

REPORT OF SURVEY for DEBARKED

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

143

9479

No. *84881* in R. B. Wreck Book, p. *41/38* Date of writing this report *18th July* 1938

Vessel's Name *Steel S.S. "Thorpeness"* of *London* Tons {Net *3071* Gross *4798*

Built at *Sunderland* When *1914* Casualty notice sent to Owner *12/7/38* Owner's reply *X*

Owner's Name *Westcliff Shipping Co. Ltd (G.O. Till, Mgrs.)*

Address *13, St. Mary Axe, London, E.C.3.*

RETAIN

Case previously before Date _____

Committee. Last Minute _____

Particulars of Classification.
 +100A1
 4.38
 S.S. No 3-5,26
 S.S. No 2-34
 +LMC 6,34
 B54,38
 TS 3,38CL

Casualty *22nd June, 1938.*

Particulars of Casualty *This vessel is reported to have been sunk during an air raid, when lying one mile outside Valencia harbour on the 22nd June, 1938.*

She sank in a depth of over ten fathoms of water and is considered a total loss.

No reply has been received to the casualty notice addressed to the Owners on the 12th instant.

RETAIN

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Valencia, June 22.—British steamer THORPENESS was sunk and the British steamer SUNION set on fire during an air raid on Valencia early this morning. British United Press. (Cont.) THORPENESS was on a voyage from Marseilles to Valencia, with a cargo of wheat and other foodstuffs.

Valencia, June 22.—The British steamer THORPENESS was bombed and sunk off Valencia this morning. Reuter.

Valencia, June 22.—The attack on the steamers THORPENESS and SUNION was made when they were lying a mile outside the harbour according to the harbour master. The raid was carried out by a single seaplane flying very low. There were no casualties on either vessel. The SUNION is still burning and it looks as if she will sink unless beached. The harbour master says he doubts whether she can be saved.—British United Press.

Valencia, June 22.—Steamer THORPENESS sank at 9 a.m., G.M.T. She was hit by two incendiary bombs at about 8.30 a.m. One fell forward and one amidships, wrecking the bridge and setting the vessel on fire. The crew were taken off immediately. The master and officers also reached shore safely. The SUNION, which carried a crew of 32 and a non-intervention observer, was hit. She was going to Valencia to pick up passengers.—Reuter.

Valencia, June 22.—Steamer THORPENESS was subjected to severe machine gun fire by the seaplane during the raid, it is learned. Captain Kermode of the THORPENESS states that another British vessel, whose name he could not remember, was sunk by a landing seaplane five miles outside Valencia. He recalled that the name of the vessel began with G. Captain Kermode stated that the steamer SUNION sank. The Chinese, a British subject, was killed on board the THORPENESS when she was attacked. It added.—British United Press.

LL 23/6

ETH/M

THE SITUATION IN SPAIN

Valencia, June 23.—In an air raid early yesterday morning British steamer THORPENESS was bombed while waiting orders off Valencia port. Vessel sunk in ten fathoms of water; no cargo on board. British steamer SUNION was bombed while anchored in roads. Vessel sunk in ten fathoms water; total loss.—Lloyd's Agent.

LL 25/6

Valencia, June 24.—The crews and non-intervention officers of the British steamers THORPENESS and SUNION, which were bombed and sunk on Wednesday (June 22) off Valencia, left Gandia for Marseilles in H.M.S. Isis to-day.—Reuter.

Marseilles, June 25.—H.M.S. Isis has arrived here with 32 members of the crews of steamers THORPENESS and SUNION.—Lloyd's Agent.

LL 27/6

London, June 30.—Information received in London, under date June 24, states that the British steamer THORPENESS was sunk in a depth of over 10 fathoms of water, and was considered a total loss, as also her cargo of 6500 tons of wheat.

LL 1/7

RETAIN

Suggested Record *Sunk by aircraft 6,38.*

Date of Committee *JUL 10 1938*

Committee's Minute *Sunk by aircraft 6,38*

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