

WRECK

WRECK SECTION
No. 578

SECTION 13407

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 06569 R.B.

Wreck Book, p. 82/49

Date of writing this report 19th January 1950

Vessel's Name

S.S. "Cydonia"

of N. Shields

Tons Gross 3595
Net 2161

Built at Sunderland When 1927

Casualty notice sent to Owner

Owner's reply

Owner's Name Stag Line, Ltd. (Joseph Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Mgrs.)

Address 1, Howard Street, North Shields

Case previously before
Classing Committee.

Date

Particulars of Classification.

Last Minute

+100A1 +LMC1,48

8,49

BS1,49

ss. Bkn-11,46 TSN 8,49 CL

Casualty

21st October, 1949

Particulars of Casualty

This steamer struck a floating mine
in Cardigan Bay on the 21st October, 1949.

She was towed to Milford Haven and
beached with the engine room, stokehold and
afterhold flooded.

A large hole, 12 ft. to 15 ft. square
had been blown in way of the engine room, causing
damage to after engine room bulkhead. Engine
room and No. 3 hold both filled with the rising
tide and there was considerable leakage into
No. 4 hold. Damage to machinery was extensive.

The vessel has been declared a total
loss, repairs having proved to be impracticable.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

CYDONIA. — Fishguard, Oct. 21. — Coast-
guard reports steamer Cydonia (Work-
ington for Barry) in trouble 37 miles
NW. of Fishguard. Lifeboat called out.

LL 22.10.49

Vessels Mined

The British steamer *Cydonia* (3595
tons gross), Workington for Barry, in
ballast, struck a mine in Cardigan Bay,
about 32½ miles north of Strumble
Head, on Friday afternoon. She was
towed to Milford Haven by the tug
Englishman and beached with engine-
room, stokehold and afterhold flooded.
The crew, with the exception of one
man who was drowned in the engine-
room, were rescued by the motorship
Mary Jensen and the steamer *St.
Clears*. The Dutch motorship *Casana*
(258 tons gross), which left Copenhagen
on Saturday morning for Odense,
struck a mine when between the
Danish islands of Funen and Samso
and sank.

" 24/10

VIA. — Seaforth Radio, Oct. 21. —
Following received from British steamer
Cydonia (Workington for Barry, in ballast)
at 3 53 p.m., G.M.T.: SOS. "Struck
mine between Tuskar and Smalls."
"Cydonia" Marine Casualties "in 1949"
Oct. 22.)
Following received from British
steamer *St. Clears* at 4 38 p.m., G.M.T.:
addressed steamer *Cydonia*: Proceeding

to your assistance, approximately 10
miles (distant), bearing 150 deg. Please
keep advised. Position at 4 30 p.m.,
G.M.T., lat. 52° 6' N., long. 5° 38' 30" W.,
course 300 deg., speed 5.5 knots.
Following received from motor vessel
Mary Jensen at 5 15 p.m., G.M.T.: Am
standing by steamer *Cydonia* to take
crew off.
Following received from *Land's End*
Radio at 5 30 p.m., G.M.T.: Following
received from motor vessel *Mary Jen-
sen*: Chief officer (of *Cydonia*) on board
ship badly holed in engine-room, full of
water. One man lost, several survivors
picked up.
Following received from British
steamer *St. Clears* at 5 39 p.m., G.M.T.:
Now alongside distressed vessel and
launching boats to help.
Following received from motor vessel
Mary Jensen at 6 15 p.m., G.M.T.:
From chief officer of *Cydonia*: Can you
send tugs to lat. 52° 23' N., long. 5° 46' W.
Twenty-one left on board.

Fishguard, Oct. 21. — Fish-
guard lifeboat was launched 6 29 p.m.
to assistance of British steamer *Cydonia*
which struck a mine 32½ miles
NW. of Strumble Head.

Suggested Record

Condemned after striking floating mine 10,49

Date of Committee

FRI. 20 JAN 1950

Committee's Minute

Condemned after striking floating
mine 10.49

Lloyd's 20.25.50

Rpts. due 23/1/50.

Rpts. Nov. 11.5.50

Casualty No. 13407

W1022-0057

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LL 24.10.49 (cont)

Seaforth Radio, Oct. 21.—
Following received from steamer
Cydonia at 7.3 p.m.: Now attempting
to leave vessel.

Following received from British
steamer ST. CLEARS at 7.48 p.m.,
G.M.T.: Have taken off 23 of crew of
steamer Cydonia, including master.
Cydonia mined in engine-room and
sinking fast. Warning to all ships, ST.
CLEARS' lifeboat broken adrift, no
occupants, all survivors safely on board.

London, Oct. 21.—There
is a jagged hole in the port side of
steamer Cydonia, the engine-room and
after hold are flooded, and the engines
out of action. One man was drowned
in the engine-room.

Burnham Radio, Oct. 22.
—Following received from British tug
Englishman at midnight, G.M.T.
(Oct. 21): Tug Englishman now has the
derelect steamer Cydonia in tow, last
reported sinking in position lat. 52 15
N., long. 5 36 W. No lights on board
steamer, shipping keep clear; now bound
for Milford Haven.

Hull, Oct. 22.—Tug
Englishman wirelessed: Have picked up
steamer Cydonia in approximate posi-
tion lat. 52 8 N., long. 5 20 W., aban-
doned, with engine-room flooded. Un-
able to make further examination owing
to bad weather. Connected with vessel
at midnight, making for Milford Haven.
(Later) Tug Englishman, towing steamer
Cydonia, position at 8 a.m., 270 degrees
16 miles from St. Ann's Head, reports
prospects doubtful. (Signed—United
Towing Company, Ltd.)

Milford Haven, Oct. 22.—
Steamer Cydonia arrived in tow of tug
Englishman after being damaged by
striking a mine in Cardigan Bay yester-
day. The vessel is only just waterborne
and it is intended to beach her this
evening.

Hull, Oct. 22.—Tug English-
man, towing steamer Cydonia, arrived
at Milford Haven at 1.30 p.m. to-day.
(Signed—United Towing Company,
Ltd.)

Hull, Oct. 22.—Master of
tug Englishman reports: Steamer
Cydonia beached in sheltered and safe
position in Angle Bay, Milford Haven,
at 6.30 p.m. to-day. Anchor and four
shackles of cable laid out. Engine-room,
stokehold and after hold flooded, after
deck awash, when beached draught
30 ft., forehold dry. Tug remaining in
attendance. Our salvage officer due to
arrive to-morrow. (Signed—United Tow-
ing Company, Ltd.)

Barry Island, Oct. 22.—
Information received at 2.10 p.m. from
Mumbles Head Coastguard Station,
states: Motor vessel Mary Jensen
arrived off Mumbles at 10.40 a.m. to-day
to land 14 survivors from steamer
Cydonia at Swansea p.m. to-day.

Fishguard, Oct. 22.—Fish-
guard lifeboat returned to base at 12.5
a.m. from assistance to steamer
Cydonia. Thirty-seven of crew picked
up, 23 by British steamer St. Clears
and 14 by motor vessel Mary Jensen;
one casualty.

London, Oct. 22.—Twenty-
three survivors of the crew of the
steamer Cydonia were landed at Liver-
pool this afternoon by steamer St. Clears.
—Exchange Telegraph Company.

CYDONIA.—London, Oct. 31.—In reply
to inquiry, Lloyd's Agent at Milford
Haven writes under date of Oct. 29:
Steamer Cydonia: After her arrival here,
in tow, it was hoped that the vessel
could be kept afloat until high water
that evening. It became evident that
she was likely to sink, however, and
tug Englishman stood by and kept her
in position until high water. She now
lies on a soft mud berth in Angle Bay,
extensively damaged. A large hole some
12 ft. to 15 ft. square has been blown
in way of engine-room, causing damage
to after engine-room bulkhead. Engine-
room and No. 3 hold both fill with the
rising tide and there is a considerable
leak into No. 4 hold. Damage to machi-
nery in the engine-room is extensive.
Temporary repairs have been arranged
with a view to placing the vessel in dry
dock for full survey. (See issue of
Oct. 24.)

CYDONIA.—London, Nov. 8.—The
owners of the steamer Cydonia report
that vessel was moved to repairers' yard
on Nov. 2. (See issue of Nov. 5.)
Milford Haven, Nov. 8.—
Steamer Cydonia drydocked at Pem-
broke Dock last night.

MINE CASUALTIES
CYDONIA.—South Shields, Dec. 29.—
At the annual meeting of the Stag Line,
Ltd., N. Shields, yesterday, it was stated
that their steamer Cydonia has been
declared a total loss. The vessel was
badly damaged in the engine-room when
she struck a mine in Cardigan Bay on
Oct. 21, and a survey carried out since
then in dry dock at Pembroke has
revealed that repairs would not be prac-
ticable. —LLOYD'S LIST Correspondent.
(See issue of Nov. 9.)

" 1/11

" 9/11

" 30/12



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W1022-0057