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# UNITED STATES TRADING COMPANY

DISTRIBUTORS IN LIBERIA FOR  
LEADING AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS

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**AKRON, OHIO**  
November 19  
1929

REC'D NEW YORK NOV 20 1929

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,  
7 Battery Place,  
New York City.

Gentlemen: Attention: Mr. J. French, Chief Surveyor

With reference to your letter of November 15, regarding the motorship "DUVALLA", we wish to advise that this ship at the present time is moored in the Bay at Port Marshall, Liberia, West Africa and has been out of service for several months.

We have been trying to dispose of this vessel and thought that we could then take it to the dry dock at Dakar, or some other port on the West Coast of Africa, where there were accommodations. At Marshall we have no way of drawing this vessel from the water and for that reason a survey has not been practical, except at great expense.

We, of course, do not wish to drop this vessel from Lloyd's Register and are wondering whether you could give us any suggestions, which will enable us to maintain this vessel on your register; also to maintain the marine insurance now in effect in a manner satisfactory to both parties concerned and also in the most economical way.

For your information, those who might be available in Liberia at the present time for such survey as might be possible without facilities of a dry dock, etc., are: Messrs. W. D. Woodin, Company's agent, who we understand is Lloyd's agent, and Captain F. H. Beard, local agent of Elder-Dempster & Company, Steamship agents, who served a number of years as master of various steamers for that company.

Should it become impossible to maintain this vessel's listing on Lloyd's Register, we are also wondering just what time or difficulties there would be in re-establishing its registry.

From the above, we know that you will appreciate our attention in this respect and even though this vessel at the present time is of no commercial benefit to us, we wish to cooperate with you in any manner consistent with our problem there.

Looking forward to the pleasure of your reply, we beg to remain,

Yours very truly,  
UNITED STATES TRADING COMPANY

*H. W. Heilmann*