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Jakaranda builders stand by

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA, Tuesday.

THE SPONSORS of Jakaranda, Pretoria's entry in the Cape to Rio race, have begun a race of their own to have her repaired in time to join the race and complete the course in the allotted 40 days.

Speaking on behalf of the Bester brothers' ocean racing syndicate in Pretoria today, Mr. Theunis Bester said the Dutch builders of the sleek yawl had been informed of its plight and were standing by, ready to make parts to fly to Cape Town if this proved necessary.

'Unfortunately they have the only detailed drawings of the craft. So the parts cannot be made in South Africa,' Mr. Bester said.

He spoke to Bruce Dalling, Jakaranda's Springbok skipper, by radio telephone yesterday and will do so again later today.

DISAPPOINTED

'Bruce was bitterly disappointed. He has put his heart into this effort.

'As far as Bruce can establish the rudder shaft has broken, but we will make a detailed examination tomorrow, when we expect him to reach Cape Town.'

Mr. Bester is flying to Cape Town tomorrow to supervise the repair operation personally.

'If it is possible to get Jakaranda to Rio within the allotted 40 days, we will get her there,' he said.

'We estimate she will reach Rio in 24 days. This gives us 10 days to get her back in the water.'

He was not certain of the Jakaranda's intended movements after the race.

'This is entirely in Bruce's hands. I understand he will enter the United States before sailing to England for the admiral's Cup in June. We are hoping she will be selected as one of Bruce Dalling's yacht Jakaranda was estimated to be about 90 miles from Cape Town at 3.15 p.m. today. She is not expected to arrive in Cape Town before midnight.

ARGIE



'Maybe those Russian warships are hoping to be late entries in the Rio race.'

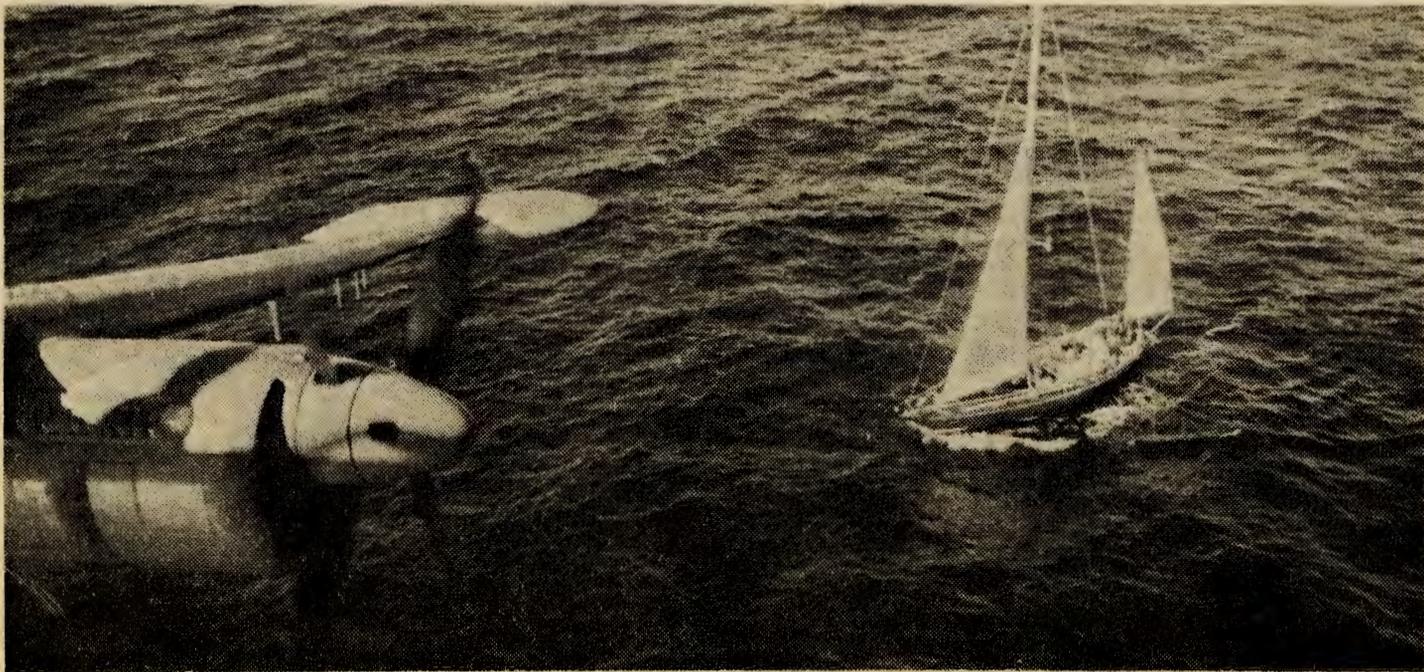
Race radio troubles

Race-to-Rio skippers appear to be finding radio communications with the guardship Tafelberg difficult.

Only 26 of the 59 entries had contacted Tafelberg by 4.00 p.m. yesterday and indications are that the others could not establish a radio link.

The Argus representative aboard Cariad 1 today reported he could not raise the guardship. Yesterday Stormkaap, Jakaranda and Applemist communicated with an overflying reconnaissance Shackleton and said they had no communication with the guardship.

From the archives of Richard Crockett & Sailing Publications.
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A SHACKLETON RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT circles the ill-fated Jakaranda as she wallows without a rudder.