

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2003 – 099



Number 099****DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER**** Tuesday 15-07-2003



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VLIERODAM, STRONG QUALITY IN LIFTING AND HOISTING EQUIPMENT.



The tug **WALCHEREN** (former **SMIT FRANKRIJK**) moored in the port of Flushing.

Photo : Peter Andriessen ©

EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

Navy ship joins search for Bangladeshi ferry



CHANDPUR, Bangladesh — A navy ship joined the search for a sunken ferry that went down in a flood-swollen river in southern Bangladesh, while rescuers recovered 23 more bodies, officials said.

The overloaded **M V Nasreen** sank Tuesday night with about 750 people aboard. Authorities said 220 survived, while more than 500 people were missing and believed dead. The ferry had an official capacity of 350.

Crews so far have recovered 78 bodies, including 23 discovered

overnight and later Saturday a few kilometres downstream from the accident site at Chandpur, about 60 kilometres southeast of the capital, Dhaka.

Rescue workers said they have little hope of finding any more survivors. They said strong currents have washed many bodies downstream, while some victims were believed trapped inside the sunken ferry, which has not been found.

A navy survey ship with radar equipment joined three salvage ships in the search for the ferry, thought to be under 60 metres of water.

But strong currents and bad weather were hampering the search operation, an officer aboard the navy ship said on condition of anonymity. Hundreds of relatives — many without shelter, food or money — lined the riverbank, desperately waiting for news of the missing. Some hired local fishermen to search for bodies in the river with nets.

"I have been here since Wednesday, looking for my wife and baby son and seven other relatives who were on board," said Mohammad Sadek, a rickshaw puller from Dhaka.

"I rushed here with the little cash I had on me as soon as I heard about the ferry, but now I have run out of money and have not eaten all day," said Sadek.

Local volunteer agencies and the people of Chandpur town were trying to feed the victims' families. A volunteer handed Sadek a token for a meal at a nearby soup kitchen.

Official investigators have cited overcrowding or incompetence as possible causes of the disaster, an official said Friday.

Frequent maritime accidents — often blamed on overloading, faulty construction and disregard for safety — claim hundreds of lives every year in this delta nation of 130 million people.

The vessel sank in strong currents at the meeting point of three flooded rivers — the Padma, Meghna and Dakatia. Heavy monsoon rains have swollen many rivers in Bangladesh, which has been hit by more than two weeks of floods that have killed at least 104 people.

The M V Nasreen was loaded with cargo including rice, iron rods and vegetables. Some say it may have had even more than the 750 passengers estimated by officials.

Ferries in Bangladesh do not carry passenger lists and people often buy tickets when on board.

Russian divers survey stricken Japanese tanker

RUSSIAN divers are continuing to explore a sunken Japanese tanker releasing large quantities of oil and threatening to spark an ecological disaster off the west coast of the Pacific island of Sakhalin.

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Tonnes of fuel have leaked in the past few days from the *Takeo Maru*, which sank in 1979 off the sea port of Shakhtersk on Russia's far eastern island Sakhalin, Valentina Mirnaya, a spokeswoman for Sakhalin rescue and emergencies department told reporters.

The leaked oil is floating in the Tatar strait and heading for the coast, the spokeswoman said, as quoted by Russia's ITAR-TASS news agency.

With up to 300 tonnes of fuel oil remaining inside the sunken tanker, the *Takeo Maru* is an ecological bomb that jeopardises Russia's Pacific coastline, she said.

Around 40 litres (nine gallons) of fuel are believed to be leaking from the ship every 24 hours, and divers who arrived in the area Friday are examining the situation

Bourbon to take control at Havila Supply

FRENCH offshore vessel and tug operator Groupe Bourbon has opted to take full control of Norwegian operator Havila Supply for a potential total cost of e 52m (\$60m), writes Andrew Spurrier in Paris.

Bourbon, which has 39.6% of Havila's capital, is to lift its stake to 90.06%, notably through the acquisition, of shares from the other main shareholder, the Saevik family, which has 35%.

This means it has overtaken the decision of the Oslo stock exchange, which ordered it to proceed with a bid for the company on the grounds that it had an agreement with another shareholder, the Ulstein family's Borgstein Supply Invest, to acquire 11.1% of Havila's capital in 2006.

Previously Bourbon had deliberately stayed below 40% to avoid triggering a full-scale takeover.

Agreement with the Saevik family was helped by a second operation in which the Saevik company Havila AS will pay e 58m for Havila Supply's fleet of 10 safety and rescue vessels. Bourbon, which is interested by Havila Supply's potential in the deep offshore sector, has already said that it does not consider the activities of these ships to be strategic. Announcing its plans for Havila Supply, Bourbon said that the fleet of the restructured company would comprise 18 supply vessels with an average age of 10 years, including two scheduled for delivery at the end of this year.

Smit thoughts turn to Iraq



SMIT, having just successfully refloated the jack-up rig AD-19 which suffered a collapse last October in the Hout Field off Saudi Arabia, is eyeing contracts in the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr.

Left : AD 19 wreck removal.

Photo : Nick Sloan ©

The wreck removal required an extensive mobilisation of vessels and heavy equipment and the operation was performed over a 40-

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day period.

Smit fielded a 130-strong salvage team together with a fleet of support vessels, tugs, crane barges and floating sheerlegs. The concentration of expertise and heavy equipment in the Middle East region positions Smit for competitive bids for coming major wreck removals in the area. As a result of the two Gulf wars the waters around Umm Qasr are obstructed by at least 30 wrecks and a variety of ordnance. The United Nations is now seeking solutions for the removal of these hazards.

Hans van Rooij, managing director of Smit Salvage, says: "To open up trade with Iraq and restore the national economy it is vital to remove navigational hazards. "Following the removal of the jack-up in Saudi Arabia, we have an extensive fleet of heavy equipment and vessels in the area that can mobilise to Umm Qasr within a very short time. "Many of the wrecks around Umm Qasr consist of tankers and fuel oil barges. Some still contain oil and pose an active threat to the marine environment. "There is also a large amount of unexploded ordnance in the area. "We have the subsea systems required for the non-invasive survey of wrecks and for the diverless removal of pollutants."

CASUALTY REPORTING

NASRIN-2

Rescuers have now recovered 150 bodies from Bangladesh's turbulent Meghna River where overcrowded ferry Nasrin-2 sank last week with the loss of more than 400 lives, police and witnesses said today. Navy divers using sonar equipment continued their search for the vessel, which was sucked into a whirlpool and sank late on Tuesday (Jul 8). While some bodies may still be trapped inside the submerged hull, rescuers believed many could have been swept by strong currents further down the river's course to the Bay of Bengal. Of those retrieved so far, many were badly decomposed and some had had to be buried without identification. Heavy monsoon rains and strong winds have hampered the search at the disaster site, where three rivers come together to create deadly whirlpools when the waters are high. The painstaking effort to locate the ferry is being led by navy rescue vessel Shaibal, which is equipped with sonar devices. Navy Lieutenant-Commander Mahbubur Rashid said yesterday that, if the ferry were found, divers would try to attach lines so that it could be lifted, Rashid said. Shipping Minister Akbar Hossain said yesterday that all unregistered or unfit ferries would be seized and officials who issued licences to such vessels punished

Gestrand zeiljacht vlotgetrokken

De KNRM-reddingsboten uit Cadzand en Breskens hebben samen met de boot uit het Belgische Blankenberge zondagmiddag een groot zeiljacht uit de problemen geholpen. Het jacht was, met tien opvarenden aan boord, vastgelopen op een strekdam tussen 't Zwin en Knokke. Het jacht werd, nadat de personen van boord waren gehaald, met veel moeite door de drie reddingsboten weer vlotgetrokken

KARNAPHULY (BANGLADESH)

According to Bangladesh Shipping Industry sources, local general cargo Karnaphuly, carrying rice, oil, flour, sugar, stationary goods and other groceries worth about \$1.75 million, sank in the Bay of Bengal, off southern Bangladesh, yesterday morning. The vessel reportedly left Sadarghat, on the Buriganga, at 0700 yesterday, carrying goods owned by businessmen on the offshore island of Swandip. According to a report, the vessel's bottom developed a leak soon after it left Sadarghat and the vessel sank at around 0800 hrs. All the vessel's crew swam ashore.

MEDOIL III (GREECE)

Lloyd's Casualty representatives in Piraeus report: At 1700, local time, today, Lpg Aegean Gas (3063 gt, built 1978), in ballast, was in collision with the stern of moored product tanker Medoil III (2037 gt, built 1970), while manoeuvring to berth at the quay of Eleusis port. From the collision there were no injuries, however Medoil III sustained a fracture of 1.5 metres located above the waterline resulting in a fuel tank leaking and causing 200 square metres of diesel oil pollution which was encircled with oil booms. Patrol boats of the Coast Guard and tugs immediately proceeded to the area. Furthermore antipollution craft of the Coast Guard, two tugs and a launch were undertaking the antipollution efforts. Aegean Gas later anchored outside Eleusis Port.

SHIPYARD NEWS

**Meyerwerft, Papenburg is ready to deliver
a cruise ship.**



Top : The new **SERENADE OF THE SEAS** on the river Ems – **Photo : Christian Costa ©**

On July 12th the **Serenade of the Seas**, the third ship of Royal Caribbean's Radiance class successfully went through the river Ems on her way to Eemshaven.. The fourth ship will be the "**Jewel of the Seas**" which partly already can be seen in the huge halls of Meyerwerft in Papenburg. Since she is due to be delivered in spring 2004 you will soon find her on the Meyerwerft webcam.

Due to the new Ems river barrier for the first time a cruise ship of this size was able to manage the whole voyage from Papenburg to Eemshaven (Netherlands) in one turn. In former times the yard had to wait for a good tide and needed two days including a stop at Leer in order to wait for the next flood so the big ship would fit into the small river Ems. Usually there is just about one foot underneath the keel. Saturday around midnight the Serenade started her voyage, passed Leer around 0700 and finally left the river Ems through the new barrier at Gandersum around noon. On the picture you can see the Serenade of the Seas guided by the two tugs **Bremerhaven** and **Bugsier 20** on the river Ems. The ship has been transferred all the way backwards. Her POD engines push lots of water underneath the ship so she had even a little more water underneath her keel.

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M.V. SEA SUN (ex **RIO COLORADO**) as seen July 12th at Piraeus Drydock shipyard. Vessel will remain for a week due to some hull repairs.

SEA SUN

General dry cargo
Cyprus flag
IMO 7504653
built in 1983
call sign P3AH5
gross tonnage 4045

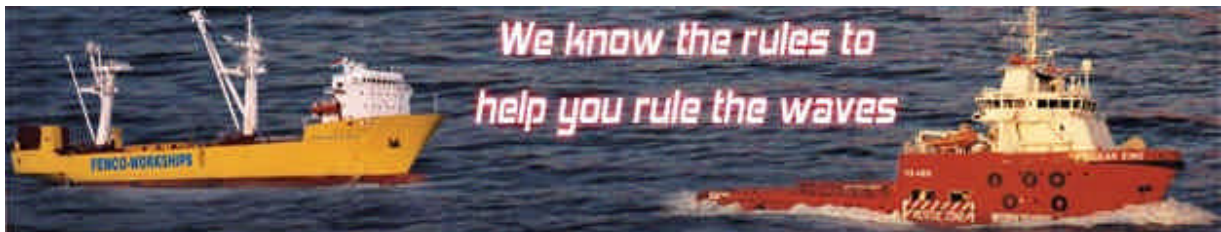
Ferry order to Remontowa

Bastø Fosen's order for a new car ferry will go to Remontowa, the Polish shipyard, in a bidding process of 20 yards. The double-ended car ferry for the Oslofjord crossing Moss-Horten will have a capacity of 212 cars and be ready in June next year. The contract value is reported to be well below NOK 150 million. That the order should end up in Poland was hardly unexpected, but several Norwegian yards had been pinned their hopes on this contract, including Fosen, Fiskerstrand and Brattvaag

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SMIT JAMAICA SOLD



Smit sold July 11th 2003 the **SMIT JAMAICA** to Maritime Gibraltar Ltd, The **SMIT JAMAICA** was build as the **PIKU** by Bodewes in Millingen during 1974 , 35.9 x 10.6 x 4.9 mtr , two Allen Sons & Co main engines with a total hp of 3852 hp, the vessel worked for years at the Dutch Caribbean islands for Smit Curacao and later

Smit Antilles as **PIKU NC 28** until she was renamed **SMIT JAMAICA** and was working at the Bahama´s together with the **SMIT TAHITI** .



Left : the **SMIT JAMAICA** moored at the Bahama´s

Photo : John Smit ©

NAVY NEWS

Games chief names Greek navy missile craft

THE president of the organising committee for next year's Olympic Games in Athens, Gianna Angelopoulou-Daskalaki, named the Greek navy missile vessel **Lieutenant Daniolos** which was launched at a ceremony this week at Elefsis Shipyards.

The vessel is the second in a series of three **62 m Super Vita-type** fast attack craft the yard is building for the Hellenic Navy in co-operation with the UK's VT Group, the former Vosper Thornycroft.



Ms Angelopoulou-Daskalaki, who is married to one of Greece's leading shipowners, Theodore Angelopoulos, said the godmother's role was an honour. She added that the navy would be playing an important role in security for the 2004 Olympics. Defence Minister Yannis Papantoniou confirmed that the series of attack craft

would be extended by another two vessels, while Elefsis would undertake a project to modernise six of the navy's existing missile craft. In partnership with VT Group, the same yard has been named as main contractor for a €415m (\$470.86m) project to build the navy's new corvette.

MOVEMENTS

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Liquid cement carrier,

HERACLES GLORY, (ex

CAL DUE), IMO 7811569, Greek

flag, built in 1981, gross tonnage 3920, while

discharging at Keratsini port Greece July 13th, 2003

**Photo :
George
Grekos ©**

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The product tanker **WAPPEN von BERLIN** arrived in Rotterdam – Photo : Piet Sinke ©



The **SKS TANA** seen at the Westerscheldt pilot station outward bound – Photo : Willem Kruit ©



The **SCHOUWENBANK** seen here departing from the port of Flushing bound for Terneuzen.
Photo : Willem Kruit ©

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The **BOXER** departed Sunday evening with the **ANNA 4** from Rotterdam to Ullapool.
Photo : Piet Sinke ©



JUMBO CHALLENGER berthed at OTP, Walker on the Tyne.

Photo : Kevin Blair ©

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY



The **NORTHERN CHALLENGER** arrived with the **GIANT 2** in Rotterdam from Tonsberg just before sunset Sunday evening

Photo : Piet Sinke ©



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