

Albatros II

12 miles

ahead of

Graybeard

28.1.71

ALBATROS II, the Knysna sloop skippered by John Goodwin, was at the head of the Rio fleet at 4 p.m. yesterday, 12 miles nearer Rio than Canada's Graybeard (L. Killam), with 08 handicap hours in hand on the Canadian and 60 hours ahead on handicap over Britain's Ocean Spirit (Robin Knox-Johnston).

Albatros is also clear ahead on handicap. In actual position Albatros is followed by Graybeard, the Argentine Fortuna (M. Rivero-Kelly), the German Hamburg (G. Reher), Durban's Mercury (R. G. Nuttall) and then Ocean Spirit.

Mercury, a sister ship of Albatros, is only 38 miles behind, lying second on handicap but fifth over-all. Pionier (Gordon Webb) is third on handicap.

TABARLY RIDDLE

Twenty-five vessels failed to report and there are some unknown factors. France's Striana (A. Maupas), first on Tuesday, did not report. Eric Tabarly's Pen Duick, also France, failed to report for the third day running.

Her last position, reported on Sunday, was 338 miles behind the present leader, but since the beginning of the race she has not failed to make an average of nearly 140 miles a day.

On handicap, Fortuna is now the leader in Class I, the German Hamburg leads in Class II and Albatros leads over-all and in Class III.

The most northerly yacht seems to be Fortuna, while the most southerly is Mercury, about 520 miles due south of Fortuna.

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