

- 2 LONGDEN DEDMEN AINSLIE - Belgian Fisherman with amputated thumb end. Winched from 'CLEOPATRA' 103 miles east of Leconfield to Hull RI.
- 3 LONGDEN DEDMEN BARNES - Crews lifted from two stranded yacht in Humber to North and South Banks.
- 4 LONGDEN DEDMEN BARNES - Crewman from dredger BOWBELL off Grimsby with eye problem taken to Hull RI.
- 8 SUTHERLAND HEWITT BARNES - Overturned boat off Hornsea. Righted before helo arrived.
- 15 LONGDEN HEWITT AINSLIE - Angler on 'LEAD US' suffered heart attack. Transferred to Gas platform 8A by crane thence by helicopter to Grimsby. Dead on arrival.
- 20 SUTHERLAND PRENTICE ALLEN - Tornado Mayday call 30 mls NW Leconfield landed Leeming Helicopter recalled.

## -Helicopter hero honoured

<sup>A342</sup>  
AN RAF winchman stationed at Leconfield, near Beverley, who was seriously injured during a hazardous rescue operation off Flamborough Head earlier this year, was yesterday awarded the Queen's Commendation for valuable service in the air.

Master Air Loadmaster David Allen, 36, was badly hurt while recovering a survivor from 10ft. waves during a double fishing boat disaster on May 7 in which seven men lost their lives.

Now fully recovered and back on duty, he received the honour from the officer in charge of Normandy Barracks, Leconfield,

Brigadier Alan Simmonds (left).

Mr. Allen was a member of a Wessex helicopter crew searching for the fishing boat, Carol Sandra, when the aircraft was directed to look for another vessel in trouble, the North Wind.

Mr. Allen was winched down to one of the floating survivors who was caught in rope twisted around the still-turning propeller and was slowly being dragged under water.

Both men were winched from the water. The pilot flew to a calmer area where the rescued

man was lowered towards the Filey lifeboat. It was during that delicate operation that Mr. Allen, still clinging to the survivor, collided heavily with the lifeboat.

Although badly hurt, he managed to keep hold of the man until a lifeboatman attached to a life-line jumped into the sea and pulled the survivor on board.

He said: "I am very proud but it must never be forgotten that I was only one man in a crew involved in the rescue attempts. The winchman is entirely in the hands of the pilot and winch operator."





The crew of the Bennisan today. — (left to right) Mr. Mogg, Mr. Johnson, Alison, and Mr. Josefsen.

# North Sea nightmare

Wrangle  
after  
trawler  
rescue

A LEGAL tussle was developing today over a Grimsby fishing vessel after a three-day nightmare in the North Sea.

Lawyers were being asked who now owns the 60ft. seiner Viscaria, which came back to port under tow — and minus her crew — following a dramatic rescue.

The Viscaria's three-man crew was plucked to safety by helicopter in gale force winds on Saturday.

She was towed home by the Grimsby seiner Bennisan, whose owner today claimed salvage.

The Viscaria's troubles began on Thursday night, 150 miles north east of Spurn, when she ran into engine trouble and began taking water.

That was when the Bennisan, with four crew members — including a 20-year-old girl — drew alongside.

## Two knots

Skipper-owner Mr. Ejnar Josefsen takes up the tale: "We managed to get a line across, and started towing on Friday morning.

"The weather conditions were so bad that we were making only two knots. Normally you'd make eight.

"The Viscaria had no VHF radio, no main pumps, no hand pumps working, no auxiliary pump, and the skipper was having trouble with one of the portables which was dropped by a helicopter on Thursday night.

"On Saturday morning he ran out of petrol for his auxiliary motor, and said he could not cope any more.



"So there was no way of pumping out the water other than with buckets."

Mr. Josefsen said the water on the leaking seiner was past the floorboards. The crew were tired, and on Saturday afternoon asked to be lifted off by helicopter.

"They were frightened for their own safety," he said.

Mr. Josefsen was full of admiration for the crew of the rescue helicopter, which came from RAF Leconfield.

"In my opinion they are braver than any fisherman. The pilot landed on the stern in terrible weather conditions and winched them one by one to safety.

"It takes a hell of a fella to

put up with those conditions."

Mr. Josefsen, of Hainton Avenue, Grimsby, continued: "By the law of the sea that vessel should be mine.

"We have risked our own lives, whereas we could have let it sink."

The skipper added that he was set to lose more than £3,000 on his 12-day trip, which was rewarded by only 25 kits of fish because of bad weather.

He believed his crew would be about £200 each out of pocket.

They are the mate, Mr. Robert Mogg, deckie Mr. Phil Johnson, and trainee deckie-cook Alison Josefsen.

Alison has been fishing with her father for five months. "She was unemployed, and she's a very good cook, so why not?" the skipper added.

# Men are lifted to safety

THREE men from a leaking Grimsby fishing boat were hoisted to safety in a North Sea gale by a rescue helicopter from RAF Leconfield on Saturday.

The crew of the vessel, Viscaria, asked to be air-lifted off the boat because of strong winds and worsening choppy seas.

The Viscaria had developed engine trouble and started taking in water last Thursday while she was about 150 miles off the Humber.

Two pumps were flown out to her by helicopter from RAF Bulmer, but they failed to work.

The three men, who were described by the crew of the Wessex helicopter from Leconfield as "extremely exhausted", were taken to Grimsby General Hospital.

They were all allowed home after check-ups.

Another Grimsby fishing boat, Bennisan, which had been standing by, took the Viscaria in tow. They reached Grimsby early today.

The Viscaria, which was built in 1935, is operated by Jack Robinson (Hull) Ltd.

A director of the company, Mr. Jonathan Hall, was unavailable for comment in Grimsby today.

# Helicopter in forced landing

An RAF Leconfield helicopter put down in the Castle grounds yesterday after hitting a bird as it flew over Scarborough's South Bay on an exercise.

The helicopter was operating in conjunction with the Scarborough inshore lifeboat when the incident happened. It landed for an inspection, but was able to fly back to its base afterwards.