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Letter recd.  
17/4/39.

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING,  
SHANGHAI. 24th March, 1939.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your Classing letter of the 21st February respecting the River Steamers "KIA WO" (Rpt. 4272), "SIANG WO" (Rpt. 4276) and "TUNG WO" (Rpt. 4332), I have to say that in the case of the "KIA WO" and "TUNG WO" the requirements of Section 20a of the Rules have been complied with in respect of the carriage of Vegetable Oil in the deep tanks amidships and a corresponding notation is recommended.

In answer to your query regarding the verification of the thicknesses of shell and deck plating I have to say that this was done by gauging the plate edges after all paint, internally and externally, had been removed and both surfaces examined and found to be in perfect order, there being no sign of pitting or scrubbing in the case of the shell.

With regard to the decks wastage is very readily detected on account of pitting in certain places and the rubbing of cargo near cargo doors. The decks have been repaired on this account from time to time and I am quite satisfied that they are in sound condition and well up to the required thickness. These remarks apply to all the Indo-China River steamers irrespective of age.

I may say that it has always been the practice to scrape off all paint internally and externally every one and a half to two years and to apply a good quality paint, and the frames, floors, bulkheads and shell plating are in perfect condition, and this includes those vessels over forty years old.

I am, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,

G. Pickering.



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Noted  
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