

Dutch Liner Crashes Into Pinkenba Wharf

BRISBANE, December 13. — Without tug assistance because of the union ban on ships to the N.E.I., the 5000-ton Dutch liner Tasman, crashed into Pinkenba wharf as she left for Batavia yesterday.

Her departure was delayed more than an hour. Wharf piles were damaged.

The Tasman's side was marked and strained as she crashed against the edge of the wharf for 50 yards.

A wire hawser cracked under the strain, and swished past dozens of people on the wharf.

One hundred and twenty Dutch servicemen and Australian wives and children of Dutch and Indonesians on board sang "Waltzing Matilda."

A few minutes earlier a diphtheria suspect had been removed from the ship and taken by ambulance to the General Hospital. He was admitted to Wattlebrae.

Two insane Indonesians were taken on board the ship for repatriation to the N.E.I.

The Tasman crashed after she had pulled away by the stern. A fresh in the river, and the ebb tide, drove the bow into the wharf. The wire hawser snapped and the vessel swung inshore.

She crashed against the wharf and rode it for 50 yards. A new line was fastened from the bow, and the vessel swung again by the stern. She pulled clear astern and swung into the channel.

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Dutchmen who sailed in the Tasman said they would have preferred to stay in Australia.

They were not anxious to live in the civil war uncertainty of Java with its food shortages, housing problems, and domestic difficulties.

But Mr F. Lischer said: "We

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But Mr F. Lischer said: "We are ordered. We must go."

With Mrs Lischer he is returning to Batavia after four years in Australia. They are taking with them Trudy and Hanz de Lorme, young N.E.I. children who were brought to Australia from Japanese prison camps.

The Australian wife of Mr C. Meijs, formerly Miss B. J. Cook, of Casino, is going to Holland.

"I am anxious to see my relations on the other side. I will love seeing other parts of the world," she said.

Mrs Meijs was a driver for the Dutch at Camp Colombia during the war. She met her husband and married 18 months ago.

A Dutch beauty specialist, Mrs G. Rohner, of Sydney, said: "I will be back in Australia in three months."