

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 25745 in R.B.

Wreck Book, No. 47/47

Date of writing this report 31st July, 1947

Vessel's Name *Twin S.S.S. "Hong Kheng"* of *Singapore*

Tons Gross 6167
Net 3975

Built at *Hamburg* When *1903*

Casualty notice sent to Owner

Owner's reply

Owner's Name *Hoo Hong Steamship Co. (1932) Ltd.*

Address *"Hamdon Villa", Staplegrove Road, Taunton, Somerset.*

Case previously before
Classing Committee.

Date
Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.

100 A1 LMC 11,38
3,47
Examined 9,46 BS 4,46
SS 3rd No 3-9,35 S 7,44
SS No 1-39 TS P 6,45

Date of Casualty

19th July, 1947

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer stranded in darkness during heavy weather on rocks near Reef Island, Chilang Point, about 80 miles E. of Hong Kong, on the 19th July, 1947.

She broke in two. Both parts are 40 ft. apart and the after-part has been gutted by fire.

Abandoned as a total loss.

The Owners concur.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

HONG KHENG.—Hongkong, July 19.—Steamer Hong Kheng (Rangoon and Hongkong for Amoy) is ashore on Chilang Point in lat. 22 39 N., long. 115 34 E., and is asking for assistance, which is being arranged.

HONG KHENG.—Hongkong, July 19.—H.M.S. Hart reports that there are 1500 passengers on board steamer Hong Kheng. She intends transferring as many as possible to Russian steamer Nahodka, bound to Hongkong, and bringing remainder herself as Hong Kheng is in danger of breaking up. Salvage tug Caroline Moller has proceeded on Lloyd's Open Form.

HONG KHENG.—Hongkong, July 19.—The Chinese passengers of the British steamer Hong Kheng arrived at Hongkong late to-night on board the British naval sloop Hart and the United States destroyers Hawkins and Pox. Despite the fact that the warships were unable to approach the steamer Hong Kheng owing to heavy seas, all passengers and crew were taken off safely and without injuries. The Hong Kheng was bound to Swatow from Hongkong when she went aground on shoals at Chilang Point in darkness and squally weather. The last boatload of people escaping from the Hong Kheng included Captain Bannerman, British commander of the ship. The Hong Kheng was breaking up as the passengers were taken off, making the later stages of the rescue hazardous. It was stated the vessel would be a total loss. —Reuter.

HONG KHENG.—London, July 21.—The following cables have been received from the owners of the steamer Hong Kheng: Dated July 19, 10 33 a.m.: Following message received from steamer Hong Kheng: On rocks near Reef Island, Chilang Point, free forward and aft but caught somewhere about No. 2 bulkhead and making water in Nos. 1 and 2 holds. Consider good chance of saving ship if salvage party quick. Lloyd's Agents at Hongkong and Taikoo Dock advised. Weather not too bad. Dated July 21, 9 37 a.m.: Regret to advise Hong Kheng is a total loss. (See issue of July 21.)

HONG KHENG.—Hongkong, July 21.—Steamer Hong Kheng is a total loss after breaking up and catching fire. Crew and 1242 passengers saved by H.M.S. Hart and two United States destroyers. Vessel had no cargo on board. —Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of July 22.)

HONG KHENG.—Hongkong, July 22.—Steamer Hong Kheng: Vessel broken with gap forty feet wide between fore and after sections. After section gutted by fire, deck accommodation and funnel collapsed. One single lifeboat has been brought to port by salvage tug. —Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of July 23.)

LL 21.7.47

Inserted

Boiler

B, if any

38

46

44

45

" 22/7

" 23/7

" 24/7

S P

11.39

Lower scored

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 7,47
FRI. 1 AUG 1947

Wrecked 7,47

W. H. H. 118.



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Lloyd's Register Foundation

W992-0205

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