

WRECK SECTION No. 578

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Wreck Report No. 14453

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 01050 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 29/56 Date of writing this report 24th May, 19 56.

Ship's Name m.s. "ALTAIR" of Rotterdam Tons { Gross 6410 Net 3749

Built at Hartlepool When 1950 7 Casualty notice sent to Owner 7.5.56. Owner's reply 9.5.56. 17.5.56.

Owners N.V. Van Nievelt Goudriaan & Co.'s Stoomv. Maats.

Managers ---

Address Veerhaven 2, Rotterdam, Holland.

RETAIN

Classification details

✠ 100A1	✠ LMC CS4,55
carrying vegetable	
oil in MT	ts 4,55 CL
4,55	
ssRot4,55	

Casualty 15th April, 1956.

f Casualty

Stranded and sank at Baixio Pequeno and declared a total loss.

The Owners concur.

ALTAIR.—Vitoria, Apr. 15.—Motor vessel Altair (Rosario for Hamburg) went aground Baixio Pequeno at 2 p.m. today; making water apparently in engine-room and No. 4 hold flooded. Passengers ashore, providing transportation for crew.—Lloyd's Sub-agents.

Amsterdam, Apr. 15.—The Dutch motor vessel Altair has gone aground near Vitoria and has sent out S O S signals, according to messages received by Scheveningen Radio. The vessel, according to reports, is making water rapidly and the situation is critical. All the passengers and most of the crew have left the vessel. No casualties are reported. Ten members of the crew are still on board.—British United Press.

Rio Janeiro, Apr. 16.—Ships to-day stood by the Dutch motor vessel Altair as she lay on rocks on the Brazilian coast with decks awash and her master and nine crew on board. A Brazilian naval corvette with modern salvage equipment is proceeding to the scene near Vitoria, though salvage chances are said to be slight. Fourteen passengers and part of the general cargo are reported to have been taken off by the Norwegian motor vessel Sirefjell after the Altair ran aground yesterday.—Reuter.

Rio Janeiro, Apr. 16.—The Dutch motor vessel Altair sank to-day after sliding off rocks she struck yesterday near Vitoria. There were no casualties. Ships had been standing by to take off the master and nine seamen who stayed on board after yesterday's accident, which occurred in bad weather while vessel was on her way to Vitoria to load coffee.—Reuter.

Rio Janeiro, Apr. 16.—Motor vessel Altair: Lloyd's Sub-agents at Vitoria advise by telephone: Vessel now almost completely submerged, only part of bridge and poop above water; strong south-westerly winds with seas breaking over.

ALTAIR.—Rio Janeiro, Apr. 16.—Motor vessel Altair is now almost completely submerged with only part of bridge and poop housing above water. Strong south-westerly winds and heavy seas. Salvage Association's surveyor proceeding to Vitoria in early hours to-morrow.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Apr. 17.)

ALTAIR.—Rio Janeiro, Apr. 17.—Motor vessel Altair is now lying with 5 deg. port list, at low water forecastle awash, deck at after end of No. 5 hatch dry. Heavy swell. Master, chief officer and radio officer still on board, with ship's lifeboats standing by. (See issue of Apr. 18.)

Rio Janeiro, Apr. 17.—Motor vessel Altair: Surveyor unable to board to-day owing to heavy swell. Condition has not deteriorated. Master, chief officer and radio officer on board; ship's lifeboats standing by. Vessel presently lying with five degrees port list, at low water forecastle awash, deck at after end of No. 5 hatch dry. Anticipate extensive bottom damage in engine-room and No. 4 hold. Main engine shafting and seating broken, electrical installation destroyed. No prospects of prompt refloating; no adequate salvage facilities available. Recommend that diver from Rio Janeiro stand by to make examination of hull damage when weather permits. As far as can be assessed at present very little prospects of salvage of cargo.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

ALTAIR.—Vitoria, Apr. 18.—Motor vessel Altair is slipping down by the head very slowly, otherwise position unchanged. Three men still on board this morning; sea calmer.—Lloyd's Sub-agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Apr. 19.)

ALTAIR.—Vitoria, Apr. 19.—Motor vessel Altair: Master reported through second mate, standing by with lifeboat, that during high water at midnight, owing to heavy swell vessel bumping and heard cracking during two hours. This morning calmer, position of men on board not yet critical. Apparently master awaiting instructions from underwriters, salvage or owners.—Lloyd's Sub-agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Apr. 20.)

ALTAIR.—Rio Janeiro, Apr. 24.—Motor vessel Altair: Merritt's representative has returned and proceeds for New York to-morrow for consultation and decision. Position of vessel apparently unchanged but prevailing and forecast winds indicate continuation of heavy swell. Understand master still on board.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Apr. 21.)

ALTAIR.—Rio Janeiro, Ma 8.—Motor vessel Altair: Diver proceeds to Vitoria this afternoon and will advise as soon as the weather permits examination.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Apr. 26.)

ALTAIR.—Rio Janeiro, May 12.—Motor vessel Altair: Diver made descent on Thursday (May 10) and examined part of port side. Work interrupted by heavy swell, which still prevails.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of May 10.)

Suggested Record "STRANDED AND SANK 4,56"

Date of Committee TUESDAY 29 MAY 1956

Committee's Minute Stranded & sank 4,56

