

DAY AFTER DAY



MSC Napoli in Channel

Monday, January 7th

MSC NAPOLI IN DANGER

On Saturday, January 20th a British boat with containers, MSC Napoli, bound for Sines in Portugal, was in distress in the Channel at Branscombe because of the European storm.

On Thursday, January 18th the captain of the boat called for help because a crack in the hull became very dangerous. The twenty-six members of the crew were rescued by three helicopters. This way the cargo ship was towed towards Lyme in England where it is at the moment. It isn't its first crack because in March 2001 it was already run aground in the South of Singapore.

MSC Napoli transported 2,394 containers, more than 103 are now at sea, among those ones, three contain chemicals. Its tanks were full of 3,500 tonnes of fuel. The British boat also transported 167 kg of explosives, 569 tonnes of inflammable produces and several hazardous materials.

There are more and more oiled-covered birds, 3 dolphins and a porpoise were found dead but nobody can take stock of the situation.

Once the tanks are pumped out and when all the containers are unloaded, the authorities will take the decision either to refloat MSC Napoli or to cut this cargo ship even if it takes a very long time.

Katie Monty