

## **47 LOST AS TANKERS COLLIDE OFF AFRICA**

CAPETOWN, Aug. 21 (Reuters) — Harbor officials said they believed 47 members of the 50-man crew of a tanker, the *Texanita*, died today in a collision with another tanker.

Officials said that only three survivors from the 43,339-ton *Texanita* had been found and that all of them were injured. One crew member of the other ship, the 48,320-ton *Oswego Guardian*, was injured, the officials said. Both vessels are of Liberian registry.

The *Texanita's* tanks were empty and the other ship fully laden at the time of the collision at dawn about 50 miles east of Cape Agulhas.

A violent explosion accompanied the collision and rattled windowpanes for miles along the coast. It could have been caused by "easily ignited and terribly explosive" fumes in the *Texanita's* empty tanks, a harbor official said.

The master of the *Texanita*, identified as a Captain Salvourdas, a crewman, Vasilos Tanos, and an unidentified Chinese messman from the *Oswego Guardian* were in a hospital in Mossel Bay tonight. The *Oswego Guardian* was heading for Capetown. Pollution experts who flew over the stricken ship said not much oil had leaked and no serious shore pollution was expected.

**The New York Times**

Published: August 22, 1972

Copyright © The New York Times