

The SALVAGE ASSOCIATION have received the following

telegram from Lloyd's Agents at Hankow

dated Shanghai
22nd Nov. 1938.

BP.

re "KIA WO"

Surveyor Fyfe arrived. Estimate salvage \$78,000 in addition to \$25,000 already expended and temporary repairs \$25,000 possible extras increase to total of about \$150,000. Rough estimate Shanghai Deck Company permanent repairs £3750. Proposal to lower vessel bodily which omitted Fyfe's telegram owing mutilation agreed by him, River Inspector, Master and Contractor as best available method salvage with excellent prospects success. Joint consultation yesterday Owners, Fyfe, Lloyd's Surveyor and ourselves unanimously agreed reasonable prospects refloating and reaching Shanghai subject to River then open. Owing to war situation making impossible to get expert Salvors to scene necessary place work in hands of native Contractor who merely undertakes effect temporary repairs and lower vessel about 20 feet to required level therefore we suggested to take general charge of temporary repairs salvage and navigation to safe port. Owners agreeable but prefer also employment of Fyfe by Underwriters to assist Captain and they insist that Captain Chief Engineer acting for Underwriters and no liability attaches Owners who however will continue pay their wages. Fyfe agreeable return stand by till refloated. £60 monthly plus travelling expenses. Work must be completed by end of April as water may rise and endanger vessel any time thereafter, as work will take up to five months prompt decision essential. Write Air 11th 14th both due yours 24th. It should be understood while not at present thought likely that war situation may hamper or prevent salvage operations and if vessel not salvaged before next high water almost certain total loss.



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