

Cia. Colonial de Navegação

Rua de São Julião 63

Lisbon

17th. October 1953

S/S. "SERPA PINTO"

Dear Sirs,

As you are aware, our steamer Serpa Pinto is due for a complete overhaul to maintain her in Lloyds class, and her present certificate expires at the end of this year.

In order to carry out the survey and repairs, it will be necessary to withdraw the vessel from service for an indefinite period and make arrangements for one of our other vessels to take her place, and this fact is causing us acute embarrassment, as the vessel appointed to take over the Lisbon-Central America run, our m/v. "UIGE", at present under construction at Antwerp, is seriously delayed owing to strikes there, and will not be delivered before next May.

In view of this unexpected development, we earnestly request the favour of your extending the validity of the Serpa Pinto's class until next May.

Owing to the urgency with which we have to draw up and announce our sailing lists, we appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience, for which we tender our best thanks.

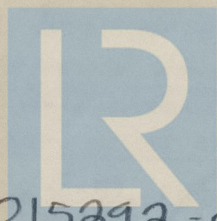
Yours faithfully

*John Guthrie*

The Director.

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