

COPY

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

71, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

21st October, 1946.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to the classification in the Society's Register Book of the steamer "EMPIRE HONDURAS", I beg to acquaint you that the Committee have had under consideration a report of survey held on this vessel in dry dock by the Bombay Surveyors in July last.

On examination a number of plates were found to be corroded. The corrosion took various forms, viz: local pitting, plain patches, whorls and scores. The starboard side from bilge up to 11'6" draught mark was affected for the whole length, the port side being affected mainly from amidships aft. The bottom was affected in scattered places. The scores did not have the appearance of being caused by rubbing and in different places were running at different angles, except in the case of scoring on plates C.3 & 4 and D.1 (s.s. aft) which were several feet long running in the same direction, and in the Surveyors' opinion may have been caused by running over a mooring buoy in August 1945.

The scores generally were about $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide with a maximum depth of $\frac{1}{8}$ " and the cross section of each was roughly that of a sector of a circle. The local pitting had a maximum depth of about $\frac{1}{8}$ ", and the plain corroded patches and whorls were about $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep.

The Surveyors also state that the bottom and side plating was entirely bare of paint and hundreds of rivet points in way of the affected areas were corroded, some points being corroded flush with the plating, others had one or more holes around centre of each point.

A total of 58 plates were affected on the port and starboard sides.

It is considered the plating is efficient meantime but it is recommended the vessel should be dry docked before the end of January 1947 for further inspection of the affected shell plating etcetera.

It is presumed that you will arrange for this dry-docking in this country and, if so, the Committee will instruct Mr. W. F. Lewis, their Special Surveyor for Steel, to attend. Accordingly, I await your further advices.

Yours faithfully,
Copy to Sld.

Srs. Andrew Weir & Co.

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