

COPY

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING
HONG KONG.

15th August, 1955.

Dear Mr. Sladden,

N/N "DORA"

I thank you for your letter of 8th instant regarding the transfer to Bureau veritas class of the three ships "INCHJURA", "LOWANA" & "SUNON". It is purely coincidental that the three transfers should have taken place in the same week and the only relating link is that in each case the Bureau Veritas Surveyors, Mr. A.W. Black, of Carmichael & Clarke, is also technical adviser to each of the three Owners.

"INCHJURA" is owned by Messrs. Williamson & Co.Ltd., Mr. J.R. Mullion holding or representing the majority shares. This firm or individual obtained control of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co.Ltd. and shortly afterwards Mr. A.W.Black was made a director. Mr. Mullion has informed me that in the case of old ships he considers Lloyd's standard too high and there is no doubt that there is a difference between the standard maintained by the Society's Surveyors at this Port and that of the surveyors to Bureau Veritas particularly when dealing with old ships.

The "LOWANA" was transferred from local Owners to Madrigal of Manila.

The "SUNON" is owned by Messrs. Wo Fat Sing who also own the "HELIKON". The action of the Owners in the case of the "SUNON" is identical to that which they adopted in the case of the "HELIKON" in March, 1947, when this vessel was transferred to B.C.class. Mr. A.W. Black was the B.C.class-exclusive Surveyor.

The situation whereby a surveyor acts for a classification society and for the Owner is one with which I find it difficult to cope as in each instance the vessel has been superficially surveyed for classification with B.V. while still classed with L.R. and on enquiry I am presented with a fait accompli. You may rest assured that everything possible will be done to offset the situation commensurate with the Society's standing and standards.

By this mail I am forwarding a request from Messrs. Williamson & Co. for a review of the Committee's instruction to expunge the "INCHJURA" from class and I am of the opinion that it would have a beneficial effect if favourable consideration should be given to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

signed: James A. Anderson.

R.J. Sladden, Esq.,
LONDON.

DISCLASS
SECTION
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