

VALPARAISO

2/5/28.

"DON CARLOS" I duly received your letter of the 19th March, enclosing results of the drillings of the shell plating of this vessel, and, with regard thereto, I have to inform you that the Committee will be prepared to approve the shell plating provided that, on port and starboard sides, all plates in the bridge sheerstrake which are worn to below $8\frac{1}{2}/20$ " be renewed, all plates in the strake below the bridge sheerstrake worn to below $7\frac{1}{2}/20$ " and in the strake below the main sheerstrake within the half length amidships worn to below $8\frac{1}{2}/20$ " be renewed or doubled: also that all plates in the main sheerstrake on starboard side aft worn to below $7\frac{1}{2}/20$ " be renewed, and all other plates at the forward and after ends on port and starboard sides worn to below $7/20$ " be renewed or doubled.

It is noted that the vessel will not be again in

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drydock for at least the next 8 months, and that in the meantime some doubling plates have been fitted abreast the forward and after hatchways where the wastage was found excessive.

No further action can, therefore, be taken on the case until the shell plating be dealt with as indicated above and the survey for reclassification completed.

In all future similar cases in which you forward a sketch shewing the results of the drillings, it will be a convenience if you will be good enough to see that the outline conforms with that of the actual vessel under survey.

I have also to call attention to the remark on the sketch regarding the drillings in $1/16$ ths of an inch, which is not understood in view of your having reported the actual results in twentieths of an inch.

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