



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

Name: Hans Hedtoft	Prime Mover: Unknown
Flag: Denmark	Transmission: Unknown
ASPPR Ice Class: Unknown	Power (kW):
Lloyd's Class: Unknown	# Propellers:
Baltic Class: Unknown	Prop. Type: Unknown
Vessel Type: Passenger / Cargo	Service Speed:
Owner: Royal Greenlandic Trade (KGH)	Stern Form:
Registered Country: Denmark	Steel Grade: Unknown
Year of Manufacture: 1959	

Bow Shape: Unknown
Stem Angle:

Dimensions (m):		Mass (tonnes):	
Length:	87.8	Gross:	2800
Beam:		Net:	0
Depth:		Dead:	

Miscellaneous Vessel Notes:

Double hull and seven water tight bulkheads.
Newest, largest and strongest of KGH's ships.

Collision Details

Date: 30-Jan-1959	
Visibility (nautical miles):	Air Temperature:
Visibility: Poor	Water Temperature:
Visibility - Fog: Unknown	Wind Speed: 50
Visibility - Snow: Snow	Wave Height: 6
Visibility - Light: Daylight	Sea State: Rough

Collision Speed:

Kerwin Place
P.O. Box 12093
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 3T5
Fax:(709) 772-2462

Place Kerwin
C.P. 12093
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Damage Details

Damage Sustained: Yes	Damage Report No. :
Scenario: Glancing Blow	Steel Failure Type: Unknown
Severity: Sinking	Size - Length (m):
Location: Machinery	Size - Height (m):
Code: Hole	Damage Below WL (m):
Length of Downtime:	Damage Above WL - Height (m):
Cost of Downtime:	Damage Above WL - Length (m):
Cost to Repair:	
No. Lives Lost: 95	
No. Injuries:	Cause of Deaths/Injuries: Fall to Deck
Cargo Loss: Yes	
Pollution: Unknown	Pollution Potential: Unknown

Cause of Damage:

Struck a berg in bad weather and heavy 6 m. seas a little before noon (EST) about 37 miles south of Cape Farewell, Greenland.

Damage Description:

SOS that vessel was sinking reported at 3:35 pm local. Last messages at 7:52 pm. Engine room flooded so presumably hit berg off bow. Confusion over position may have delayed potential rescue. German trawler Kreuss in immediate area. Ice reported close to the NW. Loss resulted in ice observation program around Greenland.

Ice Details

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: Unknown

Longitude: 0 ° ' " W

Length:

Date of Observation:

Width:

Iceberg Tonnage:

Route Details

Geographic Area: South Greenland Wate

Origin: Godthaab (Nuuk)

Collision Latitude: 59 ° 30 ' " N

Destination: Copenhagen

Collision Longitude: 043 ° 00 ' " W

Distance:

Locale Accuracy: Known

Cargo at Event:

Voyage:

Displacement:

Draft FWD (m):

Captain's Experience: Unknown

Radar Equipped?: Yes

Radar Details:

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