

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 10929 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 51/57 Date of writing this report 15th August, 19 57.

Ship's Name m.s. "FREAN" of Rotterdam Tons Gross 362 Net 176

Built at Zaandam When 1940 3 Casualty notice sent to Owner 29.7.57. Owner's reply ---

Owners F. Alberts
N.V. Scheepvaartbedrijf "Grundo"
44, Westerdoskadijk, Amsterdam, Holland.

Classification details

BS*	MBS*6,54 M4,57
4,57	5175
ssAms6,54	
	ts 1,55 OG

Casualty 30th June, 1957.

of Casualty

Stranded and sank at entrance to Port Nolloth harbour.

No reply has been received to a letter addressed to the Owners on 29th July, 1957.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 1.—Charterers report motor coaster Frean went aground at Port Nolloth just after sailing on Sunday (June 30) with 300 tons of ore on board. Ore being dumped and three fishing vessels standing by to tow at high tide forenoon to-day.

Cape Town, July 1.—Motor coaster Frean: Efforts to refloat unsuccessful at high tide. Vessel aground at entrance to Port Nolloth harbour. Continuing to dump ore. Owners' agents arranging to proceed to Port Nolloth to supervise arrangements.

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 2.—Motor coaster Frean: Second attempt to refloat at 6 p.m. yesterday failed. Vessel now leaking and apparently held amidships on pinnacle rock. Further attempt to refloat being made this morning. (See issue of July 2.)

Cape Town, July 2.—Motor vessel Frean: Now informed dumping cargo only commenced at midday on Monday (July 1) and only 20 tons removed yesterday. Work continued all night but attempt to refloat at 7 a.m. to-day also unsuccessful. All bottom tanks now flooded and slight leak into hold. Leakage being controlled by pumps. Position now considered serious. Another attempt to refloat being made at 7 p.m. to-day. Port (Port Nolloth) closed to other coasters meantime.

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 3.—Motor vessel Frean: Further attempt to refloat yesterday evening unsuccessful, hold and engine-room flooded and pumps unable to cope. Inspection of damage and consultations proceeding to decide on further action. (See issue of July 3.)

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 4.—Motor vessel Frean: It has been decided to leave further refloating attempts until spring tides, about July 12. All ballast tanks flooded to hold vessel down meantime and leaks being plugged where possible. Underwriters' agents investigating possibility of obtaining "no pay" salvage contract. (See issue of July 4.)

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 5.—Motor vessel Frean: Superintendent of Thesen Ship Company, Ltd., reported by telephone on July 2 that the vessel was firmly aground and held amidships by a pinnacle of rock. She had grounded at high water on the spring tide. At 9 a.m. that day Nos. 1, 2 and 3 double bottom tanks, starboard, and Nos. 1 and 2 double bottom tanks, port, were flooded. There was a slight leak in the hold on starboard side, also a slight leak in the engine-room on port side. Although instructions had been given for labour to start discharging cargo 48 hours earlier, it was learned that owing to protests raised by the suppliers of the ore the discharge had not commenced until about midday yesterday. It is understood that the ore is not insured. The vessel is insured with Verzekering Oranje, of Groningen. (See later report in issue of July 5.)

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 10.—The refloating of motor vessel Frean is understood to have become a very difficult and complicated undertaking owing to the bottom damage sustained, and because she appears to be securely held on rocks amidships. Mooring wires, which were blocking the channel to Port Nolloth Jetty, have been moved to allow other vessels to enter and leave the harbour. According to the local Press this week an expert is on his way from Holland to investigate the position. The cargo, which was loaded at Port Nolloth for Cape Town, consists of 33 Sillimanite ore, said to be 67,200 lb., six drums and 20 containers of lubricating oil, marked CAL/C.T., case of sundries, carton of paper, two cases of wireless transmitters, 10 empty oxygen cylinders, three empty acetylene cylinders, four empty ammonia cylinders, all marked 50/C.T., and 15 cartons of canned rock lobster, marked Sogweal/Luanda. (See issues of July 5 and 10.)



Suggested Record ✓

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

"WRECKED 6,57"

FRIDAY 16 AUG 1957

NOTED FOR POSTING

Not for Header

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 18.—According to a Press report, it is understood that motor vessel Frean is to be put up for sale as she lies. This decision was taken after the representative of the owners had examined the wreck on July 16 and had come to the conclusion that the cost of refloating together with towage to Cape Town and the price of a new bottom would make the operation economically prohibitive. The Frean is badly holed throughout her length, and while she could possibly be refloated and towed to Cape Town, the cost would be in excess of her earning powers, having regard to her estimated life. (See issue of July 16.)

LL23/7/57

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 29.—Motor vessel Frean has been purchased by a local syndicate. According to a local Press report, dated July 29, one of the obligations placed on a purchaser was the removal of the vessel from her present position. Salvage operations are reported to have commenced and on July 26 the hull was reported to be tight, but efforts to refloat the vessel have so far been unsuccessful. (See issue of July 23.)

LL7/8/57

FREAN.—Cape Town, July 31.—According to a report in the local Press, dated July 31, rough seas during the night of July 29-30 washed motor vessel Frean another 50 ft. up the shore and she is now on sand just about the low water mark. Salvage plans have been postponed until the spring tide in 10 days' time. The vessel, which was recently sold to Mr. J. Geervliet, of Paarl, is holed in her bottom near the keel and a false bottom has been put in. To prevent bumping in rough seas, water has been pumped in. (See issue of Aug. 7.)

LL8/8/57

—Cape Town, Aug. 2.—According to a report in the local Press, dated Aug. 1, it is unlikely that another attempt will be made to save motor vessel Frean. Members of the vessel's crew dismantled the pump and salvage equipment on board and carried it ashore at low tide, on July 31. At low tide the vessel is about 4 ft. above the waterline, embedded 5 ft. in the sand. The hold is half full of water and the deck is canted sharply towards the open sea. The owners have been offered £3000 for the vessel's engine. The hull and steel superstructure will probably be sold for scrap.



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