

"CORNISH CITY"

Question On your first visit to the engine room after the fire was extinguished did you observe position of any of valves to D.B. tanks particularly No.5 port and starboard D.B. filling lines?

Answer No. Only oil inlet and outlets of centre purifier checked and found open as Chief Engineer stated this was running at time of fire outbreak.

Question Did you note position of weighted sounding cocks of these tanks?

Answer No.5 D.B. port cock was shut.
No.5 D.B. starboard not observed.

Question Did any discussion take place with Chief Engineer?

Answer Yes. I asked him how he first knew about the fire, what he did and who was in the engine room and what they were doing. He stated he first observed fire when, on opening ER upper casing door thick black smoke was noted and he then tried to enter ER by tunnel access but heat made it impossible and that he noted the vicinity of the purifiers was a mass of flames.
He stated three engineers were in the ER, one repairing the main engine, one bunkering the vessel and the other supervising them.

Question Did you note three large fire extinguishers in the engine room and whether they had been used?

Answer Yes. Positions noted but did not check if used or not.



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