

W/61-0133

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &C.

No. 80201 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 93/40 Date of writing this report _____ 19__

Vessel's Name S.S. Niagara (x RMC) of London Tons Gross 13415
Net 7582

Built at Clydebank When 1913 3 Casualty notice sent to Owner _____ Owner's reply _____

Owner's Name Canadian Australasian Line Ltd.
 Address 999, West Hastings Street, Vancouver

Case previously before _____ Date _____
 Classing Committee. _____ Last Minute _____

Particulars of Classification.	
+ 100 A.I.	+ L.M.C.
Shelter OK.	+ Lloyd's R.M.C. 1239
with foreboard	M.S. 5.36
4, 40	B.S. 10.39
S.S. Sys. 2 nd No. 3-637	T.S. P. 2, 38
Fitted for Oil Fuel 3, 13 F.P.	G. 8, 38
above 150° F.	S, 8, 39

Date of Casualty 19th June 1940

Précis of particulars of Casualty Sunk by mine on the 19th June
about 80 miles North of Auckland and 15 miles off
the coast.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

THE WAR LL 20/6

NIAGARA. — San Francisco, June 18.— British steamer Niagara, owned by the Canadian Australasian Line, is sinking after an explosion, according to a wireless message from the vessel picked up by the Globe Wireless Marine Station. The message added that the vessel was full of water and going down by the bow. A second S.O.S. said the order to abandon ship had been given. — Reuter.

Auckland, June 19.— British steamer Niagara has sunk in the Pacific only a few hours after leaving Auckland. The passengers and crew have been rescued. — British United Press.

Auckland, June 19.— Mr. Fraser, the Prime Minister, announced this evening that a mine was discovered near the scene of the sinking of the liner Niagara, and all doubt as to how she met her fate was at an end. Sweeping is proceeding in the area. All of the 135 passengers and 200 crew are safe and are being brought to Auckland where three hotels have been placed in readiness to accommodate them. — Exchange Telegraph Company.

"NIAGARA" SUNK BY MINE LL 20/6

Fate of "All-Red" Route Liner

Messages, reproduced in our War Casualties column, state that the British steamer Niagara sank, following an explosion soon after leaving Auckland, and the discovery of a mine in the area is regarded as removing all doubt as to how the vessel met her fate. Her passengers, numbering 135, and crew of 200 were rescued. The Niagara, one of the two vessels owned by the Canadian - Australasian Line, Ltd. (jointly owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand, Ltd.), maintained the "All-Red" route from Australasia via the Pacific.

3,415 tons gross, the Niagara was built for the Union Company in 1913 by John Brown & Co., Ltd., of Clydebank. She was a triple-screw vessel, fitted with reciprocating and L.P. turbine machinery, giving her a speed of about 17 knots, and had accommodation for about 520 passengers. For some years the Canadian Australasian Line have had under consideration the question of replacing the Niagara and the Aorangi (the other vessel on the service) by new vessels of the super-liner type.

BRITISH LINER MINED Times 20/6

SUNK OFF NEW ZEALAND

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT
 WELLINGTON, JUNE 19

The British liner Niagara (13,415 tons), of the Canadian Australasian Line, was lost early this morning some hours after leaving New Zealand. It is believed that all on board are safe and are returning to Auckland. Mr. Fraser, the Prime Minister, announced in the House that a mine had been swept up in the locality, which answered the question of how the disaster occurred. All steps have been taken to remove the mine menace.

Air Vice-Marshal S. J. Goble, Australian Air Liaison Officer, and Mrs. Goble were among the passengers on board the Niagara (says Reuter). A message sent out from the ship said that she was full of water after an explosion in No. 2 hold, and that she was going down by the bows. A second S.O.S. said that the order to abandon ship had been given. A number of ships hurried to the assistance of the Niagara after picking up her S.O.S. and rescued her crew and passengers. The weather was fine.

M/M BOX 61

Suggested Record OMITTED FROM R.B.

Date of Committee TUE. 13 AUG 1940

Committee's Minute _____ OMITTED FROM R.B.