

20-1-71

# Stormkaap to go on — could sail today

**S**TORMKAAP is expected to sail from Port Nolloth some time this afternoon as repairs to the yacht's skeg and rudder are almost completed.

According to the Port Nolloth assistant port captain, Stormkaap's skipper, Dave Abromowitz has said he is going on with the race.

'The rudder has been straightened and the skeg's bolts replaced. The crew is busy refitting them on the hull,' the assistant port captain said.

Abromowitz had some indication of the problem after the experience of Cornelis Bruynzeel's yacht Stormy had on its crossing from Rio to Cape Town.

### ALMOST DISABLED

Stormy was almost disabled near Tristan da Cunha after weathering a strong south-easter gale. The rudder was bent, making it impossible to steer to port, and one of the skeg's bolts snapped.

Both Stormy and Stormkaap were then pulled out of the water and one inch bolts fitted instead of half inch.

Meanwhile, Britain's Ocean Spirit and Canada's Graybeard are still leading the yacht race on actual position, but the Knysna sloop Albatross II and Molly Warr's all-women crew in Sprinter are second and third on handicap respectively.

Albatross II is sailing under the canny hand of John Goodwin, a quietly spoken expert helmsman who knows the South Atlantic well and who is backed up by an experienced crew.

The 12.8 m yacht had some initial difficulties with her mast and stopped briefly at Robben Island after the start. But crewman Brian Lello reports the repairs are standing up well — well enough to give Albatross II eighth place on actual position and second on handicap.

For Molly Warr and her four girls in their red tracksuits, the dash to Rio is a race within a race. Molly's husband, dentist Dr. Ken Warr, is skipper of a rival yacht, Omuramba, a 13.1 m South West African sloop.

The latest computerised results put Omuramba in 16th actual position and 12th on handicap. Sprinter — at 9.7m the third smallest yacht in the fleet — was put in 21st place on actual position, but an exciting third on handicap.

### SLIPPED BACK

The computer puts the 16.4 m German yawl Hamburg VII in third place on actual position and first on handicap while their fellow German yacht Balela has slipped to 17th (actual) and 15th (handicap) after being sixth (actual) and first (handicap) at the previous assessment.

Hamburg VII's helmsman, cheerful Dr. Jens Hinzpeter, is limping about the yacht as she heads for Rio. He broke his leg in an accident aboard in the yacht basin last week — but celebrated the event by painting the yacht's red-white-and-black spinnaker colours on the plaster cast.

ave  
ord-  
day.  
was  
ent,  
witz  
go  
ort  
to