



National Research  
Council  
Canada

Conseil National de  
Recherches  
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Institute for Ocean  
Technology

Institut des Technologies  
Océaniques

## Ship-Iceberg Collision Incident Report



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### Vessel Characteristics

<b>Name:</b> Maksim Gorkiy	<b>Prime Mover:</b> Gaz Turbine
<b>Flag:</b> U.S.S.R	<b>Transmission:</b> Unknown
<b>ASPPR Ice Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Power (kW):</b> 33800
<b>Lloyd's Class:</b> Unknown	<b># Propellers:</b>
<b>Baltic Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Prop. Type:</b> Unknown
<b>Vessel Type:</b> Passenger	<b>Service Speed:</b> 23
<b>Owner:</b> Black Sea Shipping Co.	<b>Stern Form:</b>
<b>Registered Country:</b> Germany	<b>Steel Grade:</b> Unknown
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b> 1969	<b>Miscellaneous Vessel Notes:</b>
<b>Bow Shape:</b> Unknown	788 passnger cruise liner built as "Hamburg" 1973 renamed "Hanseatic" 1974 renamed "Maksim Gorky" Chartered by Phoenix Reisen of Bonn
<b>Stem Angle:</b>	
<b>Dimensions (m):</b>	
<b>Length:</b> 195.7	<b>Mass (tonnes):</b>
<b>Beam:</b> 26.6	<b>Gross:</b> 24981
<b>Depth:</b>	<b>Net:</b>
	<b>Dead:</b>

### Collision Details

<b>Date:</b> 19-Jun-1989	<b>Air Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility (nautical miles):</b>	<b>Water Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility:</b> Unknown	<b>Wind Speed:</b>
<b>Visibility - Fog:</b> Unknown	<b>Wave Height:</b>
<b>Visibility - Snow:</b> Unknown	<b>Sea State:</b> Unknown
<b>Visibility - Light:</b> Low light	
<b>Collision Speed:</b> 18	
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> Large hole	<b>Size - Length (m):</b> 2.5
<b>Location:</b> Bow	<b>Size - Height (m):</b> 0.8
<b>Code:</b> Plate	<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>	
<b>No. Lives Lost:</b> 0	
<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:

At 18.5 knots, shortly after midnight (00:27), ship struck some say an iceberg but likely a large thick ice floe, possibly even a worn down ice island as size has been given as 12 miles and 2 - 3 m thick.

### Damage Description:

Vessel began to sink. "The Captain made a distress call and the 575 passengers as well as 120 of the 378 crew members abandoned the "Maxim Gorkiy". At about 3 A.M. the Norwegian Coast Guard vessel "Senja" arrived at the scene of the accident. Divers from the Norwegian ship tried to insulate the leaks and additional pumps were installed. The vessel's long bow had already sank up to the main deck when the "Maxim Gorkiy" was finally stabilized. The passengers. that had to hold out in the lifeboats and on ice floes at temperatures

## 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:** Ice Island

**Longitude:** 0 ° ' " W

**Length:** 19000

**Date of Observation:**

**Width:**

**Iceberg Tonnage:**

## Route Details

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**Geographic Area:** Greenland Sea

**Origin:** Iceland

**Collision Latitude:** 78 ° ' " N

**Destination:** Spitzbergen

**Collision Longitude:** 000 ° 30 ' " E

**Distance:**

**Locale Accuracy:** Known

**Cargo at Event:** Passengers

**Voyage:**

**Displacement:**

**Draft FWD (m):** 8.3

**Captain's Experience:** Unknown

**Radar Equipped?:** Unknown

**Radar Details:**

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