

February 1, 1960

Mr. J. A. Donnelley
2665 Fourth Avenue
San Diego 3, California

Dear Jack:

As a long-made commitment to the Conference of California Historical Societies will require my presence in Los Angeles this coming Friday and Saturday, I'm afraid I will have to miss what I feel is going to be a rather important meeting.

On the question of rigging, we tried without success to get Jack Dickaroff; he is not available for week ends, seems to feel that the job will take at least a week just to survey the rigging and prepare an estimate -- and the best I was able to get out of Moore Drydock, his employers, was \$50 a day plus expenses. And they aren't too keen about sending him down here, he being their boss rigger. They tried to get us a Capt. Peterson, old-time Alaska Packers captain, but he refused. M. G. Bartlett, Secretary of Moore's, says that they will try to find someone for us, as they want to do all that they can to help.

Meanwhile Capt. Ken Renard, of National Bulk Carriers, has had a look at the rigging, and says he can fix up an estimate. He will be in port for a few weeks, and lives somewhere on Niblick Drive, in La Mesa; Carl Reupsch knows him.

It has since dawned on me that there may be another source of expert rigging know-how. There is an old Scotchman named, I believe, Milton MacGree, who operates the Pacific Rigging Loft, out on Main Street. Although I know of nothing larger than an 66-foot ketch which he rigged, he has (or had, twenty years and more ago) an outstanding reputation as a salvage-master, and worker in wire rope and heavy lifts. He might be able to do it for us.

I am on the trail of an approximate rigging plan for Star of India, although I fear that, being made from a photograph, it is not too accurate as to dimensions. Photo-wise, all I have been able to turn up to date is the enclosed, made about 1915 in Unimak Pass.

Sorry to miss the meeting, but that's the way the museum bounces.

Best regards,


Jerry MacMullen

