

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING

Rooms 9-12, Shipping Offices,

Port Main Entrance, Wharf Road,

P.O. Box 1007, Apapa, Nigeria

BY AIR MAIL.

Telegrams: Lloydsreg, Lagos

Telephone No. 55311

RECEIVED

23rd December, 1957.

30 DEC 1957

Dear Sir,

Tugs "ARTHUR BENELMANS" and "VIVI"

We wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 16th December, in connection with the arrangements made for the survey of these tugs and the difficulties experienced to present date.

The case is in many respects similar to the M.V. "PETIT FRERE" (reference our letter to Class(S) dated 13th April last), to which no satisfactory conclusion was reached, however, providing the Owners arrange the necessary preparation, we do not see any objection to the survey being dealt with by the Surveyors attached to this Office.

In reference to page Two of the enclosed letter relative to the time allowed for the examination, we have found by experience that local conditions do not compare with those existing in European or United Kingdom ports, further, the preparation generally is slow and sometimes vexatious, therefore, we would suggest that approximately four or five days be allowed for the survey in order to obviate inconvenience to Owners and ourselves in view of the distance due to travelling, fees and cost of air fares.

Our travel Agents have advised today that there are several methods in which the journey may be undertaken, and the two most direct routes are detailed below for your consideration :-



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1. Weekly flights (Wednesdays) by Air France from Lagos to Brazzaville, with connections by U.T.A. to Pointe Noire, French Congo.

Dept. Lagos 6.30 a.m.

Arr. Pointe Noire 5.55 p.m.

Distance approximately 1800 miles.

Air Fare £135. (return).

The journey to Boma may be completed by road (approx. 160 miles.)

2. Same flight as above to Brazzaville with overnight stay there but with direct connection to Matardi, the following morning.

Dept. Lagos 6.30 a.m.

Arr. Matardi 11.00 a.m. (following day).

Distance and Costs are similar.

Note. The distance as a comparison, is similar to the journey Lagos-Dakar, to which port we have made two visits since September, 1956, this route, however, is more direct.

The approximate costs would therefore be in the order of £350 for each visit, the number of visits would depend on (a) Present condition and maintenance of the tugs and (b) Repair facilities existing at Boma and the general standard of work^{MAN}ship, to which we have had no previous experience.

If the Owners are in agreement with the costs or if some acceptable alternative is suggested, we confirm that we would be pleased to undertake this work and we now await your further instructions.

Yours faithfully,

J. G. Radcliffe
pp: SURVEYORS.

P.S. Due to the special circumstances of this case, perhaps a slight reduction of our fees (£30. per day from the 1st January 1958) may be considered, in order to establish contact with this particular district, as suggested, by the Society's Principal Surveyor of Belgium.

J.R.



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