



(C O P Y)

PORT OF MELBOURNE,

10th March, 1944,

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that

----- B.P. FIELDEN -----

the undersigned Surveyor to this Society did at the request of Messrs. Orient Steam Navigation Coy. Ltd. LLOYD'S AGENTS, and with the consent of the Master, survey the steel screw Steamer - "HELEN MOLLER" - 5259 tons gross of Shanghai, for the purpose of ascertaining the nature and extent of damage which was stated to have been caused by heavy weather on the 16th & 17th December 1943 at which time a leak was stated to have developed from a fracture in a shell plate at connection of a bulkhead bracket in the deep tank on starboard side.

For further particulars, see Ship's Log Books.

The undersigned examined the vessel afloat and in dry dock during General Examination for Classification purposes between the 30th December 1943 and 10th March 1944 - and -

FOUND :- Previous repairs to shell plates had been effected on account of plates cracking at the ends of short brackets on web frames and bulkheads. Shell plating in way of these brackets was therefore specially examined and eight defects were found on port side and five on starboard side. These defects were either fractures in shell plates at the ends of bracket attachments or external grooving of the plate from which fractures may



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(Continued)

- 2 -

may have developed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

The undersigned recommended that the defects in shell plating be cut out and afterwards built up by electric welding.

To reduce the risk of recurrence of the trouble, it was also recommended that the inner edge of all short, stiff brackets on web frames and bulkheads be cut away to provide flexibility and thus to relieve shell plates of locally concentrated stress at the bracket ends.

These recommendations have now been satisfactorily completed. Dry Docking was not necessary for this work to be performed.

(Sgd.) B.P.FIELDEN

Surveyor to Lloyd's Register.



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W246-0081(2/2)