



17, BATTERY PLACE,

NEW YORK.

VIA AIR MAIL

June 4, 1942.

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

T.S.M.V. "NORDEN" now named "FIRETHORN"

Referring to my reply of the 5th ultimo to the inquiry contained in your semi-official letter of the 12th March last on the above mentioned case, I have received a report No. 7998 from the Philadelphia Surveyors which relates to Continuous Survey of Oil Engines from the 20th June to 14th February, 1941. Mr. Malcolmson advises that some explanation is required in this case, in view of the lengthy lapse between the completion of the survey and the forwarding of the report, and he explains as follows:-

Mr. Runham carried out this survey while the vessel was tied up indefinitely in Philadelphia, and at that time we were advised that she would eventually go into service when taken over by the Maritime Commission, so in the circumstances we decided to hold up the report.

As it so happened the vessel was taken over by the Maritime Commission in July, 1941, and drydocked at the Sun Ship at which time machinery and hull reports were written and forwarded to London in the usual manner, but unfortunately, Mr. Runham was then on vacation, and this report enclosed herewith, did not accompany the others.

The bills to the Owners and the Maritime Commission were subsequently held up because apparently they required the Captain's signature, but I have now taken the matter up direct with the Maritime Commission and they have passed their bills and Mr. Domahue of Bowring and Company has written me today saying that

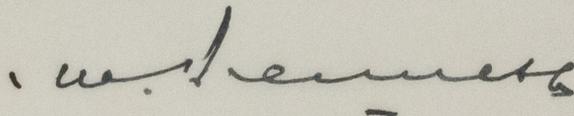
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they were waiting for the Captain to return to this country before clearing the bill, but that in view of our telephone conversation, he was obtaining a license and going to pay the bill without the Captain's signature.

The Surveyors regret the delay and inconvenience which has probably been caused in this case.

Yours faithfully,



R.P.Hutchinson, Esq.,

WOKINGHAM .



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M. J. H. H.

MOKILGHW

B. B. Hutchinson, Fed.

Handwritten signature

Yours faithfully,

Inconvenience which has probably been caused in this
the Secretary regret the delay and

without the Captain's signature.
a license and going to buy the pill
before conversation he was obtaining
the pill, but that in view of our tele-
return to this country before closing
they were waiting for the Captain to



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