

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER: Sunday 17-03-2002





Mar. 15, 2002 -- Vice President Richard B. Cheney is led on the flight deck by Lt. Cmdr. Kameron Kerns and Vice Adm. Timothy J. Zortman while observing launch and recovery of aircraft. Vice President Cheney stopped aboard **Stennis** while meeting with coalition forces in the region. John C. Stennis and Carrier Air Wing Nine (CVW-9) are conducting combat missions in support of **Operation Enduring**Freedom.

EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONSMaersk grounding sparks controversy

SILTING at Guayaquil, Ecuador's largest port, has generated fresh controversy following the grounding of the Maersk La Guaira at the port entrance channel last week. The ship ran aground in an area where the worst silting occurs, but authorities say the captain's report blames a power failure late at night when the vessel was about 8 km from berthing. Port users told Fairplay the ship almost collided with another ship but the captain makes no reference to such an incident. Barges from Panama have been called to tranship the vessel's cargo to port while it awaits refloating. Maersk Sealand, which faces a bill in excess of half a million dollars to free its ship, is known to be acutely dissatisfied with Guayaquil's historic yet unresolved silting problem, which is worsening. Successive attempts to tender for dredging have been aborted by irregularities or allegations of corruption and Maersk, the port's biggest user, has increasingly opted for the deep water port of Manta when it cannot get its larger ships into Guayaquil.

JAN STEEN



The **JAN STEEN** owned by Van Oord-ACZ and at present in the Far East was contracted by a Salvage firm for the recovery of the US Navy Chinook CH-46 helicopter which crashed in the Philippines about 2 weeks ago.

ROUTE, PORTS & SERVICESA'Rosa to receive second cruiser



SEETOURS, P&O Princess' aggressive German subsidiary, is planning to deploy a second Panamax cruise ship. The move follows the transfer of its **Crown Princess** – Photo Left - to the new A'Rosa brand as A'Rosa Blu to serve the German market. The second vessel is also expected to be a refurbished existing cruise ship rather than a newbuilding. Next month Crown Princess/A'Rosa Blu will

go to Bremerhaven repair and conversion yard Lloyd Weft for a euro30M (\$26.26M) refit. Seetours has ordered a third river cruise vessel from Neptun Werft and is currently negotiating an option for a fourth. Meanwhile a sister to its Aidavita, to be named Aidacara, will be delivered by Aker MTW yard early next year.

Box terminal on the Caspian Sea

A CONTAINER terminal is to be built at the Russian port of Olya on the Caspian Sea, according to transport ministry spokesman Alexander Filimonov. He confirmed that talks are under way with a private investor, but declined to provide details. The ministry itself is planning to invest \$5M in the new terminal, which will be the Caspian's largest container handling facility. The Russian rail ministry will also complete construction of a spur line linking the port to the regional rail system. Funds from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development are being sought for the scheme. The latest moves are intended to boost cargo movements between India, Iran and Europe along what the Russians are calling the North-South Corridor. This week president Vladimir Putin signed the ratification instrument for an agreement on the corridor between the three countries that will boost shipping between Mumbai, Bandar Abbas, and Olya.

Cruise lines demand more from ports

CRUISE lines have told port authorities there is no longer any point in "knocking on our doors" seeking cruise ship calls unless they have more to offer than just good facilities, rates and tourist attractions. The advice, from a panel of executives representing the world's three largest cruise companies, was given to delegates at the Seatrade cruise conference in Miami as they evaluated the industry's future. RCCL VP John Tercek said, "We're not in the business of selling ports," and cited southern California's San Diego as an example of how a port can win cruise calls by adding value. "They came to us and offered a joint marketing campaign and frankly they're going to spend more in marketing than we pay them in mooring fees." As a result, RCCL will put its first ship into San Diego later this year.

NOL said to have sailed into loss for 2001



SINGAPORE flag-carrier Neptune Orient Lines (NOL), the world's 6th largest container shipping group, is expected to post a loss for 2001 due to depressed freight rates amid slower international trade.

Five analysts polled by Reuters expect NOL to post full-year losses in the range of US\$48mil to US\$90mil for the year ended Dec 31,

2001.

The company, which has a market cap of around S\$1.3bil, is due to an-nounce its results on March 27.

"Freight rates are coming down be-cause of lower volumes and overcapacity," said Peter Williamson, an analyst at ING Barings. "We don't expect the overcapacity situation to sort itself out until 2003 so we're expecting depressed freight rates, not only this year, but also next year."

Analysts said NOL was a victim of the downturn affecting the container shipping industry, which had benefited from strong freight rates in 2000 as Asian exports were in high demand due to the technology boom in the US.

This helped the firm to post a 90% jump in net profit to US\$178.50mil in 2000, boosted by a strong performance from the container business, which ac-counts for around 80% of group revenues.

But in a reversal of fortunes, NOL is now suffering from excess capacity mainly on transpacific routes as new ships were coming on stream at a time when international trade had slowed.

"You had a lot of owners chasing these excess profits and booking new ships which are now coming on stream," Williamson said. "What NOL is trying to do is replace older ships with the new ones that they've booked."

Separately, analysts expect NOL's unit American Eagle Tankers to post lower earnings on declining charter rates while its logistics division is seen incurring losses due to integration costs from its acquisition of US-based GATX Logistics and Mare Logistik in Germany last year.

Despite encouraging signs that the US economy is getting back on its feet, analysts remain cautious on the trade front and several do not expect NOL to turn around till 2003.

"We continue to expect losses in 2002 to get significantly worse, and do not see a turnaround until at least 2003," Merrill Lynch analyst Sim Chey Hoon. "Freight rates will remain under pressure this year even though sign-posts suggest that the demand cycle would be returning."

Sim expects NOL to post a full-year loss of \$58 million.

Among analyst concerns is how NOL intends to unlock value from its logistics acquisitions.

NAVY NEWS

MSDF vessels return to Japan after



military operations in Afghanistan.

Indian Ocean duty

SASEBO, Japan - Three Maritime Self-Defense Force
(MSDF) vessels -- the Kurama (L, background), the
Kirisame (L, foreground) and the Hamana (R) -- anchor
near their home port of Sasebo in Nagasaki Prefecture on
March 16. The vessels returned to the port the previous
day after being dispatched to the Indian Ocean as part of

Japan's provision of noncombat support to the U.S.-led

U.S. Naval Officer Reported Missing



GAETA, Italy (NNS) -- A U.S. Navy officer temporarily assigned aboard **USS Theodore Roosevelt** (CVN 71) is reported missing.

After being listed as missing from a ship-wide muster March 8, Roosevelt, which is transiting the Mediterranean Sea on its way back to Naval Station Norfolk after being relieved by USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67), lead search-and-rescue efforts that included two helicopters from the carrier's Helicopter Squadron 11 and one helicopter from Helicopter Squadron Light 42 embarked aboard USS Vella Gulf (CG 72). Twenty-four hours later, the search was terminated without success. On the morning of March 13, the Egyptian navy reported finding a body in the water near Port Sayeed Lighthouse that had identification matching the missing officer. The Navy is dispatching an official to Port Sayeed where the body is being kept.

The officer, temporarily assigned in Theodore Roosevelt, was a crew member aboard Vella Gulf homeported in Norfolk, Va. The name of the officer is being withheld pending notification of next of kin

Crew of Lost Helicopter Declared Deceased



GAETA, Italy (NNS) -- All three crew members of the helicopter that crashed into the Mediterranean Sea March 12 have been declared deceased.

The crew members, who were attached to Helicopter Squadron Light (HSL) 46, home ported in

Mayport, Fla., were identified as Lt. Terri Sue Fussner, 27, of Manchester, Mo.; Lt. Wayne Francis Roberts, 34, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class Jason Edward Lawson, 21, of Smyrna, Ga.



Embarked aboard **USS Hayler (DD 997)**, - Photo left - the SH-60B Seahawk was conducting a routine flight when it crashed. Hayler initiated search-andrescue efforts immediately after losing radar contact and communications with the helicopter, which continued throughout the night before being called off the afternoon of March 13.

The search, which included Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats (RHIB) from both Hayler

and **USS Ross (DDG 71)** and was joined by a P-3 Orion from Patrol Squadron 10, a nearby British C-130 and another C-130 from Greece covered an area of 1,000 square miles.



The Military Sealift Command Ship **USNS Rappahannock (T-AO 204)** conducts a replenishment at sea (RAS) with the USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), during **Kitty Hawk's** first full day of sea trials following a shipyard availability following mission in support of Operations Enduring Freedom. Kitty Hawk is home based in Yokosuka, Japan and is the only permanently forward deployed U. S. Navy aircraft carrier.

HMS NEWCASTLE HEADS FOR SOUTH ATLANTIC

The warship HMS Newcastle left Portsmouth March 15th for a five-month deployment combining security patrols and humanitarian missions.

The Type 42 destroyer left her Portsmouth home to carry out patrols off the Falkland Islands, but on her way she visits several West African countries to carry out community aid projects.

She first visits Sierra Leone and then heads for Ghana and Nigeria. In each country the ship's 250 crew will get involved in building projects at schools, painting and refurbishing the buildings as well as handing out text



books and toys which have been donated by charities and individuals in the UK.

Refurbishing medical centres is also likely to feature in their work schedule.

Lieutenant Commander David Prentice, the ship's second in command, said: "We will be spending about four to six weeks in the African countries and although we have a rough idea of the projects we will be getting involved with, nothing is definite until we get there.

"But the Royal Navy has already built up a close relationship with the countries we are visiting and they are all looking forward to hosting HMS Newcastle."

On completing the African leg of the tour, Newcastle sails south for two months in the south Atlantic. In between patrols the ship's company will make several 'welfare visits' to the Falkland Islands, mixing with the locals and possibly carrying out small community projects.

The tour will be rounded off with six weeks in the Caribbean for anti-drug smuggling operations.

MOVEMENTS SMITWIJS ROTTERDAM



The Tug **SMITWIJS ROTTERDAM**passed Hoek van Holland Friday evening
around 19:00 hrs bound for Niehuis & vd
Berg for drydocking

Photo's: Jan vd Klooster



Below:
The Norwegian survey vessel Romulus
Entered Saturday morning 09:00 the Nieuwe Waterweg enroute Rotterdam
Photo: Piet Sinke



AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS Monarch rebrands its planes and crew

Monarch Airlines has become the latest airline to give itself a rebranding makeover.

From next week its planes will sport indigo and bright yellow colours to replace the old black and gold livery.



Monarch's research found that passengers considered its image "to be somewhat outdated and possibly inappropriate to today's consumer".

The first plane in the new colours will fly from Manchester to Tenerife on March 22. It will take about two years to repaint the airline's 21 planes.

The company is also changing its cabin crew's uniform and changing the name of its "crown service" product to "Monarch Scheduled".

It used "crown service" to

describe its scheduled service business but discovered that passengers no longer see a connection between "crown" and "elite". The Monarch decision follows a move by Britannia - the UK's biggest charter airline - to drop its "royal service" in 1996. Britannia said at the time that its passengers saw "royal" as being old-fashioned and unsuitable for a VIP product. Starting with just two aircraft in 1968, Monarch carried nearly five million passengers last year. Its head office is at Luton airport in Bedfordshire.

VG AIRLINES



OO-SFQ First arrival of a VG Airlines A330 at Brussels 14-03-2002
Delivery flight IV001 from Chateauroux.
Photo: Sven de Bevere

RIJNMOND WEATHER

zondag 17 maart

9 uur 's ochtends : temperatuur: 9 graden kans op neerslag: 25% wind: matig (21 km/u) uit Z

5 uur 's middags: temperatuur: 12 graden kans op neerslag: 15% wind: matig (23 km/u) uit ZZW

.... SHIP OF THE DAY RESIDENSEA WORLD



The Residensea World is not so much a liner as an array of floating apartments that sails around the world 'in pursuit of fair weather, special international events and natural attractions'. While a typical ship of this size could carry over

1,500 passengers, the World is expected to carry an average of 285 guests plus a crew of 252. The apartments will start at US\$2,000,000. Yearly maintenance charges are expected to range from



\$60,000 to \$240,000. It will spend around 250 days in port. The building cost is estimated to be US\$262,500,000.

The Residensea World has a length of 196,35m (644ft), or 173m between perpendiculars, and a moulded breadth of 29.8m (97.8ft). It has a design draught of 6.7m (22ft) draught and a moulded draught of 9.2m. It registers 40,000 gross tonnes and has a maximum speed of 19 knots. The facilities are spread across 12 decks and are accessed by 6 full-size elevators.

PASSENGERS

The ship will have a maximum capacity of 1,046 persons. The accommodation is split between residents and guests. There will be 110 private residences ranging from 1,100ft² to 3,200ft² in size. There will also be 88 guest suites ranging in size from 220 to 500ft².

The private apartments have living and dining areas, two or three bedrooms (each with an ensuite bathroom), a kitchen and a terrace. All the apartments are furnished and have advanced audio and video equipment, in addition to modem access and fax capability. There will be a choice of six floor plans including penthouses and bi-level residences.

AMENITIES

Two entire decks are reserved for shopping and leisure activities. There are seven restaurants and cafés, which offer a wide range of international specialities. In addition to numerous lounges and bars, there is a theatre, casino and nightclub.

There is also a library, museum, and business centre. Other facilities will include a 'market room' with a

licensed stockbroker, a helicopter landing pad and a retractable marina for access when anchored in port.

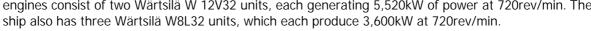
A view of an apartment.

The ship includes a golf centre with driving ranges, putting greens and hi-tech simulators, a full-size tennis court, paddle tennis, a jogging track and two swimming pools - one outdoor and one indoor. It also has a health spa, workout room and sauna treatment rooms.

ENGINES

Because of the long time spent in port, there is no need for a complex propulsion system, although the electrical power package is more demanding. The main

engines consist of two Wärtsilä W 12V32 units, each generating 5,520kW of power at 720rev/min. The





propellers. These are four-bladed Wichman Cp 115 units, with Wichman Wichmatic 2 Propeller Controls. The need to minimise noise and vibration is paramount. Consequently, propellers are inward-turning while the propeller blade geometry has been designed to optimise noise reduction.

The private apartments have living and dining areas, two or three bedrooms (each with an ensuite bathroom), a kitchen and a terrace.



For manoeuvring, the ship has two Brunvoll FU80LTC2250 1,200KW thrusters located forward and a Brunvoll FU63LTC1750 700kW located aft.

Using the full power output of the engines, the ship can attain a speed of 19 knots. When using 8000kW with the propellers running at 120rev/min, this will give the vessel speed of over 17 knots. If a slower speed of 11 knots is demanded, the propellers will turn at 11rev/min at an output of 2,500kW.Electricity is generated through a pair of Leroy Somer LSA 58 M75-10P generator units that produce 5,600KVA of power and three Leroy Somer LSA 58 VS 55-10P generators, each of which produce 4,308KVA of power.

Saturday 16-03 evening between 21.00 and 22.00 hrs the Discovery Channel will re-transmit a part of the series "Extreme Machines, violence of the seas", with the disaster of the Herald of Free Enterprise and the Estonia and how to avoid them in the future.

HAVE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING **SITES** FOR SHIPPING INFO AND PICTURES OF SHIPS AROUND HOEK VAN HOLLAND AT:

http://www.scheepvaarthoek.nl & http://www.mcf-rotterdam.nl