

WRECK
SECTION
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Wreck Report No.

12943(A)

14461

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 25540 in R.B. Wreck Book, p.13/56 Date of writing this report 28th May, 19 56.

Ship's Name s. tug "RUMANIA" of London Tons { Gross 592
Net 66

Built at W'send When 1944 10 Casualty notice sent to Owner 5.3.56. Owner's reply 6.3.56.

Owners William Watkins Ltd.

Managers Ship Towage (London) Ltd.

Address 21, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.3.

M.M.C.C.

2,333

Classification details

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| *100A1 for towing services 9,55 | *LMC4,52 BS3,55 |
| ssGms4,52 | ts 9,55 OG |
| | |
| | |

Date of Casualty 11th February, 1956.

Details of Casualty

Stranded on North Long Sand about 16 miles S.S.E. of Felixstowe.

In reply to routine casualty notice of 5th March, the Owners requested action be deferred pending salvage operations. They subsequently stated by telephone that operations would be commenced during May.

In reply to telephone enquiry 28th May, the Owners state that operations are held up by adverse weather but are still contemplated. On being reminded that special survey was due in April, they agreed that the case must go to Committee.

6.6.56. The Owners telephoned that this ship has now been declared a total loss.

"Stranded & Sunk 2, 56"



Suggested Record

Date of Committee FRIDAY 11th 1956

Committee's Minute

Im, 8, 51.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

RUMANIA.—North Foreland Radio, Feb. 11.—Following received from British tug Rumania at 7 32 a.m., G.M.T.: Mayday (distress signal), we are aground on north Long Sand, position lat. 51 43 N., long. 1 37 E., making water in stokehold and engine-room.

Following received from tug Cervia at 7 43 a.m., G.M.T.: We are now at Sunk Head Buoy and proceeding with all speed to her.

Following received from Niton Radio at 7 48 a.m., G.M.T.: Following received from Rumania at 7 45 a.m., G.M.T.: We are abandoning ship, now taking to lifeboats.

Following received from Dutch tug Maas at 8 7 a.m., G.M.T.: We are near north Long Sand Buoy, but we can't do anything owing to high seas.

Following received from Rumania at 8 13 a.m., G.M.T.: In attempting to launch the boats we have smashed one of the boats and the other is on weather side.

Following received from Rumania at 8 25 a.m., G.M.T.: Ship is almost on beam end, one boat smashed, position on Long Sand. Assistance required immediately, crew still on board ship.

Following from Rumania to pilot cutter Bembridge: Position two or three miles south-east of the ship that is ashore on Long Sand. (See LOIDE-HONDURAS.)

London, Feb. 11.—An R.A.F. helicopter and a high-speed launch went to the help early to-day of a ship which had gone aground on a sandbank 15 to 17 miles south-east of Felixstowe. Later it was announced that Walton lifeboat was launched at 8 a.m. to go to the assistance of the tug Rumania.

North Foreland Radio, Feb. 11.—Following received from Cervia at 10 7 a.m., G.M.T., addressed Walton lifeboat: Latest information we have helicopter has picked up eight from Rumania.

Following received from United States rescue aircraft 1034 at 10 28 a.m., G.M.T.: We are now escorting helicopter with the eight people on board.

Following received from Walton lifeboat at 10 37 a.m., G.M.T., addressed Walton Coastguard: We sighted Rumania but we were blotted out in snow.

At 10 38 a.m., G.M.T., from Walton lifeboat to rescue aircraft: Can you direct us to Rumania?

At 10 39 a.m., G.M.T., from rescue aircraft to Walton lifeboat: We unable to direct you. We are presently escorting helicopters picking up survivors.

Following received from Coastguard at Ramsgate at 10 45 a.m., G.M.T.: From Southern Rescue Co-ordination Centre: Helicopter has rescued all crew of Rumania, 10 men on board.

London, Feb. 11.—In a blizzard, the entire crew of tug Rumania were taken off by helicopters and landed at Martlesham Aerodrome. Weather conditions and the position of the ship were bad. One injured man was taken to Ipswich hospital.

London, Feb. 12.—Tug Rumania was proceeding to the assistance of steamer LOIDE-HONDURAS when she went aground.

RUMANIA.—Gravesend, Feb. 11.—Tug Rumania, while proceeding to assistance of steamer LOIDE-HONDURAS, aground on Long Sand, near Sunk Light-vessel, grounded and turned over; crew rescued by helicopter.—Salvage Association's Surveyor. (See issue of Feb. 13.)

Dovercourt, Feb. 13.—Tug Rumania: Weather conditions to-day too bad to make examination by motor boat at low water and approach by tug impossible owing to insufficient water. Reported only 10 ft. at low water and 22 ft. at high water.—Salvage Association's Special Officer.

RUMANIA.—Harwich, Feb. 14.—Tug Rumania: Wind north-east, force 6, (strong breeze). Vessel unable to proceed but have arranged to leave at 4 a.m. to-morrow if weather suitable, which will permit examination at low water.—Salvage Association's Special Officer. (See issue of Feb. 14.)

RUMANIA.—Dovercourt, Feb. 15.—Tug Rumania: Wind early this morning northerly, force 6 (strong breeze), with heavy squalls and impossible to make passage by fishing vessel but moderating and now NNW, force 5 (fresh breeze), squally. Will proceed earliest opportunity.—Salvage Association's Special Officer.

RUMANIA.—Harwich, Feb. 16.—Tug Rumania: Proceeded this morning in poor visibility and wreck could not be found before tide reached half flood, when wind rose, stemhead and masts only visible. Calculate 3 ft. 6 in. of water over main deck at low water at centre line, and vessel has 5 deg. list to port.—Salvage Association's Special Officer. (See issue of Feb. 16.)

6.13/2/56

14/2/56

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17/2/56

Ships Register
Administration

002330-002339-0073

✓ FRIDAY - 8 JUN 1956

Stranded in
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