

13542

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 57884 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 99/50

Date of writing this report 7th February, 1951

Vessel's Name *S.S. "Eastern Med"* of *Tamagusta* Tons Gross 1782 Net 1140

Built at *Sunderland* When *1909* 7 Casualty notice sent to Owner *2.1.51* Owner's reply *25.1.51*

Owner's Name *Cyprus Merchants Shipping Co. Ltd.*

Address *Limassol, Cyprus*

Case previously before _____
Classing Committee. { Date _____
Last Minute _____

Particulars of Classification.

BS* with fwd 7.50
MBS* 9.48
B/S 11.49
msp 9.48
SS 9/1x-9.48
A.S. 10.49
TSN 5.48 CL

Date of Casualty *22nd November, 1950*

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer caught fire while loading petrol at Adabiya, Suez Bay, on the 22nd November, 1950.

Thirteen hours later she blew up and sank along the quayside.

Almost complete superstructure burnt away, bridge collapsed into No. 1 hold, and deck forward of No. 2 hatch collapsed, etc.

The Owners' Chairman states that the ship is a total loss.

WRECK SECTION NO. 1082

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SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

British Steamer on Fire in Suez Bay

LL 23.11.50

A message from Suez states that the British steamer *Eastern Med.* (1782 tons gross), loading a British military cargo of cased petrol at Adabiya for qaba, has caught fire.

EASTERN MED. — Suez, Nov. 22. — Steamer *Eastern Med.*, while loading petrol oils for Aqaba, caught fire at Adabiya at 9 a.m. to-day.

Cairo, Nov. 22. — Several British soldiers were injured in an explosion when British military petrol supplies were being loaded on to a vessel to-day. Some Egyptians were also injured, some believed fatally. A statement, issued in Cairo by the Middle East Land Force Headquarters, states: An outbreak of fire occurred this morning in Adabiya dock in the steamer *Eastern Med.*, while about 600 tons of War Department petrol in jerrycans was being loaded into the hold. There were no major British casualties and the number of native casualties is not yet known. — Reuter.

EASTERN MED. — Port Said, Nov. 23. Steamer *Eastern Med.*: Position at 7 p.m. yesterday, vessel still burning. Three shore labourers unaccounted for, presumed lost, 25 men, including four of crew, treated for burns. Motor barge W.D. 200 and one three-ton War Department shore crane, which alongside, gutted. (See issue of Nov. 23.)

" 24/11

Port Said, Nov. 23. — Steamer *Eastern Med.* burnt until 10.30 p.m. yesterday, when she sank alongside quay.

Cairo, Nov. 23. — The British steamer *Eastern Med.* blew up and sank in flames last night. George Levantis, Greek master of the *Eastern Med.*, and her crew of Greeks, Egyptians and Sudanese were later reported all safe. The ship is a total loss. — Reuter.

The British steamer *Eastern Med.* sank at Adabiya after the fire, which started while she was loading cased petrol, had been burning for over 13 hours. A news agency message from Cairo states that she is a total loss.

EASTERN MED. — Port Said, Nov. 28. — Steamer *Eastern Med.*: Diver further reports that bridge has collapsed into No. 1 hold, deck and bulwark plating from fore-castle sweep to aft of coaming of No. 2 hatch collapsed. No. 2 hold full of cargo to two metres below deck. No. 3 hold cargo up to three metres below deck. Side plating, port and starboard, bent inboard from forward No. 1 hatch to aftermast. This concludes our diver's report. Expect reply from salvage vessel *Protector* to-day. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Nov. 23.)

" 28/11

The Suez Canal Company is to raise the wreck of the British steamer *Eastern Med.*, which is lying sunk at Adabiya after a fire. Captain R. Brooks, formerly mooring and wreck raising officer to the Port of London Authority, is to act as the company's representative during the operations. He may then help to train canal company's personnel to operate the wreck-raising pontoons, in the course of which he may be called upon to raise a number of small wrecks in the canal.

" 14/12

EASTERN MED. — Paris, Jan. 4. — Information received from Egypt states that the Suez Canal Company is to proceed with the raising of the steamer *Eastern Med.*, which sank at Adabiya after fire. — "Journal de la Marine Marchande." (See issue of Nov. 30.)

" 11.1.51

Suggested Record

Burnt & sank in port 11.50

FRI. 9 FEB 1951

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

Burnt & sank in port 11.50

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