

papers re. United
 States of Lower Philippine
 is referred to, and
 I intend to send it
 to the attention of the
 Govt of Rhodesia and
 to draw the
 attention

EAST AFR. PROT

35135

30 JUL 15

35135

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East African
 High Commission

CARGO MANIFEST

1915

20th July

Enclosed copy of correspondence between Agents of I.O.
 Line and the Chief of Customs showing attitude of
 latter. It does not appear that authorities appreciate
 difficulties of present position. Awaiting promised
 communication.

See previous Page

35135

to agent
 for des. 2
 30583

Copy to ~~W.M.~~ des 7, Colaba, + A.P.T.
 with info. to ~~W.M.~~ agent 20/7/15

to Head
 20/7/15

1 paper. Customs + B of weight
 Last copies of 20586 also

20/7/15

20/7/15
 Copy to ~~W.M.~~ agent 20/7/15
 with info. to ~~W.M.~~ agent 20/7/15

S-R



25 Londonhall Buildings

Leicester Square

Whitechapel Street

London E.C.

27th July,

1915.

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The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office,
Whitehall, S. W.



Sir,

Further to my communication of 10th inst. on the subject of the stringent measures adopted by the Customs Authorities at Mombasa, I beg to enclose herewith copy of correspondence exchanged between the Agents of the Union-Castle Line and the Chief of Customs at Mombasa, which clearly shows the attitude of the latter. I am to add that pressure is continually brought to bear on shippers here with a view of enabling the Line to fulfil the various requirements of the Customs Authorities.

It does not appear, however, that the Authorities at Mombasa appreciate the difficulties under which the business of a Shipping Company is carried on at the present time.

I await the favour of the further communication referred to in your letter of 16th July.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For A. S. Phillips.

Secretary East African Steam Navigation Co.

7th May, 1915.

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The Hon: The Chief of Customs,
 Montreal.



Dear Sir,

Amendment of manifests.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of '6/74' dated 3th instant, on the subject of discrepancies in the manifests of steamers of the Union-Castle Line.

We have carefully noted the contents of your letter.

In connection with the points raised by you, and your reference to (5) of our principal's letter, we beg to state that immediately upon receipt of such supplementary and final ship's copies of Bills of Lading permission is requested to amend the manifest. Should such documents reach us in time to enable us to adjust the manifest before same is filed in the Customs this procedure is always adopted by us. We can assure that the amendment of manifests is in no way due to negligence on our part, the sole delay arising from the fact that necessary documents do not come into our possession until after the manifest has been lodged in the Customs.

If you will be good enough to refer to our principal's letter under the heading "Errors in Bills Lading" and "Late lodgment of Bills Lading" you will observe that frequently documents have to be despatched some considerable time after the sailing of the steamer in which case, owing to the present restricted and irregular mails, the papers do not reach us until some time after the arrival of the steamer, thus necessitating an amendment of the manifest already lodged in the Customs.

We respectfully suggest that in this connection, owing to the difficulties stated above, it is quite beyond our power to deposit a correct manifest in view of the present conditions whereby a steamer's manifest must be deposited in the Customs within twenty four hours of the arrival of the vessel.

We trust the above explanation will meet with your approval, and that you may now favourably consider the question of a refund of the sums deposited.

Yours, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Acc. Shipping Manager.

35135

30 JUL 15

RECEIVED
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I am in receipt of your letter bearing of the 7th instant and I note that you consider to beyond your power to deposit a correct manifest with the time allowed by law viz., 24 hours.

I regret the attitude that you have thought fit to take over this matter. It is possible in other ports in the Empire for Steamship Companies to hand in correct manifests or at any rate manifests far more accurate than those handed in by you, and I cannot for one moment agree to the suggestion now put forward that what is possible elsewhere is impossible here.

It seems to me that the convenience of shippers at these ports is considered far more than the requirements of the law of this Protectorate.

You have not specifically stated that in case of the ships in regard to which deposits were demanded, the bills of lading did not reach you in time to enable you to comply with the law but I assume that this is the reason which you put forward for the gross inaccuracies in the manifests of the particular ships referred to.

You are further and actually asserting that it is impossible to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of things.

Now with regard to (1) of your 'principles' letter I must point out that the delay in forwarding documents appears to be due to errors and omissions on the part of shippers and (2), (3) and (4) under the heading 'Queries'

in Bills of Lading" and (a) of heading "Late Issuance of Bills of Lading" and it seems to me that to effect improvement and compliance with the law of this country pressure must be brought to bear on shippers. It is no concern of mine what shippers will or will not do, my duty is to see that the law is complied with and it is, I suggest, for the Company to take such steps as may be necessary to safeguard their ships from Fines.

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I am still unable to consider the question of a refund of the deposits made.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) P. W. Major.

Chief of Customs.