

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

Ship's Name SS/MSX "YOUSUFBAKSH"
 Casualty notice sent to Owners --- Owners' Reply ---

Gross tons 5975 Date of Build 3-1950
 Owners United Oriental S.S. Co.

Details of classification

+ 100A1	+ LMC 2,60
with freeboard	BS M12,63
11,64	sp 12,60
ss 3,60	ts 11,64 CL

Details of casualty

This ship caught fire off Deal and was beach in Sandwich Bay; subsequently fire was extinguished, ship was refloated and towed to Rotterdam, where she arrived 1st June, 1965.

22/05/65 Date of casualty 8th May, 1965.

YOUSUFBAKSH.—North Foreland Radio, May 8.—Following received from the master of Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh (Chittagong for Boulogne) at 9 36 a.m., G.M.T., addressed Lloyd's Agents and harbour-master, Dover: and 3 'tween decks jute on fire, ing with steam, require assistance immediately on arrival.
 —Dover, May 8.—Yousufbaksh gave her estimated time of arrival here as noon, with fire in jute cargo in Nos. 2 and 3 'tween decks, which endeavouring to smother by steam. Vessel cannot be observed in vicinity. Tug Hermes proceeded to this port at 11 46 a.m. Fire alerted and standing by but authorities will not permit enter port while fire exists.

—London, May 8.—Ships in the English Channel were to-day alerted to help Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh, on fire off Deal. German tug Hermes sailed from Dover to go to her aid and H.M. anti-aircraft frigate Puma also sailed. — Exchange Telegraph Company.

—Dover, May 8.—Tug Hermes is alongside steamer Yousufbaksh. The weather is rough and they propose going into The Downs, where the master of the Hermes proposes to board the Yousufbaksh to speak with the master. Cargo still on fire.

—Deal, May 8.—A steamer Yousufbaksh anchored at 2 43 p.m. to-day with smoke mingling from ventilators. Tug is alongside her.

—London, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: The London agents of tug Hermes state that the tug has been engaged on Lloyd's Open Form.

—Dover, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Fire developed, and ship's structure burning. Tug Hermes alongside pumping water. This not effective and crew taking to lifeboats. Walmer lifeboat is launching. Master's wife and two children have been taken on board the Hermes.

—Deal, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh is anchored one mile off Deal Coastguard Station on fire and tug Hermes is in attendance. Walmer lifeboat and local boats standing by. Part of crew in ship's lifeboats and clear of the vessel. Fire appears to be confined to amidships section. (Later) Crew of tug on board vessel fighting fire with ship's officers and second coxswain of Walmer lifeboat. Understood total crew numbers 58, most of whom are landing at Deal in ship's boats and Walmer lifeboat.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

—Deal, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Tug Hermes is to attempt to beach vessel at Sandwich Bay. Three of ship's officers and two men from Walmer lifeboat are on board the vessel.

—Dover, May 8.—Understood steamer Yousufbaksh now being beached on Sandwich Flats. Three of crew remaining on board. Remainder of crew landed at Deal.

—Deal, May 8.—Tug Hermes towing steamer Yousufbaksh, with anchor down, in towards Sandwich Bay. Walmer lifeboat standing by. Kent Fire Brigade ashore awaiting beaching. Fire appears out of control abaft funnel and on after well deck.

—Deal, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh now anchored three cables offshore one mile north of Deal Coastguard Station. Understood Kent Fire Brigade arranging to put pump on board. Tow wire of tug Hermes cast off. Vessel should safely ground at low water.

—Dover, May 8.—Steamer Yousufbaksh beached at 8 p.m., May 8, at Sandwich Bay. Tug Hermes still alongside. Fire considerably increased and vessel is well alight aft.

—London, May 8.—German tug Hermes reported this evening that the fire on steamer Yousufbaksh had spread all over and that the vessel was beached and burning fiercely.

—London, May 8.—Twenty firemen were dropped by R.A.F. helicopter to-night onto burning steamer Yousufbaksh, beached near Deal. Three officers and two lifeboatmen remained on board. All but three of the 58 crew were taken ashore before she was beached. Forty-eight members of the crew were landed at Deal.

—Deal, May 9.—Steamer Yousufbaksh remains beached, with aft part burning fiercely. Tug Hermes still alongside and Walmer lifeboat still standing by. Crew of burning ship removed ashore and now at Dover, but one crew member in Deal hospital with head injuries. Kent Fire Brigade have four portable pumps on board, with crews and other equipment. Hermes fighting fire with five jets. Fire in engine-room controlled and jets being played on fuel tanks to cool.

—London, May 9.—Steamer Yousufbaksh was to-day a smouldering mass of jute, oilcake and cotton below decks as she lay about 500 yards offshore at North Deal. Kent Fire Brigade chiefs said that the cargo was burning throughout the length of the vessel. The master, Captain Yousef Ahmed, chief officer, mate and chief engineer were still on board fighting the fire, with relays of firemen being ferried out with their equipment from Deal. Walmer lifeboat, which had landed the master's wife and two children, was returning to the Yousufbaksh to stand by.

—London, May 9.—All holds of steamer Yousufbaksh were affected by the fire, part of the superstructure was alight and on the poop deck 40-gallon drums of diesel oil exploded. Firemen later put out the fire in the superstructure and also a fire in the engine-room and then concentrated on fires in the holds. More light pumps were ferried on board. A Kent Fire Brigade spokesman said that the main job now was to flood the holds.

—Deal, May 9.—Acetylene cutting plant has now been taken out to steamer Yousufbaksh and it is intended to cut holes about 10 ft. below deck in order to flood the vessel.

—London, May 9.—Firemen were still fighting the fire on steamer Yousufbaksh this afternoon. "It is still not under control," a spokesman said.

—Deal, May 9.—German salvage tug Heros joined tug Hermes alongside steamer Yousufbaksh at 4 32 p.m.

YOUSUFBAKSH.—London, May 10.—After 40 hours of fire-fighting, Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh, beached 500 yards offshore at Deal, was still burning to-day. Men from German tugs Hermes and Heros and relays of Kent firemen were tackling the fire which swept the ship below decks from stem to stern. An attempt was made to take a hatch cover from a fore hold but so much smoke belched out that the cover was replaced. The Deal motor boat ROSE MARIE, which had been engaged over the week-end (May 8-9) ferrying firemen to and from the Yousufbaksh, lost her propeller. The Walmer lifeboat was towing her to port.—Exchange Telegraph Company. (See issue of May 10.)

—Dover, May 10.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Understood vessel pretty well flooded except No. 1 hold and fire out except in No. 3, which still burning. Master of tug Hermes hopes to have fire extinguished to-day and then start pumping and refloating. Master expects when pumped all possible out vessel will have a heavy draught. Large number of hatch boards and covers destroyed.

—Deal, May 10.—Following report received from lifeboat attending Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh: After holds almost flooded. Fire under control forward. Intend cutting holes forward to flood forepart. Vessel gutted out; decks buckled, woodwork gone. Tugs think it will be six to seven days before they can get her off.

—Dover, May 10.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Surveyor representing owners on board states vessel has sustained very extensive damage; deck set up, all accommodation burnt out and engine-room flooded. Fire still exists in Nos. 1 and 2 holds, including oilcake in No. 1. Flooding holes cut into the vessel during the night are being patched. All decks and masthouse badly buckled. All concerned expect some days before vessel will be refloated. Owners' representative boarded the vessel this morning. Salvage Association surveyor, representing hull and machinery, arrived this afternoon and now on way to vessel.

—Deal, May 10.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Only forward hold now burning and estimated that with hole cut in vessel's side this afternoon it should be extinguished by high tide to-night. Walmer lifeboat is returning to station. Holes in the afterpart of the vessel have been sealed.

Suggested record

Date of Committee

Minute

1,000,12,61 (MADE AND PRINTED IN E)

Noted By

ER FIRE 5,65 - CLASS SUSPENDED"

1966

True due repair Class suspended 6.65
 NOTED FOR POSTING

004642-004645-0026 1/2

P.T.O.

1121/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Dover, May 10. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Five holds have been flooded up to the top and engine-room and stokehold also flooded. Nos. 1 and 2 holds oilcake still slightly smouldering. Fire brigade still on board. Shell plating port and starboard sides scorched and buckled, deck plating scorched and heavily buckled, amidships accommodation completely gutted out and all bulkheads buckled and after compartment also completely gutted and plating buckled. It is intended after the fire is under control to drain all holds. Shell plating has been cut for drainage purposes and will be closed prior to refloating the vessel.—Salvage Association's Surveyor. (See issue of May 11.)

Deal, May 11.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Following received from Kent Fire Brigade: Deep-seated fire in No. 1 hold still burning but this is all. We can only put it out by flooding and this we are doing. Will probably take all day to-day and possibly to-night.

Dover, May 11.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Surveyors report from on board vessel at noon to-day: No. 1 hold still smouldering. Salvors intending to flood No. 1 hold to coamings to extinguish fire, then preparations being made for pumping out engine-room and then cargo hatches with a view to refloating. — Salvage Association's Surveyor.

1131/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Deal, May 12. — Walmer lifeboat launched at 12 12 a.m. with doctor on board to attend badly injured fireman on board Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh. (Later) Walmer lifeboat returned. Body of dead fireman brought ashore. (See issue of May 12.)

Deal, May 12.—Steamer Yousufbaksh: Fire on board vessel extinguished. Kent Fire Brigade withdrawn men and equipment this morning. Salvage tugs Hermes and Heros proceeding to refloat vessel.

London, May 12. — The fire on Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh, beached in Sandwich Bay, was finally extinguished early to-day. During the extinguishing operations a fireman died from a heart attack and another was taken to hospital suffering from the effects of smoke. Walmer lifeboat took the dead man ashore.

Dover, May 12. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Fire extinguished this morning and fire brigade have now left vessel. Both German tugs, Hermes and Heros, pumping out engine-room; cause of flooding in engine-room was the tunnel in No. 4 collapsing. Owners' representative has made arrangements for clearing of oil fuel which has accumulated and been trapped on the decks during salvage operations. Considerable amount of oil has gone overboard. — Salvage Association's Surveyor.

1151/65

YOUSUFBAKSH.—Deal, May 14.—Following received from tug Hermes: We will try to refloat steamer Yousufbaksh to-day and then tow her to Rotterdam. Master has requested that his two lifeboats be returned. (See issue of May 13.)

Dover, May 14. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Tugs Hermes and Heros propose making attempt to refloat vessel on the tide now about to serve but fear there will be insufficient water as wind has cut tide. Oil has been removed from the decks and from alongside vessel and it appears none floating around. Two lifeboats launched from vessel on Saturday evening last (May 8) being returned to vessel.—Salvage Association's Surveyor.

Deal, May 14. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Ship's lifeboats returned. Attempts to refloat on forenoon high tide unsuccessful.

1171/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Deal, May 15. — Attempts to refloat steamer Yousufbaksh on noon tide failed. (See issue of May 15.)

Deal, May 16. — Attempts to refloat Pakistani steamer Yousufbaksh on the 12 34 p.m. tide to-day have failed.

1181/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Dover, May 17.— Steamer Yousufbaksh: Attempts on Saturday, May 15, high tide and yesterday day tide unsuccessful. Another attempt this afternoon but little hope of refloating. Yesterday's tide was cut by four inches but this did not affect the position. The next tides up to the end of this month will be reduced. —Salvage Association's Surveyor. (See issue of May 17.)

1191/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Dover, May 18. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: No refloating success on yesterday afternoon's tide. Are informed Bugsier are sending two barges fitted for supplying steam. Expect arrive here on Friday, May 21, for transfer of cargo to lighten and when barges loaded will probably be towed to Rotterdam.—Salvage Association's Surveyor and Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of May 18.)

1221/65

YOUSUFBAKSH.—Deal, May 23.— Steamer Yousufbaksh: Tugs Wotan and Hermes arrived with steam-supplying barge Berger V. Salvage tug Heros alongside Yousufbaksh. (See issue of May 19.)

Dover, May 24. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Tug Wotan arrived at casualty with one barge last evening. Now commencing to transfer jute from Nos. 1 and 2 holds.—Salvage Association's Surveyor.

1291/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Deal, May 28.— Steamer Yousufbaksh: After unloading part cargo into steam-supplying lighter Berger V, tugs Hermes and Wotan succeeded in refloating the Yousufbaksh at 11 a.m. to-day. (See issue of May 25.)

Deal, May 28. — Steamer Yousufbaksh now anchored in Small Downs in northerly gale.

Dover, May 28. — Steamer Yousufbaksh has been refloated on this morning's tide. We are endeavouring to ascertain how much cargo has been transferred to the one barge that has been alongside for a few days. Weather NE., very strong. (Later) Yousufbaksh now anchored half a mile from shore off Deal. Barge with cargo also at anchor. Tugs waiting for weather to improve and for favourable forecast before towing to Rotterdam.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

Deal, May 28. — A second steam lighter, named Berger VII, has arrived at steamer Yousufbaksh in tow of tug Bugsier 14. The wind has moderated a little to north, force 6 to 7 (strong breeze to near gale), with rough sea and moderate swell.

131/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Deal, May 29. — Steamer Yousufbaksh aground on southern tip of Brake Sand 42 deg. one and three-quarter miles from Deal Coastguard Station after dragging anchor. Tugs anchored in vicinity. Weather at 4 45 a.m. NNE., force 7 (near gale), rough sea, moderate swell and visibility. (See issue of May 29.)

141/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Deal, May 31. — Steamer Yousufbaksh refloated from Brake Sand and at 11 50 a.m. in tow of tugs Hermes and Wotan, understood bound Rotterdam. (See issue of May 31.)

Dover, May 31. — Steamer Yousufbaksh, in tow of tugs Hermes and Wotan, proceeded from The Downs at noon to-day towards Rotterdam. Tug Bugsier 14 and two barges with transferred cargo remaining in The Downs.

142/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Dover, May 31. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Since vessel departed from The Downs at noon, there has been some delay in vessel getting away but she is now in tow of tug Wotan about half-way between South Goodwin and East Goodwin Light-vessels. Tug Hermes has cast off and is remaining in the offing. Tug Bugsier 14 has also left The Downs, towing both barges. — Salvage Association's Surveyor. (See issue of June 1.)

Dover, June 1. — Steamer Yousufbaksh: Since report advising departure of vessel in tow of tug Wotan, tug Hermes also made fast; understood due Hook of Holland at 3 p.m. to-day.

Maassluis, June 1. — Tug Bugsier 14, with barges Berger V and Berger VII, with cargo from steamer Yousufbaksh, arrived in the Nieuwe Waterweg on June 1.

1316/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Maassluis, June 2.— Steamer Yousufbaksh towed to Hook of Holland Roads by tugs Hermes and Wotan. Vessel then assisted into Nieuwe Waterweg by tugs Bugsier 14 and Steenbank on June 1. (See issue of June 2.) — Maassluis, June 2. — Steamer Yousufbaksh was towed into the Nieuwe Waterweg after some of her cargo had been lightered.

110/6/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Dundee, June 8. — Steamer Yousufbaksh and her cargo of jute, cotton and oilcake are badly damaged. Her voyage to Dundee has been abandoned. — "The Courier and Advertiser." (See issue of June 3.)

112/6/65

YOUSUFBAKSH. — Antwerp, June 11. — Steamer Yousufbaksh discharging cargo at buoys and expected to complete in one month. Leakage into engine-room through circulating pump sealed off. Further leakage not yet located. — Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issues of June 3 and 10.)

© 2020

Lloyd's Register Foundation