



Tailenders

moving

along

slowly 13.2.71

From **ROGER WILLIAMS**
in the guardship **Tafelberg**

THE *Tafelberg*, which sailed from Simonstown four weeks ago yesterday and which has now logged just over 10 000 miles on duty in the Cape-to-Rio race, was yesterday moving about among the tailenders 1 000 miles east of Rio.

We started the day by approaching the small French yacht *Ariel* and the Knysna entry *Qumbu* which were both spinnakering along in light airs about 200 miles east of *Trinidad Island*.

We have now encountered more than half the yachts in the race and these have been representative of all classes from front runners to slow-moving stragglers.

LOST TIME

Other tailenders in the vicinity of our present position are *La Mere* and *Tub*, with the Royal Cape entry *Elegance* bringing up the rear having lost time standing by to help *Stormkaap* which had trouble with her rudder earlier in the race.

Nearer to Rio are *Eclipse*, *Eshowe*, *Ingwe*, *Barbette* and *Shayele*. All these tailenders are moving along slowly and should cross the finish line within the 40-day time limit. Yachts not across the line by 14.30 GMT on February 25 will be regarded as not having competed in the race.

BETTER WINDS

Bobby Bongers, skipper of *Outburst*, one of the better-placed yachts with which we have been in radio contact, has reported better winds in his present area about 100 miles from Cape Rio on the approach to the finish line.

Outburst was becalmed for a week and in spite of the fact that he is moving along faster now, **Bongers** was still not able to estimate his time of arrival in Rio.

There is still no word from several yachts which have been having radio trouble. But there is no real cause for concern as the weather has been mild with placid seas all along and these boats are well equipped for long ocean voyages.

**From the archives of
Richard Crockett &
Sailing Publications.**

www.sailing.co.za -

editor@sailing.co.za