"LITERATURE REVIEW OF PREVIOUS
OIL POLLUTION EXPERIENCE"

REGIONAL PROGRAM REPORT 78-24

bу

Judy Wigmore

Prepared for:

West Coast Oil Ports Inquiry

A. R. Thompson, Commissioner

Vancouver, B.C.

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ABSTRACT

The following literature review of previous marine oil pollution experiences identifies bibliographic references according to the region described and the reference location.

For literature on the impact of oil upon the marine environment, the Inquiry library catalogue should be consulted. This is located at the Westwater Research Centre, West Mall Annex, Room 200, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. - (604) 228-4956.

The article by E. Wang and B. Mawhinney "Recent Developments in International Environmental Law: The Impact on Canadian Policy and Legislation as published by the West Coast Oil Ports Inquiry", should be referred to for additional information on oil pollution incidents off Canada coasts from August 1973 to May 1977.

This report was first prepared September 20, 1977, and updated March 10, 1978.

RÉSUMÉ

Cet examen bibliographique des incidents de pollution marine survenus jusqu'à maintenant classe les entrées selon la région décrite et le lieu des références.

Pour trouver la documentation concernant les incidences pétrolières sur l'environnement marin, le lecteur devrait consulter le catalogue de la bibliothèque des enquêtes située au Westwater Research Centre, West Mall Annex, Local 200, Université de la Colombie-Britannique, Vancouver, C.-B. (604) 228-4956.

Pour obtenir des renseignements supplémentaires sur les incidents de pollution pétrolière au large des côtes canadiennes, entre août 1973 et mai 1977, le lecteur devrait consulter l'article d'E. Wang et B. Mawhinney "Recent Developments in International Environmental Law: The Impact on Canadian Policy and Legislation as published by the West Coast Oil Ports Inquiry".

WEST COAST OIL PORTS INQUIRY

In March 1977, Dr. Andrew R. Thompson was commissioned by the Government of Canada to inquire into the environmental, social and navigational safety aspects of a proposed oil port at Kitimat, B.C. and the broader Canadian concerns and issues related to west coast oil tanker traffic.

The Inquiry hearings were adjourned in November 1977 because there was then no active application in Canada for a west coast oil port. The Commissioner summed up his findings to that point and presented his Statement of Proceedings to the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment and the Minister of Transport on February 23rd, 1978.

The Ministers subsequently announced that "the Federal Government sees no need for a west coast oil port now or in the foreseeable future and doubts that the benefits of establishing such a port would be sufficient to offset the danger of risking a major oil spill". Consequently, the Inquiry did not continue.

This report was prepared under contract as background information for the Inquiry and does not necessarily represent the views and policies of the Department.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prepared According to Alphabetical Geographical Areas

			Page	No.
I.	AFRICA		•	1
	I-1 I-2 I-3	J.C. Pappas and Almizar Collision Texanita and Oswego Collision Other		1 1 1
II.	BAHAMAS			1
	II-1	General Colocontronis grounded		1
III.	BLACK SI	E <u>A</u>		1
IV.	BRITISH	ISLES		2
	IV-1 IV-2 IV-3 IV-4 IV-5 IV-6 IV-7 IV-8 IV-9 IV-10	Arrietta S. Livanos and Anneliese Collisis Bantry Bay, Spill Ekofisk Blow-Out, North Sea Hamilton Trader Collision, Irish Sea Medway Experience Milford Haven Olympic Alliance and Achilles Collision Pacific Glory and Allegro Collision Torrey Canyon Grounding Other		2 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 6
v.	CANADA			6
	V-1 V-2 V-3 V-4 V-5	Irish Stardust, Alert Bay Arrow Spill Beaufort Sea Project Vanlene Other		6 6 8 8
VI.	CHILE			9
	VI-1	Metula Spill		9
VII.	ITALY			9
VIII.	JAPAN		1	0
	VIII-1	Mizushima Refinery Rupture	1	0
IX.	MEXICO		1	0
	IX-1	Tampico Maru Grounding	1	0

TABLE OF CONTENTS - Cont'd.

			Page No.
х.	PANAMA		11
XI.	PORTUGA	<u>T</u>	11
	XI-1 XI-2	"Jakob Maersk" Grounding Andulo and Statute of Liberty Collision	11 11
XII.	PUERTO	RICO	11
	XII-1	Ocean Eagle Grounding	11
XIII.	SAUDI A	12	
xiv.	SPAIN		12
	XIV-1	Urquiola Grounding	12
xv.	UNITED	12	
	XV-1 XV-2 XV-3 XV-4 XV-5 XV-6 XV-7 XV-8 XV-9 XV-10 XV-11 XV-12 XV-13	Alaska; Kodiak Islands; Cold Bay Anacortes, Washington Argo Merchant, New England Coast Casco Bay, Maine Chevron Blow-Out, Louisiana Coast Olympic Games Grounding, Delaware River Oregon Standard and Arizona Standard Collision, San Francisco Bay Santa Barbara Blow-Out Sea Witch and Esso Brussels Collision, New York City Harbour R.C. Stoner Spill; Wake Island Texaco-Oklahoma Sinking; North Carolina West Falmouth Grounding, Massachussetts Others	12 12 13 13 13 14 14 15 18 18 18 18
YVY	OTHERS	•	20

LOCATION OF REFERENCES:

B.C. Govt.* British Columbia Government List of

Documents

Coalition* Kitimat Oil Coalition List of Documents

(SPEC, Vanc.)

KPL* Kitimat Pipeline Co. List of Documents

Fed-F & MS-Birtwell* Federal Min. of Fisheries and Environ-

ment, Fisheries and Marine Service,

Vanc. Dr. Ian Birtwell

Lib. Ref. Inquiry Library

Lib. PAM Inquiry Library pamphlet file

U.B.C. - AE Animal Ecology Lib., U.B.C. campus

- Main U.B.C. Campus Library

- Wood Woodward Library, U.B.C. campus

Vanc. Lib. Vancouver Public Library, Burrard

Street

* List of documents in Inquiry Library.

If no location given, means found as a bibliographic reference.

NOTE: For list of previous oil spills see Easton, 1972., Black Tide: The Santa Barbara Oil Spill and Its Consequences (UBC-AE); Vermeer, and Vermeer, 1975. Oil Threat to Birds on the Canadian West Coast (Lib. PAM 001) and Straughan, 1972. Factors Causing Environmental Changes After an Oil Spill. (Lib. PAM 339).

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XIV. SPAIN

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- b) "Oswega-Peace" tanker leaked 2,000 gallons of oil in Thames River, Connecticut, December 25, 1976.
- c) "Grand Zenith" carried 8.2 million gallons heavy industrial oil disappeared off Cape Cod in gale, presumed sunk, December 1976.

- d) "Universe Leader" ran aground at entrance to Chesapeake and Delaware Canal January 6, 1977; 21 million gallons.
- e) "Esso Castellon" broke from mooring, ran aground off Corpus Christi, Texas January 1977; 500,000 barrels.
- f) "Chester A. Poling" broke in heavy seas and sunk January 10, 1977.

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