

S.S. "EMPIRE TAW"

250' x 35' x 17'-8"/25'-2"

Build 1921

Extreme Summer Draught

= 17'-7 1/4"

IT IS SUBMITTED the Leith Surveyors be informed the following comments on the proposal to remove the upper deck in this shelter deck ship may be given to Messrs. J. Gibson Johnston Ltd. ~~provided they obtain the written consent of the Owners.~~ *(Ship is owned by British Government)*

This ship is a shelter deck ship having a third deck in No.1 hold. As the removal of the upper deck will necessitate the closing of the tonnage opening the ship could obtain, on dimensions alone, an increased draught, but the following reinforcements are based on the assumption that the draught will remain as at present and the scantlings are well maintained.

It will not be necessary to provide additional reinforcement to the shelter deck as the deck area is sufficient without the upper deck. It is assumed, however, the upper deck will be retained in way of the engine and boiler space, and bunkers, as the removal of the 'tween decks in this area would result in a loss of cargo carrying capacity.

According to the approved plans the main frames run to the upper shelter decks alternately, with intermediate 'tween deck frames unconnected at their lower ends. These intermediate frames may, however, have been omitted and the sheerstrake and strake below increased in lieu. In those parts of the ship where the upper deck is removed it will be necessary to leave part of the deck to act as a stringer and to fit deep web frames, say, 4 or 5 frame spaces apart, between the tank top and the shelter deck. Part of the upper deck should also be retained in way of the bulkheads to act as a shelf plate or girder. The intmdt. 'tween deck frames will require to be reinforced and connected to the hold frames, or new intermediate frames fitted if they are not already fitted. In the No.1 hold two stringers will be necessary since two decks will require to be removed.

The bulkheads at present only extend to the upper deck. It will be necessary to extend them to the shelter deck and to reinforce the stiffeners for the increased head.

The pillars under the shelter deck will require to be replaced by others of suitable scantlings for the increased length.

It will be seen that the alterations given above are quite extensive.

Ltr. dated 16/8/51.  
Ans. 28/8/51.

27th August, 1951.

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