

Rpt. 25

## REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, BREAKING UP, ETC.

WRECK  
SECTION

No. 762

Ship's Name SS/MS "BOSTON HERON"

Gross tons 314

Date of Build 6-1939

Casualty notice sent to Owners 19.12.62. Owners' Reply ---

Owners Merchants (Milford Haven) Ltd.

## Details of classification

+100A1	+LMC 6,59
trawler	BS M7,62
6,62	sp 6,59
ss 5,59	ts N12,59 CL

## Details of casualty

This ship stranded on rocks at Glas Island, Scalpay during gales and subsequently sank.

No reply has been received to a letter addressed to the owners on 19th December, 1962.

Date of casualty 3rd December, 1962.

## SOURCE OF INFORMATION

L-6/12/62

L-6/12/62

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BOSTON HERON. — London, Dec. 4. — Three bodies of members of the crew of British trawler Boston Heron were recovered from the sea this morning. Three men are still missing. (See issue of Dec. 5.)

Glasgow, Dec. 5. — Trawler Boston Heron, ashore Glas Island, Hebrides: Staff surveyor proceeding; "claim" held up due to fog. — Salvage Association's Surveyors.

BOSTON HERON. — Stornoway, Dec. 6. — Trawler Boston Heron now in deeper water, only masts visible; heavy sea, strong south-west wind. (See issue of Dec. 6.)

BOSTON HERON. — Stornoway, Dec. 5. — Trawler Boston Heron, FD 48, ashore in the approaches to the south harbour of the island of Scalpay, is broadside on and lying on her port side. She is exposed to the prevailing southerly wind and so far no person has been able to board her owing to the weather. (See later report in issue of Dec. 7.)

BOSTON HERON. — Glasgow, Dec. 8. — Trawler Boston Heron: Staff surveyor advised from Stornoway that at 10 p.m. on Dec. 3, while proceeding to fishing grounds in North Minch, vessel struck the rocks on the south-west coast of the island of Scalpay, Hebrides, North Hebrides, and sank, but still visible, with loss of life. Crew of 12. Seven alleged saved and five missing. Co-operating with Lloyd's Agent. Local police established that when vessel first sighted she was lying port side on to the shore with severe list to starboard. With local police and local fishermen, proceeding in small boat but due to severe weather conditions it was only possible to go within approximately 300 yards and as seen vessel now on her starboard side facing south-west. Stern approximately 20 ft. from rocky shore and occasionally visible between heavy seas which are running. Consider if present weather conditions continue vessel will quickly break up. Debris and fuel being washed ashore. Location most exposed and hazardous with rocks to seaward of present position. Consider refloating impractical and uneconomical. — Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issues Dec. 7 and 8.)

Radio, Dec. 4. — In British T.T.: Heard that trawler Boston Heron was ashore Glas Island and where locals report survivors are.

11 p.m., G.M.T., addressed Mayday (distress signal) to all ships: Vessels off Scalpay close to Sdele-mira where locals report survivors are.

11 33 p.m., G.M.T.: Following vessel from fishery protection vessel and: Motor boat Venture reports two men picked up by Scalpay Isle, one man ashore on Glas Island and rest of crew still on wreck.

Stornoway, Dec. 3. — Trawler Boston Heron ashore on rocks Glas Island, Scalpay. Crew taken to hospital, vessel awash, four motor fishing vessels and two fishery cruisers in area. Stornoway lifeboat launched. Broadcast to shipping made by Oban Radio.

London, Dec. 3. — Inhabitants of Scalpay, Hebrides, were searching night for members of the crew of trawler Boston Heron, which struck a rock close to the shore during a strong wind. Coastguard at Stornoway said that the crew abandoned ship after a hole was torn in her hull. Local people are out in their fishing boats and are searching the coast. An Admiralty spokesman said that motor vessel Robert Dundas had been ordered to the area to help. — British United Press.

London, Dec. 4. — A search is continuing to-day for six of the 12-man crew of trawler Boston Heron, missing after the vessel ran aground late last night on Glas Island. Two men were rescued by breeches buoy from the trawler; both were exhausted after emerging from exposure. It is thought the trawler struck a reef and her boilers were damaged on impact. Three other men, including the skipper, were badly bruised when they were rescued from the island. A body of the crew was recovered from the sea this morning.

Suggested record "STRANDED &amp; SANK 12,62"

Date of Committee

Minute

FRIDAY - 4 JAN 1963

Stranded &amp; Sank 12,62