



The oil that spurted from the gashed tanker stretched over the bay toward the Golden Gate Bridge and the Marin headlands

## A Gigantic Spill

# The Bay's Big Oily Mess



The site of the collision and the extent of the slick (shaded areas)

## U.S. Punishes Ecuador For Seizing Fishing Boats

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 against \$25.5 million of economic assistance for the South American country, warning the ambassador that this is under review.

In addition, a State Department spokesman said, Rogers declared "other possible measures are being reviewed presently and further action by this government" cannot be ruled out.

Ecuador claims that for purposes of fishing control its territorial waters extend 200 miles from shore. The United States recognizes a three-mile territorial limit but will allow a up to 12 miles for fishing control.

"Our purpose in taking the action we have taken," McCloskey told newsmen "is of so much retribution or revenge as it is to protect what we consider to be the rights of an American fisherman in these waters on the high seas."

Officials said the Ecuadorian government has expressed written interest to

the United States in acquiring A-36 aircraft and certain helicopters and has requested a credit of \$185,000 for the overhaul of ships.

### ACT

Rogers told Mantilla the United States had invoked — effective immediately — a section of the Foreign Military Sales Act providing:

"No sales, credits or guarantees shall be extended under this act to any country during a period of one year after such country seizes or takes into custody or fines an American fishing vessel more than 12 miles from the coast of that country."

In the case of the review of other possible actions, official attention focused on the fact that a \$29 million economic assistance program has been projected for Ecuador.

Of that amount, \$3.5 million so far has been formally committed by signed agreement. The amount under review and subject to denial, should the Nixon Administra-

tion decide on further action, is \$25.5 million.

### EFFECT

The "Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967" provides that Rogers could, in effect, ask the Ecuadorian government to return to the United States the fines it levied against the fishing boats.

If the government refused to do so, McCloskey said, the secretary could deduct a sum equal to the total of the fines from the Ecuadorian aid program.

Officials have explained that the fishing vessels, being fined under circumstances which the U.S. considers illegal, can apply to Washington for restitution.

Before meeting with Rogers, Mantilla told newsmen the seizures were justified because the fishing boats had failed to obtain licenses required by the Ecuadorian government.

He also disputed reports some of the ships were attacked by Ecuadorian Air Force planes.

"No boats have been attacked, nor harassed. And none of them suffered any damage during the seizure," he said.

### PROTEST

A strong protest of the initial incidents was filed in Quito by U. S. Ambassador Findley Burns Jr., on Saturday, McCloskey said.

He also said there were three American vessels returned to the United States after fines were paid. The fines ranged from \$33,000 to \$52,000.

The U.S. and Ecuador have been negotiating along with two other South American nations which claim

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Channel during the 1969 oil well blowout.

The U.S. Geological Survey estimated that 420,000 gallons were spilled in the Santa Barbara case, but some other sources estimated the figure as close to 800,000 gallons.

At any event, yesterday's bay oil slick was clearly visible at least three-quarters of a mile west of the Oregon Standard before noon.

In some areas there were globules of black, about the size of golf balls, riding some four to six inches below the surface.

In others, the oil formed what the Coast Guard calls "stringers" which are described as "shapes of oil that are longer than wide, frequently, but not necessarily, sinuous in appearance."

These snakelike collections of oil were about 100 feet long in some places and varied in width from two to ten feet.

The stench of the bunker oil pervaded the area.

James Keating, general manager of Standard, Oil's Richmond refinery operations and the firm's Bay Area expert on cleaning up oil spills, told newsmen the mess in the bay would be cleaned up "within the next several days."

### BOAT

Keating said a specially fitted boat, the Retriever, will be used to skim the oil from the surface.

"What we literally do," he said, "is vacuum the oil from the water."

Around the Oregon Standard, the company placed floating booms to "corral" the spilled oil for skimming off later.

Similar booms were placed in front of yacht harbors at Tiburon, Sausalito and Belvedere, proving fairly effective in preventing the oil from fouling boats moored there.

### TRUCKS

Along the waterfront stretch of Sausalito's Bridge-way yesterday morning more than a dozen oil trucks were lined up, pumping the oily water from the shore.

## A Way to Help Those Oily Birds

Friends of the Earth announced last night it has established a station for persons who wish to help clean birds hit by the Bay oil spill.

The station is next to the University of California, off Route 17 on the Bay south of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Interested persons should bring mineral oil or baby oil, sawdust or corn meal, rags, heating lamps and washtubs, the organization said.

## The 2-Year Record of Oil Spills

There were 518 reported spills of oil and chemicals into San Francisco Bay between 1968 and 1970, the Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board reported yesterday.

The figures: 1968—110 spills. Vessels, 68; land, 44; from unknown sources, 30.

1969—186 spills. Vessels, 68; land, 72; unknown, 46.

1970—213 spills. Vessels, 74; land, 61; unknown, 78.

On January 8 of this year a Norwegian ship pumped 12,000 gallons of fuel oil into New York slough, near Pittsburg. The Coast Guard reported last Thursday that most of it had been cleaned up.

On Angel Island, Supervising Ranger Otis Lyons said there was "oil all over the place," but noted that the beach at Ayala Cove is made of decomposed granite, rather than sand.

"At this point," Lyons said, "the situation is not

### More oil spills news on Page 5.

good, but certainly not critical."

Standard Oil said it has on hand "thousands" of bales of hay to soak up any oil that might reach beaches. Several hundred of those bales were dispatched to Fort Baker, where the slick lapped around the rocks in heavy amounts.

### PROMISE

The company emphasized that no chemicals or detergents — which could be harmful to marine and bird life — would be used in the cleanup.

In Sacramento, State Director of Conservation James G. Stearns assigned Captain Walter Putnam of the Department of Fish and Game to represent the state at the scene.

Fears were expressed at mid-day that a relatively high (3.7 feet) incoming tide at 4:30 p.m. could bring some of the oil washed out the Golden Gate back into the bay to foul more water and beaches.

## Russian Hill Couple Slain

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able to determine how much had been taken.

Homicide inspector Dave Toschi said several residents in the area reported hearing the gunshots, but that no one had seen the killer or killers, flee from the store.

"We have little to go on," said Toschi, "very little." He said the Lees had operated the grocery for about 20

## Fog Blankets Bay Area Airports -- More Today

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in Jose airports also was held off until mid-morning.

Yesterday's fog, which the Coast Guard said contributed to the collision of two oil tankers just outside the Golden Gate Bridge blanketed the northern California coast inland valleys as far as Monterey.

The Weather Bureau fore-

caster said the unusually heavy fog was caused by a combination of mild winds, and moisture remaining from recent winter storms.

The tule fog, as usual, was accompanied by warm weather. It was 65 degrees at noon in downtown San Francisco, compared to the record for that date of 70 degrees. Cooler weather was forecast for tomorrow.