



THE PRIME MINISTER

Statement by the Prime Minister of Norway, Odvar Nordli,
on the disaster in the North Sea.

Our thoughts are tonight with the families and dependents of the dead and missing persons after the tragic disaster in the North Sea. Everything that was humanly possible has been done to save as many as possible. Several nations have joined us in this effort. A rescue squad of more than 2.000 persons from these countries have taken part.

On behalf of the Government I would like to thank all who have taken part in this large rescue operation. The Government also extends its thank to the authorities of Denmark, The Federal Republic of Germany, Netherland and Great Britain for all the assistance they have given in the rescue operation.

It has made a deep impression to witness the efforts in the forms of resourcefulness, good seamanship and endurance shown by the survivors from "Alexander Kielland" and by the crews on platforms, ships, aircrafts and helicopters.