

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune

Hundreds return home after LPG spill in northeastern China

The Associated Press

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

BEIJING

Hundreds of people forced to flee after a liquefied petroleum gas spill in a city in northeastern China have returned home, officials said Wednesday.

The spill in Fushun city in Liaoning province on Monday had also forced the evacuation of workers from 15 factories and students from two primary schools, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The evacuations were ordered when about 100 tons of LPG leaked from a tank belonging to Fushun LPG Company Ltd when a valve was not properly closed, Xinhua said.

Xinhua had earlier wrongly reported the accident as a liquefied natural gas spill.

The people evacuated have now gone back home and classes had resumed, an emergency official with the Fushun firefighting department told The Associated Press.

Industrial accidents are common in China and have resulted in protests throughout the country because of lax government controls and because companies often ignore proper safety procedures.

IHT

Copyright © 2006 The International Herald Tribune | www.ihf.com