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LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING

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Telephone: ROYal 9166
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For attention of
Insurance/Claims Dept.

29th October, 1965.

Your Ref: DJB/PW.

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RNC

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd instant about notations in our Register Book and class withdrawals.

Your comments have been read to the Committee today, and in reply I am asked to assure you that the Committee take very great care to assign what, in their opinion, is a correct notation of withdrawal of class. It is their custom, when a ship for one reason or another leaves our Society, to record the status of that vessel in relation to our Rules at the time of transfer. Thus, for example, if all surveys are up-to-date and no defects of any consequence are known, the case is marked "Class withdrawn at Owners' request (with date)".

Secondly, if for one reason or another, Owners have not complied with our Rules, and perhaps, there is an important survey overdue, the notation "Class withdrawn (with date)" is recorded, this being the modern version of the previous notation "Class expunged owing to non-compliance with the Rules". Thirdly, when a ship leaves our class with recommendations for important repairs unfulfilled, the Committee consider it their duty to follow the Rule calling for a notation of "Class withdrawn - reported defects (with date)".



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We, of course, agree that if Owners wish to change a ship's class that is entirely their affair, and we would not wish in any way to seek to curtail that freedom; but surely it is the Committee's duty to see that an appropriate record appears in the Register Book, showing the position in relation to the Rules at the time of such change of class.

These notations always carry a date to show the time of such action and when we know that the ship has been classed by another Society, we enter an appropriate note in the next Supplement to our Book. We must, however, rely on the Owner advising us when class has actually been assigned by the other Society. You will observe, on referring to the correspondence, that in both the "ELPIS" and "STAMATIS" we informed you of the action that would be taken on receipt of advice, but only in the case of the "STAMATIS" did the Owners take advantage of that suggestion; this ship consequently now appears in our Supplement as classed with the American Bureau.

The foregoing gives, in general, the principles on which the Committee act, and while they appreciate your suggestion of an alternative notation, they feel that their procedure has been so acceptable to the readers of our Book for many years that no change is necessary, more particularly as when correctly followed, the practice leads to the Register Book or Supplement giving a very clear picture of the position to all interested parties.

In conclusion, there is a rather minor point in that your remarks concerning the "TOLMI" seem to have been made under a misapprehension, for we have no record of any correspondence or discussions leading to the addition of "at Owners' request". In actual fact, the Committee's initial decision was taken on 25th September, 1964 which was to record "Class withdrawn at Owners' request 9.64" and that has not been altered.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the
Classification Committee.

Messrs. Pegasus Ocean Services Ltd.,
Ibex House,
Minories,
LONDON.E.C.3.

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