

Wreck Report No. 13619

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

WRECK SECTION

No. 31165 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 70/51 No. Date of writing this report 29th October, 19 51

Ship's Name s.s. "WAHINE" of Wellington Tons { Gross 4436
Net 1798

Built at Dumbarton When 1913 5 Casualty notice sent to Owner 21st Sept. Owner's reply -----

Owners The Union Steamship Co. of New Zealand,

Managers -----

Address 130 Leadenhall Street, E.C.3.

Classification details

100 A 1	LMC
Awning deck	BS 4,50
with freeboard	MS 6,49
3,50	
	NB (c.s.WT) 12,36
ssWln -6,49(Dr)	ts c2,49 p2,49
	s3,50 CL

Fitted for oil fuel 12,24 FP above 1500

Date of Casualty 15th August, 1951,

Details of Casualty

This ship ran hard aground on the Masela Island reef, 250 miles north of Darwin, in the Banda Sea, during thick haze on the 15th August. She was extensively damaged, and towing operations were likely to rip the bottom completely.

She was written off as a total loss by the Owners and abandoned to the Underwriters.

No reply has been received to the casualty notice addressed to the Owner on the 21st September.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 15.— New Zealand steamer Wahine (Wahine for Korea) is reported aground Masela Island, Banda Sea.

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 18.— Australian naval tug Emu left Darwin at midnight to salvage war equipment from the stranded New Zealand steamer Wahine. The tug has a party of New Zealand troops on board to help salvage gear from the Wahine, which is now written off as a total loss and abandoned to the underwriters. — Exchange Telegraph Company. (See issue of Aug. 18.)

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 18.— Naval tug Emu left here early today under secret orders. Naval authorities refused to confirm or deny reports that she was to recover a cargo of arms abandoned in the New Zealand troopship Wahine. Included among the cargo of the Wahine were field guns, arms and ammunition and six scout cars. — Reuter.

WAHINE.— Wellington, Aug. 18.— The New Zealand troopship Wahine has been abandoned to the underwriters, her owners announced today. The Union Steam Ship Company of New Zealand said its technical advisers in Australia had advised that the condition of the transport indicated she was a total loss. — Reuter.

WAHINE.— Wellington, Aug. 21.— The steamer Wahine, which ran aground on a reef on her way to Korea a week ago, is taking in water and may soon slide off the reef into deep water, reports reaching here from the vessel said today. All rifles left in the Wahine salvaged, New Zealand Army announced. The breech- 25-pounder guns have been salvaged, leaving them unsecured. (See issue of Aug. 21.)

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 22.— Steamer Wahine: Salvage Association special officer reports: Situation of Wahine on Aug. 21 at high water, forward draught minus 2 ft., aft draught plus 39 ft. Vessel flooded throughout with fuel oil, and tidal, list to port 34 deg. Approximately 200 friendly natives busy removing all portable items. Opinion salvage not advisable. Recommend disposal as is and where is, earliest. Party returning to Melbourne. — Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association. (See issue of Aug. 22.)

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 16.— Steamer Wahine: Aerial survey shows vessel fast on reef, little chance of refloating; survey proceeding. Crew and troops taken off by tank steamer Stanvac Karachi, proceeding Darwin. (See issue of Aug. 16.)

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 16.— New Zealand steamer Wahine abandoned at reef, crew and troops taken off by tank steamer Stanvac Karachi, proceeding Darwin. (See issue of Aug. 16.)

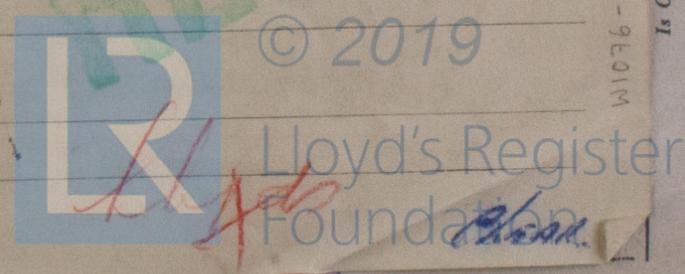
WAHINE.— Melbourne, Sept. 11.— The wrecked New Zealand steamer Wahine, aground on the Masela Island Reef, is a total loss, salvage experts reported today. Apart from light military equipment salvaged by a tug the vessel's equipment was looted by islanders. — Reuter. (See issue of Aug. 24.)

WAHINE.— Darwin, Aug. 17.— Steamer Wahine: Crew and troops landed here today by tank steamer Stanvac Karachi. Master's report and air photo indicate vessel sits upright and down by stern in exposed position, forefoot dry at low water. Vessel solidly aground from stem to forward funnel, double bottom open to sea, stem broken, tank top set up under forward boilers where structure deteriorating each tide, vessel pivoting at this point. Holds and engine-room dry when abandoned. Island natives observed boarding. Cargo confined to munitions and stores for Army movement. Owners' representative recommending his company consider constructive total loss in view of location, lack of equipment, and facilities and economic factors. No casualties, crew returning to Wellington, troops quartered at Darwin. (See issue of Aug. 17.)

Suggested Record Wrecked 7,51. FRI. 2 NOV 1951

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute Wrecked 7.51



tbd
 1848
 TB
 Is Certificate required? If so, to 1; sent to
 5600-9E01M
 1010-9E01M