

**COPY.**  
**PORT OF**

*20*

29th August 1940.

Dear Sirs,

s.s. No. 518.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th instant regarding the omission of ceiling on the tank top and confirm my conversation with Mr. D. Grier.

It is understood that the seams and butts of the tank top plating are actually not less than double riveted, and that the thickness of the plating is not less in any place than .40 where oil fuel is carried in the double bottom.

In these circumstances, and as instructed by the Ministry of Shipping in their Circular "Timber Supplies for Shipbuilding and Shiprepairing", as per Summary of Minutes dated 28th November and 16th December 1939", in view of the provisions made as stated above, the wood ceiling may be omitted except over the bilges.

The proposal to fit 3" x 3/4" copes in way of the hatchways spaced 24" apart is noted, but according to the instructions contained in the foregoing Circular, steel copes should be fitted longitudinally about 18" apart, and it is recommended that this instruction be adhered to.

Yours faithfully,

*ASV*

Messrs. John Readhead & Sons Ltd.,  
SOUTH SHIELDS.



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W130-0084