

# REPORT of SURVEY for REPAIR

## REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

WRECK BOOK  
No. 581 of

9721

No. 36063 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 3 Date of writing this report 10<sup>th</sup> April 1928  
 Vessel's Name Steel S.S. Sweden Maru of Kobe Tons {Net 4366  
 Gross 5870  
 Built at Kobe When 1920 Casualty notice sent to Owner 10.2.28 Owner's reply See h. from Lon. Office 30.3.28  
 Owner's Name Kawasaki Kisen K.K.  
 Address Haigan Dori 8, Kobe Japan

Case previously before Date Particulars of Classification.  
 Classing Committee. Last Minute +100A1 SS Kob. No. 1-25  
W. Abd. +LMC 2.27

Date of Casualty 10<sup>th</sup> January 1928

Précis of particulars of Casualty  
 Vessel is reported to have gone ashore East of Pantellaria Island. All tanks were leaking, with water in all holds, except boiler and engine rooms, which however, were subsequently started.

Salvage operations were impeded by heavy gales, the vessel being blown further ashore, and sustaining additional damage. Starboard side from engine space aft open to sea; shell plating No. 2 badly broken also in way of engine space; No. 1 tank top set up fractured. Vessel was afterwards abandoned by Master & crew.

In a letter, dated 30<sup>th</sup> March, received from the London Office of the Owners, it is stated:-

"We would draw your attention to the fact that this vessel became a total loss after grounding at Pantellaria Island in January."

### SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

SWEDEN MARU.—Malta, Jan. 10.—Wireless Station reports S O S from Japanese steamer Sweden Maru, position east of Pantellaria.  
 Malta, Jan. 10.—Japanese steamer Sweden Maru aground east coast Pantellaria; requires assistance. H.M.S. Vansittart has gone to assist.  
 Tripoli, Jan. 10.—Wireless Station at Trik Gefara received signals of distress from Japanese steamer Sweden Maru, in distress Pantellaria, requested assistance. British steamer Curleith (P. Inverleith) rendering assistance.  
 Malta, Jan. 11.—Steamer Sweden Maru: H.M.S. Vansittart signalled by wireless 4 a.m. steamer ashore whole port side with three holds flooded and working slightly. Unsafe tow steamer off. Sea smooth, slight easterly swell. Later wireless message from H.M.S. Vansittart reports 9.45 a.m. position unchanged.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.  
 SWEDEN MARU.—London, Jan. 12.—The following cable has been received from the Salvator Salvage & Towing Company, dated Messina, Jan. 11: Steamer Sweden Maru ashore east coast Isle Pantellaria, lat. 36 46 N., long. 12 03 E.; rocky bottom. All tanks leaking. Steamer perfect aground low water. Tug Salvatore Miloro left for assistance.  
 Malta, Jan. 11.—Steamer Sweden Maru: H.M.S. Vansittart now wireless wind north, freshening, easterly swell; have laid out Sweden Maru's kedge anchor. Ship safe while wind remains in present quarter.—Salvage Association.  
 SWEDEN MARU.—Palermo, Jan. 12.—Japanese steamer Sweden Maru, off Pantellaria, signalled for assistance; in no immediate danger. In communication with one British steamer and one Italian steamer.  
 Malta, Jan. 12.—Steamer Sweden Maru: H.M.S. Vansittart now wireless: Am returning to Malta. Crew of Sweden Maru are safe, they can get ashore if necessary.  
 Malta, Jan. 13.—Wireless message from steamer Sweden Maru, timed 1.15 a.m.: "All ballast tanks bottom leaking, water in all holds except boiler, engine-room. Ashore all over about 4 ft. draught dry listed 5 deg. on starboard. Condition no special change to-day." Salvage steamer Freja arrived. Am informed that she cannot start salvage operations before permission obtained from Italian Government. Two other Italian salvage steamers also arrived.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.  
 Palermo, Jan. 13.—Pantellaria Semaphore informs Japanese steamer Sweden Maru stranded Punta F'arra. One tug on the spot named Carmencita, Italian flag.—Lloyd's Agent.  
 SWEDEN MARU.—Malta, Jan. 13.—Steamer Sweden Maru now wireless:—Condition no change. Salvage vessel Freja awaiting Italian permit.—Salvage Association.  
 Palermo, Jan. 14.—Steamer Sweden Maru telegraphed at midnight as follows: "Broken all ballast tanks, water in all holds, no cargo. Salvage steamer Freja arrived. Communicating with Golleher, Malta." Weather good.—Lloyd's Agents.

LL 12-1

13-1

14-1

16-1

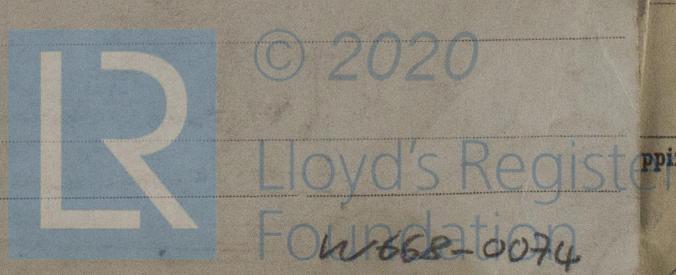
(Cont. over)

Suggested Record, Wrecked, 1.28.  
 Date of Committee WED. 11 APR 1928

Committee's Minute Wrecked, 1.28

By Kawasaki 11/4/28

+L.M.C. 2.27



**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 16.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru advises engaged  
Richard Lloyd's Form.—Salvage Association.

L-18-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Pantellaria, Jan. 17.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Visited vessel  
yesterday. My opinion position hopeless,  
steamer empty on rocky bottom, shallow  
water, about six feet upset water in all  
holds.—Harbour Master, Pantellaria, per  
Salvage Association.

" 19-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Malta, Jan. 19.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru reports by wireless  
last night no change in position. Work  
continues.—Salvage Association.

" 20-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 20.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Our representa-  
tive has not arrived yet on account of  
bad weather. Master informs us as fol-  
lows: Richard working, she has seven  
pumps, total 3000 tons per hour.—Lloyd's  
Agents per Salvage Association.

" 23-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 24.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Our representa-  
tive telegraphs: Position dangerous,  
rocky bottom, keel broken in several  
places. Double bottom and holds flooded.  
Steamer is raised 5 ft. on the rocky bottom  
both fore and aft. Exposed to the wind  
from north to south through east. Salvors  
dispose seven pumps of which four power-  
ful already working, they have two divers  
and have all necessary salvage appliances  
at vessel. At present salvage steamers  
Richard and Alexandria on the spot, an-  
other salvage steamer similar to Richard  
due to arrive to-morrow. Working dis-  
charge bunkers. Three anchors laid out,  
two aft and one fore, besides two warps  
to projecting point of land in order to  
facilitate refloating. Work proceeds  
rapidly.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

" 25-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 26.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Our representa-  
tive reports that divers at work removing  
large stones adhered to keel port side  
in order to plug leaks.—Lloyd's Agents  
per Salvage Association.

" 28-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 27.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Your Special  
Officer arrived safely, proceeded for Pan-  
tellaria. Divers continuing same work  
as per our telegram of yesterday. —  
Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

" 30-1

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Jan. 29.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Your special  
officer telegraphed yesterday afternoon  
could not board vessel owing to the heavy  
sea and S.E. gale. Steamer broadside  
on; seas breaking over her. Both sal-  
vage steamers put in for shelter at Pan-  
tellaria.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage  
Association.

" 31-1

London, Jan. 30.—The  
Salvage Association report that the  
owners of the steamer Sweden Maru have  
received the following messages from the  
master:—

Dated Jan. 28.—Taking advantage of  
easterly heavy gale to-day, have fixed  
pulling off however we are convinced  
almost impossible refloat unless new

methods large scale adopted. Bottom  
has been damaged more owing to violent  
shocks. We will consult Officer Salvage  
Association accordingly.

Dated Jan. 29.—Heavy gale continuing  
resulted in blown ashore more, engine-  
room started water. We consider sal-  
vage now has become very difficult.

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Pantellaria, Jan. 30.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Bad weather con-  
tinues; Steamer driven further in.  
Majority of crew landed. No possibility  
of inspection to-day. Contractors' superin-  
tendent advising Grech salvage doubtful,  
requesting his presence to make decision,  
meantime salvage steamer Richard stand-  
ing close to stranding place. Wind now  
shifting. Possibly will be able to board to-  
morrow.—Salvage Association's Special  
Officer.

" 1-2

London, Jan. 31.—The  
owners of the steamer Sweden Maru have  
received the following cable from the  
master dated Jan. 30: Steamer Sweden  
Maru: As result of heavy gale continued  
until this morning starboard shell plate  
badly (P bent) all alongside and also  
large (P damage) crack at hold No. 3,  
No. 1 ballast tank tank top plate broken,  
furnace submerged by water. Crew  
stopped ashore last night, all safe.—Sal-  
vage Association.

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Pantellaria, Jan.  
31.—Steamer Sweden Maru: Wind  
backed south, unable to board, all crew  
ashore, remaining near steamer. From  
seaward steamer appears have large frac-  
ture starboard side abaft engine space,  
this confirmed by official just arrived after  
six hours mule ride across island. Another  
Japanese steamer cruising off south side  
apparently waiting to take crew. Im-  
possible to embark except here north side,  
but great difficulty for crew to cross  
island. Contractors fear possible loss of  
four pumps.—Salvage Association's  
Special Officer.

L-1 5-2

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Kamma, Feb. 1.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Boarded steamer.  
Position and condition hopeless. Star-  
board side from engine space aft open to  
sea, shell plating No. 2 badly broken also  
in way engine space, No. 1 tank top set  
up, fractured. Have advised master con-  
tract with salvage steamer transport crew  
Sicily. Salvage contractors decline make  
contract strip. Recommend sell steamer  
as lying, meantime authorities taking  
charge of stores and equipment. Con-  
tractors have lost one pump; are now  
recovering their material.—Salvage Association's  
Special Officer.

" 3-2

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Pantellaria, Feb. 2.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: North-westerly  
gale. Steamer sheltered. Crew remain  
on board until weather moderates.  
Probably no communication with main-  
land for some days.—Salvage Association's  
Special Officer.

" 4-2

Pantellaria, Feb. 3.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru: Gale increasing,  
salvage boat with crew unable leave.  
Have arranged with contractors salvage  
stores, equipment, hand same Agent  
Messina, settlement hereafter London.—  
Salvage Association's Special Officer.

**SWEDEN MARU.**—Palermo, Feb. 4.—  
Steamer Sweden Maru has now been  
abandoned, and the master and crew are  
coming here by one of the salvage  
steamers as soon as weather permits.

" 9-2



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