

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY FOR REPAIRS &c.

SEA VENTURE REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

Section 3 WRECK BILL No. 159

9672

RETAIN

No. 33346 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 81/39 Date of writing this report 20th November, 1939

Vessel's Name Steel S.S. "Sea Venture" of Dover Tons { Gross 2327 Net 1375

Built at Sunderland When 1930 9 Casualty notice sent to Owner 31/10/39 Owner's reply 2/11/39

Owner's Name Dover Navigation Co. Ltd.

Address 196, London House, Brutched Friars, London, E.C.3.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Case previously before Classing Committee. Date Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.	
F 100A1	F LMC 7.39
9.39	TS 6.39CL
S.S. No 2-39	

The London steamer Sea Venture (2,327 tons) has been sunk by enemy action off the north coast of Scotland, and

The Sea Venture, owned by the Dover Navigation Company, of London, had a crew of 25, which landed on an island in one of the steamer's boats. When the crew got their first boat into the water it was smashed. They then crowded into the second boat and rowed over 15 miles to the nearest land. While a lifeboat was searching during the night the crew in the boat mistook her for a submarine and did not respond to her signal.

Times 24/10

Date of Casualty 20th October, 1939

Particulars of Casualty This vessel is reported to have been sunk by submarine off the north of Scotland on the 20th October, 1939.

The Owners concur.

The Sea Venture, 2,327 tons, owned by the Dover Navigation Co., was sunk by enemy action off the North coast of Scotland. The Whitemantle, 1,692 tons, owned by the Gas Light and Coke Co., of London, was lost after an explosion. The Sea Venture's crew of 25 landed on an island from one of the ship's boats and later reached a northern town in a lifeboat.

When the crew got their first boat into the water it was smashed, and, crowded in the second boat, they rowed over 15 miles to the nearest land. While the lifeboat was searching during the night the crew mistook her for a U-boat and did not respond to her signals.

D. Tel 24/10

The Sea Venture (2,327 tons) was sunk in the North Sea last Friday. When the submarine was sighted some distance away, inspecting a neutral ship, the Sea Venture tried to escape. The submarine gave chase, and opened fire, to which the Sea Venture replied. The submarine fired over 20 rounds, and when the Sea Venture had been hit five times, and her funnel, bridge, and one lifeboat wrecked, the crew abandoned their ship in the remaining boat. The submarine continued to fire until the ship began to sink, but disappeared when a British seaplane arrived. The survivors landed on an island until rescued by a lifeboat sent by the seaplane.

Times 27/10

The Sea Venture, of Dover, was attacked recently in the North Sea by a submarine which started shelling her. The crew of the Sea Venture replied with their gun, but their shells fell short.

One of the crew said that the German submarine fired between 30 and 40 shells and registered five hits. One shell smashed the bridge and funnel and another carried away the starboard lifeboat.

When the crew of the Sea Venture took to the remaining small boat the submarine shelled them as they rowed away, but no one was injured.

After rowing for 20 hours the small boat landed on a northern island.

N.Ch. 27/10

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Suggested Record Date of Committee Sunk TUE. 7 NOV 1939

Committee's Minute Sunk White Lloyd's

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Lloyd's Register Foundation