

*Savonis*

(OMI)  
CG-MIN-C-106

19 June, 1944

To: DCGO, 5th Naval District (omi)

Subj: Lifeboats, manufacturer's number of

1. As the MEYER LONDON was inspected and certificated at Baltimore, Maryland, on 5 February, 1944, it is requested that HQ be informed of the name of the manufacturer, together with manufacturer's number, of lifeboats which were placed on board this vessel.

2. This information is desired in connection with the efficiency and functioning of lifeboats under actual service conditions, and in this connection a statement of the Master with respect to the lifeboats on the subject vessel is submitted for your information.

"We had trouble with our rudder, the mate had a motorboat and he broke a rudder and I gave him another, about 5 minutes later, and that lasted a minute. They are very frail, and it seems that the pintles either are too short or loosen the rudder--no time at all. Lost two rudders in 10 minutes. I would suggest that some means be perfected whereby the rudder can be held in place after the boat is launched, as in this case we lost 2 rudders as a result of the pintles being too short or the sea washing the rudders up. Lifeboats too crowded to handle oars to get boats away from danger particularly with injured men in boats. New pump is a specific hindrance."

R. E. COOMBS  
By direction

Ret. to 8-2

PES:nh

*peh*  
*P.A.O.*

U. S. COAST GUARD  
MAIL SECTION (4)

MAILED JUN 19 1944