

COPY.

AFRICAN & CONTINENTAL STEAMSHIP AND TRADING COMPANY LTD.

ANGUS HOUSE,

7 & 8 Bury Street,

LONDON, E.C.3.

6th March, 1940.

Your Ref: F.
GEM/PW.

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The Secretary,
Lloyd's Register of Shipping,
71, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

Dear Sir,

s.s. "AFRICAN MARINER" - Official No.140637.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ulto., requesting the return of the Loadline Certificate of above steamer for cancellation, in view of the fact that she is reported to have been transferred to the Spanish Government and re-named "CASTELLO MONTJUICH".

We are maintaining that the s.s. "AFRICAN MARINER" was illegally seized at BARCELONA by the Franco Government in January 1939, and have presented a claim through the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom for the return of the vessel.

The latter inform us they have advice from the Ministry of Shipping that it has been decided by the Foreign Office to suspend temporarily the examination and preparation of claims against the Spanish Government arising out of the Civil War. The validity of such claims is not affected by the time which elapses before their representation, and steps have been taken to reserve all rights with the Spanish Government.

Until such time as our claim against the Spanish Government is definitely decided we have requested the Registrar of Shipping to allow the vessel to remain on the British Registry, and unless you particularly insist, we prefer that the Loadline Certificate should not be cancelled.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) © 2020

Joint Liquidator.

Lloyd's Register
Foundation

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