



National Research  
Council  
Canada

Conseil National de  
Recherches  
Canada

Institute for Ocean  
Technology

Institut des Technologies  
Océaniques

## Ship-Iceberg Collision Incident Report



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### Vessel Characteristics

<b>Name:</b> City of Berlin	<b>Prime Mover:</b> Steam
<b>Flag:</b> UK	<b>Transmission:</b> Unknown
<b>ASPPR Ice Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Power (kW):</b>
<b>Lloyd's Class:</b> Unknown	<b># Propellers:</b> 1
<b>Baltic Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Prop. Type:</b> Unknown
<b>Vessel Type:</b> Passenger	<b>Service Speed:</b> 15
<b>Owner:</b> Inman Line	<b>Stern Form:</b>
<b>Registered Country:</b> UK	<b>Steel Grade:</b> Unknown
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b> 1875	<b>Miscellaneous Vessel Notes:</b>
<b>Bow Shape:</b> Unknown	Captain Land.
<b>Stem Angle:</b>	1893 renamed "Berlin".
	1898 renamed "Meade".
	1921 scrapped.
<b>Dimensions (m):</b>	<b>Mass (tonnes):</b>
<b>Length:</b> 148.9	<b>Gross:</b> 5491
<b>Beam:</b> 13.5	<b>Net:</b>
<b>Depth:</b>	<b>Dead:</b>

### Collision Details

<b>Date:</b> 19-May-1885	<b>Air Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility (nautical miles):</b>	<b>Water Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility:</b> Poor	<b>Wind Speed:</b> 0
<b>Visibility - Fog:</b> Thick fog	<b>Wave Height:</b>
<b>Visibility - Snow:</b> Unknown	<b>Sea State:</b> Unknown
<b>Visibility - Light:</b> Night	
<b>Collision Speed:</b> 4	
Kerwin Place	Place Kerwin
P.O. Box 12093	C.P. 12093
St. John's, Newfoundland	St. John's, Terre-Neuve
A1B 3T5	A1B 3T5
Fax:(709) 772-2462	Télécopieur:(709) 772-2462



## Damage Details

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<b>Damage Sustained:</b> Yes	<b>Damage Report No. :</b>
<b>Scenario:</b> Direct Impact	<b>Steel Failure Type:</b> Unknown
<b>Severity:</b> Minor Deck Damage	<b>Size - Length (m):</b>
<b>Location:</b> Bow	<b>Size - Height (m):</b>
<b>Code:</b> Appendage	<b>Damage Below WL (m):</b>
<b>Length of Downtime:</b>	<b>Damage Above WL - Height (m):</b>
<b>Cost of Downtime:</b>	<b>Damage Above WL - Length (m):</b>
<b>Cost to Repair:</b> 5000	
<b>No. Lives Lost:</b>	
<b>No. Injuries:</b>	<b>Cause of Deaths/Injuries:</b> Unknown
<b>Cargo Loss:</b> Unknown	
<b>Pollution:</b> Unknown	<b>Pollution Potential:</b> Unknown

### Cause of Damage:

Hit an immense berg 150' high by 500' long ( 45 x 150 m) stem on in the North Atlantic, dead slow in dense fog at 3: 15 a.m. Struck before order could be given to reverse engines. Calm. Two other icebergs sighted near time of incident.

### Damage Description:

As vessel struck, a hundred tons of ice came toppling over on the forcastle head. Bowsprit, jib-boom and headgear carried away. The massive bowsprit, 25' (7.6 m) long was snapped off just within the head, tearing with it about 10' (3 m) of deck, and the port rail for about 15' (4.6 m). The stem was smashed in for over 10' ( 3 m) and the great figurehead torn away. The 3 upper plates for a distance of 4 or 5 feet (1.4 m) were stove in. as well as the deck. and through the aaoina holes thus left some of the blocks of ice of the 150 tons or

## Ice Details

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**Ice Briefing Received:** Unknown

**Iceberg Population:**

**IIP Iceberg Number:**

**Sea Ice Concentration:**

**Position of Nearest Known Iceberg:**

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**Iceberg Shape:** Unknown

**Latitude:** 0 ' " N

**Iceberg Size:** Large

**Longitude:** 0 ' " W

**Length:** 150

**Date of Observation:**

**Width:**

**Iceberg Tonnage:**

## Route Details

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**Geographic Area:** Grand Banks

**Origin:** Liverpool - Queenstown

**Collision Latitude:** 43 ° 30 ' " N

**Destination:** New York

**Collision Longitude:** 049 ° 30 ' " W

**Distance:**

**Locale Accuracy:** Known

**Cargo at Event:**

**Voyage:**

**Displacement:**

**Draft FWD (m):**

**Captain's Experience:** Unknown

**Radar Equipped?:** Unknown

**Radar Details:**

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