

Basic Detail Report

ANMS1353[017]

Title

Blank menu from SS ARAMAC - The Polynesians

Date

1967

Primary Maker

Charles David Cobb

Medium

Paper

Dimensions

Overall: 254 x 356 mm

Name

Menu

History

Burnham Walker Dun (1905-1992) began his apprenticeship with the Australasian Steam Navigation Company in 1921. After four years in the coastal ships of AUSN he joined the Eastern & Australian Steamship Company (E&A) as Fourth Officer on TANDA and served for 43 years with this company. His career, like many others, was interrupted by World War II and in 1942 when he was Chief Officer on NANKIN, the ship was captured by the German raider THOR. Captain Dun and his surviving crew were handed over to the Japanese in August of 1942 and subsequently spent the rest of the war as a POWs. Dun returned to Australia in very poor health, however his wartime employment on a ship that was British owned and registered meant that he had to struggle for compensation. Captain Dun went back to sea with E&A in 1946, had his first permanent command in 1947 on the second NANKIN, and served in the company until he retired in 1967. During this time he carried cargo regularly to Japan, where he reconnected and established friendly relationships with his former captors. Throughout his career Dun made a number of rescues at sea and survived several severe typhoons. On retirement, he became a Nautical Assessor and took part in marine Courts of Enquiry, including the enquiry into the collapse of the Tasman Bridge, caused by the cargo ship LAKE ILLAWARRA striking one of the bridge's piers. The Eastern and Australian Mail Steamship Company was established in 1873 and was originally contracted to carry mail between Australia and the far eastern ports including Singapore, the Dutch East Indies, Hong Kong and Japan. The Eastern & Australasian Steam Navigation Company (E&A), as it later became known, went on to concentrate on the Australia to Hong Kong route, mainly carrying passengers and cargo. During World War II the company was

reduced in size to only three passenger/cargo liners, NANKIN, NELLORE and TANDA. NANKIN was captured in 1942, and the other two ships lost to enemy action. Despite this, the company opened again after the war and was fully acquired by P&O in 1966.