

Titanic shipwreck was hit by a **SUBMARINE** during an expedition that revealed the disappearance of the captain's bathtub in 2019 - but the US government kept it quiet

- **British-led EYOS Expeditions had a collision with the Titanic remains back in July**
- **The crash was kept secret by the US government, according to the Telegraph**
- **'Intense and highly unpredictable currents' had caused the pilot to lose control**
- **But the submarine 'is not a battering ram' the expedition leader has insisted**
- **The remains of the ocean liner are in danger of decaying to nothing in 40 years**

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The remains of RMS Titanic were hit by a submarine last year but the crash was kept quiet by a US government agency, according to a report.

The collision was made by a vessel hired by British company EYOS Expeditions, but US officials never revealed that it had struck the wreck of the legendary ocean liner, according to legal papers seen by [the Telegraph](#).

The Triton submersible collided with the starboard hull breach Titanic back in July 2019, when 'intense and highly unpredictable currents' caused the pilot to lose control, the papers reveal.

The EYOS expedition leader confirmed to the Telegraph that there had been contact with the Titanic but that any damage to the remains would have been minor.

However, the delicate wreck is deteriorating so rapidly underwater that it could completely disappear within the next 40 years.

The 2019 expedition carried scientists who said microbial life was eating away at the wreck, including the captain's bathtub, which had completely disappeared.



© Triton/Wikimedia Commons

The Triton DSV Limiting Factor from Florida-based company Triton Submarines, which collided with the starboard hull breach of the Titanic wreck

The Triton DSV Limiting Factor brought back the first ever 4K images of RMS Titanic, showing the extent to its damage caused by sea salt corrosion, metal-eating bacteria and deep currents.

'We tried to keep away from the Titanic but we had to go close to deposit two science samples,' said EYOS expedition leader Rob McCallum.

'We did accidentally make contact with the Titanic once while we were near the starboard hull breach, a big piece of the hull that sticks out.

'Afterwards we observed a red rust stain on the side of the hub.

'But the submersible is covered in white fibreglass and is very delicate and expensive, while underwater it's essentially weightless – it's not a battering ram.'

The \$35 million Triton DSV Limiting Factor is the only submersible in the world capable of diving to the deepest ocean depth – 36,000 feet.

The Titan explorers, who were making the first manned voyage to the Titanic wreckage in 14 years, said they uncovered a partial collapse of the ship's hull.

The porcelain bathtub of RMS Titanic Captain Edward Smith had also completely disappeared.

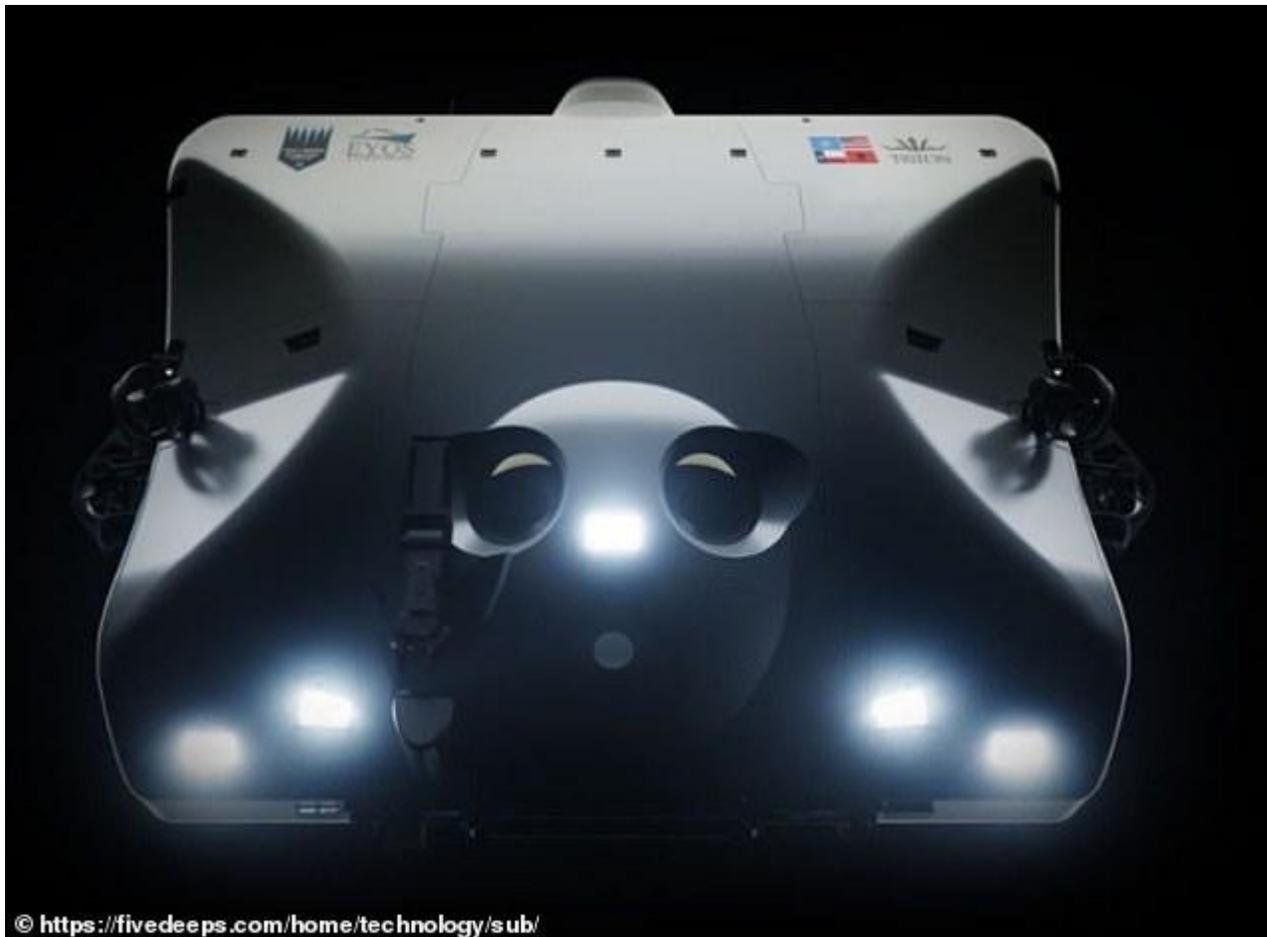


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Pictured, the remains of Captain Edward Smith's bathtub from the 2003 NOAA expedition with rusticles growing over most of the pipes and fixtures in the bathroom. The tub had disappeared completely by 2019



- **The wreck of the Titanic will be protected for the first time following a 'momentous' treaty which will restrict exploration of the sunken vessel's decaying hull, pictured**

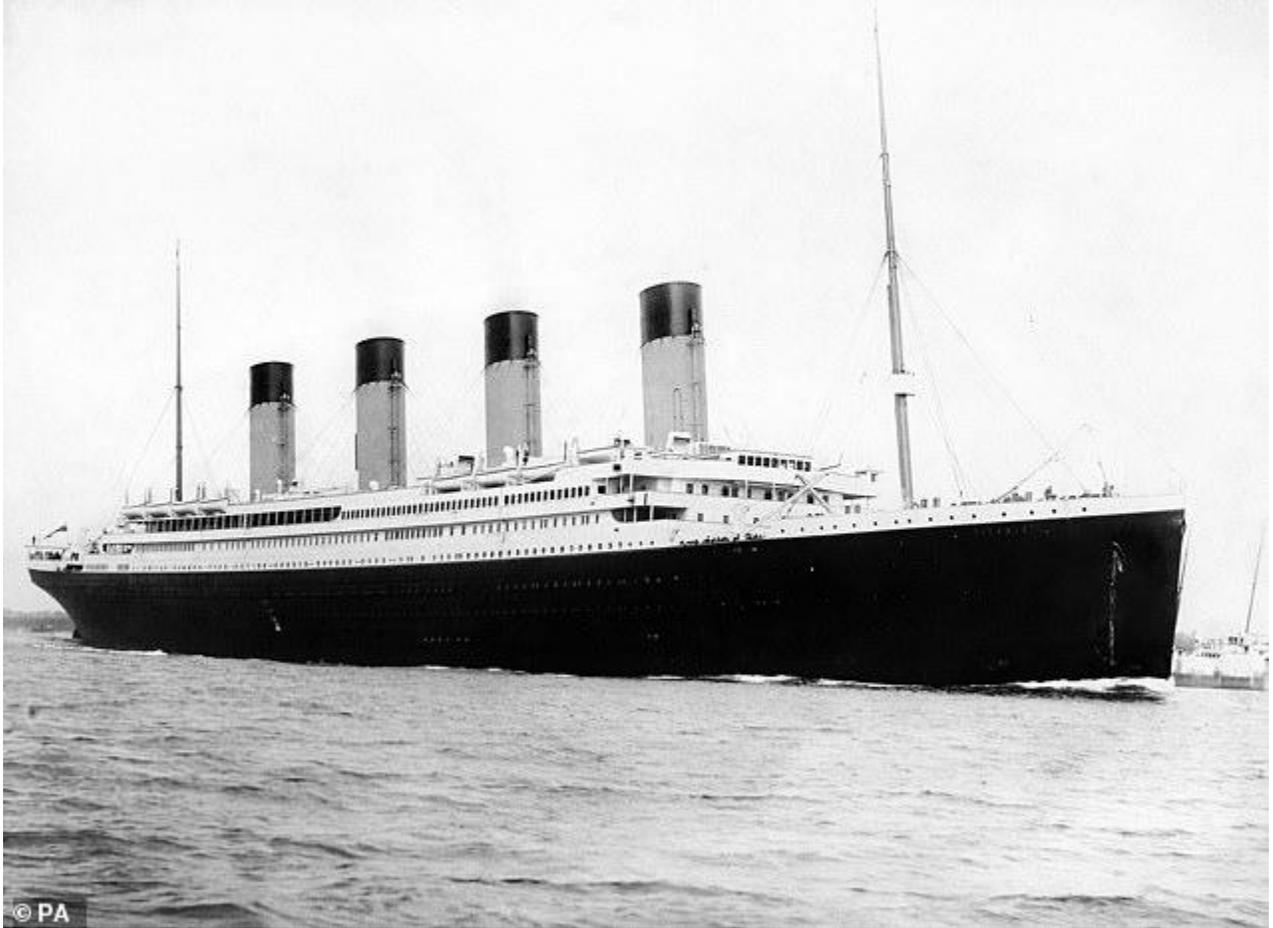


- **Triton DSV Limiting Factor can dive to depths of 36,000 feet and fits two passengers plus a pilot**

The state of the wreck – which sank in two pieces – has long been deteriorating due to corrosion, biological activity and deep ocean currents.

US wreck salvage firm RMS Titanic Inc – which is the only entity legally permitted to remove items from Titanic’s remains – alleges that the government agency knew the EYOS submarine struck the Titanic but officials monitoring the dive failed to inform the court.

This was despite an observer from the government agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), being on board the EYOS expedition surface ship.



Atlantic Productions is gearing up to release a documentary from the dive sometime in 2020. The team captured the first 4K images of the ship. It's pictured above on January 1, 1912

Instead it took more than five months for EYOS to admit to the collusion, in a report dated January 7, the Telegraph report says.

The fact that NOAA never disclosed the crash to the court 'raises a series of troubling issues', according to RMST, which has demanded that EYOS produce video footage of the collision or face charges.

RMST demands that a NOAA representative be summoned to explain why the court and RMST were not informed sooner and the effect of the collision on the delicate wreck.

NOAA said it first learned of the impact with the Titanic through the EYOS report.



A reproduction of the Marconi Radio Room, from the Titanic, at the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration. A plan is being hatched to 'surgically remove' a roof to get to the radio that gave out the Titanic's final distress signal

Next month RMST will ask a judge permission to retrieve artefacts from within the remains of the wreck, including the Marconi wireless radio – which in 1912 was a world-leading communications device and transmitted the ship's distress signal.

RMST, backed by Private Equity firms, wants to use three underwater robots to lift part of the ceiling to grab the Marconi wireless.

A document seen by the Telegraph said: 'In the next few years the overhead is expected to collapse, potentially burying forever the remains of the world's most famous radio.'

RMST claims it wishes to preserve the relics on the wreck before they are lost to history.

However, the plans have been criticised as little more than an attempt to 'pilfer and pillage' the wreck by Gavin Robinson, DUP MP for Belfast East, where the Titanic was built.

Mr Robinson told The Telegraph: 'I think it's important that we get behind government and make sure that there are robust efforts in place that would frustrate the efforts of those who want to simply profiteer.'

'The idea that a vested connection would warrant pilfering and pillaging what is essentially a tomb to the sacrifice to those who were aboard Titanic, I think it's entirely misguided.'

Robinson last week slammed plans to cut open the hull of the Titanic and salvage the Marconi wireless in defiance of a new landmark treaty between the US and UK to protect the iconic shipwreck.

The agreement will give both nations the power to grant or deny licences to enter the remains and to remove artefacts found outside the hull before the wreck disappears forever.

The luxury liner – which sank on April 15, 1912, after a collision with an iceberg – lies on the seafloor around 350 nautical miles off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada.



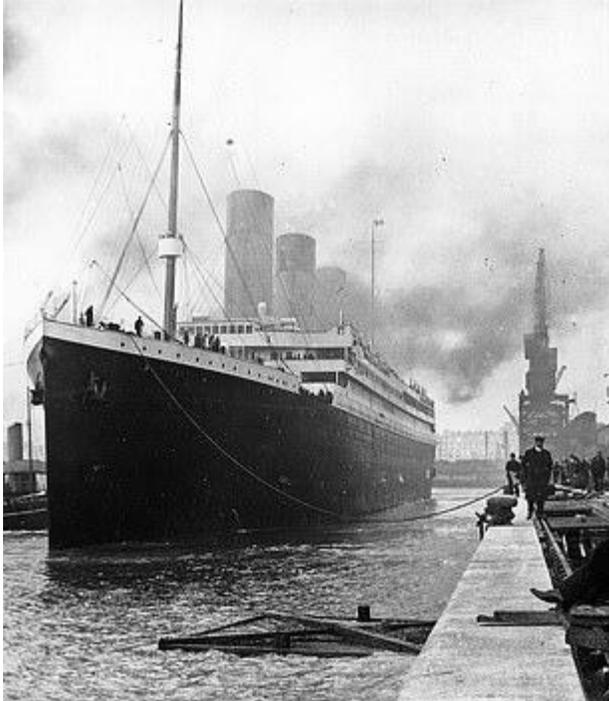
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Around 13,000ft (4,000m) beneath the surface of the Atlantic Ocean, salt corrosion and metal-eating bacteria have worn away parts of the liner's structure (pictured)



- The footage from last year (a still is shown above) gives a much clearer look at the different parts of the ship that appeared in the movie. Titanic historian Park Stephenson said the deterioration is 'shocking', adding: 'That whole deck hole on that side is collapsing, taking with it the staterooms, and the deterioration is going to continue advancing'





The photo (left) shows a new angle of the side of the RMS Titanic in her resting place at the bottom of the North Atlantic Ocean taken during a survey of the wreckage from a manned submersible on an expedition in early August. The ship is pictured at the dock over a century ago (right) before its doomed voyage

Constructed by Belfast-based shipbuilders Harland and Wolff between 1909 and 1912, the RMS Titanic was the largest ship afloat of her time.

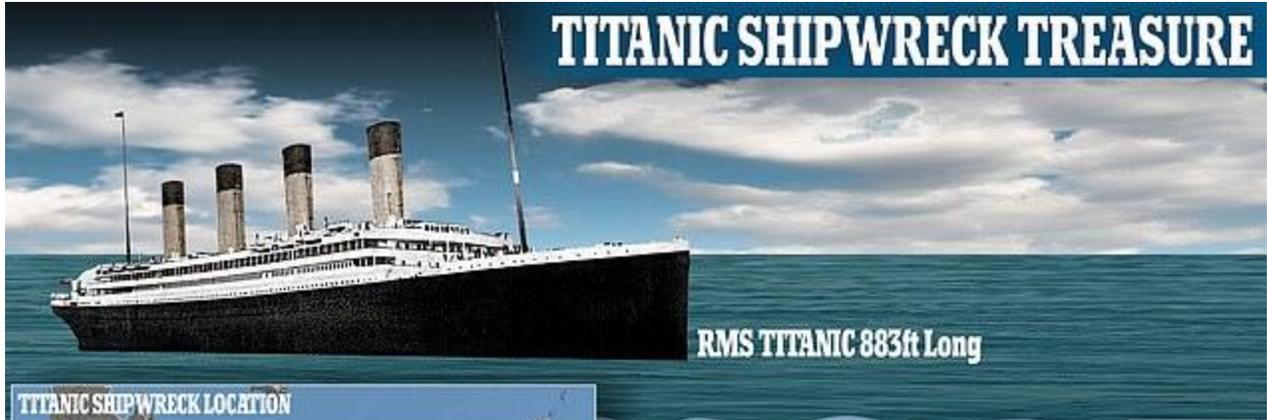
Owned and operated by the White Star Line, the passenger vessel set sail on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York on April 10, 1912.

The liner made two short stops en route to her planned Atlantic crossing – one at the French port of Cherbourg, the other at Cork Harbour, Ireland, where smaller vessels ferried passengers on and off board the Titanic.

Nearly five days into her voyage, the Titanic struck an iceberg at around 23:40 local time, generating six narrow openings in the vessel's starboard hull, believed to have occurred as a result of the rivets in the hull snapping.

Around 1,500 people were believed lost in the tragedy, including around 815 of the liner's passengers.

TITANIC SHIPWRECK TREASURE



RMS TITANIC 883ft Long



TITANIC RESTING PLACE
2.4 miles from the surface and with a bow and stern 2,000 feet apart facing in opposite directions

WRECK SALVAGE OPERATION
Small submersibles fitted with claws can remove treasures and return them to a waiting ship on the surface



5,000ft

10,000ft

12,500ft

DISASTER IN THE ATLANTIC: HOW MORE THAN 1,500 LOST THEIR LIVES WHEN THE TITANIC SUNK

The RMS Titanic sank in the North Atlantic Ocean on April 15, 1912, after colliding with an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York.

More than 1,500 people died when the ship, which was carrying 2,224 passengers and crew, sank under the command of Captain Edward Smith.

Some of the wealthiest people in the world were on board, including property tycoon John Jacob Astor IV, great grandson of John Jacob Astor, founder of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

Millionaire Benjamin Guggenheim, heir to his family's mining business, also perished, along with Isidor Straus, the German-born co-owner of Macy's department store.

The ship was the largest afloat at the time and was designed in such a way that it was meant to be 'unsinkable'.

It had an on-board gym, libraries, swimming pool and several restaurants and luxury first class cabins.

There were not enough lifeboats on board for all the passengers due to out-of-date maritime safety regulations.

After leaving Southampton on April 10, 1912, Titanic called at Cherbourg in France and Queenstown in Ireland before heading to New York.

On April 14, 1912, four days into the crossing, she hit an iceberg at 11:40pm ship's time.

James Moody was on night watch when the collision happened and took the call from the watchman, asking him 'What do you see?' The man responded: 'Iceberg, dead ahead.'

By 2.20am, with hundreds of people still on board, the ship plunged beneath the waves, taking many, including Moody, with it.

Despite repeated distress calls being sent out and flares launched from the decks, the first rescue ship, the RMS Carpathia, arrived nearly two hours later, pulling more than 700 people from the water.

It was not until 1985 that the wreck of the ship was discovered in two pieces on the ocean floor.

WHY WAS THE MARCONI WIRELESS IMPORTANT FOR TITANIC?

By the time of Titanic's maiden voyage in 1912, most passenger ships operating in the north Atlantic had a Marconi wireless installation staffed by Marconi Company operators.

Communication between ship and shore was by Morse code, as it was for conventional telegraphy.

As well as communicating with other ships, the Marconi wireless also relayed passenger messages – something of a novelty for first-class passengers.

As Titanic collided with an iceberg on the night of 14 April 1912, Harold Cottam, operator on nearby Cunard liner Carpathia, was still awake.

He received the first distress signal from Titanic, sent by senior wireless operator Jack Phillips.

Carpathia immediately turned and steamed the 60 miles towards Titanic's given position, a journey of almost four hours.

A dramatic rescue of more than 700 survivors from the Titanic disaster was made possible by the new wireless equipment.

Carpathia steamed into New York carrying the survivors four days after the sinking.

Source: Science Museum