

SEA RAMBLER **REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.**

No. 33343 in R. B.

Wreck Book, p. 25/40

Date of writing this report *21st March*, 1940.Vessel's Name *Steel S.S. "Sea Rambler"*of *Dover*Tons (Gross *2327*
Net *1374*)Built at *Sunderland* When *1930*

YEAR. MONTH.

Casualty notice sent to Owner *9/3/40* Owner's reply *15/3/40*Owner's Name *Dover Navigation Co. Ltd.*Address *196 London House, Crutched Friars, London, E.C.3.*

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Case previously before
Classing Committee.

Date

Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.

<i>+100A1</i>	<i>+LMC 1238</i>
<i>1039</i>	<i>TS 1039CL</i>
<i>SS No 238</i>	

Date of Casualty

10th February 1940

Précis of particulars of Casualty This vessel wirelessed she was in distress about 600 miles South-East of Cape Race on the 9th February 1940 and reported the hatches stove in and making water fast.

She subsequently sank the following day.

The Owners concur.

MARINE CASUALTIES

LL 10/2

"Sea Rambler" in Distress in North Atlantic

The Boston coastguard picked up a distress call from the British steamer *Sea Rambler* (2327 tons), saying that the hatch had been stove in and that she was making water. States a Reuter telegram from New York. Her position is given as approximately 600 miles off the east coast of Newfoundland. She asks vessels to stand by.

Reuter reported from New York on Saturday that the Mackay Station had received a message from the Norwegian motorship *Mosdale* stating that the crew of the British steamer *Sea Rambler*, previously reported in distress in the North Atlantic, was safe. Thirteen men had been taken off by the *Mosdale*, and 12 were on board the Norwegian tanker *Kaia Knudsen*. The *Sea Rambler*, of 2327 tons gross, is owned by the Dover Navigation Company, Ltd., of London, and was built at Sunderland in 1930.

LL 12/2

THE "SEA RAMBLER" RESCUE

LL 23/2

Norwegian Ships' Successful Efforts

A Reuter message from Oslo gives details of the rescue of the crew of the British steamer *Sea Rambler*, as outlined by the master of the *Kaia Knudsen* when he reached port on Wednesday. The *Sea Rambler* (2327 tons gross) was disabled in heavy weather, with her hatch stove in and making water, when about 600 miles east of Newfoundland, and asked for assistance on Feb. 9. The Norwegian motor tanker *Kaia Knudsen* and Norwegian motorship *Mosdale*, which answered the call, saved the entire crew of 25.

The master said the *Kaia Knudsen* reached the *Sea Rambler* at dusk but, on account of the storm, he contacted the master of another rescue ship, the *Mosdale*, and decided to await daylight before attempting to rescue the *Sea Rambler's* crew. At midnight, however, the situation became critical, and two lifeboats were launched, but were unable to reach the disabled ship. Eventually members of the crew of the *Sea Rambler* were taken on board the lifeboats by means of lines. Later the 13 rescued men and boats' crews were hauled on board the *Kaia Knudsen* by lines and the lifeboats were abandoned.

WPB no 173
Section 1

Suggested Record

Foundered 2.40.

Date of Committee

WED 27 MAR 1940

Committee's Minute

Foundered 2.40

Tel 4/3

SEA DRAMA TOLD IN SOS CALLS

CREW SAVED AS SHIP SANK

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

The rescue of the crew of the Dover Navigation Co.'s steamer Sea Rambler, 2,327 tons, as the ship was on the point of sinking, by two Norwegian vessels which had raced to her aid in response to SOS messages, was described to me yesterday.

When in Mid-Atlantic on Feb. 9 the Sea Rambler sent out an SOS at 12.23 p.m. that her hatch was stove in and that she was making water fast. High seas were running and snow was falling at the time.

The Dutch steamer Breedyk, 6,861 tons, and the Mosdale, Norwegian, replied from considerable distances. Then the Cunard White Star Antonia, 185 miles away, responded.

At 3.25 p.m. the Mosdale, 180 miles away, wirelessed: "Proceeding to your assistance as fast as possible." Some time later another Norwegian ship, the Kaia Knudsen, 9,063 tons, sent a similar message.

The situation aboard the Sea Rambler grew more and more desperate. At 6.37 she sent out an SOS: "No. 2 hold awash. Port lifeboat carried away." "Keep smiling," replied the Kaia Knudsen. "Expect to reach you four to-morrow morning."

"STILL SMILING"

"Coming to your assistance with all speed," notified the Antonia, then 215 miles off.

"Sixth lifeboat gone, but still smiling," the Sea Rambler sent out to the Kaia Knudsen at 9.15.

In reply to the Mosdale, also speeding towards her, the distressed steamer wirelessed: "Engines and bunkers flooded. Hope keep afloat till daylight."

On the morning of Feb. 10, between nine and 10 o'clock, the Mosdale took off 11 men and the Kaia Knudsen 12 from the Sea Rambler, then rapidly settling down. News of the complete rescue was sent to the Antonia.

Then the Cunard White Star ship wirelessed to the two Norwegian vessels: "Congratulations. Splendid work."



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