

DAILY COLLECTION OF MARITIME PRESS CLIPPINGS 2007 – 249



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**The DESERT DIAMOND seen departing from Cape Town
Photo : Aad Noorland ©**

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EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

Car carrier "Fidelio" at the Port of Gdansk



Photo : Port of Gdansk ©

On 28 October this year, Gdansk saw the arrival of the latest vessel newly acquired by the shipping carrier Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics on her maiden voyage from Japan to Europe. As of April this year, Mv "Fidelio" is operating regular services to the Port of Gdansk. At the Oliwskie Quay, she discharged a shipment of 923 Toyota cars and took

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on board heavy lifts of the cement works equipment in Ro/Ro technology using shipowner's roll-on roll-off units. This has been the shipping company's fourteenth call since the service was launched. The handling operations were performed by Port of Gdansk Cargo Logistics Ltd.

Mv "**Fidelio**" is the WWL's latest acquisition and was christened in Yokohama on 20 September 2007. The second vessel in a series of five car carriers of the newest generation, she has a carrying capacity of 8,000 units and was built to the orders of Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics at the Korean Daewoo Shipyard and Marine Engineering. The first vessel was put to operation in May this year and the other carriers will strengthen the company's fleet in February, August and October 2008. Mv. "**Fidelio**" has been equipped with state-of-the-art environment protection technologies in terms of safety matters, radiolocation equipment and a wide range of devices reducing negative environmental impact of the vessels. The carrier boasts, among other things, the latest "Pure Ballast" system approved by IMO.

Somali pirates seize second ship

One day after a Japanese products tanker was seized by pirates off the Somali coast, a second ship has been highjacked, this time close to the port city of Mogadishu. In the latest incident a North Korean general cargo vessel initially identified as **DAIHONG DAN** (name not confirmed) was seized by armed Somali pirates outside the seaport of Mogadishu, the nation's supposed capital. The ship had been on charter to Somali businessmen and had completed discharging a cargo of sugar and according to first reports was sailing from the port when the armed men came on board and took possession of the vessel.

The Daihong Dan, if that is the vessel's name, is reported to have a crew of 22 on board. Their fate is not clear and there is so far no indication where the ship has been taken.

On Sunday pirates attacked and seized a Japanese chemical tanker name **GOLDEN NORI** while the vessel was off the island of Socotra. Two US warships are reported to have opened fire on the small boats used by the pirates, which by this stage were being towed behind the captured tanker, but broke off the engagement when it was realised the tanker was carrying a cargo of highly volatile benzene. The pirates made their escape into Somali national waters despite the Somali transitional government having granted permission to the US Navy to continue the pursuit.

There has as yet been no notification from the pirates of their demands, which will no doubt include ransom money for the ship and crew. **Source : ports.co.za**



ROYAL DIRKZWAGER at Europort Maritime 2007

From 6 – 9 November 2007 the 33rd edition of the **Europort Maritime** exhibition will take place in Ahoy Rotterdam. The Europort Maritime is held every two year and is an ideal meeting point for the maritime and logistic industry.

Royal Dirkzwager is a vital chain in the information-exchange in the **Rotterdam Mainport** and other Dutch ports. At any given moment Dirkzwager is able to provide the latest European ships positions and detailed database particulars of any ship around the world.

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More information about Europort Maritime: <http://www.europortmaritime.com>

Rijksvaartuig 29 weer in vol ornaat



Het **Rijksvaartuig 29** weer in vol ornaat ; In April 2007 is dit Duik en Vaar opleiding vaartuig van de Genie [Kon Landmacht] weer in de oude staat terug en toegevoegd aan het GenieMuseum in Vught. Hier ligt ze te wachten aan de Ruyterkade in Amsterdam op passagiers voor een bezoek aan Pampus .Het is het zusterschip van de **Dolfijn** voormalig van **W A vd Tak Bergings bedrijf**. Veel jonge mensen hebben vanaf dit schip hun eerste standaard Duik gemaakt. **Photo : Jan Mosterd ©**

South Africa to commemorate SS Mendi tragedy



The Departments of Arts and Culture, Defence, the Western Cape provincial government and the City of Cape will co-host commemorative events to mark the 90th anniversary of the **SS Mendi** and Remembrance Day.

On 21 February 1917, six hundred and sixteen South Africans, who were members of the 50th Battalion of the South African Native Labour Corps, lost their lives when the ship they boarded in Cape Town, the **SS Mendi**, collided with the **SS Darro** near the Isle of Wight in the English Channel.

The 616 South Africans lost their lives on their way to France to be part of the Allied Forces during the First World War

(1914-1918). The commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the **SS Mendi Tragedy** will take place on 10 November 2007 at the Grand Parade in Cape Town. As part of the commemoration, the [troopship's namesake, the SAN frigate] **SAS Mendi** will be docked at the Cape Town Waterfront.

To kickstart the event, Minister Pallo Jordan and other dignitaries will officially open the **SAS Mendi** for public viewing.



The present **SAS MENDI** - Photo : Danny Spaans ©

Members of the public will also have an opportunity to view a permanent exhibition of the **SS Mendi** at the Waterfront. The visit to the **SAS Mendi** by the dignitaries will be followed by a symbolic march of soldiers going to war from Adderley Street to the Grand Parade where formal proceedings start at 10.15am.

The annual Remembrance Day service and wreath-laying ceremony will be held on Sunday, 11 November 2007 in Adderley Street at 10'40am in honour of those who lost their lives in instances of conflict.

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Preceding the official Remembrance Day Ceremony the Mayor of Cape Town, Helen Zille will unveil a plaque at the corner of Adderley and Darling Streets to commemorate the public observance of the 2 Minute Silent Pause of Remembrance which originated at the very spot on 2 August 1919. **Source : ports.co.za**

Enviro Groups Sue Over Obsolete Warships

Several environmental groups sued the federal government Monday over toxic pollution caused by a fleet of mothballed warships floating near San Francisco Bay.

The groups accuse the U.S. Maritime Administration of violating state and federal environmental regulations as dozens of decaying ships linger well past a congressional deadline ordering their removal.

The suit was filed Monday afternoon in U.S. District Court in Sacramento. "These vessels have long since ceased being useful for transportation and are now just floating junkyards," according to the complaint brought by the Natural Resources Defense Council, Arc Ecology and San Francisco Baykeeper.

More than 70 ships comprise the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet, some dating to World War II. The old ships were once kept afloat in case of war, but many have fallen into disrepair, overtaken by rust and rot.

The suit asks the court to order the federal agency to prepare an official review of the environmental impact caused by the ships and to remove hazardous waste including paint, discarded oil and asbestos.

The head of the Maritime Administration said in a statement that the agency was engaged in "ongoing and extensive efforts to ensure the safety of these vessels."

"The best way, ultimately, to protect the Suisun Bay is to remove these vessels in as timely a manner as possible," Maritime Administrator Sean T. Connaughton said. "We hope this latest development does not needlessly delay our efforts to remove these vessels."

A congressional order set a 2006 deadline to scrap more than 50 ships, but a regulatory quagmire has kept the fleet anchored in place in the shallow, brackish inland waters east of San Francisco Bay.

Before they can be scrapped and sold, Coast Guard regulations require the removal of barnacles and other sea creatures clinging to the obsolete ships' hulls. That process causes toxic paint to flake off into the water. Fear of contamination has delayed their disposal.

A February study commissioned by the federal government suggested that even without the scraping, paint flaking off the Suisun Bay ships has shed tons of toxic heavy metals into estuary sediments.

Disposal operations in the country's two other reserve fleets in Beaumont, Texas, and on the James River near Newport News, Va., were also halted after the discovery of paint in Suisun Bay, though recent agreements with both states paved the way for disposal to resume.

Earlier this month, California water regulators informed the federal agency it could be fined up to \$25,000 per day if it fails to come up with a plan to stop the paint from falling into the water. The fines have not yet been issued.

Source : ap.google

Scientific Spanish vessel researching in South Atlantic

A state of the art Spanish fisheries research vessel currently in Punta Arenas is scheduled to collect sea bed and water samples in the South Atlantic, off the Falkland Islands before heading for Montevideo.

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According to La Prensa Austral the 70 meters long Spanish flagged **Miguel Oliver** with a crew of 22 and six scientists arrived in Punta Arenas after doing research along the Peruvian coast.

The vessel is specifically equipped for submarine prospecting with robots that can operate at depths of 200 and 700 meters. In the near future a third vehicle which can reach 2.000 meters will be incorporated. "While sailing along Peruvian waters we fished three times a day, collected water and sediment samples and calculated the biomass of several species", said Jose Luis Patiño one of the vessel's officers. The vessel which is stationed in Vigo has on board scientists from the Oceanographic Institutes from Madrid, Malaga, Vigo and La Coruña.

According to Patiño in the coming days they will be operating off the 200 Argentine miles in the South Atlantic taking sea bed sediments samples and testing water for nutrients and other factors such as temperature, salinity, etc. "all activities related to fisheries and in the interest of Spanish vessels in the South Atlantic".



"**Miguel Oliver**" which cost 21 million Euros to build is scheduled to call in Montevideo on November 21/22 for a rest period and change of crew.

The vessel is considered one of the most advanced of its kind with electronic cartography gear with capacity to map the sea bed in a range of five kilometers plus several multidisciplinary labs.

"**Miguel Oliver**" also specializes in mapping commercial fisheries, areas of influence, how they tend to move and even monitor schools of fish. To achieve this sensitive information the vessel is equipped with two electric propulsion turbines of 1.000 KW each which makes it extremely silent and environmentally friendly with virtually no vibrations. "**Miguel Oliver**" built in Vigo yards was launched a year ago and is named in tribute to an outstanding Spanish marine biologist. **Source : mercopress**

CORRECTION

Bij deze wil ik een "misser" doorgeven betreffende het bericht in de aflevering van Maritime Press Clippings 2007-248 over het kapseizen van de **Omer N**. Het schip is in 1984 gebouwd als **Lottelith** voor P/R Idalith, managers John Christensen Jespergaard, onder Deense vlag en is in 1996 voor dezelfde eigenaar hernaamd **Sea Maid**. In 2004 is het hernaamd **Can Gio**, aanvankelijk onder de vlag van Honduras en in 2005 is het schip onder de vlag van Vietnam gebracht en begin mei 2007 dan hernaamd **Omer N** onder de vlag van Slowakye.

Source : P.J. Anderiesse - Vlissingen.

CASUALTY REPORTING



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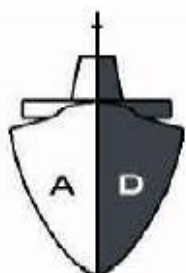


The **SCF TOMSK** seen aground at the Dominican Republic coast, **TITAN Salvage** is awarded the salvage contract
Photo : via Rinus Lorwa

NAVY NEWS

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Gdansk workers demand early privatisation of shipyard

About 200 workers at Poland's historic Gdansk shipyard demonstrated on Monday to demand the quick privatisation of their struggling workplace, with some burning tyres and setting off firecrackers in front of management offices.

Workers dressed in blue overalls and yellow plastic helmets held banners reading 'We want a modern yard and a European level of wages'.

They expressed fear that Civic Platform, a pro-business party that won Oct 21 elections, could slow down a plan for the sell-off of the state-run shipyard, the birthplace of the Solidarity movement that helped overthrow communism.

Many workers believe that privatisation is the only way to save the shipyard - and their jobs. Plans call for the yard to be sold to Ukrainian company Donbass.

The pro-market Civic Platform staunchly supports privatisation, but in the case of the Gdansk shipyard, wants to examine the existing plan to ensure greater transparency once it takes power next month.

A Civic Platform lawmaker said the workers have nothing to fear.

'Privatisation of the yard is necessary and under no circumstances will it be jeopardised,' said Tomasz Aziewicz.

Poles have a strong emotional attachment to the Gdansk shipyard, a symbol of the demise of communism.

It was there that electrician Lech Walesa led strikes in 1980 that led to the birth of Solidarity and the communist regime's eventual collapse in 1989. During the 1990s, the yard's owners struggled with the threat of bankruptcy. More recently, it has been at the centre of a dispute between Poland and the European Union (EU), which has pressured Warsaw to shut down two of three slipways - ship assembly areas - because the shipyard is losing money and being kept alive with state subsidies.

The EU has rules preventing its member states from keeping inefficient companies alive artificially.

Source : businesstimes



Newbuilding hull 6155 (for COSTA CRUISES) seen at Fincantieri in Marghera
Photo : Henri Veringa ©

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries plans return to cruise ship sector

Japan's Nikkei reports that Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd plans to return to cruise ship construction. MHI will reportedly start taking orders next year. Mitsubishi Heavy will begin taking orders next year, targeting the market ships that have more than 1,000 cabins and that are in the \$500 million to \$1 billion price range.

Actual construction of cruise ships would likely commence in 2012 or later, when capacity would be available at MHI's Nagasaki shipyard. MHI has been out of the cruise ship market since delivery of the 116,000 grt Diamond Princess and Sapphire Princess to Princess Cruises in 2004. **Source : MarineLog**

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The **DE-DA** seen arriving in Rotterdam – **Photo : Cornelis Kloppenburg ©**

SAECS introduces bunker surcharge

Mitsui OSK Line (MOL), one of the member lines of the South Africa Europe Container Service (SAECS) has announced a bunker revision to the present bunker surcharge that applies on the Europe - South Africa - Europe trade.

Announcing this yesterday one of the member lines, MOL said that with effect from 1 November the revised bunker surcharge will become as follows:

\$ 173.00 per TEU for General Purpose Cargo

\$ 263.00 per TEU for Reefer Cargo

"On present indications the revised bunker surcharge will become effective from the following vessels: -

Southbound

Rickmer Rickmers V:606A loading Bristol 10 November

DAL Kalahari V:607A loading Rotterdam 5 November

Northbound

MOL Springbok V:606B loading Durban 1 November

MOL Caledon V:607B loading Port Elizabeth 4 November

MOL says the revised bunker surcharges will remain in force until further notice. The surcharges can be expected to apply across all SAECS member lines. **Source : ports.co.za**

CORRECTION

URS ADDS TWO NEW TUGS TO ITS FLEET.



Union Kodiak was officially named by Mrs. Marleen Vanderpoorten and **Union Grizzly** by Mrs. Inge Vervotte

Photo : Piet Sinke ©



Consortium Win \$1.2B Petrobras Deal



The **PETROBRAS 54** seen in Rio de Janeiro – Photo : Martijn Hollander ©

The consortium of Keppel FELS Brasil S/A and Technip Brasil Engenharia, Instalacoes e Apoio Maritimo S/A (Technip), FSTP Pte Ltd, has secured a \$1.2 billion contract to build a semisubmersible Floating Production Unit (FPU) for Petrobras Netherlands BV (PNBV).

FSTP is a 75/25 consortium company between Keppel Offshore & Marine (Keppel O&M) and Technip. The rig, to be named P-56, is expected to be delivered ex-yard in the last quarter of 2010.

P-56 will be a repeat of the P-51 FPU which is currently being built at Keppel FELS Brasil's BrasFELS yard. With this contract, the total orders secured to-date in 2007 by Keppel O&M is S\$6.25 billion.

Mr Tong Chong Heong, Managing Director and COO, of Keppel O&M, the parent company of Keppel FELS Brasil, said, "We are glad to support Petrobras in their pursuit of national content as they expand oil and gas production capacity.

"Our 'Near Market, Near Customer' strategy has enabled us to better serve our customer, Petrobras, while participating with them the creation of jobs in the country. We look forward to further strengthen our relationship with Brazilian offshore oil and gas companies. We want to be their strategic partner as they pursue the expansion of their business."

Keppel FELS Brasil will carry out the detailed engineering of the lower hull and accommodation, as well as the construction and integration of the entire FPU. Technip will be responsible for the overall engineering and detailed engineering of the topside and offshore mating.

With displacement of 50,000 tons, the FPU will be 110 m long and wide, and 125 meters tall. It is expected to operate for 25 years.

The P-56 will be positioned at depths of 1,700 m and about 124 km off the coast. Capable of processing and treating 170,000 barrels of liquids and 100,000 barrels of 16° API oil, 6 million cubic meters of natural gas, and of injecting

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some 280,000 barrels of water in the reservoir, the P-56 will be connected to 22 wells, 11 of which are oil and gas producers and 11 are to inject water. **Source : MarineLink**



The **LS EVA** seen at the Westerscheldt River - **Photo : Willem Kruit ©**



The loaded **SAINTY No 5** seen arriving in Rotterdam-Waalhaven
Photo : Hans de Jong ©

MOVEMENTS



Hamburg-Sud's **BAHIA CASTILLO** seen departing from Rio Grande
Photo : Marcelo Vieira ©

AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS

F-16's onderscheppen lijnvliegtuig boven Brussel

Twee F-16-gevechtsvliegtuigen hebben vandaag rond 11.00 uur de geluidsmuur doorbroken ten zuiden van Brussel, toen ze een burgervliegtuig onderschepten waarmee het radiocontact verbroken was. Dat heeft het ministerie van Defensie vandaag bekendgemaakt.

De geluidsmuur werd volgens het ministerie doorbroken boven Brussel (Ukkel) en Hoeilaart. De twee F-16's voerden een oefenvlucht uit toen ze de opdracht kregen om visueel contact te maken met het burgervliegtuig, om het te identificeren en eventueel te onderscheppen.

Het burgervliegtuig van de Amerikaanse luchtvaartmaatschappij Delta Airlines kwam van het Duitse Stuttgart en was op weg naar Atlanta (VS), toen het het radiocontact verloor met de Belgische luchtcontrole.

Het ministerie van Defensie stuurde vervolgens de twee gevechtsvliegtuigen uit, maar in tussentijd had het burgervliegtuig het Belgische luchtruim verlaten en werd het radiocontact met de Britse autoriteiten tot stand gebracht.

Tijdens het onderscheppingsmanoeuver werd de geluidsmuur overschreden boven Brussel (Ukkel) en Hoeilaart, wat normaal gezien niet toegelaten is. "Het gaat om uitzonderlijke omstandigheden en Defensie wenst zich te verontschuldigen aan de bevolking voor eventueel veroorzaakte overlast", zo luidt het.

Het doorbreken van de geluidsmuur gaat gepaard met een grote knal, en de brandweer kreeg daardoor meerdere oproepen, waaronder ook in Eigenbrakel en Nijvel. Defensie zorgt ervoor dat er permanent twee gewapende F-16's klaar staan voor dergelijke incidenten.

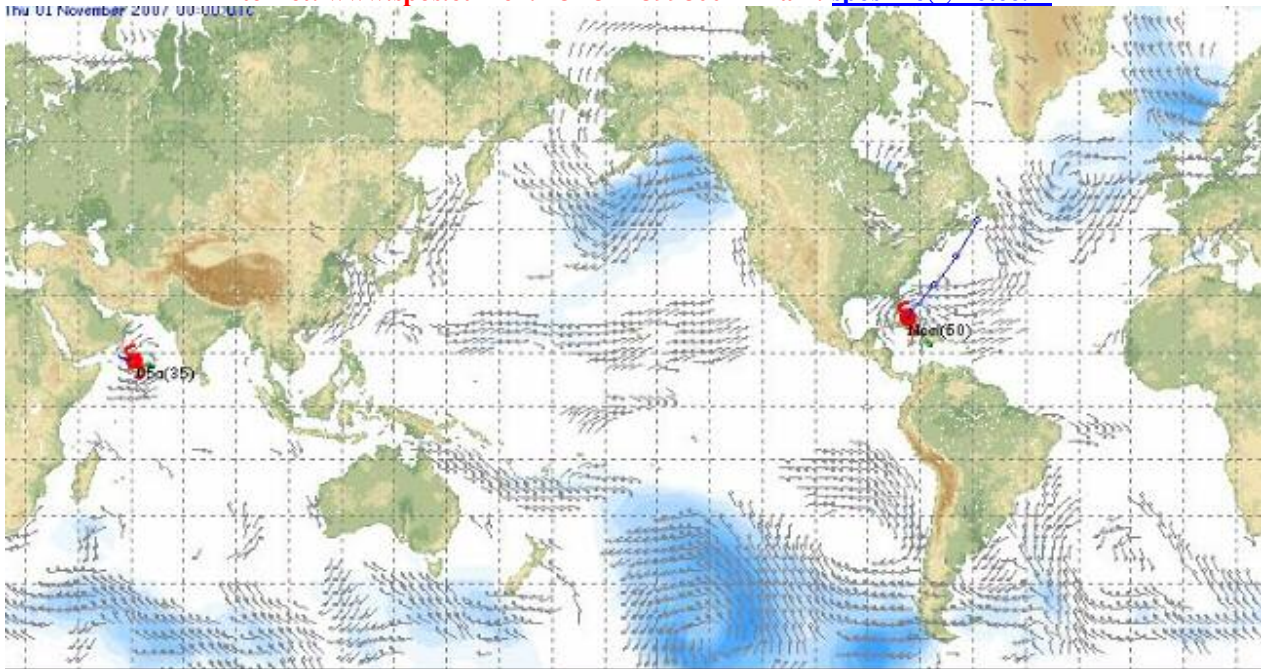
In alle landen van de NAVO is de "luchtpolitie" opnieuw belangrijker geworden na de aanslagen met burgervliegtuigen van 11 september 2001 in de Verenigde Staten. **Source : belga**

MARINE WEATHER

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Today's wind (+6Bft) and wave (+3m) chart. Created with SPOS, the onboard weather information & voyage optimisation system, used on over 1000 vessels today.

.... PHOTO OF THE DAY

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The **ROCKWATER 1** seen arriving in Ijmuiden
Photo : **Willem Koper** ©

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