

WRECK BOX
No. 128

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c. 9295

No. 49592 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 32/37 Date of writing this report 5th April 1937

Vessel's Name Steel S.S. "Mar Caspio" of Bilbao Tonnage Net 1858 Gross 3080

Built at Chepstow When 1919 - 12 Casualty notice sent to Owner Owner's reply x

Owner's Name Cia. Maritima del Nervion (Urquijo y Aldecoa, mpr.)

Address Apartado 170, Gran Via N.º 1, Bilbao, Spain.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

Case previously before Date
 Classing Committee. Last Minute
 Date of Casualty 29th March 1937.

Particulars of Classification.
 S.S. Bto N.º 3-1.32
 + 100 A1 S.S. Bto N.º 1-35
 8.36 + LMC 5.35
 B.S. 6.36

Following received from Ushant Radio at 3 a.m., G.M.T.: At 2 a.m., G.M.T. Spanish steamer MAR CASPIO informed Bordeaux Radio that she was bombed in French waters 1.5 miles from Bayonne. Distress signal heard at 2.48 a.m. believed to be from steamer MAR CASPIO. ...
 Bayonne, Mar. 29.—Two Spanish insurgent warships attacked the Spanish cargo steamer MAR CASPIO while she was in French territorial waters off Cap Breton 10 miles north of Bayonne. The MAR CASPIO was carrying a cargo of 2000 tons of coal from Newcastle for a French factory in Bayonne. Shots fired by the warships holed the MAR CASPIO and finally the vessel grounded on a sandbank at the mouth of the River Adour. The MAR CASPIO'S machinery is stated to have been destroyed and two of her crew are wounded.—British United Press.
 Bayonne, Mar. 29.—Spanish steamer MAR CASPIO was attacked by two insurgent armed trawlers in French territorial waters in sight of Cap Breton. They fired 15 shells and hit the MAR CASPIO at the waterline. The MAR CASPIO went ashore on the bar of the River Adour level with the North Mole. She is in a dangerous situation and it is not thought possible to save her. It is believed the MAR CASPIO will sink with to-night's tide. One of the insurgent armed auxiliaries, the Galerna, fired heavy bursts of machine gun fire at the vessel but none of the crew of 34 was hurt. Two of them were injured by bursting steampipes.—Reuter.
 Bayonne, Mar. 29.—Spanish steamer MAR CASPIO, bound for this port from Newcastle, cargo coal, has been attacked by insurgent gunboat(s). On attempting to reach port vessel ran aground outside the mouth of the river. Consider vessel a total loss, all the cargo will be lost. Master and members of crew report that shell struck amidships.—Lloyd's Agent.
 Bayonne, Mar. 29.—Steamer MAR CASPIO, which had run aground near the mouth of the Adour River after being shelled by insurgent trawlers, broke into two pieces at high tide. The damage, including the loss of the 2000 tons of coal, is estimated at more than £30,000.—Exchange Telegraph Company.
 St. Jean de Luz, Mar. 31.—The wreck of the Spanish steamer MAR CASPIO is now in three parts. Her bows are still attached to the cabin by which the vessel was moored, the bridge is floating nearby and the stern is drifting towards land after repeatedly striking sand banks.—Reuter.

30/3/37

3/3

2/4

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This vessel was reported to have been attacked by two Spanish insurgent armed trawlers on the 29th March when in sight of Cap Breton.

It was stated that 15 shells struck her at the waterline & on attempting to reach port she ran aground on the bar of the River Adour.

It was later reported that the vessel had broken into three parts (the bows still being attached to the cabin by which she was moored), the bridge floating nearby, & the stern drifting towards land after repeatedly striking sand banks.

Return 10 for the quarter ended 31st March states the vessel has been totally lost.

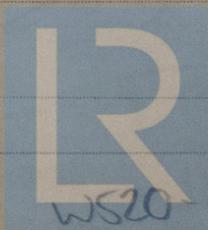
RETAIN

Suggested Record Damaged by gunfire 3.37

Date of Committee TUE 6 APR 1937

Committee's Minute Wrecked 3.37 Damaged by gunfire 3.37

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WS20-0143

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If certificate required? If so, to be sent to