

## DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER 2002 – 114



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## EVENTS, INCIDENTS & OPERATIONS

### Ships to give way to Canada's endangered whales

Ships and tankers navigating Canada's Bay of Fundy will have to change their shipping routes next summer to avoid an area favoured by endangered North Atlantic right whales.

The International Maritime Organization has approved a Canadian proposal to amend shipping routes in the bay between Nova Scotia and New Brunswick off the Gulf of Maine, Canadian officials said.

Thought to number just 350 worldwide, the slow-moving mammals - the most endangered large whales on earth - are often injured or killed in collisions with huge vessels in the bay, where dozens of the whales gather each summer. The new shipping lanes will force vessels to divert several kilometres around a designated zone to try to reduce collisions.

'This is going to make the Bay of Fundy waters a much safer haven for the right whale,' said Maurice Landry of Canada's Transport ministry. 'It will take away some of the vessels from the right whale density.' Canada recently received final approval of its plan after months of discussions with the international organisation, which oversees marine safety.

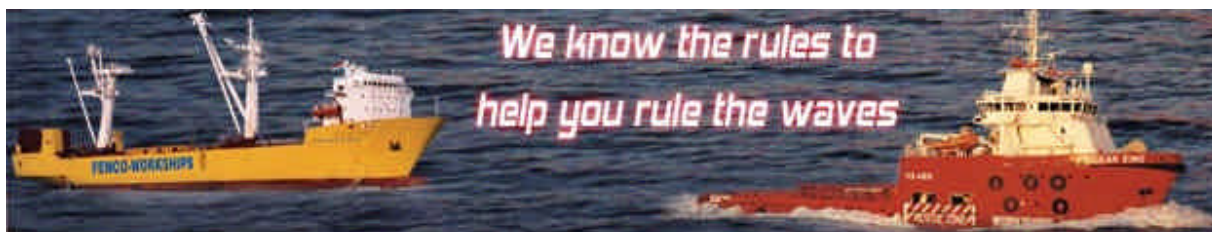
The initiative will take effect on July 1, 2003, just as the right whales are coming up from the eastern United States. Current shipping lanes cut across the whales' summering grounds near New Brunswick's Grand Manan Island. Experts who track the right whales call ship collisions, gear entanglement and hunting their biggest threat.

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Scientists attribute 36 per cent of all right whale deaths from 1970 to 1991 to collisions with ships. Since then, the figure has risen to over 50 per cent.

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## Cruise Ship Cancels Kid's Program After Outbreak

Another ship arrived at the Port of Miami with sick passengers on board this morning and this time many of them were children.



The **Carnival Spirit** (pictured) was forced to shut down its popular children's program Camp Carnival after a number of children became ill.

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Carnival officials won't say if the kids contracted a Norwalk-like virus, which has plagued many cruise ships in recent weeks.

The Spirit is returning from an eight-day Caribbean cruise.

### Derde schip bij botsing betrokken

Bij de aanvaring tussen de gekapseide autocarrier **Tricolore** en het vrachtschip **Kariba**, twee weken geleden in de Noordzee voor Duinkerken, is nog een derde schip betrokken geweest.

Dat heeft onderzoek door de Franse scheepvaartpolitie gisteren uitgewezen. Het gaat om de tanker **Clary** uit Singapore, die geweigerd zou hebben voldoende stuurboord te houden om de Kariba te laten passeren. Daardoor moest de **Kariba** uitwijken, waarna de aanvaring met de **Tricolore** ontstond. De Fransen gaan ervan uit dat de **Tricolore** en de **Kariba** elkaar door de mist te laat hebben gezien, maar menen dat ook de bemanning van de **Clary** niet vrijuit gaat.

### Opvarenden

Je werkt op een schip dat op de Westerschelde en in de Antwerpse haven vaart. Zoals de mensen van de sleepdiensten. Of het loodswezen. In feite werken die in twee landen. De belastingdienst zei altijd: geen probleem, we behandelen ze als grensarbeider."

"In het nieuwe belastingverdrag worden ze plotseling anders behandeld. Het zijn zogeheten opvarenden en die hebben een andere regeling. Een van de gevolgen is dat ze slechts gedeeltelijk gecompenseerd worden voor de hogere belasting die ze wel in België moeten blijven betalen. Sommigen hebben een inkomensverlies van meer dan 5000 euro."

"Het treft ongeveer twintig mensen. Dan kun je zeggen: ach, twintig mensen. Maar je praat wel anders als je een van die twintig bent. Dat moet toch goed te regelen zijn? Nee, wordt er gezegd: we handelen nu naar de letter van het verdrag. Die mensen hebben pech."

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## Indian shores receive largest oil tanker ever

Kolkata Port Trust received the gigantic '[Arctic Blue](#)', the largest-ever oil tanker to have anchored on the country's shores at Sandheads, 232 km off the Kolkata Dock. Anchored majestically near the mouth of the Ganges and the entry point to the Kolkata port, the ultra-large crude carrier would be here for about a week, KoPT sources here said.

The Panama Flag vessel, having a total handling capacity of 4,84,276 metric tonnes, is currently carrying 3,30,000 tonnes of crude oil out of which 1,50,000 tonnes would be transhipped to Chennai.

KoPT sources said the port was focussing on development of high draft areas like the Sandheads (50 mtrs) and Saugar (10 mtrs) to handle large vessels. The port was also planning to take steps for increasing the draft at Saugar to 12.5 mtrs, they added.

## FINNLINES WEKELIJKS NAAR ZEEBRUGGE

Het Havenbestuur Brugge-Zeebrugge is verheugd met de komst van [Finnlines](#) in de haven van Zeebrugge. De rederij kondigde zopas aan dat vanaf 30 december dit jaar de haven wekelijks zal worden aangelopen. Het betreft een roll-on/roll-off-dienst vanuit Helsinki met voornamelijk trailers, auto's en containers als lading. Met [Finnlines](#) weet de haven van Zeebrugge opnieuw haar shortsea-netwerk uit te breiden. Eerder dit jaar startte [Superfast Ferries](#) met een dagelijkse roro-passagiers- en vrachtdienst naar Schotland. Ook zal vanaf begin volgend jaar de autorederij [UECC](#) (United European Car Carriers) Turkije aanlopen. Deze ontwikkeling bevestigt opnieuw de rol van Zeebrugge als belangrijke intra-Europese overslaghaven dankzij haar brede waaier aan shortseadiensten, niet enkel naar Groot-Brittannië, maar ook in groeiende mate naar Noord- en Zuid-Europa. Hierdoor blijft Zeebrugge steevast de uitvalsbasis bij uitstek voor het bedienen van de Europese markten. Op het vaarschema van [Finnlines](#) staat ook de haven van Felixstowe, waardoor de stopzetting van de P&O roro-dienst, voor een gedeelte wordt hersteld.

## DREDGING COMPANIES REFUSE PAYMENT OF INDONESIAN FINE

Fairplay, the weekly shipping magazine reports that the owners of five dredgers impounded in Indonesia have "rejected" the Indonesian government's demand for 15 per cent of the value of each vessel as bail, a sum said to total Rp2.76Trn (\$30.8M). Fairplay said in November a Sumatra district court decided that the owner of dredger should pay a Rp30M fine (\$2,700). The ministry of maritime affairs went to the higher court for appeal, but the court has not yet issued a decision. The dredgers are among nine detained in Indonesia during July and August for smuggling sand to Singapore. Two were released after the owners paid a \$675,000 fine.

## FEEDERDIENST



In Zeebrugge is sedert kort een nieuwe feederdienst bedrijvig. Daardoor is de kusthaven nu ook verbonden met Vlissingen bij middel van een shortsea containershuttledienst. Die wordt verzorgd met de kruiplijncoaster "**Cast Salmon**". Het schip, dat een lengte heeft van 109m, kan 200 containers van 20 voet aan boord nemen. Dankzij de nieuwe zeeverbinding worden honderden vrachtwagencombinaties van de weg overgeheveld naar het vervoer te water.

## **MOL's cargo volume from US to Asia drops 21.5pc in October**

MITSUI OSK Lines (MOL) has reported that its west bound container movements from the US to Asia totaled 222,936 TEU in October and had fallen 21.5 per cent compared with the same month in 2001.

The Japanese carrier said on its website that it experienced decreases of 31.3 per cent, 26.9 per cent and 26.4 per cent for cargoes from the US to Taiwan, Malaysia and Japan respectively in October. However, there was one increase from the US to Vietnam, which exhibited a 15.4 per cent growth in the amount of containers moved versus October 2001. Meanwhile, the carrier said its east bound container movements from Asia to the US rose 8.2 per cent in October versus the same month last year to 740,067 TEU from 684,081 TEU.

MOL said on its east bound trade that the amount of cargo from Vietnam to the US rose 139 per cent compared to 12 months earlier, while containers from China and Hong Kong increased by 15.8 per cent, and cargoes from Malaysia to the US rose 2.1 per cent. But it wasn't all plain sailing for the carrier's east bound cargo as the company had a 14.9 dip in cargo from the Philippines to the US, a 13.9 per cent drop from Japan and 7.1 decrease from Indonesia.

The company said its imbalance ratio for October's westbound/eastbound traffic was 30.1 per cent as MOL said the labour deadlock at US west coast ports had affected its performance for the month.

## **COSCON places charter contract with ER Schiffahrt**

COSCO Container Lines (Coscon) has signed a contract with E R Schiffahrt, a shipping management firm based in Hamburg, to charter five new 7,455 TEU vessels. The ships will be built by Hyundai Heavy Industries in Korea, financed by Nordcapital and will replace older tonnage in the carrier's major east and west trade lines. The company said the new ships will be able to reach speeds of more than 25 knots and will be delivered sometime in the second half of 2004.

Meanwhile, the company has reported that Captain Wei Jiafu, group president and CEO of Cosco, has accepted an invitation to join Harvard Business School's Asia pacific advisory board. Capt. Wei said it was a great honour for him and his company to have been invited on the business school's board.

The top executive also expressed his confidence that his participation on the board would help strengthen co-operation between the Chinese line and Harvard Business School.

## **NAVY NEWS**

### **Two more U.S. cargo ships head for Gulf**

Two massive, fast-moving navy cargo ships carrying combat helicopters and supplies critical for any military move against Iraq left U.S. shores this week en route to a Southwest Asian port, defence officials said.



Top : The **USNS YANO ( T-AKR 297 )** enroute – **photo : Coll. Piet Sinke ©**

The **Yano** sailed from Charleston, South Carolina, with little fanfare at noon on Tuesday, carrying a Blackhawk helicopter and three OH-58 combat helicopters in its holds.

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A day earlier, the **Pililaau** left Beaumont, Texas, loaded with combat support equipment, including trucks and Humvees, that filled almost 200,000 square feet of cargo space.

The ships are the latest in the Pentagon's "surge fleet," designed to deliver equipment rapidly in a crisis, to leave U.S. shores loaded with equipment to support the build up of U.S. air, land and sea forces in the Gulf region. Their deployment significantly boosts the amount of military hardware the Pentagon is positioning within striking distance of Iraq.

"It's part of the continuing, steady, slow movement of equipment that we've been engaging in to build up the pressure on Saddam Hussain," said Marge Holtz, a spokeswoman for the Navy's Military Sealift Command, which moved the bulk of the materiel used during the 1991 Gulf War.



Top **USNS Bellatrix ( T-AKR 288 )** – photo : Coll Piet Sinke

In addition to the **Yano** and the **Pililaau**, three other military cargo ships berthed in the United States have been activated since late October: the **Bob Hope**, the **Fisher** and the **Bellatrix**. Two more ships based in the Indian Ocean, the Watkins and the Watson, also have embarked for the Gulf region in recent months. They are part of a fleet of ships prepositioned near the British island of Diego Garcia, in the Indian Ocean, loaded with military equipment and supplies to support Army fighting units.

A U.S. official said on Tuesday there are plans to activate a hospital ship for duty in the Gulf, but Holtz said the Sealift Command has not been ordered to ready either of the two hospital ships in its inventory - the **Comfort**, in Baltimore, or the **Mercy**, in San Diego.

Either of those ships leaving U.S. shores would be a strong indication of imminent military action. It would take either ship four weeks to get to the Gulf.

The **Yano**, normally berthed in Baltimore, and the **Pililaau**, in New Orleans, are part of a fleet of 19 ships acquired and refitted by the military during the last decade at a cost of \$6 billion to improve the way the Pentagon equips U.S. troops abroad.

The ships have huge ramps to allow massive artillery pieces, Humvees and trucks to roll on and off. The design allows them to be unloaded much more rapidly than the cargo ships that were used to equip troops during the Gulf War. Those ships required giant cranes to painstakingly lift tanks and other heavy gear out of their holds.

More than 900 feet long and 100 feet wide, each of the ships has a hold capacity of 380,000 square feet - equivalent to eight soccer fields. The **Yano** is carrying 180,000 square feet of materiel on this voyage, and the **Pililaau** slightly more.

The ships can move at speeds up to 24 knots. While the fastest route to their destinations would take the ships through the Suez Canal, a military official said the **Yano** and the **Pililaau** are under orders to take a slower route around Africa's Cape of Good Hope. The voyage to the Gulf region is expected to take 21 to 25 days.

## **WTC steel will help build new Navy ship USS New York**

Steel salvaged from the wreckage of the World Trade Center will be used to build the Navy's **USS New York**, a warship named in honor of those who perished in New York on Sept. 11, 2001. The scrap steel will be extricated from the Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island on Friday and trucked south to a Northrop Grumman shipyard in Pascagoula, Miss. Northrop Grumman will start building the USS New York in Pascagoula in the middle of next year.

The **USS New York** will be the fifth of 12 amphibious assault ships in the **San Antonio class**, which the Navy calls one of its most technologically innovative. The 684-foot vessel will carry a Navy crew of 402 and up to 800 Marines.

The \$800 million vessel should be ready for active duty in 2007.

If the trade center scrap meets specifications, it will be melted down and used to configure the edge of the bow that cuts through the water, said Northrop Grumman spokesman Jim McIngdale.

"We're very proud that the twisted steel from the WTC towers will soon be used to forge an even strong national defense," New York Gov. George Pataki said. "The **USS New York** will soon be defending freedom and combatting terrorism around the globe, while also ensuring that the world never forgets the evil attacks of Sept. 11 and the courage and strength New Yorkers showed in response to terror."

New York state officials needed to get special authorization from Navy Secretary Gordon England to name the surface vessel the **USS New York**. Currently, only submarines are given state names. Pataki wanted the USS New York to participate in the fight against terrorism.

It was the Navy's idea to incorporate scrap from the trade center in the new vessel, aides to Pataki said.

The structural steel primarily comes in a beam about 20 feet long and weighing between 20 and 30 tons that was identified by New York City officials in the Staten Island landfill, where the trade center wreckage was dumped. It is believed to have been part of the south tower, the second of the twin skyscrapers to be hit by jetliners hijacked by terrorists on Sept. 11 but the first to collapse.

Nearly 3,000 people died in the attack on the World Trade Center.

Most of the structural steel reclaimed from the trade center site has already been sold for scrap.

Several naval ships have held the name **USS New York** or **USS New York City**. The most recent **USS New York** was a battleship, commissioned in 1914, which fought in both European and Pacific waters during World War II.

## MOVEMENTS

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The cruise ship **Arosa Blu** from London is docked in Old Havana's port, Wednesday, Dec.25, 2002. Operated by German tour operator 'See Tours' this is the largest cruise ship to visit Cuba

## AIRCRAFT / AIRPORT NEWS

### Indian fighter jet crashes in Kashmir



The plane came down in Indian-administered Kashmir

An Indian military plane has crashed in Indian-administered Kashmir, Indian police say. It came down near the airport in the summer capital, Srinagar. The plane, a **Russian Mig-21**, is believed to have crashed on a village house, injuring two people.



**An Indian MiG-21BIS Rolling Out After Landing**

The pilot is reported to have ejected safely. It is not yet clear what caused the crash. The plane was making what air force authorities called a routine sortie when it came down.

This crash of an Indian Mig-21 comes very soon after the latest crashes, October 14<sup>th</sup> a Mig 21 crashed near the Bagdogra airbase and another October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2002 crashed in the country's northwest state of Rajasthan. According to figures made available by the government in Parliament, 84 jets of the MiG series have crashed during the past five years.

## **Nederlanders vervoeren gewonden ongeluk Bosnië**

Een Fokker-60 van de Koninklijke Luchtmacht is donderdagochtend vanaf de vliegbasis Eindhoven naar Bosnië vertrokken om daar drie gewonde Slowaken naar Slowakije te vervoeren.



Top : De **MARIUS VAN MEEL** een Fokker 60 Utility Transport Aircraft van de Koninklijke Luchtmacht  
**Foto : Piet Sinke ©**

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De drie kregen op 24 december een ongeluk met hun helikopter, kort nadat zij de Nederlandse staatssecretaris Cees van der Knaap (Defensie) en zijn delegatie hadden vervoerd. De vlucht is een initiatief van de staatssecretaris. De gewonden worden vanuit Bosnië overgevlogen naar een ziekenhuis in Bratislava (Slowakije).

### A400M TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT



Germany has confirmed it will order **60** transport aircrafts **A400M** from Airbus Industries.

Residents look at Brazilian Air Force propeller plane after it crashed 2 miles short of a runway during an emergency landing near the Afonso Penna Airport in Curitiba, December 26, 2002. The plane, about halfway through its flight to the southern city of Florianopolis from Sao Paulo state, was carrying five military personnel and 11 civilians. One woman died and 15 people were injured in the crash.

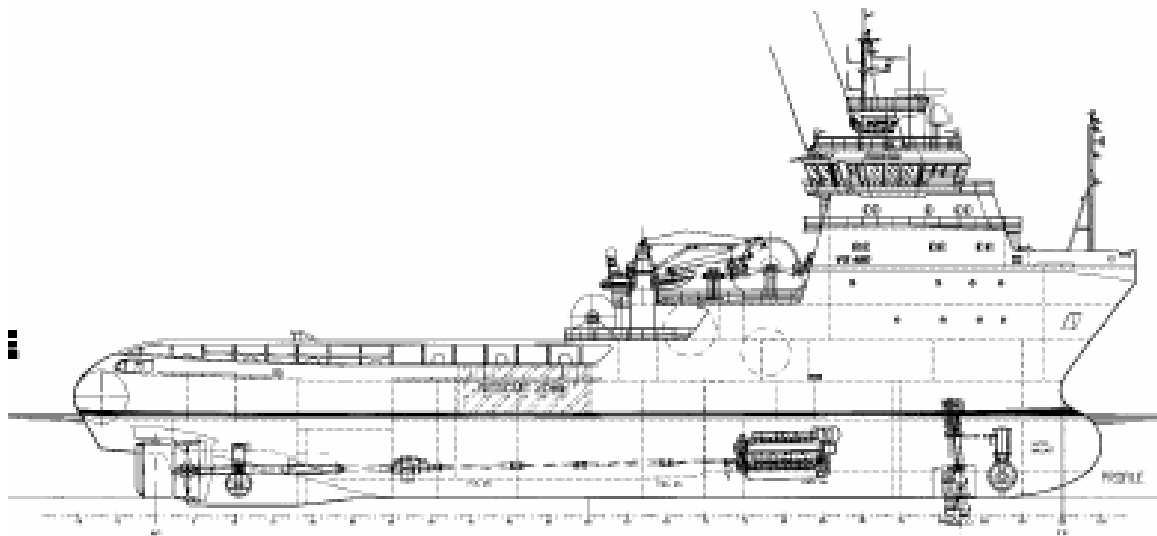


### .... SHIP OF THE DAY .... NORMAND IVAN



The **NORMAND IVAN** which is at present in charter for Heerema Marine Contractors manoeuvres alongside the **BALDER** in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Photo's : Willem Poot – Balder**



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Vessel Name	:	Normand Ivan
Owner	:	Solstad
Vessel build	:	2001 by Flekkefjord yard no 170
Port of registry	:	Skudeneshavn
Flag	:	Norwegian
Length overall	:	81.00 m
Length p.p.	:	69.00 m
Breadth mld	:	20.00 m
Draught mld	:	7.61 m
Gross Tonnage	:	4604 ton
Nett Tonnage	:	1381 ton
Deadweight	:	4138 ton at summer draft
Service speed	:	approx 13 knots
Max Speed	:	18.3 knots
BHP	:	20.000 hP
Bollard Pull	:	240 tonnes



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