

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

SECTION 1564

WRECK BAY

No. 9231

No. 75049 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 88/36 Date of writing this report 26th November 1936

Vessel's Name *Steel Twin S.S. "Fernando Poo"* of *Valencia* Tons { Net 3866 Gross 6914

Built at *Bilbao* When 1935 - 9 Casualty notice sent to Owner ☒ Owner's reply ☒

Owner's Name *Compañía Transmediterránea*

Address *Via Layetana 2, Apartado de Correos 581, Barcelona Spain*

Case previously before { Date
Classing Committee. { Last Minute

Date of Casualty *15th October, 1936.*

Précis of particulars of Casualty

Particulars of Classification.

+100 AI +LMC 9.35
w. fcd.
9.35 + Lloyd's RMC 4.36
for temp. 28°F.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

FERNANDO POO, Santa Isabel, Fernando Po, Oct. 16. — Compañía Transmediterránea mail motor vessel Fernando Poo sunk by gunfire at Bata; possibly salvable.

SPANISH VESSEL SUNK BY GUNFIRE AT BATA, SPANISH GUINEA
Santa Isabel, Fernando Po, Oct. 16. — Compañía Transmediterránea mail motor vessel FERNANDO POO sunk by gunfire at Bata; possibly salvable. — Lloyd's Agent

THE SITUATION IN SPANISH COLONIES.

Las Palmas, Oct. 17. — It is officially reported that the armed merchantman CIUDAD DE MAHON, operating from here, discovered the Madrid merchantman FERNANDO POO off Bata, in Spanish Guinea, and that the FERNANDO POO opened rifle fire. The CIUDAD DE MAHON replied with gunshot, damaging the FERNANDO POO, which hoisted the white flag. Later a boarding party was fired on, and the CIUDAD DE MAHON replied with gunfire, severely damaging the FERNANDO POO, which was beached. Several of the crew were killed and some captured. Others escaped into the woods with a landing party in pursuit. — "The Times" Correspondent.

London, Nov. 13. — Information has been received in London to the effect that the Spanish motor vessel FERNANDO POO, which was sunk by gunfire at Bata, had been taken over by the Madrid Government and was on her way to Fernando Po with general cargo. She lay for some time at Dakar, awaiting supplies of fuel, and then proceeded, as it was thought, to Fernando Po. In the meantime, however, there had been a change of Government at Fernando Po, which came into the hands of the Nationalists, but Bata was in the hands of the Madrid Government. The FERNANDO POO went to Bata and discharged her cargo.

The Spanish motor vessel CIUDAD DE MAHON was on her way to Fernando Po from the Canary Islands at the same time, with some 600 men, two guns of about 3 in. calibre and several machine guns with crew. The CIUDAD DE MAHON changed course and went to Bata and found the FERNANDO POO anchored there opposite the town, and sent a party of five on board to accept surrender. The FERNANDO POO, having taken this party on board, picked up anchor and proceeded seawards. The CIUDAD DE MAHON then opened fire on the FERNANDO POO, at first on the bridge and upper structure generally. This was very badly damaged and caught fire, but was apparently not enough to prevent or hold up the progress of the FERNANDO POO towards the open sea. That being so the CIUDAD DE MAHON directed her fire into the hull of the FERNANDO POO, and is stated to have hit her in three places, one shot on the water-line of No. 2 hold and two shots aft well above the water-line. The FERNANDO POO thereupon turned over on her port side and sank in some 12 to 15 metres of water. As the shots entered on the starboard side the holes are upward. She is not a danger to navigation, as she is stated to be visible at all tides. The loss of life is not known, but the boarding party from the CIUDAD DE MAHON were all lost. A sub-director of the Compañía Transmediterránea was on board the CIUDAD DE MAHON and, at his request, arrangements were made for a competent surveyor from Lagos to survey the sunken vessel.

The date when the FERNANDO POO was sunk appears to be Oct. 15.

THE SPANISH MOTOR VESSEL "FERNANDO POO"

London, Nov. 23. — Information has been received in London to the effect that the sunken motor vessel Fernando Poo has been surveyed at Bata. According to the surveyors' report, the vessel was holed by gunfire, and during the course of the engagement caught fire at the fore end of the bridge deck. This part, together with the bridge and most of the boat deck, has been severely burned, but no other damage beyond the shell holes is apparent. The vessel is stated to have capsized and sunk eight hours after the engagement. Her present position is in nine metres of water, according to the chart, with Bata lighthouse bearing 162 deg. distant 1110 metres. The rise of tide is about 1.6 metres. The vessel lies nearly parallel to the coast line on her port side with her decks facing the shore end at 90 deg. to the vertical. All holds and engine-room are flooded, and she is resting on practically level, hard sand, with apparently no silting. The gunshot holes, about 12 in. in diameter, are on the upper starboard side only, and are quite accessible for repairs at all states of the tide. It is stated that there is no other damage to the hull, and that most of the portholes on the port side were closed before the vessel capsized. Surveyors are of opinion that salvage of the vessel is quite possible and they add that from now until the end of February is the most favourable time of the year for operations of that kind, as fine weather and smooth seas may be expected.

This vessel was reported to have been sunk by gunfire at Bata on or about the 15th October.

It was stated that she had been taken over by the Madrid Government, & was on her way to Fernando Po. She lay for some time at Dakar, awaiting supplies of fuel & then proceeded, as it was thought, to Fernando Po. In the meantime, however, there had been a change of government at Fernando Po which came into the hands of the Nationalists. The port of Bata was, however, still under control of the Madrid Government. The vessel then proceeded to Bata & discharged her cargo.

The Spanish M/V. "Ciudad de Mahon" was on her way to Fernando Po from the Canary Islands, but changed her course & went to Bata, at which port she discovered the "Fernando Poo" anchored opposite the town. A boarding party was despatched to accept surrender of the "Fernando Po" but after arriving on board the "Fernando Po" picked up anchor & proceeded seawards. The "Ciudad de Mahon" opened fire, badly damaging the bridge & upper structure of the "Fernando Poo" but although on fire she continued on her course to the open sea. Shell fire was then directed into the hull & the "Fernando Poo" thereupon turned over & sank in some 12 to 15 metres of water. The vessel was, however, visible at all tides & a Sub-director of the Owners who was on board the "Ciudad de Mahon" subsequently arranged for a Surveyor from Lagos to survey the sunken vessel.

The Surveyor in question reported on the 23rd November (Cont'd over)

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

M/M Box 1132

Sunk by Gunfire
10.36 (with date)

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

in R. B. Wreck Book, p. Date of writing this report 193

's Name of Tons { Net Gross
YEAR. MONTH.

at When Casualty notice sent to Owner Owner's reply

's Name

Address

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Previously before ing Committee.	Date	Particulars of Classification.
	Last Minute	

Casualty

Particulars of Casualty *S.S. "Fernando Po" (Cont'd)*
 that the fore end of the bridge deck, the bridge + most
 of the boat deck had been severely burned, but no
 other damage had been sustained beyond the shell
 holes which were accessible for repairs at all tides.
 All holds + engine room were flooded but the
 vessel is resting on practically level, hard sand
 with apparently no silting. Her salvage was
 considered to be quite possible from now until
 the end of February next when fine weather
 may be expected.

Lloyd's have forwarded a copy of a
 confidential letter, dated 20th October, received
 by them from their Agents at Fernando Po,
 respecting the case.

sted Record

of Committee FRI. 27 NOV 1936

ittee's Minute



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Lloyd's Register
Foundation

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