

DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2003 – 173



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The **TEAL** of Dockwise delivered the **SMIT MADURA** in Singapore.

Photo : John Bruinsma ©

EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

DAMAGED PRIDE OF VEERE



The **PRIDE OF VEERE** which collided last week with the **Pointe Du Castel** in the English Channel near Ramsgate departed from Tilbury and arrived in Rotterdam for repairs.

Photo : Coll. Piet Sinke

British warship **HMS Edinburgh** leads the competitors in the Clipper Round The World Yacht Race down the River Mersey to the finish in Liverpool, England, Saturday Sept. 27, 2003, at the end of the 35,000-mile race. Team Jersey won the overall race, which began in Liverpool last October.



It takes a mighty tug -- and \$400,000 -- to tow an aircraft carrier

Since the birth of the U.S. Navy under a 13-star flag more than 200 years ago, there has always been a Constellation. Now part of that long tradition of naval history arrives in Puget Sound today while another part prepares to leave.

The recently retired 42-year-old aircraft carrier **USS Constellation**, nicknamed "Connie" and dubbed "America's Flagship" in the 1980s, is expected to arrive without fanfare today, under tow from San Diego by the tug Lauren Foss. It is slated to appear about 6 a.m. at Restoration Point on the southeast corner of Bainbridge Island, making Bremerton by 10 a.m.

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Meanwhile, a famous 60-year-old carrier mothballed for 11 years in Bremerton, the [USS Midway](#), is being readied to be towed next week to San Diego by the same tug. [Midway](#) has been donated to the new San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum, Navy spokeswoman Diane Manning said.

"It is quite the honor to be towing this great ship," Joe McGimpsey, 49, one of the Lauren Foss' able-bodied seamen and a member of the Makah Indian tribe of Neah Bay, said by cell phone as the Constellation passed Ozette off the Washington Coast.

The tugboat [Lauren Foss](#) prepares for the start of a 1,200-nautical-mile trip to Bremerton, Wash., towing the decommissioned aircraft carrier [Constellation](#).

"You can sure feel the presence of all the men and women who served on it and of all the parents and family who cared about them. Now it has done its duty and will rest, but its spirit still is powerful,"

McGimpsey said.

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard will prepare the [Constellation](#) for storage before it is mothballed indefinitely at Bremerton's Navy Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility nearby, Manning said. The ship will not be open to tours.



At 17 stories high, nearly 1,100 feet long and weighing 61,000 tons, the gray warship has been towed gingerly for two weeks by the powerful, 141-foot [Lauren Foss](#) and its crew of nine.

The Navy says the nearly \$400,000 towing fee to bring the ship to Bremerton is cheaper than paying for

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food and fuel for a crew of 2,500 to steam it here, then fly them back.

A Military Sealift Command tug, the **Sioux**, is accompanying the **Lauren Foss** with four Constellation sailors who would board the deserted carrier at the first sign of flood or fire. The 8,200 horsepower **Lauren Foss**, one of Foss Maritime's newest tugs, and the **Sioux** will tow the **Midway** south, first to Oakland to be painted before its final voyage to San Diego.

Towing a ship as large as a small city at 4.3 knots over 1,200 miles is an art, said Foss Maritime spokesman Paul Gallagher. Since the wind tends to push the large hulls around, the towboat must keep the ship trailing 1,500 feet behind it and steered partially into the wind, essentially crabbing sideways, Gallagher said.

That can get tricky. Physics govern the effects of friction and drag, with special attention paid to the "catenary" of the tow cable, the amount of sag that acts as a shock absorber between the tug and the carriers. It must be continuously adjusted so both vessels ride the waves in unison.

"When it becomes tight like a bowstring, that's when you worry," he said.

Bad weather farther south slowed the "Connie's" expected arrival Thursday. Off California the group hit winds of 60 knots and 22-foot swells, avoiding going "in irons" -- a dangerous situation when bad weather makes it impossible to maneuver. That slowed progress to around 2 knots, Gallagher said.

"On the other hand, had they been heading (south) downwind, they would have been surfing," he said.

The **Lauren Foss** is the biggest tug on the West Coast. But the heart of the historic mission remains the towboat's crew -- they towed the carrier **USS Carl Vinson** into Bremerton two weeks ago -- and their appreciation for reverence for what they are doing, he said.

"We had a lot of people calling in on their vacation volunteering to do this," Gallagher said.

Constellation, which served in Iraq just before its Aug. 7 retirement, was commissioned Oct. 27, 1961, a year before the Cuban missile crisis. It went on to decades of service ranging from Vietnam to the Persian Gulf. When it returned from Iraq this summer, it was the second-oldest ship in the Navy before its retirement.

This **Constellation** also is the third Navy warship to bear what has become a storied name: the one given to the first-ever U.S. Navy ship, honoring the constellation of stars on the American flag.

The original Constellation -- in the same family as the famed **USS Constitution**, "Old Ironsides," in Boston Harbor -- was launched in 1797. A year later the fast boat -- 14 knots was speedy for its time -- defeated or captured several French ships in the little known "Quasi-War," which some call "Constellation's War." The second Constellation served during the Civil War and beyond with equal distinction, intercepting slavers out of Africa and bringing relief to famine victims in Ireland.

It survived to be briefly re-commissioned during World War II as a national monument, and today exists as a popular attraction in Baltimore harbor.

The keel for the rugged **Midway**, meanwhile, was laid in the middle of World War II, on Oct. 27, 1943. Commissioned in 1945 when fighter planes still had propellers, Midway evolved over the decades to serve in every ocean of the world, through the Cold War to Kuwait. In 1975, its helicopters evacuated thousands of Americans and Vietnamese refugees when South Vietnam fell. It was decommissioned in 1992 after service in the first Gulf War.

SMIT HUNTER SCRAPPING GOES ON



The latest pictures of the **SMIT HUNTER** laying in 's Gravendeel, where she is getting scrapped.

Photo's :
Nico Ouwehand ©



Iraq takes stranded sheep

IRAQ will accept the **Cormo Express** shipment of more than 53,000 sheep, according to Australian government sources. It is understood that Australian livestock exporters will buy back the animals from a Saudi importer at a cost of up to A\$10M (\$6.8M) and they will then be given to Iraq, presumably free of charge. A high-level Australian government committee negotiated the deal, aimed at ending five weeks of bitter controversy following Saudi Arabia's rejection of the shipment. The Vroon-operated Cormo Express is already said to be heading for an Iraqi port after the required documentation was received from Australian authorities. The settlement came as Australian RSPCA today raised the stakes by taking out newspaper adverts describing the fate of the sheep as a "living hell". Australian livestock exporters have disputed that anything is wrong with the animals but had been coming under intense pressure to end a crisis that threatened to damage Australia's annual A\$1Bn of livestock exports.

CASUALTY REPORTING

PELJESAC (CROATIA)

Salvage crews of Wijsmuller Salvage B.V. and Resolve Towing & Salvage succeeded in refloating bulk **Peljesac**, off Houston, at 0930, Sep 21. Preparations for refloating included the removal of the bunkers as well as about 20,000 tons of cargo. The refloating operation itself was executed with four tugs which subsequently towed the vessel to the anchorage. A diving survey was undertaken on Sep

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22 and at 2000 hrs, that same day, the vessel was re-delivered back to the owners, ending operations under the agreed LOF-2000 contract. -- Wijsmuller Salvage B.V

OFFSHORE SUPPLIER (CAYMAN ISLANDS)

Tug **Offshore Supplier** remains hard aground in the same position. Vessel is in about six to eight feet of water and has heavy hull damage. All diesel has been removed and there is no risk of pollution. Vessel will probably be declared a total loss.

KENT RELIANT (PANAMA)

Following received from Coast Guard San Juan, dated Sep 25: Salvage operations for grounded bulk **Kent Reliant** continue to progress outside San Juan harbour today in accordance with the Coast Guard approved plan. Salvors Titan Marine, have removed sufficient fuel oil as suggested by the naval engineer and began off-loading cargo yesterday. These lightening operations are anticipated to take four to five days, weather permitting. The good weather of the last two days have allowed salvaging operations to progress smoothly.



Top : The **KENT RELIANT** grounded off San Juan Harbour — **photo's : US Coast Guard ©**



ensure the safety of the personnel and the environment

Removal operations will be conducted around the clock for the duration of the operation. A protective boom is still deployed and staged in environmentally sensitive areas around Isla de Cabras and Isla de Esperanza. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are on-scene providing environmental and scientific expertise support in assisting the U.S. Coast Guard, the PR State Management Agency and the vessel's representatives during the salvage operation. Coast Guard personnel are overseeing all aspects of the salvage operations to

Vessel Name
Vessel Type
Flag
Built
Tons Gross

KENT RELIANT
Bulk
Panama
1977
12,409

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Cargo
Salvors
Date Reported
LOF Date
LOF edition

Timber
Titan Maritime
19 September 2003

SCOPIC Invoked?
SCOPIC Incorporated?
SCR

Unknown
Unknown
[Unknown]

SHIPYARD NEWS



Pictured at A&P, Wallsend seen here departing the **SAM S. ALLGOOD** ex Monarch Bay in her new Tidewater colours.

Photo : Kevin Blair ©

Hyundai wins \$345m worth of British boxship orders

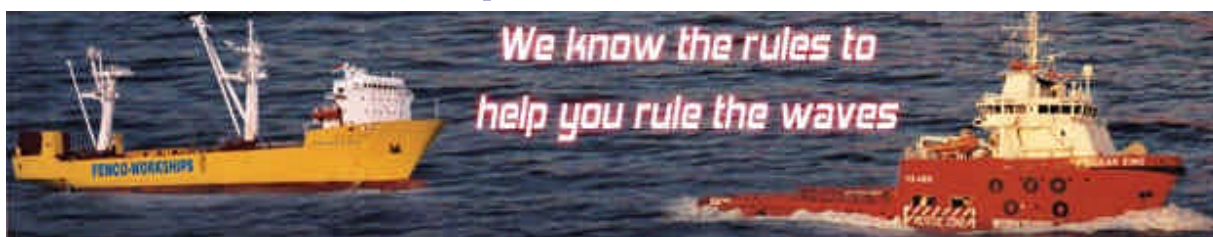
SOUTH Korea's Hyundai Heavy Industries said on Friday it had won a Won396.8bn (\$345m) order to build five container ships from British companies.

Hyundai, the world's largest shipbuilder, said in a statement it would build five 6,800teu containerships for Multimarine Ltd and four other firms. The ships will be delivered by November 2006.

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P&O Nedlloyd to leave Europe-West Africa trades

THE tough Europe-West Africa trades have claimed another casualty with P&O Nedlloyd announcing this morning that it would withdraw from the route in the final quarter of the year.

Instead, the Anglo-Dutch line plans to focus on trade between West Africa and Asia. The widely-anticipated decision comes just a week after MOL and Delmas both announced capacity cutbacks on the same route, with the Japanese line taking its own ships off the trade and buying slots from the French carrier instead. Volumes from Europe to West Africa have been hit by the strength of the euro and the growing impact of China on global trading. P&O Nedlloyd said its decision would mean the closure of the joint service with West-Afrika Linien-Dienste by the end of November.

The four 1,100 teu vessels currently deployed on the service, two of which are chartered by P&O Nedlloyd will be re-deployed. Commenting on the decision, Europe/Africa Trades General Manager Richard Mellor said: "The current trading climate in West Africa is very challenging. We are facing a combination of economic and political uncertainty as well as an oversupply of tonnage. "But we have not ruled out a return to the Europe-West Africa Trade when conditions improve. Meanwhile we are concentrating our efforts on developing our service between Asia and West Africa."

NAVY NEWS



A Turkish submarine of the German Type 209/1400 class seen off the Turkish Coast near Bodum.

Photo : Hans Mauritz ©

Navy ship towed in for repair

KEY WEST -- Two tugboats towed a 445-foot Navy ship to the Outer Mole Pier in Key West Saturday night to repair a pump before the vessel sails toward South America for counterdrug operations.

The **USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG-29)** was anchored about a mile off Key West when the crew discovered the pump needed repaired. The ship was in the area to pick up people and equipment from Naval Air Station Key West, said Lt. Alex McConnell, spokesman for the Stephen W. Groves.

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"We could have come in on our own but for safety reasons we had the two tugs," McConnell said Saturday night.



The vessel is a guided missile frigate assigned to the Naval Reserve Force with a crew of active duty sailors and reservists. McConnell said there were about 30 officers, 195 enlisted sailors and an SH-60B helicopter detachment from Jacksonville on board.

It was unclear how long the ship would remain at the pier, which is owned by the Navy and leased by the city for cruise ship docking. There were no cruise ships

scheduled for the Outer Mole Saturday. The **Carnival Glory**, scheduled to dock at the Outer Mole Pier today at 11 a.m., should not be affected because the **Stephen W. Groves** was docked on the inner side of the pier, said City Manager Julio Avel.

The **Stephen W. Groves** is homeported at Naval Station Pascagoula on the Mississippi gulf coast about 38 miles west of Mobile, Ala., and 90 miles east of New Orleans. It is the 23rd Oliver Hazard Perry Class frigate, commissioned in April 1982.

The ship's most recent deployment was in the Eastern Pacific in support of counterdrug operations, according to the Navy's Web site. It is tapped to provide in-depth protection for military and merchant shipping, amphibious task forces, and underway logistics groups and is also designed to operate in support of aircraft carriers and surface action groups, the Web site says.

MOVEMENTS

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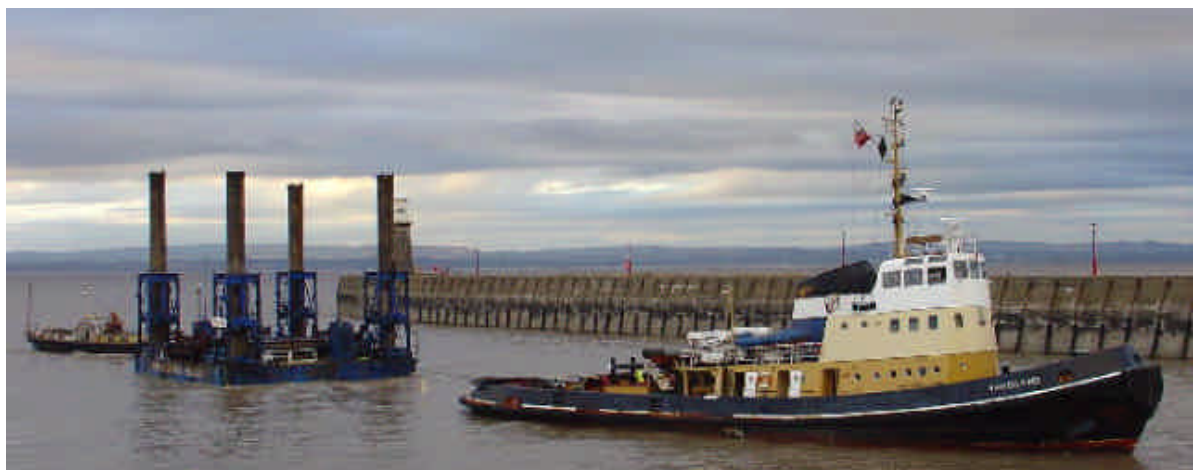
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The **BLUE STAR 1** seen here departing from Kos – photo : Hans Mauritz ©



The **SHAMROCK STAR** arrived in Rotterdam – photo : Piet Sinke ©



The **Vanguard** arrived at Avonmouth with the barge **FB303** in tow
Photo : Chris Jones ©



The **SMITWIJS ROTTERDAM** departed Sunday from Rotterdam bound for Newcastle

Photo : Piet Sinke ©

AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS

A U.S. F/A-22 flies over Bay County's Emerald Coast in an undated photo on its first mission to Tyndall



Air Force Base, Florida, home of the world's first and only Raptor squadron. Tyndall is charged with training and building the foundation for the next generation of fighter pilots for years to come. Pentagon officials on September 23 approved production of **22 Lockheed Martin Corp. F/A-22 fighter jets** and the start of operational testing in fiscal year 2004, sources familiar with the decision said. The Defense Acquisition Board, which oversees major arms purchases, gave the \$67 billion program a

thumbs up after reviewing efforts by Lockheed and the Air Force to improve the reliability of the electronic brains, or avionics, of the next-generation radar-evading Raptor

Air France mulls all business-class flights to African oil hubs

(PARIS) Air France is studying the feasibility of operating flights to oil-producing states in Africa that would cater exclusively to business-class passengers, a company official said on Wednesday.

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'It's a fact that we're looking into this type of activity,' said the airline's general manager in charge of marketing in France, Christian Boireau. 'If it gets off the ground, it will happen in 2004,' he added, cautioning however that the flag carrier had not yet given the go-ahead. Mr Boireau would not provide specifics about possible destinations, only saying they were in Africa. The trade publication Le Quotidien du Tourisme reported that Air France was contemplating the use of Boeing 737s or Airbus A-319 jets - each with about 50 business-class seats - for flights to cities such as the Equatorial Guinea capital Malabo, Pointe-Noire in Gabon or Hassi Messaoud in Algeria.

The southern Nigerian oil city of Port Harcourt and the Azerbaijani capital Baku are also possible destinations, according to Le Quotidien du Tourisme.

RIJNMOND WEATHER

Vooruitzichten van zaterdag t/m dinsdag:

LICHT WISSELVALLIG!

Af en toe zon en kans op een bui. Zondag meer bewolking en in de middag kans op regen. Middagtemperatuur ongeveer 16 graden.

© Ed Aldus 2003	ZA-27	ZO-28	MA-29	DI-30
Maximumtemperatuur:	17	16	16	17
Minimumtemperatuur:	9	8	8	9
Zonnekans in %:	30	20	30	30
Neerslagkans in %:	30	60	30	40
Windrichting kracht:	NW-3-4	O-2-4	ZW-3-4	Z-4-5

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY



The **SANKO UNITY** seen here arriving in the Europort – photo : Jamie Reurink ©

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Mensen vallen van steiger in ketel centrale



GEERTUIDENBERG (ANP) - Acht onderhoudsmedewerkers zijn in de nacht van zaterdag op zondag tientallen meters naar beneden gevallen in een stoomketel van de Amercentrale, de elektriciteitscentrale van Essent in Geertuidenberg. De steiger waarop zij stonden, stortte iets na 01.00 uur in. De oorzaak van het ongeval is nog onbekend, aldus de politie. Zes mannen worden vermist.

Volgens burgemeester M. Meijer van Geertuidenberg is van hen nog geen teken van leven ontvangen. Een man is licht gewond afgevoerd naar het ziekenhuis. De redding van een tweede is in volle gang. Reddingswerkers hebben via een portofoon contact met hem. Hij zit op ongeveer 24 meter van de grond. Hulpverleners branden een gat in de ketel om de man te bevrijden. De eerste afgevoerde man is op dezelfde manier naar buiten gehaald.

De stalen stoomketel is 85 meter diep. De steiger stond op 65 meter meter hoogte en is ongeveer twintig meter ingestort. Daaronder ligt al het steigermateriaal. De burgemeester spreekt van een 'mikado-achtige' situatie omdat al het steigermateriaal door elkaar ligt. Dit bemoeilijkt het zoeken naar de slachtoffers. De acht mannen, vermoedelijk vier Amerikanen en vier Turken, waren in twee groepen de binnenkant van de ketel aan het gritstralen toen de steiger instortte. Een groep zat boven en een groep onder in de ketel. Het gritstrale mannen horen bij een extern bedrijf dat door Essent was ingehuurd. Tientallen reddingsmedewerkers van brandweer, GGD en politie zijn in touw. Zes ambulances staan klaar om gewonden af te voeren. Op het terrein van de Amercentrale is een veldhospitaal ingericht voor de eerste opvang. Abseilers uit de omgeving en een arrestatieteam uit Rotterdam dat getraind is om verkenningen bij gebouwen te verrichten zakken in de ketel af om naar de overige zes mannen te zoeken. Bij de schoonmaak werkzaamheden komt een zeer geringe hoeveelheid radioactieve straling vrij. Volgens directeur J. Wassenaar van de GGD gaat het om alphastraling die zo gering is dat die niet waarneembaar is door meetapparatuur. Alleen inademing of contact met open wonden kan een klein risico opleveren. Hulpverleners werken daarom met adembescherming.

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heb vernomen dat diverse personen het scheepvaartnieuws van gisterenavond wat ik rond middernacht verstuurd heb diverse keren ontvangen hebben, maar andere mensen hebben hem maar 1 keer gehad, ik heb hetzelfde uiteraard maar 1 keer verstuurd even voor middernacht, heb nadat ik dit bericht ontvangen had mijn systeem gecontroleerd maar volgens Norton is daar niets op aangetroffen ook niet toe ik hem on-line liet scannen

Waarschijnlijk zit het probleem bij de provider (Tiscali) dat het diverse keren verstuurd is, kan hier in de computer niets bijzonders vinden .

sorry voor het ongemak

Ik probeer vanavond nog een keertje het nieuws te versturen , mocht het wederom niet goed lopen stop ik met versturen en moet er eerst even naar gekeken worden.

learned that that several people have received the shippingnewsletter which I have send last night just before midnight several times overnight , but other people only received it once , ofcoarse I have send the letter only once, have checked the system but Norton antivirus did not find anything not internal and not via the on-line scan

Because I checked the system here and cannot find any strange things suspect that the problem is with the provider (Tiscali) which have send it several times.

sorry for the inconvenience

Will try tonight one more time to send the news out, incase it happens again, that several people are receiving it more then once I will stop sending the news untill the system is checked again.