

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

Ship's Name SS/MS
Casualty notice
sent to Owners

Owners'
Reply

Gross tons
Owners

Date of
Build

Details of classification

Details of casualty

22/9/63

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 26. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 9 5 a.m., Aug. 26: Tunnel tanks plugged where possible but cannot get the tanks tight. Divers working into the night with the aid of underwater lighting plugging where possible. Big gash found in starboard lubricating oil tank four feet by two inches and sundry smaller apertures which have been plugged. In No. 2 hold the water is now being held by small electric pump as a result of plugging carried out. One pontoon has arrived and the other is expected Tuesday afternoon (Aug. 27). Weather good. With two pontoons which have a lift of 600 tons not much doubt of getting vessel off. After being refloated will anchor in adjacent bay and divers will plug where possible. Drydocking will be a lengthy business as vessel will have to be held in graving dock while divers arrange chocks, &c. Thirty-five tons of good oranges discharged from No. 4 'tween deck and to-day the oil-damaged oranges in No. 4 lower hold will be discharged. (See issue of Aug. 24.)

Date of casualty

20/8/63

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 19. — The Salvage Association have received the following radio message from their special officer from on board motor vessel Wairangi, dated Aug. 18: Approximately 300 tons of cargo still on board, balance approximately 2,500 tons discharged. Salvors made attempt to refloat to-day using two salvage tugs; vessel moved slightly and head moved into channel approximately 31 deg. Efforts discontinued at darkness. Divers to carry out further examination and plugging to-morrow and compressed air to put on No. 8 double bottom tank to get further buoyancy as vessel appears held aft on rock in this position. Further efforts to be made later to-morrow. (See issue of Aug. 19.)

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 21. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 9 5 a.m., Aug. 21: Situation more hopeful. Tunnels pumped out and No. 1 lower hold three-quarters full of water, approximately 1,000 tons. Vessel seems very buoyant and now starting new attempt to refloat. The four days previously mentioned for plugging were not necessary as diver considers he has plugged most of the apertures. If vessel refloats she will be taken up to the outskirts of Stockholm harbour and anchored to await dry dock. Present draught 22 ft. forward, 19 ft. aft. (See issue of Aug. 21.)

RMA

22/8/63

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 27. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The Salvage Association have received the following radio message from their special officer from on board the Wairangi, dated Aug. 26: Refloated at 6 p.m. to-day, Aug. 26; presently at anchor. Anticipate proceed Stockholm to-morrow and drydock on Wednesday (Aug. 28). (See issue of Aug. 27.)

21/8/63

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 20. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 3 45 p.m., Aug. 19: An unsuccessful attempt has been made to-day to get the vessel off and the salvage people are now obtaining an additional pump from Gothenburg. This pump has to be railed from Gothenburg to Stockholm and is not expected to arrive at the vessel until p.m., Aug. 20. Main difficulty is in the tunnel area, which is flooded from engine-room bulkhead to afterpeak. Quantity of about 600 tons of water. Diver now endeavouring to plug seams and rivets in way of No. 8 and tunnel tanks. After pump is installed and diver has ceased, will endeavour to pump out flooded area. With the exception of No. 2 double bottom port, No. 4 double bottom port and starboard, No. 5 double bottom port and No. 6 double bottom port, all tanks are leaking. Pumps are holding everywhere else. Still hopeful of refloating. Vessel is sitting on a pinnacle of rock aft about frame 74 and bottom is set up about eight inches in way of No. 8 double bottom and tunnel tanks. Vessel can swing about 100 deg. and is now heading 240 deg. and has a 5-deg. list to port. (See issue of Aug. 20.)

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 22. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 7 30 p.m., Aug. 21: Two attempts to refloat made to-day without success. Salvage surveyor advises are now fitting underwater staging in way of Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 deep tanks starboard to plug and seal punctures. These tanks will then be pumped out of oil and water to further lighten vessel aft. Two pontoons have been ordered, which are not expected to be in position until Sunday (Aug. 25), when it is expected the next attempt will be made. Captain Rome (assistant marine superintendent) estimates there is still eight-inch rock into the vessel in No. 8 tank and it may be necessary to run water into No. 2 hold to aid tipping. Weather good. Captain Rome inspecting Government dry dock to-day and holding discussions. (See issue of Aug. 22.)

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 27. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 7 12 p.m., Aug. 26: "Wairangi refloated at 6 p.m. to-day and now anchored in vicinity of grounding position. Draught unknown, but tunnels flooded." The following later message was received at 9 55 p.m., Aug. 26: "Vessel upright and approximately 700 tons of water in tunnels. Draught 21 ft. 4 in. forward and aft. Proposed leave anchorage at 6 a.m., Aug. 27, to proceed to Stockholm, where will discharge 290 tons of cargo and it is hoped the vessel will drydock on Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 28. In the afternoon of Aug. 26, the wind increased in force, causing a rise in water. One of the tugs anchored aft with both anchors down and ran lines to the stern of Wairangi. Tug then hove on both anchor cables and vessel came off without using Wairangi's engines."

22/8/63

WAIRANGI. — Stockholm, Aug. 22. — Motor vessel Wairangi: Further effort made by salvors on Wednesday (Aug. 21) unsuccessful. With owners' superintendent and Lloyd's Agents had conference to-day with salvors as it is apparent sufficient buoyancy must be introduced to lift vessel clear off rocks. A definite programme has been arranged as follows: Divers to effectively plug in way of after tanks with soft wood wedges and two lifting craft to be brought into use for lifting at after end. Now anticipate earliest next attempt Aug. 25-26 or week-end Aug. 31. — Salvage Association's Special Surveyor and Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Aug. 23.)

WAIRANGI. — Stockholm, Aug. 27. — Motor vessel Wairangi alongside quay at Stockholm at 11 30 a.m. to-day. Final and remaining cargo of coffee beans now being discharged, approximately 300 tons. Owners arranged vessel drydock to-morrow morning in naval dry dock. May take some two days before hull damage can be ascertained. — Salvage Association's Special Officer.

23/8/63

WAIRANGI. — Stockholm, Aug. 28. — Motor vessel Wairangi drydocked to-day. — Salvage Association's Special Officer. (See issue of Aug. 28.)

23/9/63

WAIRANGI. — Stockholm, Sept. 2. — Motor vessel Wairangi now safely on the blocks and dock pumped out. Preliminary survey indicates approximately 50 per cent. bottom to deal with. Hope complete specification to-night. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Aug. 30.)

WAIRANGI. — Stockholm, Aug. 20. — Motor vessel Wairangi: Further attempt to refloat on Monday, Aug. 19, unsuccessful. Tunnel spaces flooded and necessary to keep watertight door closed at time. Salvors obtaining additional pumps to deal with this. Meanwhile, divers to try more tightening up, plugging and sealing around this area and, if successful, hope with additional pumps to empty at tunnel well and further seal off from inside. Anticipate a further four days before next attempt and when ready to part fill No. 1 hold with water, including upper peak store spaces, and so try to lift vessel off rock aft. The question of ground tackle considered but, as vessel nearly in deep channel entrance for Stockholm traffic in one direction, also underwater cable between islands in other direction, this deemed too hazardous. — Salvage Association's Special Officer.

WAIRANGI. — London, Aug. 23. — Motor vessel Wairangi: The following message was received from the owners' assistant marine superintendent at 9 10 a.m., Aug. 23: Situation is unchanged. Diver has got underwater staging rigged and is plugging and sealing apertures during daylight hours. During discussions it was learned that one pontoon is now available in Stockholm but the second pontoon is in use at Gothenburg and will be free to-night, after which it is to be towed to Stockholm and should arrive on Tuesday (Aug. 27). On Sunday p.m. or Monday it is hoped to start pumping the deep tanks and if this does not tip the vessel sufficiently to refloat then they will await the arrival of the pontoons.

22/10/63

WAIRANGI. — London, Oct. 1. — Information received states that British motor vessel Wairangi has been sold to British shipbreakers. (See issue of Sept. 3.)

Minute