

"APPLELEAF".

A further General Examination became due 11.11.

The class is subject to permanent repairs to indented shell plating (p & s) at the Owners' convenience and to Nos. 2 & 4 cofferdams being dealt with at the next General Examination.

As the result of a report of survey held afloat at TRINCOMALIE in Aug./Sept. last, the Admiralty Director of Stores was informed by letter (28.11.44) that the hull of this tanker was not in a fit condition to carry petroleum in bulk and that a certificate had been issued to the effect that the vessel was fit to proceed to the U.K. in ballast.

The SUNDERLAND Surveyors now write (5.1.45) stating that the vessel is undergoing the further General Examination and judging from the parts examined considerable repairs would be necessary in order to place her in condition to resume her duties as a fleet tanker.

The Superintendent has been informed that it is considered the vessel could remain in class subject to being used as a mobile hulk in home waters and to all outstanding repairs being effected before resuming her normal duties as a Royal Fleet Auxiliary.

The Surveyors desire to know if this action meets with the approval of the Committee.

The general question of storage tankers is raised in the attached endorsement, and it is submitted that if this be agreed to in principle, the Surveyor's suggestion might be adopted, and on satisfactory completion of repairs to fit her for her proposed employment, the class be made subject to permanent repairs being effected before resuming normal sea-going service, and to annual modified General Examination being held meantime.

BTA
8.1.45.



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