

VERNICOS GIORGOS (Greek)

Mumbles, Oct 18 — M tug *Vernicos Giorgos*, SV6474, with fouled propeller, drifting towards rocks approximately one mile west of Solva. Eight people on board. St David's lifeboat launched and proceeding. St David's Coast Rescue Company mustering and proceeding. Pan (urgency) broadcast initiated by Coastguard Milford Haven MRSC on VHF Channel 16. (Later *Vernicos Giorgos*: St David's lifeboat 4.5 miles south-west Green Scar, has casualty visual. St David's Coast Rescue Company on scene and standing by. M fire-fighting tug *Edengarth* proceeding from Milford Haven to assist. Wind south-west, gale, sea rough, moderate swell, visibility eight miles. Understand *Vernicos Giorgos* tow, two tugs, nobody on board, now aground. Latest position of casualty lat 51 52N, long 05 13W. (Later *Vernicos Giorgos* now within 50 m of shore. Master reports that anchors possibly holding. St David's lifeboat on scene and has taken three persons on board, remaining five crew members remaining on board against advice of Coastguard and lifeboat coxswain. St David's Coast Rescue Company in position with rocket-firing apparatus and rescue equipment rigged. Police and doctor in attendance. Rescue helicopter anticipated. Confirm both tugs aground. — Coastguard Swansea MRCC.

Mumbles, Oct 18 — *Vernicos Giorgos* grounded in lat 51 52 18N, long 05 12 42W. All eight crew taken off, three by St David's lifeboat and five winched to safety by helicopter. St David's. Small quantity of light diesel to land survivors, helicopter landing remainder at RAF Brawdy. Mayday (distress signal) relay initiated by Coastguard Milford Haven MRSC 2308, GMT, and cancelled at 2328, GMT. St David's Coast Rescue Company restowing equipment and returning to base. All three tugs ashore. *Edengarth* departing Milford Haven at 2328, GMT, but in view of situation intends contacting Cory Towage before proceeding out of harbour. — Coastguard Swansea MRCC.

St Ann's, Oct 19 — *Vernicos Giorgos*: All rescue units now returned to station. St David's lifeboat rehoused at 0100, GMT. Eight crew will be accommodated at Grove Hotel. St David's. Owner now also in attendance. Investigation will be made at first light to check for damage to tugs, any pollution threat and whether tugs can be salvaged. Tugs, owners Vernicos Shipping Co Ltd, Piraeus, on passage from Liverpool to Piraeus. — Coastguard Milford Haven MRSC.

Mumbles, Oct 19 — Coastguard Milford Haven MRSC reports: *Vernicos Giorgos* ashore and holed $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Solva harbour, St David's. Small quantity of light diesel fuel from remaining bunkers rapidly dispersing in rough seas and considered no pollution threat. Two remaining tugs believed to be m tugs **VERNICOS ALEXIA** and **VERNICOS BARBARA** afloat and attached by tows to *Vernicos Giorgos*. no bunkers, "dead" ships. Owner on scene and hopes to arrange for **VERNICOS ALEXIA** and **VERNICOS BARBARA** to be taken in tow to Milford Haven when weather conditions allow. All three tugs will be high and dry at low water, 1630, GMT, this afternoon. Coastline rocky and access difficult. Two 10-man liferafts from *Vernicos Giorgos* broken adrift and inflated on shoreline below cliffs. Approximately 15 40-gallon drums of diesel fuel mated off *Vernicos Giorgos* and adrift in area. — Coastguard Swansea MRCC.

VERNICOS GIORGIS (Greek)

London, Oct 28 — Information received from Milford Haven today states: The names of the Greek m tugs which grounded on Oct 18 near Solva are *Vernicos Giorgis* (not **VERNICOS GIORGOS** as before reported), **VERNICOS BARBARA IV** (not **VERNICOS BARBARA** as before reported) and **VERNICOS ALEXIA**. (See issue **VERNICOS GIORGOS** in issue of Oct 22.)

VERNICOS GIORGOS (Greek)

See *Vernicos Giorgis*.

VERNICOS GIORGOS (Greek)

St Ann's, Oct 20 — *Vernicos Giorgos*, **VERNICOS ALEXIA** and **VERNICOS BARBARA**, ashore near Solva: All three tugs now in custody of Receiver of Wreck. *Vernicos Giorgos* and **VERNICOS ALEXIA** have been declared total losses. Attempts may yet be made to save **VERNICOS BARBARA**. Salvage of equipment and fittings being carried out by Ocean Dynamics, of Solva, under jurisdiction of Receiver of Wreck. Owner still in attendance. Department of Trade representative has also been in attendance. At time of grounding, *Vernicos Giorgos* had 25 tons of gasoil bunkers. No pollution threat at present. — Coastguard Milford Haven MRSC. (See issue of Oct 21.)

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