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November 25, 1982

PPA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR  
NO. 35 - 82

T O All Port Managers and Others Concerned

SUBJECT Provision of Gangways and Landings  
for Vessel Passengers, Dockworkers,  
and Other Port Users

To ensure the safety and convenience of passengers of vessels and other port users transacting business with the vessels or general public and in pursuance of Section 6-a (111) and 26 of P.D. 857, owner/agent of vessels in ports are required to observe and comply with the requirements of Section 332 of the Philippine Merchant Marine Rules and Regulations, the provisions of which are quoted hereunder

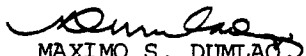
- "(a) Vessels that embark or disembark passengers while moored at a wharf, pier or quay shall have gangways for the safety and convenience of the public. Such gangways shall be not less than two and one-half (2 1/2) feet in width for vessels of single decks, and three and one-half (3 1/2) feet for other vessels.
- "(b) Gangways shall have a strong adjustable or collapsible guard rails and shall be of sufficient strength to withstand any weight that may be placed thereon, and shall at all times throughout the night be well lighted at each end.
- "(c) Every vessel lying in the stream shall be provided with a good and sufficient gangway, ladder, and the same shall be properly and brightly lighted at night time.
- "(d) Every vessel carrying passengers shall, when arriving at or departing from wharf or transferring passengers at night time, use a sufficient number of bright lights so placed as to enable passengers to land, board, or transfer with ease and safety. Such lights, both as to quality and number shall be subject to the approval of and shall conform to any direction given by the Philippine Coast Guard.

- "(e) Whenever a vessel, upon arrival in port, has to anchor at stream for lack of wharfage facilities, the master shall give priority to the safe landing of passengers destined for that port before any loading or unloading of cargo is actually commenced.
  
- "(f) Ships shall be provided with a net of reasonable strength below the gangway whenever the vessel is not underway. Such net shall be made of manila rope with a circumference of not less than three and one-half (3 1/2) inches or an equivalent fiber rope."

Further, to ensure the safety of dockworkers, the relevant portion of the Dockwork Safety and Health Standards is attached as Annex "A" hereof for observance and/or compliance by all concerned.

Be guided accordingly.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:

  
MAXIMO S. DURLAC, JR.  
Assistant Executive Officer

Encl.: As Stated

poed/tod



PROVIDING FOR THE SAFETY OF DOCKWORKERS

(From Article XVIII of the Dockwork Safety  
and Health Standards)

"Section 2. Means of Access to Ships -

- A. Sufficient safe and suitable means of access to the ship such as accomodation ladder, gangway or rigid ladder shall be available for the use of dockworkers passing to and from ship.
- B. The means of access shall be of sound material and construction and adequate strength, and be securely installed and kept in a good state of repair.
- C. Dockworkers shall not use any means of access other than the means specified unless specially authorized to do so.
- D. If it is impracticable to use ship's accomodation ladder, gangway, or portable ladder, a rope ladder may be used as the access from a ship to a barge or other vessel of low free board.
- E. Where there is a gap between the dockside and the ship, such that a person falling from the ship's means of access would be in danger of falling into the water, that gap shall be protected by a safety net secured to the ship and the dockside.
- F. Entrance ~~to~~ any means of access shall be secured and unobstructed.

"Section 3. Gangways -

- A. A gangway shall -
  - 1. Have a closely boarded walkway at least 55 cm. in width;
  - 2. Be fitted with transverse treads at suitable steppings intervals;
  - 3. Be fitted with devices enabling it to be properly secured to the ship.
- B. If its weight is such that a lifting appliance has to be used to place it in position, the gangway shall be fitted with proper slinging attachments so placed that it will balance when it is suspended.
- C. Where a gangway rests upon a ship's bulwark, safe means of access shall be provided for a person to pass to and from the ship's deck to the walkway of the gangway.

- D. Any gap between the end of a gangway and the adjacent ship's rails through which a person is liable to fall shall be properly protected.

"Section 4. Portable Ladders -

- A. When a ladder other than a rope ladder is in use -
1. The top should rise at least one (1) meter above the landing place or the highest point to be reached by a person using the ladder and;
  2. The ladder shall not stand upon any loose parking; each upright shall properly rest upon firm and level footing.
- B. A ladder other than a rope ladder shall be prevented from detachment or shifting -
1. By being securely fixed at its upper resting position; or
  2. If it cannot be secured at the top, by being securely fixed at its base;
  3. If fastening at the base is also impracticable, by having a person stationed at the foot.
- C. Each ladder shall be inspected at suitable intervals by a responsible person, preferably a supervisor, and if dangerous defects are found the ladder shall be immediately taken out of service.

"Section 5. Rope Ladder -

- A. A rope ladder shall -
1. Not be used for any purpose other than providing access from a ship to a barge or similar vessel of lower freeboard.
  2. Be fitted with treads that have a non-slip surface.
  3. Be so rigged that the treads are horizontal.
  4. Be fitted with spreaders at interval not greater than nine (9) treads apart. The spreader shall:
    - a. be made in one piece
    - b. have an over-all length of not less than 1.8 meter.
- B. Safe access shall be provided between.
1. The top of the ladder and the dock of the ship;
  2. The barge or other vessel and the lower part of the ladder.
- C. The ladder shall hang fully extended when in use and shall not be positioned over or in close proximity to a discharge opening in the ship's side."