

Dredger "W.D. ATLAS"

This vessel had considerable steering difficulty during the voyage United Kingdom to Whyalla, Australia, in 1965, and the area of the rudder blade was increased at Lisbon in April, 1965, into which port the vessel was towed. The top tumbler was also removed to improve the vessels stability.

For the voyage Whyalla to Sydney the rudder stock was increased to $4\frac{3}{4}$ " dia. (reduced to $4\frac{5}{8}$ " in way of tiller) to suit the increased area of the rudder blade. The Rule size of rudder axle for a $4\frac{5}{8}$ " stock is $6\frac{1}{8}$ " dia. The actual size of existing rudder axle is $5\frac{1}{4}$ " dia., In view of the deficiency in respect of the axle, the angle of helm for the voyage was restricted to 25° . The position was to be reviewed after examination of the rudder axle on arrival at Sydney.

All repairs to the rudder and steering gear were carried out afloat at Whyalla with the aid of divers.

The top tumbler was not removed for the passage as was done at Lisbon on the voyage from U.K. to Australia due to heavy lift facilities at Whyalla not being available.

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