

Original letter with: *Class*Copy of/Extract from letter received from
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~NAME

Surveyor,

ADDRESS

Rio de Janeiro.

Reference, if any:

Dated *22.12.53* Received *30.12.53* AnsweredVessel's Name:
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

An official letter has been forwarded by this mail regarding the vessels of Lloyd Brasileiro. To appreciate the position of the owners it should be pointed out that they have seventy five vessels. A strike of operatives at their drydocks put them five months out of their stride. The newest of their fleet, about twenty five vessels, built in Canada and the U.S., classed A.B., are mortgaged to the U.S. Government. It is a condition of this mortgage that all A.B. surveys must be carried out at their due date. This is not strictly adhered to, but it can be seen that these vessels are given priority, especially the larger, foreign sailing, vessels. The company is Government owned and as such they do not have ready money available to pay for the repairs or dockings outside their own establishment. They wish to retain the four vessels "ALBONITE", "ATALAIA", "BANDACHNA" and "CAPENELA" in this society's class, but the B.V. sits around, like a vulture, ready to pounce should the slightest opportunity arise. In fact one of the Technical Experts quoted by Mr. Fletcher, who gave a certificate for the boilers of the "ATALAIA" was the local B.V. surveyor.

The only time that the vessels of this concern arrive in Rio in an unloaded condition is when it is intended to stop there for docking, otherwise they pass through with cargo from North to South Brazil or vice-versa, so ~~XXXX~~ you can see how difficult it is to get General Examinations, or even Boiler Surveys carried out, at intermediate times.

The COBY barges have now been supplied with another and I had intended to report these this week. However I find that Fletcher has had the COBY 1 under survey, for damage, since May last and I have to chase around to find out exactly what these repairs were.

With best wishes and belated Season's Greetings,
Yours sincerely,

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Foundation