

STAR 19/1/57

## Voortrekker II takes early lead

CAPE TOWN — South Africa's John Martin in Tuna Marine Voortrekker II has shot into an early lead in the third leg of the BOC round-the-world yacht race which started in Sydney harbour yesterday.

After 16 hours in a southerly gale, Martin was 10 miles ahead of Titouan Lamazou in Ecureuil d'Aquitaine, with Guy Bernardin in Biscuits Lu lying third, UAP-Pour Medecins Sans Frontieres (Jean Yves Terlain) fourth and Credit Agricole (Philippe Jeantot) fifth.

But BOC race control in Sydney said the fleet was still too close together to really distinguish positions.

Bertie Reed in Stabulo Boss is celebrating his birthday today with a good start in the third leg.

After 16 hours he was lying about 7th. He made contact with race control in Sydney today and reported that his boat was still in good shape after the sudden 50-knot gale which hit the fleet in the Tasman Sea soon after the start.

After the gale had passed the wind dropped to a 20-knot northeasterly which should "push them along nicely", race control said.

— Own Correspondent.