

By Air Mail.

9th February, 1949.

Dear Sir,

S. I am in receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo respecting your reports Nos. 1362 and 1384 on the Steamer "FIRISHTA", and your remarks have been noted.

Before submitting this case to the Committee, however, I still await your reply to the remaining points relating to the hull referred to in my letter of the 19th November last, and shall be glad to hear from you as soon as possible.

The enquiries to which a reply is still awaited are as follows:-

- 1) Verify the spacing of the rivets in the seams and butts of the shell plating, reported as 3.6", which exceeds that specified by the Admiralty for these vessels. ✓
- 2) Furnish the diameter of the chain cable and verify the particulars of tests applied, stated in the First Entry Report as "Statutory Test 15 tons and Breaking Test 8 tons", because if these are correct, the chain cables which broke under a test load of 8 tons are not acceptable, apart from the fact that the Statutory Test load should have been 18 tons as required by my letter of the 13th August, 1947. ✓
- 3) Confirm that an alternative means of steering is provided which is entirely independent of the main steering gear, and furnish particulars. ✓

Yours faithfully,

*See letter 12.1.49.*  
J. Johnston, Esq.,  
KARACHI.

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