AM'S, "REGISTER, NEWCASTLE".

TELEPHONE Nº CENTRAL 5190 (3 LINES)

# Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

Collingwood Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

22nd January 1932.



The Secretary,
LONDON.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of 20th instant in connection with the T.S.S."AFRIC STAR" and "STUART STAR" recently altered by Messrs. Vickers-Armstrongs Ltd., and the ventilation trunk openings cut in the old upper deck (now the second deck), I have to say that these openings were noticed on the first ship immediately after they had been cut, and on referring the matter to the Owners' and Builders' Representatives it was found that they had worked to a plan of ventilation trunks which had received approval in our London Office and was one of the plans returned with the Newcastle Reports on these vessels.

It was pointed out to them, however, that the plan referred to could not have been considered from a structural point of view or else some compensation would have been required. The matter being urgent, compensation

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was arranged forthwith, and as practicable, by fitting doubling plates over the beam space affected, and brackets to the bulkhead on the strips of plating between the openings, generally as indicated in pencil on the enclosed blue print.

It was understood from the Owners that the ventilation trunks were essential and that similar openings had been cut in other ships, though I have no knowledge of the ships in question.

As regards the second ship altered at this Port, the holes were made somewhat smaller and the same principle of compensation adopted.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

H. G. Akester

Referred to the Chief Ship Surveyor.

23 JAN 1932