

BULKHEADS IN THE 'TWEEN DECKS OF SHELTER DECK SHIPS.

With reference to M.S. 603/42 of  
8th July 1942.

Mr. Butterwick of the Admiralty (M.S. Dept) was consulted by telephone this morning regarding the openings in the bulkheads of shelter deck ships. He stated that in new ships the Admiralty wished all bulkheads to be intact, but where openings were necessary by reason of the nature of the cargo, they would insist upon hinged watertight doors being fitted.

In existing ships where the openings are closed by plates secured through bolts at watertight pitch, Mr. Butterwick is of the opinion that it is desirable that the bolts should be replaced by rivets, and every encouragement should be given for this to be done. He does not feel, however, that this can be made obligatory. Where the openings are closed by portable plates secured by hook bolts, however, this cannot be accepted, and the openings must be closed watertight.

Where openings are necessary they should be closed by hinged watertight doors as in the case of new ships.



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