

WRECK SECTION REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 45159 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 49/48 Date of writing this report 13th October, 1948

Vessel's Name S.S. "Sandra" of Panama Tons Gross 538 Net 3425

Built at Port Glasgow When 1918 Casualty notice sent to Owner 10.9.48 Owner's reply X

Owner's Name Compania Maritima Contomichalos, S.A.,

Address 70 Contomichalos Sons & Co. (Servant) Ltd.,
Postbag 903, Alexandria, Egypt.

Previously before
Committee.

TELEGRAMS
REG. COM.

CC

Casualty 15th August, 1948

of particulars of Casualty

This vessel developed serious leaks causing deep tanks to flood when about 500 miles northwest of Cape Town, and she was eventually abandoned with the after deck awash on the 15th August, 1948.

No reply has been received to the casualty notice addressed to the Owners on the 10th ultimo.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

SANDRA. — Cape Town, Aug. 15. — Steamer Sandra (Antwerp for Durban) reports that she is making water and requires immediate assistance. Agents have arranged for Admiralty tug Briton to proceed to assist. Authorities insist on salvage clause, leaving remuneration for adjustment in London. (Later) Master of Sandra telegraphed at noon must abandon vessel, deep tanks flooded and rivets bursting with pressure. Steamer Arundel Castle is reaching the scene at 2.30 p.m., agents recalling Briton. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

Cape Town, Aug. 15. — T. Panamanian steamer Sandra is lying helpless and in a sinking condition 50 miles NW. of Cape Town. Her crew of 32 and one passenger who have been rescued by the steamer Arundel Castle will be landed at Las Palmas. Early this morning the Sandra wirelessed her agents in Cape Town that she had developed a serious leak. Shortly afterwards she sent out an S.O.S. message requesting help from nearby ships. The Arundel Castle, which was homeward bound, reached her at 3 p.m. and picked up her crew and the one passenger, who had taken to the boats. The Sandra was carrying a cargo of cement. — Exchange Telegraph Company.

Cape Town, Aug. 16. — South African Air Force planes will take off early to-day to see if the steamer Sandra is still afloat. If she is, an Admiralty salvage tug will leave Simonstown immediately to attempt to tow the vessel into Cape Town. — British United Press.

Cape Town, Aug. 16. — Steamer Sandra abandoned, crew on board steamer Arundel Castle, which left scene on Sunday (Aug. 15) evening. Latest report from Arundel Castle states after deck of Sandra awash and master expected vessel to founder. Authorities awaiting report of aircraft search this morning. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

Cape Town, Aug. 16. — An aircraft assigned to go out to see if the steamer Sandra was still afloat, reached Keetmanshoop this afternoon. It was then too late to start the flight out to sea, so the search was postponed until to-morrow. — Reuter.

SANDRA. — Cape Town, Aug. 17. — Two vessels have reported seeing wreckage near the position where the Panamanian steamer Sandra was abandoned on Sunday (Aug. 15), after springing a leak. Shipping circles here believe the vessel to have foundered. — Reuter. (See issue of Aug. 17.)

SANDRA. — Cape Town, Aug. 17. — Aircraft reports no sign of steamer Sandra. Port captain has received wireless reports from motor vessel Boschfontein and steamer Clan Cumming stating that when passing vicinity of last position of Sandra they sighted lifeboats and rafts and a large amount of oil and wreckage. Master of Clan Cumming considers Sandra sunk and states wreckage constitutes no serious danger to shipping. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Aug. 18.)

London, Aug. 18. — The following message has been received from Cape Town, dated Aug. 17: Steamer Sandra was abandoned at 4.30 p.m., G.M.T., on Aug. 15 in lat. 27° 2' S., long. 12° 3' E., and was estimated to remain afloat 12 hours. From reports received from steamers Clan Cumming and Argobec and motor vessel Boschfontein of passing lifeboats, Carley floats, considerable light wreckage and large patches of oil in the vicinity during Aug. 17 and negative result of air search, it is assumed that Sandra has sunk.

The following wireless message has been received from steamer Clan Cumming timed 10.40 a.m., G.M.T., Aug. 17: Between lat. 26° 46' S., long. 11° 23' E., and lat. 26° 43' S., long. 11° 35' E., passed four lifeboats, one of which was waterlogged, two Carley floats, a considerable amount of small wreckage and a large area of oil, giving every indication that Sandra has sunk. Do not consider wreckage sighted heavy enough to be dangerous to navigation.

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

Abandoned at sea 8.48
FRI. 15 OCT 1948

Abandoned at sea 8.48

by Lloyd's 15/10
O 20/10



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