

San Francisco, California
7 October 1946.

Captain of the Port
401 U.S. Custom House
San Francisco

Amship Corporation,
Foot of Paru Street,
Alameda, California.

Gentlemen:

On 23 September 1946 the United States Coast Guard observed spillage of oil emanating from the SS HELEN, which is understood to be under the jurisdiction of your company. A copy of the Coast Guard report is inclosed.

With the cessation of hostilities and change-over to peacetime procedures, it becomes increasingly important to vigorously enforce the provisions of the Oil Pollution Act. This office has received a number of complaints from civilian groups, such as sportsmen, regarding the spillage of oil in the navigable waters of the bay.

Although it is realized that the spillages may have been accidental, it is mandatory that all equipment connected with the handling of oil be in such condition as to prevent its leakage into the bay and the fact that these incidents may be accidental does not relieve the owner from responsibility covered in the act. Accordingly, it is requested that you notify the responsible operating officials of vessels under your jurisdiction of the seriousness of spilling oil into the bay and the fact that a violation of the act is severely punished by the courts, either by fine or imprisonment, or by the revocation or suspension of the license of the personnel involved.

For the District Engineer:

Very truly yours,

/s/ J. H. Veal,
Colonel, Corps of Engineers,
Executive Officer.

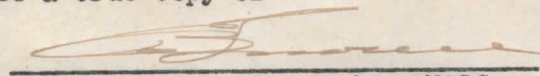
1Incl.

Cpy. ltr. dtd. 30 Sept. 1946

cc: The Commander,
Twelfth Coast Guard District.

Certified to be a true copy of

the original


R. E. MORELL, Commander, USCG.

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