

BP, Chevron, Taurus win Iraq oil tender

REUTERS, London/New York

Iraq has awarded its second post-war crude oil tender to at least four companies, including a US oil major and a trading house, with most of the oil heading to the US, market sources said on Tuesday.

Officials at ChevronTexaco and BP both confirmed their companies had each won two million barrels of the tender, which totaled eight million barrels of Basrah light crude.

US refiners reported trading house Taurus offering Basrah crude in the US Gulf Coast, indicating it had also taken a stem.

Brazilian state firm Petrobras was said to have taken the last stem,

but this was later thrown into doubt by talk that Royal Dutch/Shell had also won a cargo, other market sources said. A spokesman at Petrobras said the company would not comment on the tender until Wednesday, the official date of the tender results.

The tender, the first with Iraqi oil produced after the US-led attack, closed on Monday.

There was no immediate confirmation of the tender results from Iraqi officials.

Pricing details were not immediately available, although dealers said some bids were thought to have been made at above West Texas Intermediate -\$5, the US oil bench-

mark.

The Taurus cargo was likely to lift around July 10, BP's cargo will load July 13-15 and Chevron's will load around July 20-31, traders said.

The three firm buyers will take their two-million-barrel cargoes across the Atlantic, sources said, although Shell could also bring the cargo into Europe, if it proves to have won.

The loading rate comes to a paltry 363,000 barrels per day (bpd), compared with pre-war capacity from oilfields in the north and south of Iraq totaling over two million bpd, underlining Baghdad's difficulties in resuming sustained production from its troubled oil sector.

Reckitt Benckiser becomes GP's corporate client

Reckitt Benckiser Bangladesh Limited, a leading multinational company, and cell phone company GrameenPhone Limited (GP) signed an agreement in Dhaka recently.

Under the agreement, Reckitt Benckiser has become a corporate client of GP, says a press release.

Reckitt Benckiser will use GP's SMS services and data services for enhancing its daily communication among different offices and plants.

Ranjan Naik, finance director of Reckitt Benckiser, and Kafil HS Mueyed, general manager of sales and marketing division of GP, signed the agreement on behalf of their organisations.



Officials of GrameenPhone Limited and Reckitt Benckiser Bangladesh Limited pose for a photograph at the signing of an agreement in Dhaka recently.



Two women get their hair washed free of cost during a weeklong event, organised by Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd, the manufacturer of Sunsilk brand shampoo, which ended on Saturday in Dhaka.



Mashiur Rahman (3rd from left), managing director (Current Charge) of IFIC Bank Ltd, and AT Ahmedul Huq Choudhury (4th from left), managing director of Multi Promotional Services Ltd, sign an agreement regarding appointment of Multi Promotional Services as authorised agent of the bank for recovery of its default loans.



Mohammad Mominul Haque, executive vice president of Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd, and AHM Nurul Huda, company secretary of Dhaka Electric Supply Company (DESCO), exchange documents of an agreement on behalf of their organisations in Dhaka on Tuesday. Under the deal, the bank will collect DESCO bills.

Sunsilk hair wash event concludes

A weeklong hair wash event, organised by Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd, the manufacturer of Sunsilk brand shampoo, ended on Saturday in Dhaka.

Fourteen beauty salons took part in the event, Sunsilk Hair Wash 2003, says a press release.

The first 60 women who visited the salons got their hair washed free of cost, besides hair care tips.

Plan is underway to hold the similar events in Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna.

Seminar on Red Hat Linux

Base Limited, an IT education provider, and Red Hat Linux, India organised a seminar on operating system Red Hat Linux on Monday in Dhaka.

The objective of the seminar was to introduce the Red Hat Linux education and certification programme in Bangladesh, says a press release.

Shashi Unni, manager of training from Red Hat Linux, Mumbai, presented the salient features of the operating system.

Red Hat India Pvt Ltd has selected Base Limited a training partner of Red Hat to provide Red Hat authorised Linux training programme in Bangladesh.

CURRENCY

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| Following is yesterday's foreign exchange rate statement by Standard Chartered Bank | | | | | | |
| Selling | | Currency | Buying | | | |
| TT/OD | BC | | TT Clean | OD Sight Doc | OD Transfer | |
| 58.8000 | 58.8500 | USD | 57.8700 | 57.7000 | 57.6310 | |
| 67.2966 | 67.3538 | EUR | 64.8144 | 64.6240 | 64.5467 | |
| 96.9377 | 97.0201 | GBP | 93.9876 | 93.7106 | 93.5984 | |
| 39.6724 | 39.7061 | AUD | 37.6271 | 37.5166 | 37.4716 | |
| 0.5019 | 0.5023 | JPY | 0.4859 | 0.4844 | 0.4838 | |
| 43.2448 | 43.2816 | CHF | 41.9774 | 41.8541 | 41.8040 | |
| 7.2881 | 7.2942 | SEK | 6.8034 | 6.7834 | 6.7753 | |
| 43.4397 | 43.4767 | CAD | 42.1455 | 42.0217 | 41.9714 | |
| 7.5474 | 7.5538 | HKD | 7.4132 | 7.3915 | 7.3825 | |
| 33.6712 | 33.6998 | SGD | 32.8564 | 32.7599 | 32.7207 | |
| 16.1397 | 16.1534 | AED | 15.6287 | 15.5828 | 15.5642 | |
| 15.8048 | 15.8182 | SAR | 15.3095 | 15.2646 | 15.2463 | |
| Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar | | | | | | |
| Indian rupee | Pak rupee | Lankan rupee | Thai baht | Nor kroner | NZ dollar | Malaysian ringit |
| 46.295 | 57.675 | 97.13 | 41.675 | 7.2800 | 0.6414 | 3.80 |
| Local Interbank FX Trading | | | | | | |
| The local interbank foreign exchange market was active Wednesday. Dollar became slightly stronger against the baak as demand for the US currency rose due to import related payments. | | | | | | |
| Local Money Market | | | | | | |
| Call money rate was steady. Market continued to experience adequate liquidity. Call money rate increased slightly and ranged between 3.00-3.50 per cent compared with 2.50-3.00 per cent previously. | | | | | | |
| International Market | | | | | | |
| The dollar slipped against the euro on Wednesday after its recent run-up to two-month highs, looking to global equity markets and evidence of economic recovery for further direction. Dollar was down on the day at around \$1.1338 per euro. Against the yen, greenback was steady at around 118.10 yen while the euro had recouped and rose to 133.88 yen after hitting its lowest level for around eight weeks on Tuesday. | | | | | | |

SHIPPING

| Chittagong port | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|--------------|
| Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 9/7/2003 | | | | | | | |
| Berth No | Name of vessels | Cargo | L Port call | Local agent | Date of arrival | Leaving | Import disch |
| J/1 | C.S.B.C Nyon Ho | Sug /WT(P) | Kaki | SSTL | 8/6 | 10/7 | 743 |
| J/2 | Bosowa Delapan | Wheat(p) | Viza | Total | 18/6 | 19/7 | 424 |
| J/3 | Qc Dignity | Cont | P.Kel | QCSL | 7/7 | 19/7 | 629700 |
| J/4 | Ocean Pride | Gl(Log) | Yang | Peal | 2/7 | 18/7 | 1459 |
| J/5 | Tatiana-L(Liner) | Gl | Sing | Prog | 7/7 | 14/7 | 1213 |
| J/6 | Xpress Resolve | Cont | Col | Everbest | 7/7 | -- | (508/450) |
| J/7 | Tien Mu | WT/Lentils | Sing | Mutual | 22/6 | 11/7 | 1168 |
| J/8 | An Kang Jiang | Gi | Yoko | Bdship | 4/7 | 10/7 | 2700 |
| J/9 | Gul Jiang | Tsp(Bag) | Qinz | Unique | 29/6 | 10/7 | 2044 |
| J/10 | Mardios | Cont | Hald | Everbest | 5/7 | 10/7 | 85/X |
| J/11 | Q Lark | Cont | P.kel | QCSL | 2/7 | 9/7 | 424/540 |
| J/12 | Banga Borak | Cont | P.Kel | Bdship | 6/7 | 10/7 | 329/82 |
| J/13 | Sea Elegance | Cont | Sing | Pil(BD) | 7/7 | 12/7 | (578/750) |
| CCT/1 | Budi Teguh | Cont | Sing | Pil(BD) | 4/7 | 10/7 | 144/X |
| Vessels due at outer anchorage | | | | | | | |
| Name of vessels | Date of arrival | L Port call | Local agent | Cargo | Loading port | | |
| Ever Gain | 10/7 | Yang | CCNL | Gl(Log) | For Demolition | | |
| Gikim | 10/7 | Sing | OTBL | | | | |
| Banga Borti | 10/7 | P.kel | Bdship | Cont | | Sing | |
| Jaami | 10/7 | PKel | RSL | Cont | | Sing | |
| Xuan Cheng | 10/7 | Winch | Bdship | Gl | | -- | |
| New Sea Star | 10/7 | P.Kel | QCSL | Cont | | Sing | |
| Banglar Moni | 10/7 | Sing | BSC | Cont | | Sing | |
| Kota Singa | 12/7 | Sing | Pil(BD) | Cont | | Sing | |
| Banga Borat | 12/7 | -- | Bdship | Cont | | Sing | |
| Sagaing (Liner) | 12/7 | Yangoon | Everett | Gl | | | |
| Tanker due | | | | | | | |
| Sun Crystal | 10/7 | -- | Seacom | Cpol (RM/3) | | | |
| Filma | 11/7 | Yang | Seacom | ABD (RM/3) | | | |
| Eagle | 12/7 | Rast | OWSL | Crude oil | | | |
| Ocean Guarnard | 11/7 | Sing | MSTPL | HSD/MS(Doj) | | | |
| Vessels at Kutubdia | | | | | | | |
| Name of vessels | Cargo | Last Port call | Local agent | Date of arrival | | | |
| Outside Port Limit: | | | | | | | |
| Dea Captain | -- | -- | Arafteen | R/A(28/6) | | | |
| Vessels at outer anchorage | | | | | | | |
| Vessels ready: | | | | | | | |
| Happan | Pil(BD) | Yang | Total | 4/7 | | | |
| Pathein | Rice(P) | Yang | Total | 7/7 | | | |
| Banga Bonik | Cont | Hald | Baridhi | 7/7 | | | |
| Banga Biraj | Cont | P.Kel | Bdship | 7/7 | | | |
| Orient Excellence | Cont | Sing | PSSL | 8/7 | | | |
| Orient Freedom | Cont | P.Kel | PSSL | 9/7 | | | |
| Vessels not ready: | | | | | | | |
| Orapin-3 | CPO | Bela | MTCL | 8/7 | | | |
| Vessels awaiting employment/instruction: | | | | | | | |
| Banglar Jyoti | -- | -- | BSC | R/A(4/7) | | | |
| Banga Lanka | Ballast | Col | Baridhi | 30/6 | | | |
| Bangalar Robi | -- | -- | BSC | R/A(9/7) | | | |
| The above are yesterday's shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka. | | | | | | | |

STOCK