



ex Coquette Bo Co

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

27 THE BUND

ROOM 503.

SHANGHAI, 5th November, 1947.

Reference

The Secretary,

London.

RECEIVED

19 NOV 1947

Dear Sir,

s.s. "~~WAN JEE~~"
 ex "Ta Lun" ex "Coppercliff"

I beg to report that major structural alterations have been taking place on the above vessel without any reference being made to this office. Letters were written to the owners, copies attached, asking for information as to these alterations, but our letters went unanswered. The undersigned interviewed the Secretary of the Company and explained the necessity of our obtaining drawings and particulars of the alterations before these were started, but our requests were ignored.

From a brief inspection of the vessel afloat the following items of alteration were noted:-

- 1) Superstructure deck has been extended right to the after end and plating has been fitted between the upper and superstructure decks at ship's sides and around stern.
- 2) Large hatchway has been cut in this new deck with coaming, etc. built up, and hatchway of similar size cut in the upper deck below. A winch has been fitted at ford side of hatchway on new superstructure deck.
- 3) Bulwark plating has been erected P. & S. at f'cle head. A large hatchway has been cut at this part and in deck below, and two winches have been fitted ford of the hatchway on f'cle head.
- 4) Fore mast and after mast have been erected with 2 derricks on former and one on latter.
- 5) Wood cabins are being erected on top of old wheel house, P. & S., level with the old compass platform, and a bridge has been built at ford end of this platform extending full breadth of vessel.

The contractors carrying out these alterations are unknown, and there appeared to be an indiscriminate use of cutting torches.

Altogether a most unsatisfactory state of affairs exists concerning the above alterations with no information available as to the weights being added on top-sides.

s.s. "CHANG CHEN" ex "Ta Wei" ex "Humberstone"

Alterations have also taken place on this vessel. A letter was addressed to the owners, copy attached, nearly a month ago, which has gone unanswered.

The "Wan Lee" & "Chang Chun" are owned by the Foo Ming Steamship Co., Ltd., these being their only vessels, and it would appear that the owners are merely speculators.

An assignment letter was sent to the owners concerning "Chang Chun" on 4th July, 1947, followed by letters on 29th July, 14th & 26th August 1947 with regard to freeboard marks being cut in on vessel's sides and conditions of assignment carried out but these have all been ignored.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

L. Richi



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