DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760050
By LWR NARA Date 5-3-76
REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

INDEX BUREAU
Rec'd
JAN 31 1922
Dept of State

46451

FE
DC 2

No. 79

AMERICAN CONSULATE,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
D. C.
FEB 4 1922
DIRECTOR OF THE CONSULAR SERVICE

Saigon, Indo-China, December 23, 1921.

SUBJECT: Reporting latest step taken with a view of resuming direct steamer service between Saigon and America.

Division of
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS,
JAN 31 1922
Department of State.

INDEX BUREAU
800.8890/296

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

FOR CIPHERED TRANSMISSION ONLY.

I have the honor to report upon the latest step I have taken in my endeavor to get the direct steamer service between this port and America started.

One of the principal drawbacks is the manner in which the port charges are applied. A small steamer can enter profitably but a large steamer of 20,000 tons is practically prohibited under the present tariff.

I have been attempting to have this remedied and have the Chamber of Commerce, and Port officials back of me. Inasmuch as the Government is hesitant in reducing the tariff, I am trying to have a reduction made to regular steamship lines that have not less than a monthly service. This would be a large inducement for the Pacific Mail India line and benefit the American feeder services that come to Saigon regularly.

To bear out my thesis, I prepared a document showing how the pilotage and port charges of every port on the Pacific Coast of the United States, including Canada, were applied. This I forwarded to the President of the Conseil d'Administration du Port de Commerce de Saigon. I beg to quote the reply received from the President of that body under date of December 23, 1921:

I

FILED
FEB 8 12 M

DEPT. OF STATE
FEB 4 1922

ACKNOWLEDGED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 760050
By LJR NARA Date 5-3-76
REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

"I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st instant in reference to the pilotage and port charges in vogue in the Pacific ports of the United States and Canada.

I immediately took this "precious documentation" personally to the Administration, demanding again the immediate revision of the pilotage charges in the Saigon River.

I am in a position to assure you that the question is being studied by the Government and that a solution will be arrived at very shortly. However, it is impossible to give you any exact data concerning the reduction or the probable date that the new regulations could be put into application.

I wish to thank you etc."

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Leland L. Smith

Consul

Despatch in quintuplicate

File 835