

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

Ship's Name SS/MSS "NICOLAOS SARDIS"

Gross tons 2321

Date of Build 1944

Casualty notice sent to Owners 26.10.66. Owners' Reply 1.11.66. Owners I. & S. Sardis

Details of classification

BS	MBS 5,65
Ice strengthening fwd	BS M 4,66
3,66	sp 4,65
ss 5,65	ts 3,66 OG

Details of casualty

This ship which caught fire off Algerian coast was beached in lat. 37 1N., long. 6 16E. Subsequently burnt out and declared a total loss.

The owners concur.

Date of casualty 11th October, 1966.

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Piraeus, Oct. 1.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis, loaded with oil expellers: Fire broke out last night at Perama in No. 1 hold forward to No. 2 hatch. Port fire brigade attempted to extinguish, without success, and authorities ordered shift vessel to Kynossoura and discharge cargo from No. 1 hold. Barges supplied by port authorities but unable to supply workmen. Ship's owners now trying to recruit workmen.

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Piraeus, Oct. 3.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Fire now appears extinguished and no overheating now apparent for approximately 48 hours. Fire authorities consider no further danger and vessel safe to proceed, which consider reasonable subject to hold being flooded with carbon dioxide, which owners endeavouring to obtain.—Salvage Association's Staff Surveyor. (See issue of Oct. 3.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Piraeus, Oct. 6.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Hold flooded with carbon dioxide and bottles recharged and retained on board for voyage. Vessel sailed in afternoon, Oct. 5. Surveyor requested note particulars of damage to diesel generator, alleged crew negligence, and damage to independent air pump and feed heaters.—Salvage Association's Surveyor and Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Oct. 5.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Piraeus, Oct. 11.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Owners advise informed by master overheating again observed in No. 2 hold three days ago. Hold again flooded with carbon dioxide and situation under control. Vessel in vicinity Bizerta-Cagliari. Have recommended owners instruct master to proceed nearest suitable port for further examination.—Salvage Association's Surveyor and Lloyd's Agents. (See issue of Oct. 8.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—London, Oct. 12.—The London agents of the owners of steamer Nicolaos Sardis state that the vessel was reported to have fire in hold off the Algerian coast on Oct. 11. The vessel was subsequently beached two miles from Ras el Moghreb. All crew are ashore.

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Djidjelli, Oct. 12.—The fire on Greek steamer Nicolaos Sardis, off the coast near here, broke out yesterday while the vessel was on her way from Turkey to Denmark with a cargo of diesel oil and sunflower seeds. The official Algerian News Agency said that damage was very serious but the crew were taken ashore without loss of life.—Reuter. (See issue of Oct. 13.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Algiers, Oct. 13.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Reported fire broke out in cargo in Nos. 1 and 2 holds at about 4 30 p.m., Oct. 11. Vessel diverted to Djidjelli for assistance but fire aggravated and vessel abandoned. This morning, reported still burning off shore and only two small fishing craft in vicinity. Crew reported safe. Further reported that coast very mountainous and access for shore assistance not possible and no communications at this locality. Have not yet been able to ascertain if vessel beached or, if not, depth of water at this point. Have also not been able to ascertain if fire spread to bunkers and stores. It appears that vessel will burn out. Hope to obtain further information this evening when Sub-agent at Bejaia (Bougie) returns from locality.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Rotterdam, Oct. 13.—Tug Ocean proceeding to Greek steamer Nicolaos Sardis, beached in position lat. 37 1 N., long. 6 16 E., after fire.—L. Smit & Co. (See issue of Oct. 14.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—London, Oct. 17.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: The following message has been received from Copenhagen, dated Oct. 17: The cargo on Nicolaos Sardis has caught fire and the vessel has been beached on the Algerian coast off Ras el Moghreb. We have been in connection with L. Smit & Co., at Rotterdam, whose salvage tug Ocean proceeded to the scene. They have informed us that the casualty was still ablaze and abandoned by the crew. All cargo burnt out and view rocky bottom must assume considerable bottom damage and must take it that vessel is a constructive total loss. Master of Nicolaos Sardis states leakage in forepeak, double bottom and Nos. 1 and 2 holds. In view of the above, L. Smit & Co. consider salvage operation not feasible and Ocean returned to Malta. (See issue of Oct. 17.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Algiers, Oct. 19.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Given to understand that vessel is still burning and that master and crew left vicinity this afternoon for repatriation direct to Athens. No efforts have been made to extinguish fire and/or recuperate vessel. As already advised access from shore extremely difficult at this vicinity. Can suggest dispatching a tug from Bejaia (Bougie) in order to investigate possibilities of recuperation of vessel.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issues of Oct. 14 and 18.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Algiers, Oct. 21.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Latest report: Crew repatriated. Owner returns Athens on Oct. 21. Vessel still burning and settled on rocky beach, bunkers burning, shell plating corrugated both sides from No. 1 hold to No. 4 hold, foredeck plating sagging, all superstructure and after crew accommodation and poop deck gutted out.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 21.)

26/10/66
NICOLAOS SARDIS.—Algiers, Oct. 29.—Steamer Nicolaos Sardis: Surveyor reports vessel settled hard on rocky bottom and is breaking up, all cargo spaces flooded, all accommodation aft and amidships, including bridge, completely gutted by fire. Vessel's back broken between Nos. 1 and 2 holds.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Oct. 24.)

Suggested record

"BEACHED AFTER FIRE 10,66"

Date of Committee

FRIDAY 18 NOV 1966

Minute

1m,11,64 (MADE AND PRINTED IN ENGLAND)

NOTED FOR POSTING

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