

# LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING

UNITED WITH THE BRITISH CORPORATION REGISTER

(Reconnu par la Loi Belge sur la sécurité des Navires)  
(Arrêté Ministériel du 8 Janvier, 1921)

RECEIVED

I, Quai de Rouen, Antwerp

15th July 1958.

Telephone ~~22.00.40~~

33.86.32

33.86.33

TELEX (03) 487 16 JUL 1958

Telegrams: ~~Reception~~

Dear Sir,

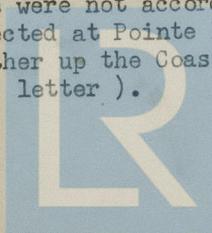
Tugs "Arthur Bemelmans" & "Vivi"

Further to your letter of the 15th Jan. 1958 concerning arrangements for the surveys of the above mentioned vessels, I have to report that the matter was discussed with a senior representative of the Office d'Exploitation des Transports Coloniaux yesterday, in Brussels.

He informed me that the Directeur Général of the Company in the Belgian Congo was expected in Brussels during the present week. In the meantime he stated that he fully agreed with the principle of such Surveys being carried out by exclusive Surveyors and also acknowledged that the fees and expenses suggested in your letter were reasonable i.e. say about 80,000 Frs.B. provided that both vessels were presented for survey during the course of one visit lasting 3 days; and, that for any further visits deemed necessary additional travelling expenses and charges for the Surveyors services should be paid. It was pointed out that this would involve an absence of 5 days for the Surveyor from his home port.

He then confirmed the correctness of a rumour that the "Arthur Bemelmans" was now laid up indefinitely or until such time as a decision had been taken regarding the renewal of the existing boiler. This he considered as being unlikely and that the vessel would not be used again.

Our requirements in the case of Special and other Surveys were discussed and stress was laid upon the necessity for the preparation and readiness for inspection of the ship, at the appointed date and time, in view of past difficulties in these respects. He stated that his Company was still inconvenienced by the lack of drydocking facilities and was still at the mercy of the Matadi Port Authorities. The new floating dock, now under construction at Ostend, was expected to be ready to leave the Builders' Yard on the 15th April 1959; its installation at Matadi would, he stated, overcome all difficulties. In the meantime and if facilities were not accorded for the Survey at Matadi itself it might be effected at Pointe Noire which is more accessible being situated further up the Coast, in French Equatorial Africa. ( See Lagos Surveyors' letter ).

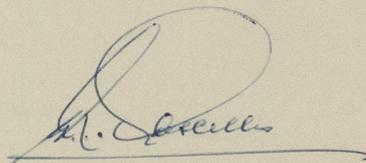


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Finally, I stated that the Committee was desirous of a very early decision and he promised to communicate with me again as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Lascelles', written over a horizontal line.

R. LASCELLES.

The Secretary,  
LONDON.



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CLASSIFICATION

~~ADMIN/E~~

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Raf.

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