

COPY (Translation)

ESSO STANDARD

Société Anonyme Française,

82, Avenue des Champs Elysées,

Paris 8<sup>e</sup>.

Your Ref:Classn(S)

29th September, 1953.

Dear Sirs,

Reinforcement of "ESSO BRETAGNE" and "ESSO  
NORMANDIE"

We duly received your letter of the 23rd September regarding the date when the "ESSO BRETAGNE" is to be stopped for fitting of the hull reinforcements requested by you.

In our letters of the 18th and 21st September, we explained the difficulties which we are facing at the moment, and as a result of which we have decided to stop the "ESSO NORMANDIE" in November, and the "ESSO BRETAGNE" in December.

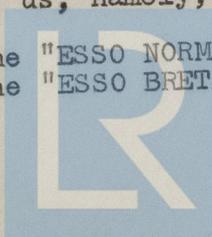
We earnestly desire that our vessels should be stopped at those dates, as our loading programme has been established in collaboration with our refinery, in the light of our requirements. To stop the vessels in October or November would compel us to charter other vessels, which would result in increased running costs.

You are no doubt aware that these charges are very heavy in relation to the present low freights, which makes it necessary for us to defer stopping our vessels as much as possible, at the same time paying due attention to their safety.

We would remind you that similar circumstances have compelled us to lay up our "ESSO GASCOGNE".

In the circumstances we would ask you to accept the dates proposed by us, namely,

for the "ESSO NORMANDIE" - November, 1953,  
and for the "ESSO BRETAGNE" - December, 1953.



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We would again remind you of the work carried out on board the "ESSO BRETAGNE" at Marseilles in February, 1953, when the vessel was provided with lateral straps, and the internal structure was reinforced.

Moreover we would emphasize that our Masters have received strict instructions to follow your loading recommendations implicitly. We hope you will be good enough to re-consider this matter, and let us have, as soon as possible, your agreement of comments.

We are dear Sirs,  
Yours faithfully,

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,  
71, Fenchurch Street,  
LONDON, E.C.3.



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