
P. O. Box 584
San Diego 10

November 7, 1960

Capt. Carl Carlson
2501 34th Avenue
San Francisco, California

Dear Captain:

Many thanks for your prompt reply, and your permission to use the material in Jack McNairn's interview -- to say nothing of the added information.

Work of restoring the Star of India has been delayed, to a large extent because of a big argument about ballast. Some of these slide-rule experts want to ballast her by pouring solid cement into the hold, and the rest of us let out a big yell of protest. Finally they had Mr. White, from Pillsbury & Martignoni, come down and do a survey. He recommended against it, so I have hopes. He found her in unbelievably good shape down below. A few frames will have to be patched, but her box-keel is sound, and so are the floors and the rest. Away up forward, several frames in the fore'sl are in bad shape, and the bowsprit is going to have to have a doubler welded onto it; it has wasted away on the under side, just where it comes out through the breast-plate. And doublers will have to go onto the foot of the foremast, also.

Years ago, I got a letter from Captain Marzan, in which he said that he built that chart-house onto her in 1918. Do you recall just what the original companion-hatch, which the chart-house replaced, was like? From marks down below, it looks as if the steps must have come down fore-and-aft, to a sort of a landing from which they led off to port and to starboard, in that little lobby just abaft the cabin. If you can describe the original arrangement, or make us a little sketch, it will be greatly appreciated.

I certainly hope that you give some really serious thought to that book of yours. You have had the experience -- and believe me, Captain, you know how to tell it!

Sincerely yours,

Jerry MacMullen

JERRY MACMULLEN

