

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &C. 9323

WRECK BOOK
No. 132

83968 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 437 *New York* Date of writing this report 15th June 1937
 Vessel's Name *Steel Twin S.S. "Silvercypress"* of *London* Tons (Net 3693 Gross 6440)
 Built at *Belfast* When 1930 - 6 Casualty notice sent to Owner Owner's reply
 Owner's Name *Silver Line, Ltd. (Stanley & John Thompson, Ltd. Mgrs.)*
 Address *Bishopsgate House, 80, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2*

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

previously before Date _____ Particulars of Classification.
 Sinking Committee. Last Minute _____
 of Casualty 13th January 1937
 of particulars of Casualty

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 13.—
 British motor vessel Silvercypress: Generator caught fire 3.45 a.m., today, spread to ship and cargo. Vessel beached near Buenavista, Guimaras Island, opposite Iloilo. Master on board, crew and passengers landed here.
 Iloilo, Jan. 13.—
 British motor vessel Silvercypress: Master signed Lloyd's Form of Salvage Agreement in blank Luzon Stevedoring Co., salvage contractors, Nos. 1 and 2 holds cargo still intact, No. 3 hold flooded, engine-room and all Nos. 4, 5 and 6 holds gutted by fire. Fire not yet extinguished. Salvage contractors have telegraphed Manila to send all pumps available. Still cannot get on board, but have cofferdam between deep tank flooded also after deep tank partly.
 London, Jan. 13.—
 The owners of the motor vessel Silvercypress have received the following cables from Manila, dispatched Jan. 13:—
 Silvercypress arrived Iloilo yesterday afternoon, caught fire engine-room 3.30 this morning, which spread Nos. 3 and 4 holds. Presently not under control, attempting beach vessel Guimaras Island.
 Silvercypress now practically beached Buenavista Point, but difficultly account rising tide. Pumps now working No. 3 hatch, fire not spreading forward, but all afire aft engine-room. Engineer Ingram sustained severe burns, now in hospital; no other injuries.
 Silvercypress beached low tide, but afloat high tide, being held in position by tugs. Holds Nos. 1 and 2 appear still unaffected, but No. 3 shelter deck afire which expect to control, pump now delivering 200 tons hourly through holes cut in deckway subsequently flooding engine-room. Impossible to get alongside from engine-room aft. We estimate vessel did about ten hours' discharging prior to fire. Passengers have no accommodation at Iloilo or Manila and therefore we have arranged ship Hongkong Tuesday (Jan. 19), which best arrangement possible; passengers agreeable on assumption this best for continuance of their voyage.

LL 14/1

This vessel was reported to have been beached on fire near Buenavista, opposite Iloilo, on the 13th January.

The fire was not extinguished until the 21st January, when the Salvage Association's Special Officer stated that the whole of the machinery in the engine room would be a total loss.

The vessel was subsequently refloated & proceeded in tow to Manila. She is now reported to have been sold to Japanese Shipbreakers

The Manila Surveyor cabled on the 4th May that the vessel had been declared a Constructive Total Loss, & in reply to inquiry further states that he has made no survey of the vessel & no certificate has been issued by him with regard to the proposed voyage to China or Japan in tow

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 14.—
 Motor vessel Silvercypress: Master on board again, reports following: Beached, heading windward, engine-room and afterpart full of water, engine-room and afterpeak still burning, but under control; pumping arrangements satisfactory, deep tank flooded. Nos. 1 and 2 holds still intact, after end of vessel from engine-room gutted, after deck collapsed. Water pumped into engine-room running out of tonnage port(s) carrying away paraffin oil in bulk. — Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

LL 15/1

London, Jan. 14.—The owners of the motor vessel Silvercypress have received the following cables from Manila, dated Jan. 14:—
 Silvercypress beached, engine-room and after holds completely flooded, bulkhead between engine-room and No. 4 given way, oil from double bottoms floating on top of water and burning, likewise kerosene in afterpeak which will have to burn itself out or flow through ports. Nos. 1 and 2 hatches remain unaffected. Impossible to lay alongside ship from engine-room aft. Stephenson arrives at Iloilo on Sunday evening (Jan. 17).
 Iloilo telegraphs: Following details of cargo discharged from Silvercypress prior to outbreak of fire:—Hawaiian Philippines New York B/Lading eight 6661 bags ammophos Baltimore four 4694 sulphate of ammonia Tabacalera New York six and seven 10,003 ammophos Baltimore three 1475 sulphate of ammonia Pacific Commercial Baltimore one 319 bundles galvanized iron sheets Elnaval New York two 1 case hammers Castel New York four 1 cation merchandise, Hoskyn New York eleven 64 packages. Customs check shows only 1455 Tabacalera sulphate of ammonia. All cargo held lighters and cascos except 924 ammophos in Customs warehouse. Will now arrange delivery and recheck.

Record Damaged by fire 1.37
 of Committee TUE 15 JUN 1937

Committee's Minute Damaged by fire 1.37
 Note Mr. Speyer 1/16



© 2019
 Lloyd's Register
 Foundation

1/2 WS76-0311

WS76-0332

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 15.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Oil fuel
from double bottom Nos. 3, 2
and 1 holds flowing in the engine-
room all holds aft, causing in-
creased fire damage aided strong
wind. Forward engine-room bulkhead
given way. At high water last night
fire reached quarters under bridge poop
deck flush at high water. No. 1 hold
intact, No. 2 hold probably damaged by
sea water. Prospects doubtful.—
Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

LL 16/1

London, Jan. 15.—The
following messages have been received
by the owners of the motor vessel Sil-
vercypress:—

Still confining fire to after part but
heat in holds and engine-room vaporis-
ing fuel in double bottoms, burning at
exit air vents. Dense black smoke
making work very difficult. After deck
and mast have collapsed from engine-
room aft. Ship constructive total loss.

Dated Jan. 15, 7 40 a.m.: Oil has
run from forward double bottoms to
after holds causing tremendous blaze. At
high water last night it crossed into
stewards' store-room under bridge. Still
fighting but prospects very bad.

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 15.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Owners' sur-
veyor, Stephenson, due here on Jan. 17.
Cargo discharged prior to outbreak:
No. 1 hold, 285 tons, No. 2 162 tons,
No. 3 243 tons, No. 4 330 tons, No. 5
218 tons, all fertiliser. No. 2 384 pack-
ages general, about 30 tons. Agents
received instructions deliver. Cargo
remaining: Condition No. 1 good, No. 2
slightly damaged by water, No. 3 all
damaged by water, Nos. 4, 5 and 6 de-
stroyed by fire.—Lloyd's Agent per Sal-
vage Association.

LL 18/1

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 16.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Fire still
raging aft but again under control.
Additional pumps arrived from Manila.
No. 2 'tween-decks cargo damaged by
water, but still intact.—Lloyd's Agent
per Salvage Association.

LL 19/1

London, Jan. 18.—
The following cables have been received
by the owners of the motor vessel Sil-
vercypress:—

Dated Manila, Jan. 15: Sil-
vercypress: Iloilo telegraphs position this
evening: Prospects saving Nos. 1 and
2 again improved but danger to-night
when fire expected again enter store-
rooms under wheelhouse with high tide.
Present position No. 2 hatch lower hold
'tween deck probably intact, shelter deck
partly damaged by fire water.

Master signed Lloyd's Salvage Agree-
ment in blank Luzon Stevedoring Sal-
vage Contractors.

Dated Manila, Jan. 16: 12 30 a.m.,
after high tide Iloilo (reports): Im-
possible say how long fire will take to
burn itself out but now feel confident
we can confine it and save Nos. 1 and 2
with cargo intact.

Dated Manila, Jan. 17: Iloilo reports
this morning: Little change in position
but fire aft shows signs abating. Master
only using six officers aboard, remainder
crew on shore.

Dated Manila, Jan. 18: Position un-
changed, still burning aft; will prob-
ably take two or three days to burn
out, meanwhile holds Nos. 1 and 2 safe.

Dated Manila, Jan. 18.—Silvercypress:
Fire confined now to No. 6, which
burning furiously. Nos. 1 and 2 un-
harmed except slight water smoke dam-
age shelter deck 2. Master's opinion
from 3 aft ship from outward deck ap-
pearance constructive total loss. Native
crew proceeding Manila for soonest dis-
tressed British seamen, European crew
holding Iloilo day or two awaiting your
instructions. Stephenson arrived Iloilo
this morning.

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 20.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Fire not yet
extinguished, still burning No. 4 hold
shelter deck. She is ashore in Guimaras
Strait, off Salag, lying on a soft bottom,
heading N. by E. Preliminary survey
held indicates afterpart extending from
navigating bridge to the sternpost very
badly damaged, mainmast, shelter deck,
upper deck collapsed 15 ft., shell plates,
deck plates badly corrugated and buckled
so much so that complete reconstruc-
tion of affected area will be required.
With regard to damage to engines con-
sider in view of damage to machinery
to motor vessel Nora Mærsk under simi-
lar circumstances whole machinery in
engine-room will be a total loss includ-
ing steering gear winches on after deck.
Afloat forward, resting easily from
amidships aft; do not anticipate any
damage sustained through grounding.
Vessel is flooded from deep tank aft,
after deck entirely covered at high
water. With regard to cargo on board
that which is stowed Nos. 1 and 2 holds
apparently undamaged except little
water and possibly damage by smoke.
Cargo in Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 holds and
afterpeak tank will be a total loss.—
Salvage Association's Special Officer.

LL 22/1

London, Jan. 21.—

The following cable has been received
by the owners of the motor vessel
Silvercypress, dated Manila, Jan. 21:
Silvercypress: Fire out, still grounded
aft, afloat forward, everything aft of
forward frame 17 flooded and appar-
ently total loss. Forward this point
vessel and cargo practically undamaged,
hope float Jan. 25. Believe fire caused
by spark from generator relief valve
igniting oil from fractured fuel pipe.
Master advises Salvage Association re-
presentative proposing discharge Iloilo
cargo at Iloilo, towing vessel stern first
to Manila to discharge balance cargo,
thence drydocking Navy Dock at Olong-
apo.

Iloilo, Jan. 21.—

Motor vessel Silvercypress: Fire extin-
guished. Divers are being sent out to
close shell openings shelter deck sea and
discharge valves preparatory to pump-
ing out flooded holds and engine-room.
If successful we recommend discharge
balance of 500 tons of sound cargo des-
tined for Iloilo, which can be done by
means of barges fitted with winch. Next
proposal is the vessel proceeds in tow
of three tugs on the spot stern first to
Manila discharge 1070 tons of sound
cargo destined for Shanghai and Hong-
kong into seven piers where direct elec-
tric current 220 volts available to work
ship's winches. After discharging con-
template placing Olongapo floating
dock, survey fully all damage to obtain
competitive tenders for repairs.—Lloyd's
Agents per Salvage Association.

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 21.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Tobacco in
No. 2 lower hold and No. 2 'tween deck
should be saved, in good condition.
Balance Nos. 3 and 4 holds total loss.
Cargo forward not yet touched.—Lloyd's
Agent per Salvage Association.

LL 25/1

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 25.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress is being
pumped out; pumps gaining on water.
Stern afloat, fully anticipate will be re-
floated to-morrow.—Lloyd's Agent per
Salvage Association.

LL 26/1

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Jan. 26.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress has been
floated, draught aft 31 ft., forward 20 ft.
After winches derrick Samson post
mainmast totally destroyed by fire ren-
dering quite impossible to work dam-
aged cargo Nos. 3 to 6 hatches inclusive,
will have to discharge by means of crane
at Manila. Can proceed to Manila bows
first. Survey has been held, damage as
follows: Whole after part consisting
principally of machinery specified in our
cable of Jan. 20, machinery casing, boat
deck, lifeboats, shelter deck and upper
deck together with 4 strakes shell plat-
ing from shelter deck sheerstrake down-
ward from frame 14 forward of amidships
right aft must be renewed. Commencing
discharge of cargo 630 tons, not 500 tons
as before reported, destined for Iloilo,
Jan. 28.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage
Association.

LL 28/1

SILVERCYPRESS.—Iloilo, Feb. 6.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress leaves to-day
Manila, proceeding in tow of three tugs;
certificate of seaworthiness obtained.—
Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

LL 8/2

SILVERCYPRESS.—Manila, Feb. 10.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress arrived
to-day, discharge commences to-morrow.
—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Associa-
tion.

LL 11/2

SILVERCYPRESS.—Manila, June 3.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress: Authori-
ties order removal from Olongapo
before June 10. Will tow Manila Har-
bour next week.—Lloyd's Agent per
Salvage Association. (Note.—Silver-
cypress had fire and put back to Manila
on Feb. 10.)

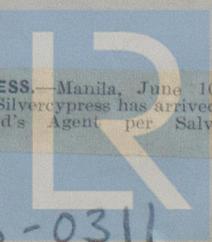
LL 7/6

SILVERCYPRESS.—Manila, Apr. 6.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress drydocked on
Monday (Apr. 5) when vessel raised to
about 10 ft. draught. Diver reports keel
line buckled up aft about 31 in. above
keel blocks to zero midships. Ship
floats on Tuesday, meanwhile com-
pleting specifications view obtaining
tenders.—Salvage Association's Sur-
veyor.

LL 7/4

SILVERCYPRESS.—Manila, June 10.—
Motor vessel Silvercypress has arrived at
Manila.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage
Association.

LL 11/6



© 2019
Lloyd's Register
Foundation

2/2 WS16-0311

WS16-0332