939, UTC: General cargo *Pioneer Bay* refloated at 0900, UTC, and is proceeding to Antwerp.

Maassluis, Jul 25 -- General cargo *Pioneer Bay* proceeded at 1100 hrs, today and dropped anchor "Schoor Oudendoel" for inspection. -- Lloyd's Agents.

PIONEER BAY (Liberia)

Massluis, Jul 24 -- Refrigerated general cargo *Pioneer Bay* is still under repair at Rotterdam. Repairs are not expected to be finished before the end of August. -- Lloyd's Agents.

POURQUOI PAS II (France)

Portsmouth, Jul 24 -- Salvage *Pourquoi Pas II* (33 gt, built 2007) ran aground on rocks off the coast of Beuzec-Cape Sizun, Bay of Douarnenez, at 0100 today. The vessel has a crew of six and is registered at Concarneau. A number of French fishing vessels and the French authorities were involved in the rescue. The men were taken to hospital in Douarnenez by helicopter for a check up. The authorities are attempting to free the vessel and there is no major pollution. An investigation by the French authorities is under way. -- Correspondent.

PRIDE (Turkey)

London, Jul 19 -- Understand navigation in the Parana River has been obstructed after combined bulk and oil carrier *Pride* (43487 gt, built 1981) went aground at Km 149.5, starboard bank, at about 0415, local time, today.

PRINCESS OF NORWAY (DIS)

Kiel, Jul 24 -- Passenger ro/ro *Princess of Norway* which recently sustained machine and bow door problems, causing repeated delays on the Ijmuiden-Newcastle run, will undergo a survey in a yard on or by Aug 7. -- Correspondent.

PROMAC (Argentina)

London, Jul 23 -- Following navigation warning, dated today, states: Fishing *Ertza* towing fishing (general) *Promac* (182 gt) in lat 47 01S, long 62 42W, bound Comodoro Rivadavia.

QUEEN HAJA (Panama)

Portsmouth, Jul 24 -- General cargo *Queen Haja* (8502 gt, built 1975) ran aground on a sandbar three nautical miles from the entrance into Kerch port today, reports "The Trader-Ukraine." According to a press communique timed 0733 hrs, which reported the vessel had ran aground in the Kerch Strait at 0525 hrs. The vessel, loaded with 7,000 tons of scrap metal, was en route from Berdiansk to Egypt. There were no injuries and the vessel is not damaged. -- Correspondent. (Note -- According to LloydsMIU AIS, *Queen Haja* in lat 45 21 2.14N, long 36 38 53.09E, Kavkaz 1.7 nautical miles, stationary.)

RAJAPURI (Bangladesh)

Kolkata, Jul 25 -- The engine of general cargo *Rajapuri*, which left Kolkata on Jul 14 for Khulna, loaded with 600 tonnes of fly ash from the Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation (CESC) plants of Kolaghat and Budge Budge, stalled after proceeding a kilometre from Jinjira Ghat, around 20 kms from Kolkata. Although the crew started offloading some of the ash into the river, on Monday, Jul 23, a crack developed at the base of the ship resulting in seepage of water through the gap. The crew immediately abandoned the vessel on Tuesday (Jul 24) morning and she sank later same day. All crew safe. Understand from the Environment Department that the ash, which contains chemicals, i.e. calcium, silica, alumina and iron, being heavy in nature, will affect the flora and fauna over a stretch of 1.5 kms. of the river. Many fish will certainly die. -- Lloyd's Agents.

ROBERTSON II (Canada)

London, Jul 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: The owner of training *Robertson II* is still optimistic he can get the historic schooner off a reef near Saturna Island. Roy Boudreau returned to Cowichan Bay yesterday, the first time he's been back since departing Jun 30 on his 130-foot schooner. Boudreau isn't sure how much he's spent so far trying to refloat the *Robertson II*, but it's in the tens of thousands of dollars. Salvagers have made progress and have been able to pull the boat upright three times. But the weight of water inside the hull was too much for the equipment to handle. "We needed more pumps. We couldn't get the water out fast enough and we didn't have enough bags to keep the lift up so we had to lay her back down and make another plan" Boudreau said. Boudreau is optimistic that his boat will sail the seas again. A US manufacturer is making air bags specially for the *Robertson II* and they may be ready in a week, he said. More contractors are coming forward offering help, he added. (See issue of Jul 18.)

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: After many attempts to raise training *Robertson II* from the reef it struck on Jul 1, the vessel is still on its side in the water off Saturna Island. On Monday night (Jul 16) at high tide, salvage crews tried to float the vessel but their efforts were futile. A crab fisher who lives on Saturna said

after the attempt the vessel's position on the reef was changed slightly, but it was still partially submerged and on its side.

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated Jul 20, states: Crews yesterday strategized on the best way to right training *Robertson II* a \$2-million restoration plan was floated by proponents of the 29-metre schooner, which ran aground on Saturna Island early this month. Using flotation bags, crews have repeatedly righted the vessel but been unable to make enough repairs to refloat it. The rear masts were removed to make it less top-heavy. Once crews get it upright, bilge pumps will pump out the seawater before it can be taken to drydock for repairs. Humphrey Killam of the Merchant Marine Sail and Steam Society reckoned it'll take about \$2 million to restore the vessel. The salvage operation could cost upwards of \$150,000. If it can't be salvaged, it could be sunk and turned into an artificial reef for divers.

ROTTERDAM (Netherlands)

Portsmouth, UK, Jul 24 -- At 1530 hrs, Jul 20, reports of a fire on board passenger (cruise) *Rotterdam* (39674 gt, built 1959) were communicated to the port fire brigade at Wilhelmshaven. The fire started in a stack of battery pallets according to the fire master. *Rotterdam* is currently at Wilhelmshaven for the removal of asbestos. -- Correspondent. (Note *Rotterdam* arrived at Wilhelmshaven on Sep 2 2006.)

RUSSEL B. MURRAY (U.S.A.)

Norfolk, Va., Jul 19 -- Express Marine, Inc., Camden, New Jersey, owners of tug *Russel B. Murray*, have advised that at approximately 0800 hrs, Friday, Jul 13, the tug had just completed fuelling operations at a fuelling terminal located in the Small Boat Harbour at the southern tip of Newport News, Virginia. The tug was departing the port without a barge in tow. The tug entered the main shipping channel to the east of the Monitor Merrimac Bridge Tunnel in Newport News, VA. The tug touch bottom at the entrance to the channel bending the tips of the propeller blades and puncturing two holes in the bottom of the hull, one in way of a fuel oil tank and one in the engine room. The crew was able to temporarily plug the hole in the engine room and dewater the engine room. An oil boom was placed around the hull and divers were able to plug the hole in the fuel oil tank. The fuel oil tank was subsequently pumped out prior to towing the tug to a local shipyard for inspection and repairs. The tug is currently undergoing permanent repairs at Lyon's Shipyard, Inc. in Norfolk, VA. Repairs will consist of reconditioning the propeller and cropping out and renewing several sections of the hull's bottom plating. Repairs are being performed to the satisfaction of the attending ABS surveyor. The owners estimate repairs will require one or two weeks to complete. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SAKAE MARU (Japan)

Yokohama, Jul 20 -- Gravel carrier *Sakae Maru*, 692 gt, Tabira port, Nagasaki, for Ura port, with its crane boom upright, when the boom struck overhead power cables just under the Hirato Bridge at 0850 yesterday, resulting in damage to the bridge and a blackout affecting 30,000 households and offices. *Sakae Maru* sustained crane damage. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SASANQUA (Panama)

Piraeus, Jul 23 -- Our salvage tug *Leopard* proceeded from its salvage station at Mindelo on Jul 9 to render assistance to refrigerated general cargo *Sasanqua* (7307 gt, built 1993), which was disabled about 1000 miles northwest of the Cape Verde Islands following an engine-room fire. *Leopard* is currently towing the casualty to Las Palmas. -- Tsavlis Salvage (International) Ltd.

SEA CROWN (Panama)

See *Havi*.

SEA RICHES (Liberia)

Antwerp, Jul 20 -- Bulker *Sea Riches* (17859 gt, built 2001) in collision with barge *Jin Zhou Huo Lin Jian 88* on Huang Pu Jiang River, at Shanghai, Jul 15. After the collision, *Sea Riches* anchored at Wu Song Kou Anchorage No. 6 under M.S.A. order and barge *Jin Zhou Huo Lin Jian 88* was mooring afloat at Buoy No. 27 on Huang Pu Jiang River at Shanghai. -- "DPS Teamhead Surveyors".

SEATRAN LINE 2 (Thailand)

London, Jul 23 -- Following navigation warning dated today, states: Engine troubled vessel, 1915 tonnes, adrift in vicinity of lat 23 09.7N, long 123 42.5E at 0700, UTC, today.

London, Jul 23 -- Following received from Japan Coast Guard, timed 1740, UTC: Container Carrier *Seatran Line 2* (1915 gt, built 1991) adrift in 23 09.7N, long 123 42.5E, this morning. Understand the vessel has effected repairs. (Note -- *Seatran Line 2* sailed Yokohama Jul 18 for Bangkok.)

SITEAM ANJA (Singapore)

See "Derwent River, Tasmania, Australia" under "Pollution".

STAR HERO (Dominica)

London, Jul 20 -- According to Lloyd's MIU AIS, at 0142 UTC, today, crude oil tanker *Star Hero* was still anchored in lat 30 21 19N, long 32 22 59E.

Port Said, Jul 25 -- Crude oil tanker *Star Hero* has completed repairs and resumed her passage. She cleared the canal at 2340 hrs, Jul 22. -- Lloyd's Agents.

SUMATRA (Argentina)

London, Jul 25 -- Following navigation warning dated yesterday, states: Fishing *Bousina* towing trawler (All types) *Sumatra* (178 gt, built 1958) length 500 metres, speed 7.5 knots, in lat 44 13S, long 60 47W, bound for Mar Del Plata port.

SUNG JIN NO.777 (Cambodia)

See *Ocean Ace No.7.*

SUPER SHUTTLE FERRY 10 (Philippines)

Manila, Jul 20 -- The Maritime Industry Authority has restored ferry *Super Shuttle Ferry 10's* safety certificate and allowed the vessel to resume normal operations. Following the release of its safety certificate, the vessel left Liloan port in Leyte province at 2000 hrs, Jul 19, for its homeport at Lipatan in Surigao province. The vessel arrived at around midnight and is now docked at Lipatan port. -- Correspondent.

Manila, Jul 21 -- Ferry *Super Shuttle Ferry 10* has again experienced engine trouble and is now undergoing afloat repairs at Lipatan port in Surigao. The ferry was about to leave yesterday for its regular trip to Liloan Port in Leyte when the engine-room crew experienced difficulty in starting the engine. Closer examination of the engine showed a defective valve. The defective part has been brought to a machine shop for reconditioning. The engine problem comes just nine days after its engine broke down while it was travelling between Liloan and Lipatan on Jul 11. At that time the engine stalled because of water-contaminated fuel oil. After the vessel was towed to Liloan port, the engine was drained and cleaned but repairmen apparently missed the defective valve during repairs. -- Correspondent.

Manila, Jul 23 -- Work on the engine of ferry *Super Shuttle Ferry 10* resumed today at Lipatan port in Surigao. Work on the engine stopped yesterday while a defective engine valve was sent to a machine shop for repair. The reconditioned engine valve was returned today and is now being installed. The vessel's master, Peregrino Celis, said that repairs are expected to be completed by this evening after which she will depart Surigao for Leyte at 1000 tomorrow. -- Correspondent.

Manila, Jul 24 -- Ferry *Super Shuttle Ferry 10* resumed normal operations today after repair work on its engine was completed. The vessel left Lipatan port in Surigao province at 0600 hrs and arrived safely at Liloan port in Leyte province at around 1000 hrs. -- Correspondent.

THAMES (Marshall Islands)

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

THERMOPYLAE SIERRA (Cyprus)

London, Jul 20 -- General cargo *Thermopylae Sierra* sailed Trincomalee Jul 17 for Colombo.

THOR NEXUS (Thailand)

See *Bhatra Bhumi*.

THORFINN

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: The world's first live aboard dive vessel, passenger *Thorfinn*, was finally inside the harbour, docking at the commercial pier of the Pohnpei Port, at about 1820, Jul 15. On Friday

(Jun 8) *Thorfinn* struck the reef on its way out of Pohnpei's main harbour ripping a hole in its engine-room wall. In order to avoid spilling any of the 80,000 gallons of waste oil it was carrying and to avoid blocking the channel by sinking there or anywhere nearby, Captain Lance Higgs made a painful decision to put the vessel on the reef. It was the first navigational accident the vessel has ever had in their 26 year history despite constantly navigating some of the trickiest reefs in the world. Larry Adams, of Adams Brothers Construction who managed the salvage operation of the vessel explained why *Thorfinn* was still listing to starboard even as it was being towed to the dock. He said that because of the way the vessel was sitting on the reef they decided to pump liquids to the starboard side of the vessel so that it could be pulled off the reef with a bouncing action. The FSM's *Caroline Voyager* was called to service to help get *Thorfinn* off the reef. Adams said that they would be pumping the liquids back to the port side of the vessel now that it was at the dock in order to balance it out. On Saturday, Jul 21st, *Thorfinn* was moved from the commercial dock to the vicinity of the dock belonging to Adams Brothers Construction in Dekehtik where it currently waits approval to be towed out of the harbour. *Thorfinn* is making every effort to get the vessel to the Philippines for repair and they are racing against the clock while rust is rapidly taking over. He estimates that if they don't leave the Port within a week the vessel may be too far gone to ever run again and it will become just another rusted hulk sitting in the harbour. He said that they have made arrangements with a tug operator in Saipan to tow the vessel but that tug has not left the Saipan harbour yet because *Thorfinn* needs to be able to assure the company that they will have proper clearances to leave the port. They don't have those clearances yet and nearly all of the expatriate lawyers in private practice on the Pohnpei have been involved in one way or another in the negotiations surrounding the accident with *Thorfinn*. Captain Higgs said that the amount of money that Pohnpei State's Acting Attorney General Bacallando is asking for is beyond hope for the small company to ever pay. The Pohnpei Port Authority is also charging *Thorfinn* for blocking the harbour. Adams Brothers Construction has not yet been paid and they don't want to see the vessel leave until they are paid either.

Honolulu, Jul 26 -- Passenger (cruise) *Thorfinn* is still awaiting clearance to depart, pending payments to government agencies. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TIGER (Cambodia)

London, Jul 24 -- General cargo *Tiger* arrived at Alexandria on Jul 9 from Melilla and sailed on Jul 19.

TIN TIN (Jamaica)

Savona, Jul 23 -- At 1600 hrs, Jul 21, yacht *Tin Tin* (380 gt, built 2007), while going out from Messrs Baglietto

shipyard, in the marina of Varazze, about eight kilometres from Savona, en route for Monte Carlo, crashed at high speed into the movable exit bridge of the yard, bouncing off the harbour quay and ending over it. Fortunately nobody was injured and no other yachts were involved. The quay was damaged and the starboard side hull of *Tin Tin* sustained serious damage. *Tin Tin* has been removed from the top of the quay by a shore crane and replaced inside the Shipyard Baglietto, where now under detention by the Harbour-master pending investigation, because it seems that during manouvring the engine did not respond to controls. This morning there will be a meeting at the shipyard between Baglietto managers, R.I.N.A. register and the Harbour-master. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TOYO MARU NO.12 (Japan)

Yokohama, Jul 24 -- Vehicle carrier *Toyo Maru No.12* (4375 gt, built 1992), bound Nakanoseki, and bulker *Eishin Maru No.8* (497 gt, built 1989), bound Kaita, were in collision in lat 33 45.68N, long 132 03.24E, at 2108, Jul 20. Both vessels sustained scratches to the bow. No water ingress or oil spill was reported. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TRANSMODAL (Argentina)

Santos, Jul 23 -- Information received from Itajai, dated Jul 19, states: Container carrier *Transmodal* is still anchored in the same position, with no crew on board, supported by Brazilian Navy tug *Tristao*. The Brazilian Navy boarded the vessel yesterday for a general inspection, and towing plans have already been approved. Tug *Atlas* is expected to arrive tomorrow to begin the tow to Buenos Aires, ETA Jul 30. -- Lloyd's Agents.

TRINITY SIERRA (Cyprus)

See "Portugal" under "Port State Control."

VIRANA (Norway (Int. Register))

Yokohama, Jul 25 -- Roll On Roll Off *Virana* was towed by a tug from Osaka to Qinhuangdao, at 0900 hrs, today, for repairs to her helm. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 25 -- Osaka section Nr.5 to China, Qinhuangdao, tug towing Roll on roll off *Virana*, departs Osaka at 0900, JST, today. ETA Muroto-Zaki Offing, in lat 33 08N, long 134 11E, at 0900, JST, Jul 26.

VOLGO-DON 109 (Russia)

Novorossiysk, Jul 25 -- General cargo *Volgo-Don 109* proceeded towards Rostov on Don after refloating. -- Lloyd's Agents.

WHITE MIST (Panama)

Balboa, Jul 25 -- Bulker *White Mist* (14408 gt, built 1979) was in collision with bulker *Miltiades* (16887 gt, built 1983) near the town of Gamboa which marks the midpoint of the Canal at approximately 0030, Jul 24. *Miltiades* was transiting northbound and in ballast condition. *White Mist* was heading southbound and in laden condition. Visibility at the time of the accident was very poor due to presence

of heavy fog. At the time of the accident both vessels were under command of Canal Pilots. An official enquiry is now underway. Both vessels are classed with ABS. -- Lloyd's Agents.

YUAN TONG (Cambodia)

Yokohama, Jul 24 -- Dredger *Yuan Tong*, 1783 gt, (built 1993) had to drop anchor right after departure from the central wharf, Niigata port, for Naoetsu port due to steering gear trouble 2,830 metres from Nishitottei Lighthouse bearing 189 deg, Niigata port, at 1950, Jul 20. Vessel returned central wharf with tug assistance and repairs by crew subsequently completed 2230 same day. -- Lloyd's Agents.

YUKO (Netherlands Antilles)

Kiel, Jul 23 -- At 1915 hrs, Jul 21, general cargo *Yuko* (920 gt, built 1986) collided with the pier of berth 2 in the Industria Harbour of Bremerhaven. The vessel hit the pier following a steering error. The hull in the foreship region sustained a gash of 0.75m length, two metres above the waterline. *Yuko* had to remain in the harbour until class renewal. The ETD had been the evening of Jul 23. The damage was assessed to be about 3,000 Euros. -- Correspondent.

Bremen, Jul 23 -- Understand that general cargo *Yuko* was damaged by a bollard on the pier at Bremen Industrie-Hafen. It is claimed by the water-police that due to a faulty manoeuvre, while leaving the port, the vessel collided with the bollard at 1915 hrs, Jul 21. In the collision the bow was torn open over about 0.75m. As this was about two metres above waterline, no water penetrated. Also nobody was injured. Sea Social Security arrested the vessel for a short time. -- Lloyd's Agents.

London, Jul 26 -- General cargo *Yuko* arrived Bremerhaven on Jul 24 from Bremen.



SOMALIA

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: Pirates holding general cargo *Danica White* off the Somali coast are demanding a \$US1.5 million ransom for the release of the vessel and its crew, according to a Kenyan maritime official. The *Danica White* with five crew members was hijacked on Jun 2, about 240 nautical miles off the Somali coast while heading to Kenya's Mombasa port to deliver about 1,000 tonnes of construction material. "We were informed yesterday that the pirates are demanding \$US1.5 million in order to release the vessel," Andrew Mwangura of the Kenyan branch of the Seafarers' Assistance Programme said. Three other vessels, one from Taiwan and two from South Korea, are also currently held by pirates off the coast of war-torn Somalia.

London, Jul 25 -- Dubai-based general cargo *Infinity Marine 1* and its 21-member crew have been reported missing in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Yemen since Jun 16, maritime sources in Dubai said yesterday. The vessel, which left Fujairah anchorage on Jun 10 was carrying general cargo to Somalia. Captain Khalidoon Kalla, owner of KK Marine Consultancy in Dubai, which manages the vessel, said a search is in progress to locate the vessel and its crew comprising 15 Indians, five Pakistanis and the Iraqi captain. "We have contacted the US Navy and the French Navy patrolling in the Arabian Sea. A satellite search also is being conducted but there is no trace of the missing vessel," Kalla said. "The Panama-flagged vessel, had commenced its journey from Ajman on Jun 4 to Somalia. However, it was forced to anchor in Fujairah after the cyclone "Gonu" hit the Oman coast. The vessel was loaded with 4,500 tonnes of general cargo," Kalla stated. The vessel's captain, Kalla said, had contacted the company on Jun 16 saying that it was sailing off a Yemeni island. "He told us that they were facing trouble due to bad weather. After that, there has been no contact," Kalla added. "We presume that the vessel might have been hijacked or probably docked at a safe shelter. So far, we do not have any proof to believe that the ship has sunk," he pointed out. "There was no distress call. This gives us hope that the ship and the crew are safe." "We are trying to locate the families of the missing seafarers. So far, we have managed to locate the families of the Iraqi captain and five Pakistani seafarers. We have contacted the Indian authorities and are waiting for their reply," he said.



PORTUGAL

Ponta Delgada, Jul 23 -- Bulker *Trinity Sierra* is still berthed alongside the quay in the inner port of Ponta Delgada under detention by Port State Control and arrested by order of local Judicial Court for local debts. Understand the vessel is also under repairs account of main engine problems. -- Lloyd's Agents.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

London, Jul 20 -- By order of the Admiralty Marshal, The High Court, Dublin, general cargo *Lillian* is to be sold at auction, at noon, on Aug 8, in New Ross. The vessel, which currently lies at New Ross, is offered for sale "as seen, as is".

UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 24 -- Bulker *Nikolaos P.* sailed from Cardiff on Jul 20 bound for Londonderry.

UNITED STATES

London, Jul 23 -- Following received from Coast Guard New Orleans, timed 0322, UTC: Bulker *Navision Logger* (16582 gt, built 1986) was detained at Houston by Port State Control on Jul 18 in respect of lifeboat deficiencies. (Note -- *Navision Logger* arrived Houston Jul 17.)



AEGEAN I (Greece)

Piraeus, Jul 25 -- Passenger (cruise) *Aegean I* is still laid up at Eleusis. -- Lloyd's Agents.

DREAM (North Korea)

Limassol, Jul 19 -- General cargo *Dream* (1928 gt, built 1977), which arrived at Limassol on Jul 5, has been under arrest by the Admiralty Court since Jul 9. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Limassol, Jul 23 -- General cargo *Dream* released from arrest and sailed Jul 20 for Selaata. -- Lloyd's Agents.

HAI JAYA II (Indonesia)

Jakarta, Jul 16 -- A local press report, dated today, states: Non specific tanker *Hai Jaya II* (491 gt, built 1989) was seized Friday (Jul 13) by Surabaya police after allegations it illegally stored and sold more than 490 kilolitres of diesel fuel in Surabaya, East Java. The illegal sale has caused more than Rp. 2.9 billion in financial losses to the State. -- Lloyd's Agents.

LADY AZZA (Syria)

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated Jul 19, states: A Syrian vessel has been held in detention since Tuesday (Jul 17) in Sidon after it was suspected of smuggling explosive materials. The vessel, general cargo *Lady Azza* (998 gt, built 1965), which docked in Sidon two days ago, was supposed to transport scrap metal from Sidon to an unknown destination in Syria. However, employees at Sidon's harbour said boxes containing engines and thermal mercury pressure meters were being smuggled outside of the vessel using one of the trucks carrying scrap into *Lady Azza*. Military experts who visited the vessel said engines and pressure meters which were being unloaded were not used in any military operations but were rather for industrial use. The vessel and its crew will not be allowed to leave Sidon while investigations are under way.

Beirut, Jul 23 -- General cargo *Lady Azza*, which was arrested at Saida port by the Lebanese Army for smuggling weapons and explosives, was brought to Beirut port on Jul 21 and berthed at Quay No. 4 under army control. -- Lloyd's Agents.

OCEAN ALERT (Panama)

London, Jul 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: Research *Ocean Alert* has sailed out of Spanish waters. Odyssey

Marine Exploration's vessel was seized by Spanish authorities after it left Gibraltar earlier this month. The vessel was released yesterday.

Pipeline Accidents



DRUZHBA LINE, RUSSIA

London, Jul 23 -- Transneft vice president Sergei Grigoryev said Friday (Jul 20) that an oil pipeline to Lithuania remained closed, referring to a news report that the damaged link was ready to start pumping crude again. This doesn't affect Transneft, Grigoryev said by telephone. The damage on the branch of the Druzhba trunk line took place on Russian soil, not in Belarus, he said. Interfax reported Thursday from Minsk that the transit pipeline to Lithuania's Mazeikiu refinery from Russia was ready to start pumping. The refinery has been without Russian crude from the pipeline, which runs through Belarus, for almost a year. Russia closed the Druzhba line last July saying it needed repairs. Grigoryev said Friday the line was in the same condition as before. Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus has called the Druzhba shut-off ipolitical.

MEXICO

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated Jul 25, states: Saboteurs who blew up natural gas pipelines that shut down one of Mexico's main industrial regions earlier this month also crippled an important crude oil pipeline in an operation that indicated extensive knowledge of Mexico's energy infrastructure, U.S. officials said yesterday. Not only were oil and natural gas pipelines targeted but the bombers also knew enough about energy installations to destroy the shutoff valves along several pipelines that allow for the wide national distribution of oil and natural gas. The bombers knew which side of the valve they should strike, ensuring that crude oil didn't flow to a nearby refinery and that natural gas didn't flow to foreign and Mexican manufacturers in the central Bajio region, said the official.

NORTHWEST RUSSIA

Lavriki, Russia, Jul 26 -- A powerful explosion which hit a gas pipeline in northwest Russia was not caused by an act of terror and the accident will not affect supplies to foreign consumers, senior officials said on Thursday (Jul 26). "This will not affect supplies to Russian or foreign consumers of Russian natural gas in any way," Sergei Gustov, head of Gazprom's local subsidiary Peterbuggaz told Reuters at the scene outside Russia's second largest city of St Petersburg. -- Reuters.

St. Petersburg, Jul 26 -- A huge explosion and fire hit a major gas

pipeline in northwest Russia early on Thursday (Jul 26) but there were no reports of casualties and it was unclear if exports were disrupted, officials and witnesses said. "It is an explosion on a trunk gas pipeline under high pressure," said Valentin Sedorin, a spokesman for the Leningrad region around Russia's second city of St Petersburg. Witnesses spoke of a massive explosion that shook buildings 3 miles from the epicentre and caused traffic jams as people jumped in cars and fled the area. Emergency officials were unable to say what caused the explosion, or if the pipeline carried gas for export. The main route for Russian gas to Europe, the Yamal-Europe pipeline, is well to the south of the site of the blast. But a pipeline shipping gas to Finland is near the area. A Reuters reporter at the scene said the air was thick with smoke, making breathing difficult. He said roads were clogged with vehicles heading away from the fire, while hundreds of people were leaving the scene on foot. The explosion happened at a point where the pipeline ran close to a power station on the northern outskirts of St Petersburg. Emergency services officials said windows at the power station had been blown out by the force of the blast. It had destroyed a 50-metre long section of the 80-cm diameter pipeline, they said. An eyewitness said the blast happened at about 0015, local time, and was followed by a large fire. -- Reuters.

VANCOUVER AREA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

Vancouver, Jul 24 -- A pipeline used to unload vessels at the port of Vancouver ruptured on Tuesday (Jul 24), a geyser oil shooting 40 feet in the air before it was plugged, witnesses and local media reported. The accident along the Burrard Inlet in Burnaby, British Columbia, near Vancouver was apparently caused by construction equipment, and forced officials to evacuate a number of nearby houses. There were no reports of injuries, but there was concern that the oil could flow downhill to the water. Aerial photographs from the scene showed a highway covered in crude oil. A Reuters photographer in the area said construction equipment and trees as far as 200 yards from the area of the rupture were coated in oil. Chevron Corp., which operates a 52,000 barrel a day refinery in the area, said the spill did not involve its operation. A Port of Vancouver spokeswoman said the break apparently involved a line that delivers oil from tankers to a tank farm on Burnaby Mountain owned by pipeline operator Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP. A Chevron spokesman said the rupture did not appear to involve Kinder Morgan's main Trans Mountain pipeline in the area. -- Reuters.

Vancouver, Jul 25 -- Experts assessed today the environmental damage from a ruptured pipeline that showered a residential area near Vancouver with

crude oil, some of which seeped into a Pacific Ocean inlet. Crews attempted to mop up pools of thick black oil left by the accident yesterday in Burnaby, British Columbia, when a road construction crew struck the line used to load crude from Alberta on to ships in Vancouver's port. Pipeline owner Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP has not said how much oil leaked in the accident. Witnesses said a geyser spewed up to 40 feet in the air for more than 20 minutes before the line was shut down. Some of the oil reached Burrard Inlet, where containment booms have been put in place. The broken line links Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline system with Westridge Marine Terminal, where crude oil is shipped to overseas markets and aviation fuel for Vancouver International Airport is received. An airport official said the pipeline used to ship aviation fuel was not affected by the accident. The mayor of Burnaby says clean-up of the oil spill that forced the evacuation of homes and threatens Burrard Inlet will be a massive job that could take weeks and cost millions. Derek Corrigan says crews are assessing the impact of the spill and searching to find out just where all of the oil went so a thorough cleanup can be done. -- Reuters.

Pollution



DERWENT RIVER, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

London, Jul 23 -- The master and Singaporean owners of Combined chemical and oil tank *Siteam Anja* (28027 gt, built 1997) have been charged over a mysterious black sludge found floating in Hobart's Derwent River last month. The carbon-based sooty substance blackened shorelines on the Derwent between Lindisfarne Bay and the Tasman Bridge on Jun 15. The sludge had all but gone three days later but had affected yachts, animals, riverside vegetation and equipment, the department's environmental management director, Warren Jones said. The substance was not harmful but unacceptably interfered with public enjoyment of the environment. The master and Singaporean owners of the tanker were charged today with depositing a pollutant and creating an environmental nuisance, the spokesman said. The charges followed an investigation by the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment. The *Siteam Anja* was berthed in the Derwent River at Selfs Point around the time the substance was discharged. The matter will be heard in the Hobart Magistrates Court on August 10. (Note -- *Siteam Anja* arrived Hobart Jun 14 and sailed Jun 15 and arrived Devonport (AUS) Jun 17.)

Weather & Navigation

**AUSTRALIA**

London, Jul 19 -- Newcastle Port has declared the harbour entrance as rough and no coal vessels are being allowed to enter or leave the port. The port entrance will be assessed again at 0700, tomorrow morning (Jul 20). If the port does not re-open at that time, delays can be expected.

Sydney, Jul 20 -- Bulker *Pasha Bulker* will be towed to Asia for drydocking as soon as next week because her owners have decided not to have any repairs made in Brisbane. The vessel, refloated on Jul 3 after 25 days aground on Nobby's Beach at Newcastle, has been berthed at the port of Newcastle waiting for her Japanese owners, Fukujin Kisen, to decide on a repair plan. It had been thought that further assessments and minor repairs could be carried out at FORGACS in Brisbane, where the vessel could have been put into drydock. But a spokesman for Fukujin Kisen said a tug would arrive in Newcastle from Asia sometime next week in preparation to tow *Pasha Bulker* directly to Asia to complete all the repairs. The propeller was severely damaged, while her rudder, estimated to weigh about seven tonnes, remains stuck underwater off the beach where *Pasha Bulker* hit the sea floor. A Newcastle Port Corporation spokesman said heavy surf conditions had delayed attempts to retrieve the rudder. The port corporation is still waiting to discuss the fate of the rudder with Fukujin Kisen, with some suggesting it could be donated to a maritime museum. -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

London, Jul 20 -- At 1600, local time, today, Newcastle Harbour Control advised that due to continuing rough weather/heavy swells at the port entrance there will be no movements tonight. This follows the announcement at 0700, yesterday that Newcastle Port announced a "Heavy Entrance with nil inwards outwards movements". Swells are currently reported to be around seven metres. Pilots will inspect the harbour entrance again at first light tomorrow morning. Four coal berths are occupied by fully laden vessels awaiting sailing. The fifth berth has been closed for maintenance and is now ready to accept a vessel for loading. If the port reopens tomorrow morning, it is expected that at least one day's exports will have been lost as the vessels alongside were loading during the initial period of port closure.

London, Jul 24 -- Bulker *Pasha Bulker* will leave Newcastle on Thursday (Jun 26) bound for Asia. One of world's most powerful salvage tugs has been given the job of towing the vessel to Asia, where it will undergo major repairs. However the exact location is not yet

known. The vessel has been docked in Newcastle harbour since being refloated around three weeks ago. The vessel has undergone minor repairs to its hull, propeller and rudder. Splints have been put on either side to strengthen areas which have buckled. Five tugs will take it out of the harbour on Thursday morning and it will then be hooked up to the Japanese salvage tug *Koyo Maru* which will be attached to anchorage points off shore.

Sydney, Jul 25 -- Nippon Salvage-owned tug *Koyo Maru* was due to arrive at the port of Newcastle at 0700 hrs today (Jul 25) as final preparations were made to tow bulker *Pasha Bulker* back to an Asia drydock. *Pasha Bulker* has been berthed in the port since being refloated from Nobby's Beach three weeks ago, having run aground in a storm on Jun 8. A spokesman for its Japanese owners, Fukujin Kisen, said *Koyo Maru*, a 2,300gt ocean-going salvage tug, was one of the most powerful of its type in the world, capable of towing VLCC class vessels. *Koyo Maru* will briefly berth in the port for provisions, before moving to the offshore anchorage. Five of Svitzer's Newcastle-based tugs will then tow *Pasha Bulker* out of the port at 1100 hrs tomorrow, before *Koyo Maru* connects tow lines and begins the slow journey back to Asia. It is possible the vessel will return to the Japanese shipyard it was built in last year. -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

Sydney, Jul 25 -- Bulker *Pasha Bulker* is still in Newcastle Port. Due to leave at 1100 hrs, Jul 26. Understand the vessel is on its way to a ship repairer in Vietnam. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Sydney, Jul 26 -- Bulker *Pasha Bulker* left the port of Newcastle to the sound of World War Two gunfire just after midday today (Jul 26), as Nippon Salvage prepared to connect towlines for the long-haul back to Asia. Almost seven weeks after running aground on Nobby's Beach, the 76,781 dwt bulker needed the help of five Svitzer tugs to navigate through the channel as hundreds watched from vantage points around the city. Acting Newcastle harbour-master Monty Hughes was to pilot the damaged vessel about five miles off the coast, all under the power of the tugs. Nippon Salvage's 2,300gt *Koyo Maru*, was preparing to connect towlines to *Pasha Bulker* having yesterday berthed at the bulker's bow while both were in port. The five tugs will keep the bulker steady until *Koyo Maru* has fixed the lines in preparation for the long journey to an as-yet unspecified Asian drydock. Steel beams had earlier been welded to both sides of its hull, securing the area over the visible rippling which appeared when she ran aground. Efforts to remove its seven tonne rudder from the beach have been unsuccessful because of the murky water still spilling out through the channel from the floods seven weeks ago. -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

BANGLADESH

Chittagong, Jul 21 -- As per Meteorological Department,

Chittagong, cautionary signal number three is still continuing. It was further stated that dip convective cloud formed over the north of the Bay of Bengal and moderate to heavy rain accompanied by gusty winds and high tide in the bay, stalled civic life at the port Chittagong and its adjoining districts for the third consecutive day. Local met office is predicting no improvement of weather condition within the next couple of days. -- Lloyd's Agents.

BRAZIL

London, Jul 24 -- Citing safety concerns due to heavy rain, TAM airlines cancelled or diverted 90 flights today at Sao Paulo's main airport. Other airlines continued to fly in and out of Congonhas - Brazil's busiest airport - but it was periodically closed and reopened by authorities to all traffic during the rain. TAM cancelled 68 domestic flights from Congonhas, stranding thousands of passengers and diverted 22 other flights to Sao Paulo's international airport. Brazil's biggest airline said it made the decision for passenger safety because of heavy rains that started yesterday and were predicted to last through tomorrow. The main runway at Congonhas, short by modern standards, has been closed since Jul 17 crash while aviation officials investigate, leaving Congonhas with only a still-shorter auxiliary runway in use. Although government officials have insisted that both runways are safe, even when wet, TAM Linhas Aereas SA told its pilots yesterday not land at Congonhas at all during rainy conditions or when there are predictions of rain. Torrential rains that began yesterday ended this morning, but there were still periods of rain and it was overcast throughout South America's largest city.

HURRICANE "COSME"

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated Jul 20, states: The Big Island of Hawaii is under a flash flood watch until 1600, Saturday (Jul 21). The National Weather Service posted the watch in anticipation of locally heavy rain resulting from Tropical Depression "Cosme", which is forecast to pass to the south of the Big Island late Friday night into early Saturday morning. The weather service said the storm could still come close enough to dump 5 to 10 inches of rain, especially for southeast portions of the Big Island. The weather service also issued a wind advisory for the summit areas of Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea on the Big Island and Haleakala on Maui until 1600, Saturday. Winds are forecast to increase late Friday to 35 mph with gusts to 50 mph. Closer to shore, tradewinds are expected to pick up to 15 to 25 mph over most of the state by Friday night, with stronger winds for the Big Island's windward side. "Cosme" is also expected to bring bigger, choppy surf. Forecasters issued a high surf advisory for the east and southeast shores of the Big Island between noon Friday and noon Saturday for rough surf of 8 to 10-foot face heights. "Cosme" may also bring

advisory level surf of eight foot faces or higher to the east shores of the other islands as well. The weather service said it's still too soon to tell if the system will bring heavy rain to Kauai and Oahu, but forecasters predict a chance of locally heavy showers as far north as Maui County. For mariners, a small craft advisory has been expanded to cover all Hawaiian waters. As of 0500, Friday, the Central Pacific Hurricane Centre reported "Cosme" was located about 400 southeast of Hilo, 600 miles southeast of Honolulu, and was moving westward at 17 mph. The current forecast track will take the centre of the storm south of the Big Island at around midnight Friday night. The system has sustained winds of 35 mph with gusts to 45 mph, with little change in strength expected through Saturday morning. According to the hurricane centre, "Cosme" will enter warmer waters sometime on Sunday, which could restrengthen the system into a weak tropical storm. But by that time, "Cosme" will likely be far to the west of Hawaii.

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: The first Hawaii Superferry passenger ro/ro *Alakai* (8127 gt, built 2007) is scheduled to arrive at Kahului Harbor today as part of Coast Guard certification and a crew training program that will involve repeated runs into and out of the harbour. A Superferry announcement said initially that the 340-foot *Alakai* would arrive Saturday (Jul 21), but the certification trip was delayed because of rough ocean conditions resulting from the proximity of Tropical Depression "Cosme". There were small-craft advisories posted for channels around Maui County on Saturday.

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: Passenger ro/ro *Alakai* (8127 gt, built 2007) is scheduled to arrive at Kahului Harbour today as part of Coast Guard certification and a crew training program that will involve repeated runs into and out of the harbor. A Superferry announcement said initially that the *Alakai* would arrive yesterday but the certification trip was delayed because of rough ocean conditions resulting from the proximity of Tropical Depression "Cosme." There were small-craft advisories posted for channels around Maui County yesterday. The Superferry announcement said the vessel would not be available for public visits this weekend but will be scheduled for a community viewing in August. The start of interisland service is expected later this summer. During the training sessions in Kahului Harbor, the vessel will be brought up to the docking barge, according to harbours officials.

RIVER PARANA, ARGENTINA

London, Jul 20 -- Forecast River Parana levels at the usual ports of call, issued by the Waterways Authority, show a significant decrease during the coming weeks, coincident with the usual low season. This may result in a reduction of the maximum sailing draught, guaranteed 34 ft fresh water, by some inches for a few days during August.

TROPICAL STORM "DALIA"

London, Jul 26 -- Following received from the Meteorological Office, dated today: At 0600, UTC, today, the centre of tropical storm "Dalila" was located near lat 20.7N, long 112.7W. Movement over the past six hours, 310 degs, at eight knots. The position is accurate to within 30 nautical miles and is based on the centre being located by satellite. Maximum sustained winds 45 knots with gusts to 50 knots. Radius of 34-knot winds: 60 nautical miles in the north-east quadrant, 120 nautical miles in the south-east quadrant, 75 nautical miles in the south-west quadrant and 30 nautical miles in the north-west quadrant. The maximum significant wave height is 16 feet. At 0600, UTC, Jul 27, the centre is predicted to be near lat 22.5N, long 115.8W, with the maximum sustained winds of 35 knots with gusts to 45 knots.

UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated Jul 20, states: Flood damage in Britain is estimated to be at a record £2 billion following today's flash flooding in many parts of the country. Worst hit today was Berkshire with water levels rising to over seven feet in a matter of hours. Many homes were flooded and numerous people were stranded in their cars as levels rose and drains burst. In Hampshire, where scores of roads were closed, the Fire and Rescue Service said it had received more than 200 calls. The heavy rain swept in across Britain from the Atlantic, A blanket severe weather warning was issued by the Meteorological Office for the whole of Wales, the Midlands and East Anglia and everywhere in southern England except Cornwall. Leading British insurers are preparing themselves for record flood claims. The Association of British Insurers (ABI) estimated pay out of more than £2 billion in weather-related claims after the devastating floods of three weeks ago. Now after the latest bout of severe weather and with more forecast, insurers are bracing themselves for record claims. About 7,500 businesses and 27,000 households submitted insurance claims last week, the ABI said. As well as flood damage, insured businesses can claim for interruptions to earnings and the cost of re-locating in the event of severe flooding. Mike Elms of the British Insurers Union said "This is one of the worst ever spates of weather related insurance claims we have witnessed in the history of insurance" he added. "If this horrendous weather keeps up, we will be forecasting severe losses in the city, and this will have a serious knock on effect to the British economy for years to come. Further weather reports put six UK regions still at risk of incurring flood damage over the forthcoming weekend amid forecasts of thunderstorms and torrential rain. Having lashed the South of England, the storms are expected to move northwards. If the weather damage over the weekend is as bad as feared, the total bill to insurers could surge way past £5 billion.

Natural Disasters



INDONESIA

Jakarta, Jul 26 -- A strong undersea earthquake hit North Maluku province in eastern Indonesia today, triggering a brief tsunami warning. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties after the quake, which the U.S. Geological Survey put at magnitude 6.7 and the epicentre at a depth of 45 km. The agency had initially put the quake at magnitude 7.4 and a depth of 88 km. "We have lifted the warning. After monitoring, there were no signs of tsunami," Fauzi, the head of the seismology centre in Indonesia's meteorology agency, told Reuters. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre also said on its Web site that it did not expect a "destructive Pacific-wide" tsunami but said quakes of this magnitude can sometimes create local tsunamis. The quake struck at 1440 hrs (0540, UTC), with the epicentre 234 km northwest of the provincial capital Ternate, both agencies said. The Meteorological and Geophysics agency also said that earlier today, a moderate undersea quake jolted Indonesia's Aceh province, but there were no reports of any casualties or damage. -- Reuters.

JAPAN

Kashiwazaki, Jul 17 -- Officials at the world's biggest nuclear power plant said on Tuesday (Jul 17) there had been more minor radiation leaks after an earthquake in Japan that killed nine people and forced thousands from their homes. The latest admissions by Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) have reignited fears about nuclear safety in a country that relies on atomic power for one-third of its electricity but has faced repeated cover-ups of past accidents by atomic power utilities. A small fire in a transformer at TEPCO's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant that occurred when the 6.8-magnitude quake struck at 1013, local time, on Monday, was extinguished a few hours later. But NHK television said TEPCO workers had tried to douse the fire with water before fire fighters arrived and put it out with chemicals. TEPCO had initially said the earthquake had not caused any leaks, but it revealed on Monday night that 1,200 litres of radioactive water had sloshed into the sea from its Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant in Niigata. "I think that the report on the leak of radioactive materials was very slow and in addition, the action to put out the fire was slow," Sanae Takaichi, the minister in charge of science and technology, told reporters. On Tuesday, TEPCO officials confirmed a media report that said about 100 drums containing nuclear waste at a warehouse had fallen over and "several" lost their lids. Only about half of 22,000 drums had been inspected so

far, Nagao Suzuki, a TEPCO nuclear operations official, told a news conference in Tokyo. A TEPCO spokesman later said there was no impact on the environment or people. Also on Tuesday, the company said a small amount of radioactive materials, including cobalt-60 and chromium-51, had been emitted into the atmosphere. Trade ministry officials said the amounts were too small to pose an environmental threat, but that checks were being made at other units at the plant for possible leaks. TEPCO had acknowledged on Monday that the quake was stronger than its reactors had been designed to withstand. It was unclear on Tuesday when TEPCO's power units could restart. -- Reuters.

Tokyo, Jul 19 -- Japan's government may order the earthquake-hit nuclear plant run by Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) to stay shut for more than a year while a safety study is under way, the Nikkei business daily reported today. If the earthquake resistance study shows the facility -- the world's largest nuclear power plant -- needs to be reinforced, it might take much longer than a year before operations can resume, it added. TEPCO has asked six utilities for supplies of electricity to help fill an anticipated shortage from the shutdown of the plant. -- Reuters. (See issue of Jul 19.)

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Tokyo Electric Power Co. may not be able to begin reactor core checks of its quake-hit nuclear power plant in Niigata Prefecture until September because it needs to clean up contamination inside one of the seven reactors and remedy other safety woes, company officials said Monday (Jul 23). In addition to repairing the damage, the utility must also solve a host of problems that emerged after the magnitude-6.8 quake hit the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant Jul 16, including an inadequate fire-extinguishing system and uncertainty over the plant's ability to withstand earthquakes like the one that struck along the fault the complex apparently sits on. Restarting the world's largest atomic power complex before the August peak power demand period is not expected. The earthquake has caused an estimated 1.5 trillion yen in damage to Niigata Prefecture, nearly half of it stemming from the shutdown of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant, the prefectural government said Monday.

Political & Civil Unrest



IRAQ

Washington, Jul 23 -- Iraq's crude oil shipments to the United States in May fell to the second lowest monthly level in almost four years, the U.S. Energy Department said today. Iraq exported 341,000 barrels of crude oil a day to the

U.S. market in May, down 39 percent from the month before. The Energy Department said it was Iraq's second smallest volume of crude sent to the United States since September 2003, a few months after American forces removed Saddam Hussein from power. The United States imported an average 553,000 barrels of oil a day last year from Iraq, making it America's sixth largest foreign oil supplier. But shipments are down so far this year as Iraq's oil sector has been hit by insurgent attacks, disrupting oil production and exports. Iraq's oil production averages about 2.1 million barrels a day, down from daily output of 2.5 million barrels before the war. -- Reuters.

LEBANON

Beirut, Jul 25 -- Sporadic fighting in Nahr al-Bared between the Lebanese Army and Fatah al-Islam is discouraging tankers from unloading fuel oil at the Beddawi power plants and officials fear the station may be forced to increase power rationing in the coming days. At present, the Beddawi power plant is producing 110 megawatts instead of 420 MW, the plant's full capacity. He added that two vessels loaded with fuel oil had not dared to dock at the port to unload. Combined chemical and oil tank *British Courtesy* (29214 gt, built 2005) arrived at Tripoli Jul 2 and combined chemical and oil tank *Thames* (29214 gt, built 2005) arrived Tripoli Jul 11 to discharge their cargo of fuel oil at Deir Ammar Terminal. Due to the fighting at Nahr El Bared, the vessels could not discharge their cargo and they sailed on Jul 22 to Zaharani Terminal, South Lebanon. There are two vessels carrying 52,000 tons of fuel oil heading for the Zouk and Jiyeh electricity plants and this shipment will last few weeks. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Labour Disputes



ISRAEL

London, Jul 24 -- Israel was set for its third nationwide strike in eight months tomorrow after the powerful Histadrut labour federation said most public sector workers would down tools following the breakdown of pay talks. Histadrut, which represents hundreds of thousands of public sector workers, is demanding pay increases of about 10 per cent. The Finance Ministry has offered one per cent. Railways, government offices, municipalities, hospitals, sea ports and postal services were set to shut down or operate at minimum capacity from 0600, tomorrow, Histadrut chairman Ofer Eini said overnight. Tel Aviv's Ben-Gurion airport, Israel's main international link and Histadrut's most high-profile strike weapon, would go on operating for another 24 hours before it

too would shut down, said Mr Eini. "Unfortunately (the Finance Ministry) have created a real crisis in labour relations," said Mr Eini. He said his meeting with Finance Minister Roni Bar-On yesterday was unsuccessful and had created an "unavoidable (strike)". Mr Eini said his last-ditch attempt today to use a mediator from Israel's business community to try to avert the strike was also unsuccessful. Business leaders estimate a strike costs Israel's economy about 800 million shekels (\$215.36 million) a day and plan to seek an injunction from Israel's Labour Court.

London, Jul 25 -- Public sector workers in Israel have begun an indefinite general strike to demand higher pay. The action will affect courts and government offices, hospitals, ports, refineries, and bus and train services. Israel's main international airport, Ben-Gurion in Tel Aviv, could be shut down from tomorrow. The Histadrut workers' trade union is calling for pay rises of 10%. The government says this is unaffordable and is offering 1%. Government offices shut down entirely and state-run utilities operate on skeleton staff, carrying out no repairs or maintenance. The strike, which began at 0600, local time, is being observed by about 600,000 state employees and municipal workers.

UNITED STATES

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated Jul 20, states: Negotiations between office workers and shipping companies at the nation's largest port complex were scheduled to resume Friday evening (Jul 20) as the workers' negotiating team prepared to submit a counterproposal on a new labour contract, an officials said. The latest proposal by the clerical workers was to be their "last, best and final" offer, said Bill Orton, a spokesman for the International Longshore Warehouse Union's Office Clerical Unit, Local 63. Steve Berry, lead negotiator for the shipping companies, said both sides were scheduled to meet sometime Friday evening. Berry said he was not aware of whether the proposal would be the union's final offer. Earlier in the week, the union said publicly it was preparing such an offer, but ultimately backed off from doing so. The negotiating teams have continued to meet well past a strike deadline imposed earlier this week by the union. The deadline of 1201, last Monday, stoked concern over a possible shutdown at the ports. The 15,000-member ILWU has indicated that longshoremen would honor picket lines if the clerical workers strike. That would effectively shut down loading and unloading operations at the neighbouring ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which account for more than 40 percent of all the cargo container traffic coming into the US. Berry said he's optimistic a work-stoppage won't occur. The previous round of talks wrapped up around 0130, Friday, said Berry, adding that progress was made on some issues.

Still, differences remain over wages, the size of workers' pension benefits, changes to their health plan and other issues, he said. The talks began in May and continued after the current contract expired on Jun 30. The clerks work at marine terminals and handle bookings for the export of cargo and other transport documents. All told, Local 63 represents more than 900 full-time and temporary workers for 17 shipping companies and other cargo firms at the twin ports. The negotiations, however, only cover contracts for between 600 and 850 full- and part-time workers at 14 companies.

London, Jul 24 -- Talks between clerical workers and port employers at Los Angeles and Long Beach have taken a turn for the worse, with the union reviving threats of industrial action if demands for a 41% pay rise are not met. With stevedores pledged to honour white collar picket lines, any stoppage could have a major economic impact, as the complex is the major entrepot for US imports from China and the rest of Asia. The Marine Clerks Association of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union tabled its final offer on Saturday, with the employers promising a response today.

Fires & Explosions



FUEL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 25 -- A fire that destroyed a fuel distribution center and released liquid petroleum products into sewers is suspicious, Fire Chief Bobby Williams said yesterday. Investigators have not been able to find a natural cause for the Monday (Jul 23) evening fire, so now are focusing on whether it was deliberately set, Williams said. "It was not a naturally caused fire," he said. The fire caused more than \$10 million in damage at Whitley Fuel LLC and surrounding businesses, he said. Every on-duty firefighter in Spokane was called to the scene, as were off-duty employees, Williams said. Surrounding fire departments responded to other calls inside the city. Firefighters continued to douse hot spots yesterday, and some 55-gallon barrels of fuel exploded inside the ruins, Williams said. The state Department of Ecology was trying to contain gasoline, diesel fuel and other petroleum products that escaped from the fire and went down storm sewers and into the Spokane River, said Jani Gilbert, an Ecology spokeswoman. "We have no idea how much oil escaped," Gilbert said. But thousands of gallons of petroleum products were contained in a tanker truck that burned and in 55-gallon drums and other storage facilities on the site, she said.

GAS FACILITY, DALLAS, TEXAS, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 25 -- A series of explosions at a gas facility sent flaming debris raining onto highways and buildings near central Dallas today and seriously injured at least two people. Authorities evacuated a half-mile area surrounding the Southwest Industrial Gases, Inc. facility and shut down parts nearby Interstates 30 and 35 as the explosions continued for more than half an hour. Video footage showed numerous small fires burning in the area as stacks of gas cylinders exploded. About a dozen cars burned in a nearby parking lot and a grassy areas of a highway median. The canisters held acetylene and propane gas, said Texas Commission on Environmental Quality spokeswoman Andrea Morrow. It wasn't immediately clear what caused them begin exploding around 0930 hrs.

REFINERY, FAWLEY, UNITED KINGDOM

London, Jul 25 -- ExxonMobil Corp. temporarily shut most of its Esso Fawley Refinery and ExxonMobil Chemical manufacturing sites in the U.K. today after a fire was extinguished there earlier, said the company. "We are conducting an assessment of the impact of the incident on product supply. However, currently there is no immediate impact on supplies available for our customers. The fire has had minimal impact on our ability to distribute products by pipeline, road and ship," said ExxonMobil in an e-mailed statement. The Fawley refinery has a capacity of 300,000 barrels of oil a day and is U.K.'s largest, located in the south of England. The fire started Wednesday at around 0630, GMT and was extinguished at 0740, GMT. No injuries were reported, the company said.

REFINERY, RAS TANURA, SAUDI ARABIA

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: A fire that broke out at Saudi Aramco's North Product Terminal in Ras Tanura yesterday killed one worker and injured 13 others, according to a source that requested anonymity. The accident occurred at about 0930 hrs, while some maintenance work was going on, according to a Saudi Aramco statement released yesterday. The fire was brought under control after one hour at around 1030 hrs, the statement said. Two Filipino workers were reported missing shortly after the fire broke out, but one of them was located later with burns and subsequently died of his injuries. Though the accident resulted in some injuries, it did not affect production and loading works, Saudi Aramco said in an earlier statement before the worker died. A technical committee has been appointed to investigate the cause of the accident, Saudi Aramco said.

Aviation



AIRCRAFT GROUNDED AT INDORE AIRPORT, INDIA

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: An Indian flight was grounded at the airport in Indore today due to a technical problem, causing hardship to passengers. The Mumbai-Indore-Bhopal-Delhi flight was grounded due to a problem in its engine, senior Indian official Qamar Ali said. The aircraft developed the problem after landing at Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport, following which it was decided to ground the aircraft, he said. While the airline arranged taxis for Bhopal-bound passengers, it requisitioned another aircraft for sending other stranded passengers to their respective destinations, Ali said. The airline's technical staff attended to the grounded aircraft.

AIRCRAFT GROUNDED, GRAND CANARIA

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Hundreds of holidaymakers have been left stranded in the Canary Islands after a holiday firm's only aircraft was forced out of service. The passengers have been stuck on Gran Canaria since Saturday (Jul 21), when the charter aircraft developed a major technical problem and was banned from flying. More than 1,000 Seguro Holidays passengers faced huge delays after the travel company was forced to cancel all its flights to and from Prestwick Airport in Ayrshire over the weekend. Hundreds also had to spend the night in hotels in Scotland and abroad as they waited to discover whether or not their holiday flights would go ahead. Tour operator Seguro yesterday managed to charter replacement aircraft for some routes, and flights are to leave for Faro and Alicante this morning. But the company had not managed to find an aircraft to make the two flights to Las Palmas. The aircraft was supposed to bring back the holidaymakers from Las Palmas. Richard Burke, managing director of Seguro, said yesterday: "We are not sure what is happening about the people in Las Palmas at the moment, though we are doing all we can to get them home. Those staying in self-catering accommodation have been given money for food and drink and our reps are visiting them regularly." Seguro's own aircraft, chartered from Sky Wings, has had its licence suspended due to a problem with its navigation system, and will not be allowed to take off again until it is declared safe to fly. Seguro is currently organising replacement charter aircraft to fly its routes and is confident that flights to Gran Canaria, Lanzarote and Majorca will go ahead this week.

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: More than 1,000 passengers were stranded in the Canary Islands, Scotland and abroad this weekend (Jul 21-22) when their charter aircraft was grounded. The aircraft, chartered by Sky Wings, is the only aircraft operated by tour operator Seguro Holidays of Scotland. Some affected passengers managed to make it home via a few sub-charters Seguro was able to secure or on their own. Richard Burke, managing director of Seguro, said: "There was a further problem with paperwork with the Civilian Aviation Authority in Athens which delayed things. They have now reinstated the license of Sky Wings and it will be operating as normal from Prestwick. Everyone will be coming home on Tuesday." Burke added: "We are in talks with other companies to charter an aircraft for the rest of the season and will be terminating our contract with Sky Wings."

CRASH, ABRUZZO REGION, ITALY

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated Jul 23, states: An aircraft fighting one of the fires raging across Italy amid a heat wave crashed Monday (Jul 23) in a central region, killing one crew member and seriously injuring the other one, officials said. The Canadair aircraft crashed in the Abruzzo region, where soaring temperatures and winds fanned several blazes, the Civil Protection Department said. The injured one was hospitalized in serious condition.

London, Jul 24 -- Canadair CL-415, operated by Dipartimento Protezione Civile, I-DPCX, crashed while fire fighting near S.Erasmo, Jul 23. Aircraft written off. One fatality.

CRASH, AREKUNA AIRSTRIP, VENEZUELA

London, Jul 25 -- Cessna 208B Grand Caravan, operated by Linea Turistica Aereotuy, YV1182, crashed on take-off from Arekuna Airstrip, Venezuela at 1655, Jul 21.

CRASH, EAGLE PLAINS, YUKON, CANADA

London, Jul 24 -- The Fireweed Helicopters Ltd. Bell 206-L1, C-GMNW, was operating in the vicinity of Eagle Plains, Yukon, today. During an attempt to touchdown in a swampy area, the right bear paw got hung up resulting in a dynamic rollover to the right. The pilot and passenger were not injured, however, the helicopter was substantially damaged.

CRASH, FORT MCMURRAY, ALBERTA, CANADA

London, Jul 24 -- The Phoenix Heli-Flight AS350 BA, C-FHLF, Johnson Lake, AB, to Fort McMurray, AB with the pilot and four passengers on board descended into marshy terrain and turned over onto its left side at Fort McMurray, Jul 23. One passenger was fatally injured, and the other occupants sustained serious injuries. The pilot had transmitted a "Mayday" on a forestry frequency and rescue helicopters were dispatched immediately.

CRASH, HAMMONDSPORT AREA, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 25 -- Cessna 150 N1095B crashed near Hammondsport, New York, at 2220, Jul 24. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH, HAPPY CAMP AREA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 24 -- Bell 205A-1 N205BR crashed near Happy Camp, California, at 1800, Jul 23. The aircraft was destroyed. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH, KANDAHAR AREA, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA

London, Jul 20 -- Ayres Thrush Commander S2R C-GAWF, operated by Miccar Aerial, crashed near Kandahar, Saskatchewan, at 0618, CST, Jul 19. The aircraft sustained substantial damage. The one person on board was killed.

CRASH, KETCHIKAN AREA, ALASKA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 25 -- De Havilland DHC-2 Mk I (Beaver) N995WA, operated by Taquan Air, crashed east of Ketchikan, Alaska, at 2200, Jul 24. The five persons on board were killed.

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated Jul 25, states: A sightseeing aircraft (N995WA) crashed in the mountains of Misty Fiords National Monument, killing the pilot, two sisters and their husbands on a side trip from an Alaska cruise, state troopers said Wednesday (Jul 25). Authorities were at the heavily forested site Wednesday to remove the five bodies, troopers spokeswoman Megan Peters said. The single-engine floatplane, a de Havilland Beaver, had left Ketchikan shortly before 1330, Tuesday, for a tour over Misty Fiords. Searchers spotted the wreckage in the area where an aircraft distress signal had been picked up, near the south arm of Rudyerd Bay about 35 miles northeast of Ketchikan. The aircraft crashed at the 2,400-foot elevation of a steep slope, shearing off the tops of trees and breaking apart, the fuselage sliding lower than the wings, Laurance said. The four passengers had been travelling on *Sun Princess*, a Princess Cruise Lines vessel that was on the second day of a seven-day trip from Seattle. The vessel left Ketchikan two hours after its scheduled departure of 1630.

CRASH, LONGMONT AREA, COLORADO, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 19 -- A press report, dated today, states: A vintage aircraft crashed and caught fire Thursday (Jul 19) outside Longmont, and two men on board were taken to a hospital, officials said. Boulder County sheriff's Cmdr. Joseph Gang said both men were conscious when they were pulled from the wreckage. The aircraft was a Beechcraft C-45H, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kenitzer said. Gang said the twin-engine aircraft appeared to be having engine trouble, clipped some trees and snagged power lines. An FAA database

said the aircraft was built in 1951 and was owned by the Commemorative Air Force's American Airpower Flying Museum in Midland, Texas. Museum spokeswoman Kay Crites said she believed neither person on board was seriously injured.

London, Jul 20 -- Beechcraft Mentor 45 N9562Z crashed near Erie, Colorado, at 1513, Jul 19, and caught fire. The two persons on board were injured.

CRASH, MCGAVOCK LAKE, MANITOBA, CANADA

London, Jul 23 -- McGavock Lake Air Service de Havilland DHC-2 Beaver, C-FIDF, was landing at McGavock Lake, MB, on a flight from Elgin Lake at 1500, Jul 22. Just before touchdown, the aircraft encountered gusty wind coming around a point of land. The pilot lost control of the aircraft, a wingtip struck the water, and the aircraft capsized. The occupants of the aircraft exited without injuries. The aircraft sustained substantial damage.

CRASH, MOOSONEE AREA, ONTARIO, CANADA

London, Jul 23 -- The Hydro One Networks Aerospaciale AS 350-B2 helicopter, C-GOHY, was descending to land in an open area near a communications tower with support cables on three sides at 1330, Jul 20. At approximately 100 feet above ground the main rotor blades contacted the two top cables and control of the helicopter was lost. The helicopter became entangled in the cables and struck the ground in an inverted position. The helicopter was substantially damaged during the impact but there was no post-crash fire. All of the three occupants were taken to a local hospital.

CRASH, NEW JERSEY, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated Jul 22, states: A Cessna 172 crashed in the backyard of a northern New Jersey home this morning, state police reported. Two people were on board the aircraft but neither was injured in the incident, said Sgt. Stephen Jones. The incident was reported at about 0930 hrs. The aircraft hit some trees, then hit the Leschs' fence as it landed and spun around. The two men who were inside the aircraft got out and walked away from the aircraft. Alison Duquette, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration, said the aircraft was a Cessna 172 that had taken off from an airport in Caldwell, N.J. She said there was no information about where the aircraft was going. The FAA is investigating the incident.

CRASH, SANFORD, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 24 -- A twin-engine NASCAR aircraft had broken control cables and its crew reported smoke in the cockpit before crashing into a suburban neighborhood and killing five people. However, it was unknown whether the cables broke in flight or after impact, and the cause of the Jul 10 crash in Sanford remained unclear,

according to a preliminary report from the National Transportation Safety Board released today. Numerous separations in the cables in the right wing and forward fuselage of the Cessna 310 showed signs of tension overload, according to the report. Air traffic controllers gave the aircraft clearance to land on any runway after it reported smoke in the cockpit, according to the report. The crew's last radio transmission about a half-minute later was cut off mid-sentence. The aircraft's landing gear and flaps were not deployed, suggesting the pilot was not prepared to land, federal officials have said.

CRASH, SAO PAULO, BRAZIL

Sao Paulo, Jul 19 -- Debate over the cause of Brazil's worst air crash began to shift on Thursday (Jul 19) from widespread claims of a faulty runway to potential pilot error or mechanical failures. Since Tuesday's fiery accident at Sao Paulo's Congonhas airport that killed around 200 people, many officials and aviation experts have focused on the rain-soaked runway that the aircraft skidded off before slamming into a gas station and cargo terminal. But a video of the botched landing of the Airbus released by the national airport authority suggests other factors were also at play in Brazil's second major aviation disaster in less than a year. The footage appears to show the TAM Linhas Aereas aircraft accelerating instead of braking when it touched down on the short, slippery runway, perhaps because the pilot was trying to lift off again. "The government is clearly trying to convince public opinion that the runway at Congonhas was not at fault," said Elnio Borges, president of the Varig Pilots' Association. "They're going to do everything they can to blame the pilot." Officials estimate up to 200 people were killed in the crash, including casualties on the ground and all 186 passengers and crew on board. By Thursday afternoon, firefighters had pulled 181 charred bodies from the smoldering wreckage. Four badly injured victims have died in hospital, bringing the official toll to 185. At the TAM cargo building hit by the aircraft, as many as five employees were still missing. The crash highlighted long-standing safety concerns about Sao Paulo's aging domestic airport, Congonhas, which sits in the middle of South America's largest city, is known for its short and slick runways. The TAM aircraft was trying to touch down on a surface that had been repaved in June after officials tried to ban large jets over fears they could skid off the short landing strip. But the runway still had not been grooved to drain rainwater, prompting criticism that the airport was re-opened prematurely because it is so important to Brazil's economy. "The real question is why was Congonhas re-opened in that state," said Paulo Sampaio, an aviation consultant at Multiplan Consultora in Rio de Janeiro. The airport resumed operations on Wednesday with an alternate runway. But federal

prosecutors filed a petition to have it shut until both runways were determined to be in line with safety standards. The video of the landing seems to cast doubt on whether the runway was at fault. Firefighters have already recovered one of the aircraft's two cockpit recorders, which will be sent to the United States for analysis. French and US safety investigators are helping Brazilian authorities probing the cause of the crash. -- Reuters.

London, Jul 20 -- A press report, dated today, states: One of the two thrust reversers on an Airbus A320-233 (PR-MBK), carrying 186 people, which crashed in a fireball, was turned off when the aircraft landed, the jet's owner said, as officials tried to determine why it raced down a runway instead of slowing down. The airline TAM Linhas Aereas SA, however, said late yesterday that the thrust reverser used to slow jets after they touch down had been deactivated earlier in accordance with proper procedures and aircraft in such condition are considered safe to fly. Brazil's Globo TV reported that an unidentified problem in the aircraft's right thrust reverser emerged four days before the crash and was under investigation by authorities. TAM did not provide details about the problem, but issued a statement saying that government-approved maintenance rules allow aircraft with that problem to fly, though they must be inspected within 10 days. The crash on Tuesday night (Jul 17) killed least 190 people -- all 186 on board the aircraft and at least four on the ground, including one who died in hospital today. Brig Jose Carlos Pereira, president of the national airport authority Infraero, said authorities must wait for an analysis of the flight data and cockpit voice recorders to explain why the jet was going so fast. "For some reason, the plane did not slow down," he said. "Something happened and the pilot, for some reason, accelerated the plane." Brazilian aviation consultant Elias Gedeon said it was too early to assign blame: "The bottom line is we don't know what happened. Why was he going so fast? He couldn't stop? Was it the water on the runway? Was it his ability? We don't know." Almost all airliners are equipped with thrust reversers that redirect the engines' jet blast forward to help slow them after touchdown. While thrust reversers on twin-engine airliners such as the Airbus A320 are supposed to work in tandem, it is not unusual for only one to be deployed if the other is unserviceable. Congonhas Airport recently resurfaced its runway to provide better braking in rainy conditions, but the new surface had not dried enough to cut deep grooves into the tarmac that allow water to run off the runway and provide increased grip. Aircraft continued to slide off the runway after the resurfacing was done and before Tuesday's crash. Federal prosecutors are seeking an injunction to close Congonhas until the investigation is over, a process expected to take months. If a judge approves the

move, it would cause air travel chaos throughout Brazil and severe financial repercussions for airlines.

London, Jul 22 -- A press report, dated today, states: The black box containing pilots' voice recordings has been found in the wreckage of the TAM Airlines aircraft (PR-MBK) that crashed in Brazil this week killing some 200 people, officials said. "This black box is in good condition, which will help the investigation," air force General Jorge Kersull Filho said. He says the box had been handed over to TAM and was on its way to Washington for analysis. Brazilian authorities had already sent to Washington what they thought were the flight's two black boxes, but one turned out to be a simple tape recorder and not the flight voice recorder, Gen Kersull said. The error was due to major damage sustained by the equipment as a result of the impact and subsequent fire.

CRASH, SONALIA REGION, ETHIOPIA

London, Jul 24 -- One person died and eight others sustained light and severe injuries after a cargo airplane, which is the property of the Djibouti Airways, crashed in Ethiopia's Somali region yesterday, Ethiopian police said. The official Ethiopian news agency quoted Guled Diryo, a local police officer, as saying that the accident occurred yesterday in Shinele town at around 1300 hrs. One of the persons on board died after he was sent to a local hospital and all of the injured were admitted to the hospital for medical treatments, according to the news agency. The Antonov An-26 cargo aircraft, which took off from east Ethiopia's Dire Dawa airport for Djibouti, crashed due to technical failure, it said.

CRASH, STUPINO DISTRICT, MOSCOW, RUSSIA

London, Jul 25 -- A foreign-made helicopter crashed in the Stupino district near Moscow yesterday. Both people aboard died in the crash, a source at the Emergency Situations Ministry told Itar-Tass. The helicopter crashed near the town of Tatarinovo at about 1900, local time. An investigation is underway.

CRASH, STYRA AREA, EVIA, GREECE

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated Jul 23, states: Two Greek firefighter pilots were killed on Monday (Jul 23) when their Canadair water-bomber aircraft crashed while combating a fire on the island of Evia, as Greece braced for a fresh week of searing temperatures. "The plane crashed into a hillside between two houses," the island's deputy governor Stamatis Kapeleris told state NET television. Television footage showed wreckage from the CL-415 Canadair close by the front yard of a house near the town of Styra on the island off the eastern coast of central Greece. The aircraft was built in 2001 and was the latest addition to Greece's water bomber fleet, the air force said.

CRASH, WARKWORTH AREA, NEW ZEALAND

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated today, states: A helicopter has crashed near Warkworth this morning. The helicopter crashed on a ridge just off Takatu Road near Matakana, North of Auckland, at 1100 police said. The pilot was the only occupant of the helicopter and has only minor injuries, said inspector Gary Hill. He said the Civil Aviation Authority would be investigating the cause of the accident which is not yet known. Watch manager for St John's Ambulance in Auckland confirmed there was one man in the helicopter and that he had walked away from the accident.

CRASH, WATTS-WOODLAND AIRPORT AREA, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated Jul 20, states: A small Cessna aircraft crashed-landed after striking a bird and flipped over into a tomato field near the Watts-Woodland airport Friday (Jul 20) shortly after take-off. There were two passengers on board, a flight instructor and a student, both of whom survived without major injuries. The pilot, Robert Holmes, suffered only minor lacerations to his face from broken glass caused by the bird strike. His passenger, whose name was not available, was uninjured and both men remained on the scene. The Cessna 150, registered to Atkins Air LLC a charter aircraft company out of Lincoln, took off from Watts-Woodland airport and shortly there after stuck a hawk while flying at low altitude around 1130. The hawk smashed open the cockpit window, making the aircraft unable to fly, said Kent Atkin, Director of Operations for Atkins Air LLC. The pilot shut down the fuel-power line before landing in the field which may have saved the aircraft from catching fire.

EMERGENCY LANDING, BLENHEIM AIRPORT, NEW ZEALAND

London, Jul 23 -- A passenger aircraft's emergency landing at Blenheim Airport cost \$1 million, says Eagle Air. The crew of the 17-seater aircraft made a spectacular landing on Jun 18 after they were unable to lower the landing gear. All the passengers on the flight from Timaru to Wellington walked away uninjured. The propellers shattered and were torn from the aircraft on impact. Eagle Air general manager Doug Roberts said the aircraft was being repaired at Blenheim and would be back in the air in mid-August. The cost of the repairs and new propellers was \$1m. He said the emergency was caused by a complete loss of hydraulic fluid in one of the undercarriage struts, which cracked.

EMERGENCY LANDING, CHARLOTTE-DOUGLAS AIRPORT, NORTH CAROLINA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 26 -- A press report, dated Jul 25, states: A US Airways jet from Los Angeles to Charlotte made an emergency landing at Charlotte-

Douglas International Airport Wednesday morning (Jul 25). Flight 1488 with 173 passengers landed safely before 0630. Firefighters were on standby as a precaution, but the pilot never declared an emergency.

EMERGENCY LANDING, CHIPPEWA VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 22 -- A press report, dated Jul 21, states: There were some tense minutes in the air for more than 150 people. A Northwest flight from Philadelphia made an emergency landing at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport. Northwest Media Manager Dean Breest says a flight attendant reported to the pilot she smelled a funny odor. The pilot called the Eau Claire tower and decided to make an emergency landing just before 1300. 154 people boarded Northwest Flight 687 at Philadelphia International Airport this morning (Jul 20), heading for the Twin Cities. But they never made it. At 1248, the pilot radioed the Eau Claire control tower. With fire trucks waiting on the tarmac, the pilot brought the Airbus A320 down smoothly, but even so, passengers say the emergency landing shook them up. After a long wait in the terminal, the passengers and their luggage finished the trip to the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport on buses. Northwest says mechanics will look at the aircraft to try to figure out what the smell was and what caused it.

EMERGENCY LANDING, DENPASAR AIRPORT, BALI, INDONESIA

London, Jul 23 -- A press report, dated today, states: A Jetstar flight from Bangkok to Melbourne has been forced to make an emergency landing at Bali's Denpasar Airport after the captain shut down one engine. Flight JQ30 from Bangkok to Melbourne was scheduled to land at Tullamarine at 0900, but the pilot re-routed the aircraft to Denpasar airport after shutting down one of the two engines. The plane landed about 0645 and all 302 passengers and 12 crew are still on board. Jetstar spokesman Simon Westaway said the captain had shut down one engine as a precautionary measure. Mr Westaway said the flight was at capacity with 302 passengers, including three infants, on board.

London, Jul 24 -- A press report, dated today, states: Hundreds of passengers who were stranded when a Jetstar aircraft made an emergency landing in Bali yesterday have returned to Melbourne. A faulty engine forced the pilot to land at Denpasar Airport, leaving more than 300 people stranded in Bali. They finally arrived at Melbourne airport early this morning. One passenger said many people were unhappy with Jetstar's handling of the ordeal.

EMERGENCY LANDING, EVANSVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT, INDIANA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 25 -- A press report, dated today, states: An American Eagle

regional jet departed Evansville at 1400 on Tuesday (Jul 24). Passengers said the aircraft had been en route to Chicago for roughly 15 minutes when the pilot announced he was turning around because a control light indicated the landing gear had not retracted after take-off. Thirty-eight passengers were on board the aircraft, which was carrying about 5,000 gallons of fuel. After receiving confirmation from the tower that the landing gear was down, the aircraft landed without incident.

EMERGENCY LANDING, NORFOLK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, VIRGINIA, UNITED STATES

London, Jul 21 -- A press report, dated today, states: An AMR Corp. American Airlines 767 landed safely at Norfolk International Airport Friday morning (Jul 20) after having hydraulic problems. Norfolk Airport Authority's deputy executive director, Wayne Shank, said the flight had just taken off from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York when the crew realized there was a problem with the hydraulics on the right side of the aircraft. The aircraft was headed to Buenos Aires. Shank said the crew decided to make an emergency landing and the aircraft landed safely in Norfolk at 0137.

RADAR PROBLEMS, THE AMAZON, BRAZIL

London, Jul 23 -- A radar outage over the Amazon had a ripple-effect delay at half a dozen U.S. airports after a failure occurred during the early hours of Saturday (Jul 21) morning. For nearly three hours, air traffic controllers closed Brazilian air space, forcing more than 20 international flights to be diverted or cancelled. Aircrafts had to return to their points of origin or make unscheduled stops at other airports as far flung as San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Santiago, Chile. The Air Force blamed the radar outage on electrical failure, but also said it was investigating whether sabotage was to blame.

Port Conditions**AUSTRALIA**

Sydney, Jul 26 -- Macarthur Coal joined fellow miners Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton in blaming infrastructure congestion for a fall in sales in its June quarterly report released yesterday (Jul 25). Macarthur Coal cut its annual sales target from 4.5m tonnes (mt) to 3.7mt for 2006/07. The fourth quarter coal sales of 1.05mt fell 17%, compared with last year's corresponding quarter, due to off-site infrastructure issues, including rail and port congestion". "(Annual) sales were well below the previous year as they were impacted by

Port Conditions

significant infrastructure constraints," Macarthur said. The coal chain system operated in the June quarter at an annualised rate of 48.1mt a year, up from 47.2mt a year in the March quarter, but still significantly below contracted capacity of 61.3mt. "As a result, shipping congestion has remained, with 55 vessels anchored off Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal (DBCT) awaiting loading, with delays of 28 days at the end June," Macarthur said.

Congestion continues to be experienced at all coal ports along the eastern seaboard of Australia. "Sales for full-year 2008 will be impacted by the current port congestion and infrastructure constraints. Railings to Abbot Point have commenced and these will help to offset, but not completely alleviate, the throughput problems being experienced at DBCT." -- Lloyd's List Daily Commercial News.

ITALY

Genoa, JuL 23 -- Current berthing delays: Genoa: No vessels waiting to berth. La Spezia: Two vessels waiting to berth, average delay one day. Savona: No vessels waiting for normal berth. One vessel vessel waiting for special berth. -- Lloyd's Agents.

Port Delays

Information received from BIMCO, Denmark and the Indian Ports Association Jul 26

Country/Port	Date of report	No. of vessels waiting and/or days delay
Australia		
Abbott Point	30-July-2007	Coal: One vessel loading at berth; 3 vessels arrived; 7 vessels due by 11/8; 5-10 days delay expected.
Brisbane	30-July-2007	Coal: Fisherman Island coal berth; Eight vessels due by 1/9.
Dalrymple Bay	30-July-2007	Coal: Two vessels loading at berth; 38 vessels arrived; 18 vessels due by 20/8; 5-20 days delay expected; while Berth 4 is under construction, Cape size vessels can only load on Berths 1 and 2 until end 10/07.
Dampier	30-July-2007	Iron ore: Parker Point: Four vessels loading at berth; 2 vessels arrived; 15 vessels due by 14/8; East Intercourse Island: 1 vessel loading at berth; 4 vessels arrived; 10 vessels due by 21/8; 3-6 days delay expected at Dampier.
Geralton	30-July-2007	Iron ore: Five vessels at anchor; 1 vessel due 31/8; shutdown 14-21/8 confirmed.
Gladstone	30-July-2007	Coal: 10-15 days delay expected; R.G. Tanna coal terminal: 3 vessels in berth; 14 vessels arrived; 42 vessels due by 11/9; Barney Point: 11 vessels due by 13/9.
Hay Point	30-July-2007	Coal: Two vessels loading at berth; 18 vessels arrived; 11 vessels due by 10/8; 5-20 days delay expected.
Newcastle	30-July-2007	Coal: Kooragang 4, 5 and 6: Three vessels loading at berth; 30 vessels arrived; 44 vessels due by 13/8; 13-30 days delay expected;; Dykes 4+5: 2 vessels loading at berth; 16 vessels arrived; 12 vessels due by 14/8; 13-27 days delay expected.
Port Hedland	30-July-2007	Iron ore: Nelson Point: Two vessels loading at berth; 2 vessels arrived; 18 vessels due by 10/8; BHP Iron Ore Pty. Ltd., Goldsworthy (Finucane Island "C" berth): berth closed for refurbishment; (Finucane Island "D" berth): 1 vessel loading at berth; 2 vessels arrived; 6 vessels due by 3/8; Cockatoo Island: 1 vessel due 5/8; Koolan Island: 4 vessels due 17/8; 3-8 days delay expected at Port Hedland.
Port Kembla	30-July-2007	Coal: Seventeen vessels due by 26/8; up to 1 day's delay expected.
Port Walcott	30-July-2007	Iron ore: One vessel loading at berth, 8 vessels arrived; 12 vessels due by 14/8; 3-10 days delay expected.
Whyalla	30-July-2007	Iron ore: One vessel due 3/8; 1 vessel due 11/8 for transshipping - loading by barge at anchorage
Azerbaijan		
Apsheron	30-July-2007	Oil products: Three vessels discharging at berth (2 gasoil, 1 crude oil); 1 vessel in roads to discharge kerosene.
Baku	30-July-2007	Oil products: Azertrans terminal: Two vessels in roads to discharge crude oil; Nobel Avenue: No information; Sangachal District: port open; no vessels.
Bulgaria		
Bouragas	30-July-2007	Six vessels in port operating, of which 2 loading (1 coils, 1 copper anodes), 4 discharging (1 coils, 1 wood, 1 copper concentrate, 1 zinc/lead); no vessels in roads; 5 vessels due, of which 2 to load (1 containers, 1 coils/baryte concentrate), 2 to discharge (1 kaolin, 1 metals).
Varna	30-July-2007	Varna East, Varna West, Electrical Power Station, Balchik: Conditions 23-29 July: Twenty-two vessels in port operating of which 10 loading (1 bulk rapeseed, 2 bulk sulphuric acid, 2 soda, 1 bulk clinker, 1 caustic soda solution, 1 bulk silica sand, 1 technical salt, 1 bagged kaolin), 4 discharging (1 bulk coal, 1 bulk copper slag, 1 bulk sugar, 1 clay), 8 discharging/loading (7 containers, 1 equipment in packing cases); no vessels waiting in roads.

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Port Conditions

Egypt

Adabiya	30-July-2007	Three vessels berthed (loading/discharging) of which 2 general cargo, 1 bulk carrier.
Alexandria	30-July-2007	Forty-three vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 38 general cargo, 2 bulkers, 3 container vessels; 8 vessels at outer anchorage, none at inner anchorage.
Damietta	30-July-2007	Twenty-two vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 15 general cargo, 1 bulk carrier, 6 container vessels; 5 vessels at outer anchorage, 2 at inner anchorage.
Dekheila	30-July-2007	Eight vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 1 general cargo, 6 bulk carriers, 1 container vessel; no vessels at outer anchorage.
Port Said	30-July-2007	Six vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 2 general cargo, 4 container vessels.
Suez	30-July-2007	Five vessels berthed (loading/discharging), of which 3 general cargo, 2 passenger vessels; 3 tugs, 3 vessels dry-docked.
Suez Canal	30-July-2007	Twenty-five vessels transiting Northbound, 30 Southbound.

Estonia

Tallinn	30-July-2007	Paljassaare (formerly Kopli): One sugar vessel discharging at berth; no vessels anchored; no vessel due, with 7 days berthing delay expected.
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India

Kolkata	30-July-2007	11 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading General Cargo, Containers, 6 vessels loading and discharging (Containers-3, Logs-2, Pulses), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers; 2 vessels working at midstream to discharge Pulses; 1 vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge; 5 vessels under repair; 1 vessel under dry docked; 1 vessel under arrest; 2 vessels waiting to sail, 1 vessel waiting to work at MHC berth; 1 Containers vessel due.
Haldia	30-July-2007	11 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading Iron Ore, 4 vessels discharging (Coking Coal, Crude, Ammonia Coal, Soya), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers, 2 vessels waiting to load; 8 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (1 to discharge, 7 to load), 6 vessels waiting at anchorage (4 to discharge, 2 to load); 6 vessels due (POL, LPG, Butadine, Coke, Thermal Coal, Containers).
Paradip	30-July-2007	11 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading (Iron Ore-3, Thermal Coal, Mineral Ore), 6 vessels discharging (SKO, A. Coal, RPC, Project Cargo, Coking Coal, Ammonia); 12 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (4 to discharge, 8 to load), 4 vessels waiting at anchorage to load; 34 vessels due.
Vizag	30-July-2007	19 vessels operating at berth of which 8 vessels loading (Iron Ore-3, Thermal Coal-2, B.F. Slag, Steel Cargo, Product Tankers), 11 vessels discharging (Steam Coal, Product Tankers-2, Urea-2, Ammonia Nitrate, Crude Oil, Coking Coal-3, Sulphur); 7 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (5 to discharge, 2 to load); 37 vessels due (Iron Ore-8, Containers-2, Feldspar, Granite Blocks, Alumina Powder, Food Grains, Cement and Sand, Product Tanker-4, General Cargo, Petroleum Coke, Urea-4, Sulphur, Coking Coal-2, Containers-2, Caustic Soda, Timber Logs, Steel Pipes, DBM Bags-2, Steam Coal, Crude Oil).
Chennai	30-July-2007	21 vessels operating at berth of which 2 vessels loading (IOL/Iron Ore, Containers), 13 vessels discharging (Project/Steel Coil/Splat/General., Splat, S Coal, Logs-2, Urea-2, Thermal Coal, Coking Coal-2, Orxyl, Meg. C. Oil), 6 vessels loading and discharging (S. Coil/Project/Granite Block/Steel Plate, S coil/Project/GB/Steel Pipe-2, Containers-3); 4 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (3 to discharge, 1 to load), 7 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage (2 to discharge, 4 to load, 1 to load and discharge); 1 vessel under arrest; 4 vessels due (Granite Blocks, Iron Ore, Thermal Coal, General Cargo/Containers).
Tuticorin	30-July-2007	10 vessels operating at berth of which 4 vessels loading (General Cargo, Sugar, P. Acid, G. Sand), 5 vessels discharging (Urea, DAP, Logs-2, VCM), 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers; 1 vessel awaiting berth at anchorage to load, 6 vessels (***) not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to load.
Cochin	30-July-2007	2 vessels operating at berth of which 1 vessel loading POL, 1 vessel loading and discharging Containers; 2 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage to load; 24 vessels due (Crude-6, Domestic Passenger-3, Containers-10, POL, Lakshadweep Cargo, Research, Defence, Edible Oil).
New Mangalore	30-July-2007	11 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading (Iron Ore Fines-3, POL Product, Iron Ore (P), 6 vessels discharging (Fertiliser-2, Cr. Palm Oil, LPG, POL Crude, Lime Stone); 2 vessels waiting berth at anchorage to load; 18 vessels due (LPG, POL Proudce-3, Iron Ore Fines-3, Coal-2, POL Crude-4, Fertilizer, Lime Stone, Boxes, Phosphoric Acid).
Mormugao	30-July-2007	1 vessel operating at berth and discharging MOP; 2 vessels working at midstream loading Iron Ore; 4 vessel under dry docked; 2 vessels due (Coking Coal, Containers).

Port Conditions

Mumbai	30-July-2007	12 vessels operating at berth of which 6 vessels loading (Steel/Vehicles-2, POL-4), 5 vessel discharging (Bulk Peas-2, Steel/Machinery/Project-2, POL); 1 vessel loading and discharging to Steel/General Cargo; 2 vessels working at midstream and discharging POL; 2 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to load, 6 vessels awaiting order at anchorage to discharge, 3 vessels waiting berth at anchorage (1 to discharge, 2 to load); 29 vessels under repairs/dry docked; 10 vessels under arrest; 1 vessel under laid up (Berths not required for cargo operations); 33 vessels due (Containers-6, Fertilizer, Oil, General Cargo-25).
J.N.P.T.	30-July-2007	8 vessels operating at berth loading and discharging Containers; 5 vessels awaiting berth at anchorage (1 to discharge, 4 to load and discharge); 5 vessels due(Containers-4, Liquid).
Kandla	30-July-2007	12 vessels operating at berth of which 5 vessels loading (Barley, Agriculture-2, Rice, Fly Ash), 7 vessels discharging (Butane, Chemical-3, Phosphate Acid, Timber Logs, DAP); 2 vessels not ready to work and waiting at anchorage to discharge; 1 vessel under repairs; 2 vessels under arrest.
Ennore	30-July-2007	1 vessel operating at berth discharging Coal; 1 vessel working at inner anchorage and loading Iron Ore; 4 vessels due (MV Triton Eagle (Coal), MV Good Season (Coal), MV Apj Sridevi (Coal), MV Tamil Anna (Coal).
Israel		
Ashdod	29-July-2007	No labour problems. Fourteen vessels discharging at berth (8 general cargo, 6 bulkers), 3 vessels loading/discharging at berth (2 containers, 1 car carrier); 5 general cargo vessels waiting at anchorage to discharge, 2 bulkers waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; 24 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Eilat	29-July-2007	No labour problems. Two general cargo vessels discharging at berth; 1 general cargo vessel waiting at anchorage to discharge; 2 vessels due, with no delays expected.
Haifa	29-July-2007	No labour problems. Seven vessels discharging at berth (5 general cargo, 2 bulkers), 8 loading/discharging at berth (3 containers, 1 car carrier, 4 tankers); 3 bulkers waiting at anchorage to load/discharge; 5 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 21 vessels due, with 2-3 days delay expected.
Kazakhstan		
Aktau	30-July-2007	Oil products: Five vessels in roads, all to load; 2 vessels due by 30/7, both to load.
Poland		
Gdansk	30-July-2007	Nine vessels in port operating of which 6 loading at berth (1 coal, 2 general cargo, 3 tankers), 3 discharging at berth (2 bulk cargo, 1 tanker); 12 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 21 vessels due.
Gdynia	30-July-2007	Eight vessels in port operating of which 3 loading at berth (2 bulk cargo, 1 general cargo), 5 discharging at berth (2 grain, 3 general cargo); 17 vessels under repairs/dry-docked; 46 vessels due.
Russia		
Novorossiysk	30-July-2007	Six vessels in port operating, of which 4 loading, (1 pipes, 2 diesel oil, 1 zinc/lead), 1 discharging debars, 1 discharging/loading containers; 6 vessels waiting in roads, all to load, of which 1 soda ash, 2 wheat, 2 diesel oil, 1 UAN solution; 47 vessels due, of which 39 to load (4 slabs, 1 equipment, 3 DRI, 4 copper, 1 bulk ammonium nitrate, 2 barley, 1 sodium sulphate/soda ash, 8 wheat, 2 pipes, 2 copper WRIC, 2 cellulose, 1 angles, 1 coils/soda ash, 1 steel billets, 1 HBI, 1 steel billets/equipment, 1 coils, 2 aluminium, 1 UAN solution), 6 to discharge (1 equipment, 1 debars, 1 vegetable oil, 2 bulk sugar, 1 zinc concentrate). Oil terminal: 3 tankers berthed, all loading, of which 1 crude oil, 1 diesel oil, 1 fuel oil; 6 tankers in roads, all to load, of which 5 crude oil, 1 diesel oil; 1 tanker due to load crude oil.
Turkmenistan		
Turkmenibashi	30-July-2007	Oil products: One vessel loading fuel oil at berth; 10 vessels in roads, all to load (3 gasoline, 4 fuel oil, 1 kerosene, 1 gasoil, 1 other).
Ukraine		
Ilechevsk	30-July-2007	Seven vessels in port operating, of which 5 loading (3 steel products, 2 sulphur), 2 loading/discharging containers; 2 vessels in roads, of which 1 to load sulphur, 1 to discharge/load containers; 13 vessels due, of which 5 to load (4 steel products, 1 sunflower oil), 2 to discharge nickel ore, 6 to load/discharge containers.
Mariupol	30-July-2007	Ten vessels in port operating, all loading, of which 5 steel, 3 fire-clay, 2 coal; 6 vessels in roads, all to load, of which 4 steel, 1 fire-clay, 1 sulphur; 36 vessels due, of which 35 to load (20 steel, 6 coal, 6 fire-clay, 2 sulphur, 1 slag), 1 to discharge containers.

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Port Conditions

Odessa	30-Jul-2007	welve vessels in port operating, of which 6 loading (1 pig-iron, 1 timber/metal, 2 metal, 1 grain, 1 timber), 3 discharging (1 bananas, 1 luggage, 1 sugar), 2 discharging/loading containers, 1 passenger vessel; 4 vessels in roads, of which 2 to load metal, 2 to discharge/load containers; 57 vessels due, of which 25 to load (17 metal, 2 scrap, 2 pig-iron, 1 ore, 1 coal, 2 timber), 9 to discharge (1 metal, 1 citrus, 4 sand, 1 ore, 1 equipment, 1 oil), 23 to discharge/load containers.
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