And Whereas His Majesty is satisfied that the Government of the Republic of Honduras has acceded to the Load Line Convention:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, in pursuance of the powers vested in Him by the aforesaid Section and of all other powers enabling Him in that behalf, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, is pleased to declare, and doth hereby declare, that the Government of the Republic of Honduras has acceded to the Load Line Convention.

E. C. E. Leadbitter.

---

(4) MUSTERS

The Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1948

1948 No. 1011

Made - - - -	*6th May*, 1948
Laid before Parliament	*13th May*, 1948
Coming into Operation	*20th May*, 1948

The Minister of Transport in exercise of his powers under Section 427 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, and Sections 4 and 5 of the Merchant Shipping (Safety and Load Line Conventions) Act, 1932, and of all other powers him enabling hereby makes the following Rules:—

57 & 58 Vict. c. 60.
22 & 23 Geo. 5. c. 9.

Interpretation and Repeal

1.—(1) These Rules shall come into operation on the 20th day of May, 1948, and may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1948.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in these Rules to the contrary, these Rules shall not apply to ships in respect of which a certificate issued by the competent authority under Regulation 47BB of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, as having effect by virtue of the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act, 1945, as extended by the Supplies and Services (Extended Purposes) Act, 1947, is in force.

9 & 10 Geo. 6. c. 10.
10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 55.

(3) The Interpretation Act, 1889, shall apply to the interpretation of these Rules as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(4) The Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1933(a), are hereby revoked.

Certification of Ships

2. For the purposes of these Rules ships shall be arranged in the same classes in which ships are arranged for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules, 1948(b), and any reference in these Rules to a ship of any class shall be construed accordingly.

Muster List

3.—(1) The Master of every ship of Classes I, II, II (A), III, VII and VII (A) shall prepare a muster list showing in respect of each member of the crew the special duties which are allotted to him and the station to which he shall go in the event of an emergency, including duties and stations applicable for extinguishing fire. The muster list shall also specify the signals to be used for calling the crew to their stations in an emergency, and for indicating when the ship is to be abandoned.

(a) S.R. & O. 1933 (No. 1202) p. 1375.
(b) S.I. 1948 No. 1007, p. 1910 above.

(2) The muster list shall assign duties to the different members of the crew in connection with:—

(*a*) The closing of the watertight doors, valves and closing mechanisms of scuppers, ash-shoots, etc.

(*b*) The equipment of the boats and buoyant apparatus generally.

(*c*) The launching of the boats attached to davits.

(*d*) The general preparation of any other boats and buoyant apparatus.

(*e*) The muster of the passengers (if any).

(*f*) The extinction of fire.

(3) A deck officer or certificated lifeboatman shall be placed in charge of each boat and a second in command shall also be nominated. The person in charge shall have a list of its crew, and shall see that the men placed under his orders are acquainted with their several duties.

(4) A man capable of working the motor shall be assigned to each motor boat.

(5) In ships of Classes I, II and II (A) a man capable of working the radio telegraphy and searchlight installations shall be assigned to each boat carrying this equipment.

(6) The duty of seeing that the boats and buoyant apparatus and other life-saving apparatus are at all times ready for use shall be assigned to one or more officers.

(7) In the case of ships of Classes I, II, II (A) and III the muster list shall assign to the members of the stewards' department their several duties in relation to the passengers at a time of emergency. These duties shall include:—

(*a*) Warning the passengers.

(*b*) Seeing that they are warmly clad and have put on their lifejackets in a proper manner.

(*c*) Assembling the passengers at muster stations.

(*d*) Keeping order in the passages and on the stairways, and, generally, controlling the movements of the passengers.

(8) If, after the muster list has been prepared, any change takes place in the crew which necessitates an alteration in the muster list the Master shall either revise the list or prepare a new list.

(9) The muster list shall be prepared or, if a new list is not necessary, shall be revised before the ship proceeds to sea after the Agreement with the crew has been signed and shall be dated and signed by the Master.

(10) Copies of the muster list shall be posted in the crew's quarters before the ship proceeds to sea and shall be kept so posted while the ship is at sea.

Emergency Signal for Passengers

4.—(1) Assembly stations for all passengers shall be appointed for the event of an emergency and the position of those stations and the meaning of all signals affecting passengers shall be clearly stated in English and such other languages as the Master may consider necessary on cards posted in their cabins and other passenger quarters.

(2) The emergency signal for summoning passengers to the assembly stations shall be a succession of more than six short blasts followed by one long blast on the whistle or siren.

Training

5.—(1) In ships of Class I a muster of the crew shall be held before the ship leaves her final port of departure in the United Kingdom, and a muster of the passengers shall be held within twenty-four hours after leaving port.

(2) In ships of Classes I, II, II (A) and III musters of the crew shall take place weekly when practicable to ensure that the crew understand and are drilled in the duties allotted to them for the event of an emergency.

(3) In ships of Classes VII, VII (A), VIII, IX and X, musters of the crew shall take place not less frequently than once in every fourteen days to ensure that the crew understand and are drilled in the duties allotted to them for the event of an emergency.

(4) Different groups of boats shall be used in turn at successive boat drills. The drills and inspections shall be so arranged that the crew thoroughly understand and are practised in the duties they have to perform, and that all life-saving appliances and fire appliances with the gear appertaining to them are always ready for immediate use.

Entries in Official Log

6. The Master shall enter or cause to be entered in the official log book a statement, or, if there is no official log book, cause a record to be kept, of every occasion on which musters are held on board the ship, and if on any occasion a muster is not held as and when required by Rule 5 of these Rules the Master shall enter a statement of the reasons why the muster was not held.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport this sixth day of May, 1948.

(L.S.) *Alfred Barnes,*
The Minister of Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Rules, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Rules consolidate with amendments the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1933.

The principal changes are:—

(1) The classification of ships which makes classification uniform for the three purposes of

(*a*) the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules, 1948.

(*b*) the Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Rules, 1948.

(*c*) the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules, 1948.

(2) The application of the Rules to non-passenger ships (Classes VII to X inclusive) to which the former rules did not apply.

(3) The setting out in greater detail the nature of the duties to be assigned to the members of the crew, and, in the case of passenger ships, to members of the stewards' department.