

WRECK
SECTION
No. 784

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

Wreck Report No. 16004

No. 41571 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 181/61

Date of writing this report 7th February, 1962.

Ship's Name m.s. "UNION RELIANCE"

of Keelung

Tons { Gross 7638
Net 4571

Built at Chester, Pa. When 1940

Casualty notice sent to Owner 24.1.62. Owner's reply 1.2.62.

Owners China Union Lines, Ltd.

Managers

Address 2nd Floor, 8, Goan Chyan Lu, Taipei, Formosa.

WRECK
SECTION

No.

Classification details

100A1	LMC CS3,57
with freeboard	BS A 5,61
4,61	
ss 2,57	ts 4,60 CL
Classed 12,48	

of Casualty

7th November, 1961.

of Casualty

This ship, which sustained extensive fire damage after collision in Houston Ship Channel, has been sold to Southern Scrap Material Co., New Orleans, for breaking up.

The owners concur.



NOTED FOR
RECORDING

Record "DAMAGED BY COLLISION & FIRE 11.61 - TO BE BROKEN UP"

Date of Committee FRIDAY 9 FEB 1962

Committee's Minute

Damaged by collision & fire 11.61 - to be broken up

Im,1,61

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Houston, Nov. 8. — Norwegian motor tanker Berean, loaded with explosive chemicals and fats, has exploded and burst into flames after a collision near Houston. Rescue vessels raced to the scene as thick black smoke rose from the burning vessel. The Coast Guard later reported that all the crew members had been taken off the Berean. — Reuter.

Houston, Nov. 8. — Motor vessel UNION RELIANCE, outward bound, part loaded with general cargo, and motor tanker Berean, inward bound, part loaded with petroleum products, collided in night of Nov. 7 in Houston Ship Channel. Both vessels reported on fire. Number of crew members picked up adrift in lifeboats, some requiring hospitalization.

New York, Nov. 8. — An explosion and fire followed collision between motor tanker Berean and motor vessel UNION RELIANCE (Los Angeles for New Orleans) in the Houston Ship Channel last night. First reports said that a number of seamen were injured. The UNION RELIANCE is reported to have been outward bound from Houston with a cargo of vegetable oil when the collision occurred. At least four Coast Guard rescue vessels rushed to the scene, and hospitals in

the area prepared to take injured. The channel is about a mile at the point of the collision. It was reported that when the ships collided some of the chemicals on board the Berean exploded and engulfed the ship in flames. The fire spread to the other ship and both vessels were burning. One official said it would be hours before the fire could be contained. The fire was first spotted by a United States Navy plane flying overhead. The rescue ship reported seeing men jump from the ships into the water and others lower lifeboats in a bid to escape the flames. There was a danger that the tanker might explode, said Captain L. G. Haverland, Commander of the Coast Guard station at Galveston. The collision took place in the ship channel just at the entrance to Galveston Bay, about 35 miles south of Houston. Captain Haverland said that he understood that everyone had been taken off the Norwegian ship. He said the Belgian steamer Luxembourg had picked up 12 men, three women and a child. "We have no reports on the other ship. Tugs are trying to pull them apart," Captain Haverland said. — British United Press.

Houston, Nov. 8. — Steamer Luxembourg radioed the Coast Guard that she had a woman and two children, all injured, from one of the ships. The Coast Guard said motor tanker Berean was burning fiercely and was dangerous to approach. The UNION RELIANCE, loaded with oil barrels on deck, was still bow to bow with motor tanker Berean in the middle of the channel, which was closed to all but emergency traffic. — Reuter.

Houston, Nov. 8. — The Coast Guard said 14 people were missing after the collision between motor tanker Berean and motor vessel UNION RELIANCE. Ninety-eight people were on board the two ships, 52 on the UNION RELIANCE and 46 on the Berean. The Coast Guard had accounted for 84. Captain Hsu Wen Tsai, of the UNION RELIANCE, said he was on the bridge when the ships collided and was badly burned. "My ship was covered in smoke and flame. I jumped off in the water," he said at a hospital emergency room. — Reuter.

Houston, Nov. 8. — The Coast Guard said that motor vessel UNION RELIANCE was a total loss. She was swept from bow to stern by flames, and continuous explosions shattered her below decks. Fireboats and tugs had the smaller fire on motor tanker Berean under control by early to-day. Coast Guard officials were afraid, however, that leaking fuel and the highly inflammable solvent fuel might explode unless the tanker could be dragged away from the blazing cargo vessel. The two ships went aground on opposite sides of the channel but were lying bow to bow. All on the Norwegian tanker have been accounted for and are safe. — British United Press.

Houston, Nov. 8. — The fire virtually destroyed motor vessel UNION RELIANCE, but the blaze on board motor tanker Berean was extinguished within five hours, and she was moved to anchor under her own power. — Reuter.

Houston, Nov. 8. — Three Chinese crew members of Chinese motor vessel UNION RELIANCE are known to have died in the collision and 11 other people, 10 of them from the crew of the UNION RELIANCE, are missing. The eleventh missing man is David Dinean, a United States pilot for LYNN RELIANCE. A series of explosions shattered the Chinese ship after it was gutted by the flames.

WRECK
SECTION
No. 784

1-11/21

003479-003486-0012

Letter

If certificate is required state where to

2020

Lloyd's Register
Foundation

Houston, Nov. 8. — The fire on motor tanker Borean was put out after six hours and tugs took her to Galveston for repairs. The bodies of three of the missing crew members of motor vessel UNION RELIANCE have been found on the decks.—British United Press. (See issue of Nov. 9.)

Houston, Nov. 9. — Motor tanker Borean holed No. 2 port tank, cargo in tank lost; also sustained some fire damage forward. Motor vessel UNION RELIANCE abandoned. Vessel still burning forward in all three holds. Stern aground and vessel listing. Coast Guard and Houston fireboat attempting to extinguish fire.

Houston, Nov. 9. —The United States Coast Guard abandoned attempts to put out the fire on Chinese motor vessel UNION RELIANCE in the Houston Ship Channel to-day and decided to let the fire burn itself out. The Coast Guard saved motor tanker Borean and prevented a greater disaster in the channel by pouring foam into a burning hold filled with an explosive chemical. The UNION RELIANCE is aground and listing 15 deg.—British United Press.

UNION RELIANCE. — Houston, Nov. 9. —Motor tanker BOREAN arrived at Galveston on Nov. 8. (See issue of Nov. 10.)

Houston, Nov. 9. — Motor tanker BOREAN: Master advises only cargo damage 226 tons of acrylonitrile loaded No. 1 port wing at Good Hope, New Orleans, destined Dordrecht, Holland; shipper Cynamid. — Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

Houston, Nov. 10. — Fire below decks is still preventing Coast Guards from boarding Chinese motor vessel Union Reliance. She is blocking the Houston Ship Channel and at least 45 ships are waiting for her to be moved. Three of the crew of the Union Reliance are known to be dead, eight are still missing and are believed to have died on board the vessel. — British United Press.

UNION RELIANCE. — Houston, Nov. 8. — The collision between motor vessel Union Reliance and motor tanker BOREAN occurred at 11 15 p.m., Nov. 7, near the midway point in the Houston Ship Channel. — New York Maritime Association. (See issue of Nov. 11.)

Houston, Nov. 11. —Tugs have pulled the burning Chinese motor vessel Union Reliance free from a mudbank on which she was grounded. The vessel, which had been blocking the Houston Ship Channel, was towed to an anchorage near Galveston, where she will probably be flooded to put out the fire.—British United Press.

UNION RELIANCE. — New York, Nov. 13. —Motor vessel Union Reliance, which arrived at Galveston on Nov. 7, followed by 4 from location of collision. Vessel boarded on Nov. 12 with permission of Army Engineers and captain of port. Found about 12 deg. starboard list, with complete hull forward of engine-room still very hot and active fires still blazing in Nos. 1, 2 and 3 lower holds, all hull forward of engine-room as seen above water, including decks, tween decks, hatch coamings, intercostals, deck fittings and equipment, badly buckled, distorted or destroyed, to renew, lower part of bow in way of forepeak tank carried away and crumpled by direct collision, amidship house complete, including equipment and furnishings, gutted, to renew, hull and superstructure aft of amidship house locally damaged to minor extent by fire and smoke. Engine-room not fully examined due to heat and oil fumes. Evidence fumes from hot diesel oil coming out of vent pipes from settling tanks or No. 3 double bottom tanks. Owners attorneys endeavouring to obtain offers to extinguish fires but, in view of lack of equipment at Galveston, not yet successful. Nos. 4 and 5 hatches remain closed and consider cargo in these holds intact at present. Providing engine-room could be saved from fire and water and vessel remain upright, anticipate this cargo could be discharged with vessel's own facilities. Tug Zeus standing by vessel.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Nov. 14.)

UNION RELIANCE.—New York, Nov. 14. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Owners through attorney engaged Port Houston Iron Works to extinguish fires on time and material basis. Equipment arrived at vessel on Nov. 13 and commenced pumping water into No. 3 hold late on Nov. 13 but this shortly abandoned as water not penetrating remaining cargo in bottom of lower hold, which apparently consists of solidly packed wood products, and running to starboard side, thus materially increasing list. We advised cargo in bottom of all forward holds still burning to-day.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Nov. 15.)

UNION RELIANCE. — New York, Nov. 14. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Fire in No. 3 hold extinguished late on Nov. 14 and engine-room now cooled. In No. 1 hold also practically extinguished. Present intention pump out water, which up to floor plates on side, from No. 3 hold and engine-room with shore-supplied pumps in order to prevent list before extinguishing fire in No. 2 hold. Anticipate all fires to be extinguished by Nov. 16. — Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Nov. 16.)

UNION RELIANCE. — New York, Nov. 14. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Marine surveyor advises that there is no danger of fuel exploding. The vessel has a list of 25 deg. and is down by the stern. (See later report in issue of Nov. 17.)

Houston, Nov. 16. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Fire in forward three cargo spaces extinguished; all cargo consumed. After two holds cargo apparently undamaged.

UNION RELIANCE. — Houston, Nov. 16. —Motor vessel Union Reliance has 15-deg. list due to loose water in holds, which is now being pumped out. It is expected vessel will be in condition to discharge cargo from Nos. 4 and 5 holds on Monday, Nov. 20. No. 5 hold is expected to be in good condition but there may be some water damage in No. 4 hatch.—New York Maritime Association. (See issue of Nov. 18.)

New York, Nov. 17. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Fires now out with exception of No. 2 hold, which now being controlled. Engine-room pumped out, which reduced list to 11 deg. Shell plating found fractured below water level starboard side forward end of engine-room adjacent to forward bulkhead but leakage under control. Attorney reports hopeful vessel can proceed alongside on Nov. 20 for removal of cargo in after holds.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

UNION RELIANCE. — New York, Nov. 20. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Fire out completely and vessel righted to two-degree starboard list. Endeavouring to stop leakage into engine-room previously noted. Deck plating in way of No. 1 hold extensively fractured. Present expenses of maintaining vessel status quo reported about \$500 daily, exclusive of tug Zeus, which standing by on orders of Coast Guard at \$1300 daily. Efforts now being made in Galveston area to obtain covered storage prior to vessel proceeding alongside to discharge cargo from after holds.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Nov. 20.)

UNION RELIANCE.—Houston, Nov. 20. —Motor vessel Union Reliance now upright and in position to berth and discharge. Agents endeavouring to procure berth, but if unable to do so may have to lighter cargo. Since latter will double costs, all efforts to procure berth being made. Action becoming urgent since deck and shell plating cracking in way of Nos. 1 and 3 and now find some water has entered Nos. 4 and 5 hatches. Cargo previously reported apparently good in these hatches may be to some extent water-damaged. — New York Maritime Association. (See issue of Nov. 22.)

UNION RELIANCE.—New York, Nov. 22. — Motor vessel Union Reliance anchored; fires apparently out. The ship is under the control of United States District Court. A small Coast Guard vessel is maintained as assistance to other agencies until the vessel is released to owners. (See issue of Nov. 24.)

UNION RELIANCE.—Houston, Nov. 24. —Motor vessel Union Reliance now in custody of United States Marshal. Cargo in Nos. 4 and 5 hatches becoming damaged by rain due to damaged and leaky tarpaulins.—New York Maritime Association. (See issues of Nov. 24 and 28.)

UNION RELIANCE. — Houston, Dec. 5. — Motor vessel Union Reliance docked at Galveston and commenced unloading remaining cargo this morning. (See issues of Dec. 1 and 5.)

UNION RELIANCE.—New York, Dec. 5. —Motor vessel Union Reliance proceeded alongside pier No. 35, Galveston, yesterday and discharge from Nos. 4 and 5 holds expected commence to-day. Understood after discharge vessel will be removed to pier at Todd Shipyards, Galveston, and offered for sale "as is, where is." (See issue of Dec. 6.)

UNION RELIANCE. — Houston, Dec. 7. —The cargo being discharged from No. 4 hatch of motor vessel Union Reliance shows considerable water damage, while the cargo in No. 5 hatch is turning out very good. All shipments are being warehoused under bond awaiting final disposition.—New York Maritime Association. (See issues of Dec. 5 and 7.)

Oslo, Dec. 8. — The owners of motor tanker BOREAN, which arrived at Copenhagen on Dec. 7 with a large hole in her bows, sustained through collision with motor vessel Union Reliance on Nov. 7, state that the BOREAN will proceed for repairs to Kristiansand S, where she is expected to-morrow. The repairs are expected to take about five weeks. — "Norges Handels og Sjøfartstidende."

UNION RELIANCE.—New York, Jan. 3. —Motor vessel Union Reliance: Present position 1115 tons of cargo discharged from Nos. 4 and 5 holds, with discharge of balance of 49 tons anticipated Jan. 4. Discharge of cargo delay resultant on wet weather experienced in Gulf coast area. Understand vessel will be sold under court order by United States Marshal at Galveston on Jan. 10 or 12. — Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Dec. 12.)

UNION RELIANCE.—New York, Jan. 5. —Chinese motor vessel Union Reliance, at Pier 35, Galveston, will be sold by the United States Marshal by public auction at 10 a.m., Jan. 12, at the Marshal's office at Houston. (See issue of Jan. 5.)

UNION RELIANCE. — New York, Jan. 15. — Chinese motor vessel Union Reliance was sold by the United States Marshal by public auction on Jan. 12 at Houston to the Southern Scrap Materials Co., New Orleans, for \$109,000, "as is, where is." (See issue of Jan. 9.)

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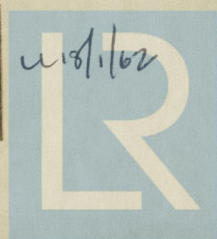
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