



## DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2003 – 032



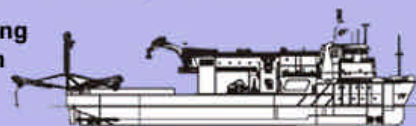
Number 032\*\*\*DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER\*\*\* Wednesday 12-03-2003

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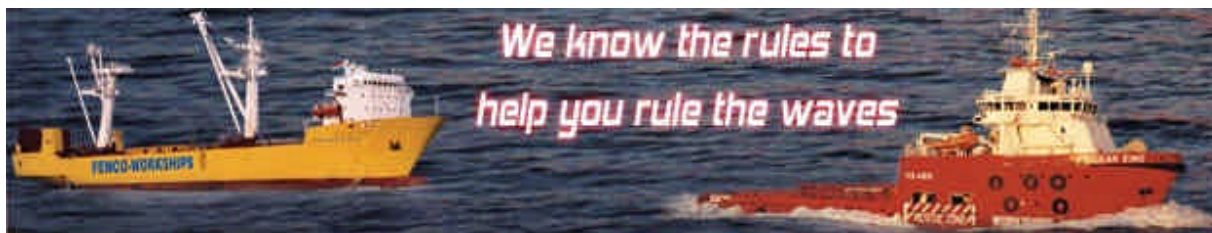
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North sea oil exploration platforms lie awaiting drilling contracts in the Cromerty Firth in Northern Scotland. OPEC countries and independents like Britain are experiencing a near Twelve -year highs in oil prices as war with Iraq looms

## Enorme drukte op veerboten

door Eugène Verstraeten

**TERNEUZEN** - Het was dit weekeinde extreem druk op de veerdiensten over de Westerschelde. Dat dit het laatste weekeinde was dat de veren varen, had daar alles mee te maken. Velen wilden nog één keertje met de boot mee. Zij namen de lange wachttijden voor lief. Maar anderen maakten rechtsomkeert en besloten de Liefkenshoek tunnel te nemen.

Ook afgelopen week was het vanwege de vakantie al een stuk drukker dan normaal. Volgens een medewerker van de PSD in Kruiningen is het `veertoerisme` al een week of drie geleden begonnen. „Ramptoeisme, zeggen wij liever. Want we zijn vanaf volgende week onze baan kwijt.`` Onder de passagiers op de veerdienst Kruiningen-Perkpolder waren ook veel voetgangers. Ouders die hun kinderen een laatste keertje met de boot wilden laten meevaren, voordat de veerdienst in de geschiedenisboeken verdwijnt. „Als ze de tellingen voor een fietsvoetveer tussen Perkpolder en Kruiningen de laatste weken hadden gehouden, was dat veer er zeker gekomen`, aldus de PSD-medewerker. „Ze zijn gewoon te vroeg met tellen begonnen.``

## SMIT BORNEO



Top : The installation / crane barge **SMIT BORNEO** seen here working offshore Bangladesh, **SMIT** Transport Asia was contracted to do a pipe repair at the Sangu-A platform for Global Industries offshore Bangladesh, at the picture the **SEA PANTHER** of Global Industries is moored to

the platform and at the picture below the **Dea Captain** is seen in the background , the pipe repair was completed successfully and the **SMIT BORNEO** arrived safely back in Singapore.

Photo's : **SMIT Transport Asia**

## SMIT Salvage and Semco completed cargo removal and disconnected the Gas Roman from the Springbok

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At 13:48 hours local time last Sunday (9 March) two tugs succeeded in disconnecting the **Gas Roman** and the **Springbok** from each other east of Pulau Binting. Currently both vessels are safely afloat. The **Gas Roman** is being redelivered to the owner and the awarded LOF 2000 contract has been terminated.

The separation operation was completed after the successful offloading and patching (the mounting of steel plates onto the damaged hull) activities onboard the **Springbok**. All work was performed under close guidance of a marine chemist. Up until now there are no threats to the environment. The two vessels collided 16 miles N.E. of the Horsburgh lighthouse (near Singapore) in the international shipping route on 27-2-2003. Initial reports indicate that the **Gas Roman** sustained damage to her bow and the **Springbok** suffered damage to her mid section near the crew's accommodation.

The **Gas Roman** is a Panamanian flagged LPG carrier with a deadweight tonnage of 55,000 tonnes. She measures 230 meters in length and 36.60 in width and was built in 1990. Her cargo consists of 44,000 tonnes LPG. The **Springbok** is a Singaporean flagged general cargo ship with a deadweight tonnage of 15,000 tonnes. The vessel has a length of 144 meters with a width of 20.40 meters and was built in 1979, and was laden with 3,165 tonnes of timber.

## Sri Lanka Navy Sinks Rebel Vessel

The Sri Lankan navy has sunk a Tamil Tiger ship suspected of smuggling weapons. The clash came shortly before opposition parties staged a large rally in the capital, Colombo, to protest the government's handling of the peace process with Tamil rebels.

The clash took place about 300 kilometers off the island's northeastern coast. Officials said a navy patrol boat fired warning shots on an unnamed cargo vessel, after it did not respond to signals to stop.

The ship fired back, and four government sailors were injured in the gun battle. The cargo ship then caught fire and sank. European peace monitors said the rebels confirmed one of their ships was involved in the clash. About eight or 10 people were on the boat when it sank. The monitors called the clash a "serious matter."

## Navy will escort Indian ships in case of Iraq war

The Indian Navy will escort Indian oil tankers, container ships and cargo vessels plying in West Asian waters in case of a war involving Iraq, the Defense Ministry said on Monday. "It is the duty of the Indian navy to protect our merchant interests and an escort will be provided in case war breaks out," Navy Cdr. Abhay Lambhate, a Defense Ministry spokesman, said.

"Three or four ships will be bunched together and given naval escort. Indian merchant ships will have to notify the navy of their movements," Shashank Kulkarni, secretary general of the Indian National Shipowners Association, said. Emergency plans are being discussed to tackle a fire or explosion in case Indian ships are caught in an exchange of gunfire or if a warhead accidentally landed on a ship, Kulkarni said. Repair squads and medical teams will be stationed aboard all Indian oil tankers in the Gulf region, said an official with a leading Indian shipping company, who did not wish to be identified.

In 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, safe corridors were declared and Indian ships were provided security cover by Indian naval vessels anchored in the Arabian Sea, the official said. Allied ships including those of the US Navy then protected the tankers that moved into the Gulf. The Government has said it hopes war can be avoided, but has called on Iraq to comply with UN resolutions calling for it to give up all weapons of mass destruction. If it does not do so, the Government says the matter should be handled by the United Nations.

## **CASUALTY REPORTING**

### **E.R.STRALSUND (LIBERIA)**

Mar 10 -- Following received from Singapore Port Operations, dated today: **C.c. E.R.Stralsund** (25630 gt, built 1999) arrived Singapore in tow of tug/supply **Dea Conqueror** 1700, Mar 7 with engine problems. E.R.Stralsund is presently at Singapore anchorage.

### **ECLIPS**

Last Sunday at the Vrasene dok – kaai 1221 in the Port of Antwerp the pusher tug **ECLIPS** sunk suddenly, two of the three crewmembers were able to jump overboard before the vessel sank, **MULTRASHIP** from Terneuzen was awarded the contract to raise the **ECLIPS** from the seabed, the vessel sank in 16 mtr deep water, Monday evening the **CORMORANT** departed from Terneuzen to the Port of Antwerp and started the salvage of the vessel. **Message : Leendert Muller - Multraship**

## **SHIPYARD NEWS**

### **Shipbuilding unit helps Pan United profit inch upwards**

SINGAPORE'S Pan United shipyard and shipping group reported a small increase in both profits and revenues last year.

Pan United's profits were up 3% to S\$20.3m in 2002 compared to the year before, while revenues were up 4% to S\$427m over 2001. Accounting for nearly half of its profits was marine and engineering particularly in the area of shipbuilding with a 34% increase in net profit to S\$9.2m.

"The Shipping group operated in a tougher market environment in 2002," Pan United said. Falling charter rates and an impairment provision of \$1.8m for a vessel resulted in a lower net profit of \$2.1m when compared to 2001. Its Changshu Port project in China performed well and net profit increase by 134% to S\$7.3m. It has established itself as a leading transshipment hub, particularly for steel products, which helped to generate higher cargo throughput for the port," the company said.

The only part of the group not to be profitable was its industrial and trading division which was S\$1.93m in the red for 2002. The group's current orderbook is S\$205m of which S\$155m is to be completed this year. The group said it expects 2003 to be a "challenging year" although it expects to remain profitable

### **Keppel Offshore and Marine secures \$55m order trio**

SINGAPORE conglomerate Keppel Corp said on Monday its subsidiary, Keppel Offshore & Marine, won S\$95m (\$54.72m) in marine contracts. The unit will build three 60-tonne vessels, one for a Saudi Arabian customer and two for a local customer. The vessels will be completed in the first quarter of 2004, Keppel said in a statement. These contracts are not expected to have any significant impact on the net tangible assets and earnings per share of Keppel Corp for the financial year ending 31 December 2003, it said. Keppel Corp shares ended down 2.0 percent at S\$4.02 on Monday, ahead of the announcement.



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### Rickmers goes to Hanjin Heavy for double boxship order

CONTAINERSHIP specialist Hanjin Heavy Industries announced to the Korea Stock Exchange on Monday a further double boxship order worth Won106.6bn from Rickmers Reederei of Germany. The ships, both 5,060 teu capacity, will be delivered by the end of April, 2005 and have a maximum speed of 24.3 knots, a length of 294.1m and a width of 32.2m. Hanjin has received orders for 12 vessels worth \$710m so far this year, with European container operators leading the way. CP Offen placed an order of five 8,100 teu ships with the Hanjin affiliate in the penultimate week of February

### LIMBURG



Crude oil tanker **Limburg** is currently at Kalba anchorage, near Fujairah. Vessel is now owned by **Tanker Pacific** and its new name is **Maritime Jewel**. We understand that no decision has been made in respect of its future prospects.

### CARNIVAL GLORY



**CARNIVAL Glory** is the latest superliner to join the Carnival Cruises fleet in July. Longer than three football pitches, the 3,000- passenger ship will sail from Port Canaveral on Florida's East Coast. There will be choice of two seven-night cruises - either the Eastern Caribbean, taking in the Bahamas, St Thomas and St Maarten, or the Western Caribbean, stopping at Key West, Belize and Cozumel in Mexico.



The ship has 22 bars and lounges, a nightclub, a gym and health club and four swimming pools. Evening entertainment takes the form of twice nightly Broadway-style revues, late-night comedy, a huge casino and in cabin Hollywood movies. There is also a teen club and video game room, plus specially-organised activities for children of all ages.

## **NAVY NEWS**

### **Corner Brook reaches Halifax**



The latest boat in Canada's pre-owned submarine fleet arrived in Halifax Monday. The submarine **HMCS Corner Brook** with its crew of 58 took two weeks to cross the Atlantic from Britain.

Canada bought the diesel-electric boat from the Royal Navy after that force opted to operate only nuclear submarines. Its previous name was **HMS Ursula**.

Many members the crew of this submarine have been training on the boat and simulators in Britain for two years. "It was a constant learning curve, as far as getting used to the machine, taking the submarine out to sea, and its been a gradual process but it turned out to be very good," said Cmdr. Luc Pelletier, the submarine's skipper

The **Corner Brook** is the third of four submarines that Canada bought from Britain. The fourth, in the process of being re-fitted, will be named the **HMCS Chicoutimi**.

Canada paid \$750 million for the four used subs. Headlines about the submarine's mechanical problems bother the crew, but "for us its pretty well normal business, we take the boat out, and try it and practice makes perfect," Pelletier said.



A handout photograph released March 6, 2003 shows British **Sea King** helicopters preparing to launch from the deck of **HMS Ocean** during amphibious operations in the Gulf as part of Operation Telic. Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair scrambled to rally world support on Monday for his tough stand on Iraq as the first public threat of a ministerial resignation over war by International Development Secretary Clare Short shattered government unity at home

## Charles to Hand over His Ship to Warship Trust



The Prince of Wales was handing over his old ship **HMS Bronington** to join the largest collection of retired 20th century warships in the UK.

The mahogany-hulled minehunter is one of the last minor warships made of wood in the country and will go on display at the **Warships Preservation Trust in Birkenhead, the Wirral**.

Charles captained the 440-ton Royal Navy vessel in 1976 and will take a nostalgic look onboard to see his former cabin and meet ex-crew members and volunteers at the Preservation Trust.

He is also due to meet Rear Admiral Roy Clare, director of the National Maritime Museum, before handing over the ship's bell to the Trust. The retired ship has been a tourist attraction in Manchester Ship Canal at Trafford Park since 1989 under the care of the Bronington Trust.

She will now join seafaring legends including the last U-boat to leave Germany in the Second World War, the **U534**, which was sunk by the Allies and raised from the seabed after 48 years. **HMS Plymouth** which took part in every major action during the Falklands is on display alongside **LCT 7074**, the last surviving LCT that took part in the D-Day landings



## HMS CORNWALL DEPLOYS AS NATO FORCE FLAGSHIP

**HMS Cornwall** sailed on Monday 10 March for a six-month deployment as the Flagship of a NATO Task Force in the Mediterranean.

The Type 22 frigate will work alongside navies from Spain, Denmark, Germany, Portugal, and the United States of America, as part of the Naval Task Group Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFLORLANT).

The ship's company of **HMS Cornwall** recently completed operational sea training as part of routine





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work up following a maintenance period in Devonport. In February she briefly sailed as an escort for the Naval Task Group (NTG 2003) heading for the Gulf. Her maintenance programme included an upgrade of her communications capability. Commanding Officer of HMS Cornwall, Captain Simon Charlier said: " I am delighted to be working with our NATO partners and honoured that Cornwall is flag ship of the group unit under the Command of Commodore Richard Ibbotsan. The ship's company have enjoyed Christmas with their families and have had a very busy time preparing for this deployment. I know they will rise to whatever challenges lie ahead."

## MOVEMENTS

THIS SECTION IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY :



**MULTRASHIP** Towage & Salvage

Scheldekade 48

4531 EH Terneuzen

The Netherlands

Tel : + 31 – 115 645 000

Fax : + 31 – 115 645 001

**Internet**

[commercial@multraship.nl](mailto:commercial@multraship.nl)

<http://www.multraship.nl>



Left : The  
**Donatella  
D'Abundo**  
moored in  
Naples –

**Photo : Piet  
Sinke ©**

According to the port of Palma, the first ship on the new service from Sète to Palma on 7 March was, as expected, the **DONATELLA D'ABUNDO**.





The **GIANT 4** was shifted in Rotterdam by the **Eerland 4** , **5**, **23** and **Rijn**  
Photo : Carlo Schriek ©



The ferry **Tadla** (former **Laburnum**) is chartered by COMANAV to operate the Tanger-Genova run.

The ship still sports Trans Europa Ferries titles. The service has just commenced. The vessel sailed earlier under the names **Pride of Hythe** and **Free Enterprise V**

## At last the new Eptanisos ( ex Choon Yang ) arrived at Piraeus March 7th

The **Eptanis** was visited at Perama port, on 9/3. The interior, as well as the exterior of the ship, is not in good condition, due to the bad maintenance of her previous company. All her garage is very dirty and rusty, even though she is a quite new ship.

The positive point of the ship is her speed (about 22 knots the maximum speed) and her excellent seakeeping capability, according to a member of the crew.

The conversion starts on 11/3 and will take about 3 months. They would be 3 months full of hard working. A new upper vehicle deck is going to be constructed at the place where is now the funnel and the passenger decks will be extended to the aft. It is believed that the new ferry will be converted in some months in a beautiful and good operative ship.

## Hanjin and Sinokor set sail for Vietnam with three vessels

KOREAN shipping companies Hanjin and Sinokor have announced the joint commencement of a weekly service plying the South Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam trade.

The companies said the new service will use one **Hanjin** vessel and two **Sinokor** vessels, each with a capacity of 1,000 TEU. The full rotation is: Gwangyang, Pusan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Pasir Gudang, Ho Chi Min, Hong Kong and Gwangyang.

## AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS



U.S. Defense officials last week halted testing of the V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft to replace faulty hydraulic lines, but the flight tests should resume between March 18-20, 2003 a spokesman for the V-22 program office said on March 10. The Osprey resumed flight tests in May 2002 after the \$40 billion program was grounded in December 2000 after two crashes that killed 23 Marines. A test flight is shown at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station in southern Maryland, May 29, 2002.



The new Air Atlas Express - Boeing 737-4Y0 at Paris - Charles de Gaulle

Photo : Remi Dallot ©

## RIJNMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van woensdag t/m zaterdag:

**Zonnig weekend!**

Morgen nog een bui, daarna overgang naar zonnig en droog voorjaarsweer maar op donderdag ook nog kans op wolkenvelden. Koude nachten met kans op lichte (grond)vorst.

© Ed Aldus 2003	WO-12	DO-13	VR-14	ZA-15	ZO-16
Maximumtemperatuur:	9	9	10	11	12
Minimumtemperatuur:	6	1	1	1	1
Zonnekans in %:	30	50	70	70	70
Neerslagkans in %:	50	10	5	5	5
Neerslagkans in mm:	2	0	0	0	0
Windrichting kracht:	N-4-6	NNO-3-4	NO-3-4	O-3-4	O-2-3

## .... PHOTO OF THE DAY ....



The **SMIT BISON** operating in Vlissingen Oost during the wreck removal operation at the Westerschelde

Photo : Wim Kosten ©



# Correction



In newsletter no 031 a type mismatch occurred, it was the "**TAKLIFT 1**" and not the "**TAKLIFT 3**" as can be clearly seen at the picture, which lifted the new tug THETIS into her element .