JANUARY 2017: MISSION BEGINS

Preparation and Planning: The Seabed Worker, a highly specialised vessel, was selected for the mission due to its advanced technology and experienced crew. The team included experts in subsea operations and ROV (Remote Operated Vehicle) technology, many of whom had worked on high-profile silver recoveries previously featured on the Discovery Channel.

Setting Sail: The vessel departed from West Africa in early January, fully equipped with heavy-duty cutting tools, advanced ROV systems, and the determination to uncover the long-lost treasure hidden deep within the SS Tilawa.



FEBRUARY 2017: INITIAL SALVAGE EFFORTS

7th February: After weather delays, the team resumed cutting operations to clear obstructive steel plates and beams, focusing on gaining access to the Specie Room, where the silver was believed to be stored.

Visibility Issues: The team faced significant challenges with poor underwater visibility caused by sediment stirred up during cutting and grinding.

13th February: The team successfully breached the aft bulkhead, gaining initial access to the Specie Room for visual inspections.

19th February: After weeks of meticulous effort, no silver was located. The team returned to port for a crew change, frustrated but determined to continue the search.

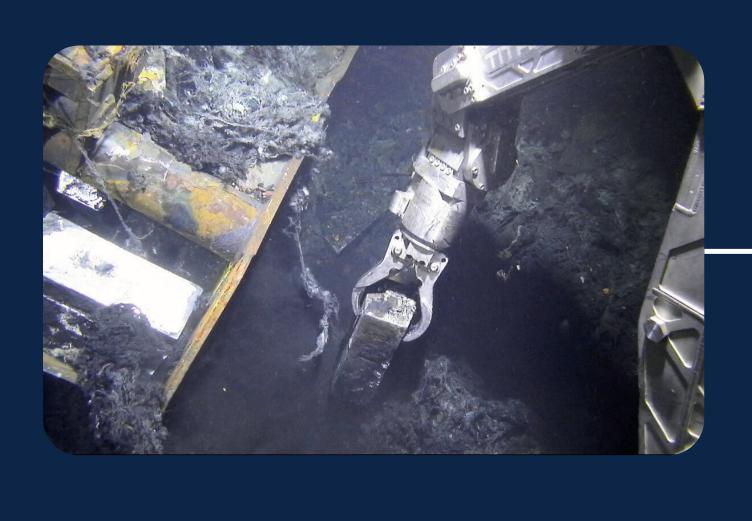


26TH MARCH 2017: RENEWED DETERMINATION

Accelerated Efforts: The team returned with a more vigorous approach, deploying the 600L Orange Peel Grab alongside the ROVs to clear debris and access hidden compartments.

Breakthrough Moment: On 2nd May, during a visual survey of Hold 4, the ROV team spotted the first silver ingot, signalling the breakthrough the team had been working toward for months.

Bjorn Andersen's Role: Offshore Manager Bjorn Andersen led the team during this critical discovery. Despite advice to abandon Hold 4, his insistence on continuing exploration in the area paid off when the silver was located.



18TH JUNE 2017: FINAL CYCLE Last Phase Begins: The team returned to the wreck for a final

successful end of the salvage mission.

effort, running two ROVs in tandem—one clearing steel plates and debris, the other conducting surveys for hidden cargo.

Comprehensive Dredging: Focus shifted to the Opium Store and areas around the Specie Room. The crew used dredgers to

uncover potential ingots buried beneath sediment. **23rd June:** After recovering 98.9% of the silver cargo, the team concluded operations. All equipment was retrieved, and the

crew departed the site for the final time, marking the



29TH JANUARY 2017: ARRIVAL ON-SITE

Initial Inspection: Upon arriving at the wreck site, the team used the Schilling ROV HD23 to perform an inspection of the site and lay positioning beacons on the seabed to guide operations.

Deploying Equipment: Specialised tools, including an 8-tonne shear, were sent down to begin dismantling parts of the wreck, starting with the accommodation block.

The Challenge Begins: Early operations revealed the ship's precarious position, lying on its side at a 70-degree angle, complicating access to key areas.



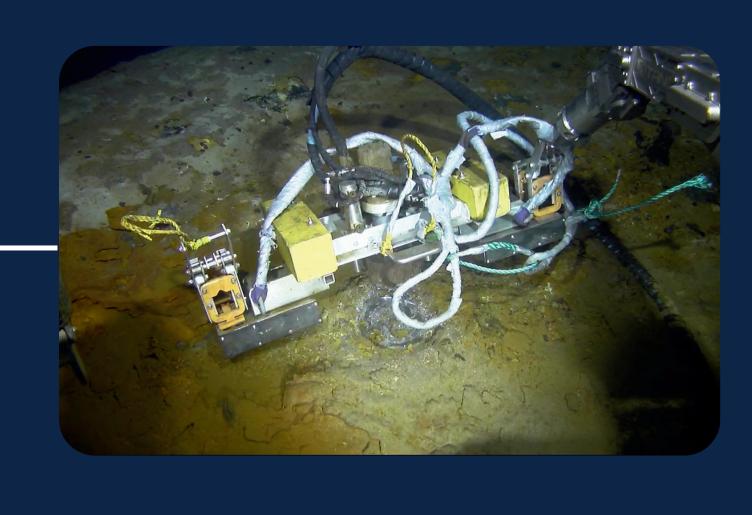
25TH FEBRUARY 2017: SECOND CYCLE BEGINS

Fresh Team Onboard: A new crew resumed operations with a familiarisation survey of the wreck and a thorough reestablishment of the positioning system using seabed beacons.

Expanding Access: The team focused on cutting deeper into the ship, targeting the Specie Room and Mail Room under the Second-Class Saloon. Tools such as grinders, shears, and dredgers were deployed to remove debris and steel plates.

Challenges Persist: Poor visibility and the ship's complex structure continued to slow progress. Despite these obstacles, the crew worked tirelessly to explore previously untouched areas of the wreck.

19th March: With no silver recovered during this cycle, the team returned to port for resupply and a brief rest period.



MAY 2017: RECOVERING THE TREASURE

Ongoing Operations: The crew utilised the Orange Peel Grab and other tools to extract ingots while clearing debris from the Specie Room and adjacent areas. Work was frequently interrupted by visibility delays and mechanical maintenance.

6th–10th May: The team achieved significant progress in recovering the silver bars while conducting visual inspections of the wreck for any additional cargo. A medical evacuation briefly interrupted operations on 8th May, but work resumed soon after.

31st May: The team completed this phase of recovery, extracting a substantial portion of the silver before leaving the site for other commitments.

