Pursuant to Section 5 of Republic Act No. 3512, there was created a Board of Marine Inquiry (Fisheries Memorandum No. 9-65) to conduct investigations on marine accident involving fishing boats and professional conduct of their marine officers.

The following rules and regulations in the conduct of the said investigations are hereby promulgated for the guidance of the Board:

Section 1. Quorum of the Board: Three members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. Absence of Chairman: In case of inability or absence of Chairman, a temporary Chairman may be chosen by the members from among themselves.

Section 3. Investigation of complaints or protests:
All complaints or protests must be submitted in quadruplicate and under oath before a notary public or any officer authorized to administer oaths. They must contain clearly the facts or circumstances complained of or protested. The complainant or protestant shall furnish copies of the complaint or protest to the persons, partnership, association or corporation involved. Within five (5) days from the receipt of the complaint or protest, the Board shall require the respondent or protestee to answer the complaint or protest. The Board motu proprio at the request of either party may order a formal investigation. The investigation shall be conducted according to the usual procedure in administrative investigations and shall be fact-finding.

Section 4. Report of the Board: Within fifteen (15) days from the termination of the investigation, the Board shall submit to the Commissioner of Fisheries its findings together with its recommendations.
Section 5. Decision of the Commissioner and Appeal to the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources:
The decision of the Commissioner shall become final, unless within thirty (30) days after its promulgation an appeal is perfected and filed with the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources who may confirm, revoke or modify said decision.

Section 6. Guide for the Commissioner and the Board:
Under all circumstances the Commissioner and the Board shall be guided by the pertinent provisions of the Tariff and Customs Code in matters at issue.

Section 7. Effectivity: This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Issued at Dillman, Quezon City this ___ day of ________________________, 1964.

JOSE Y. FELICIANO
Acting Secretary of Agriculture
and Natural Resources

RECOMMENDED BY:

For and in the absence of the
Acting Commissioner of Fisheries:

BENITO Q. BENGZON
Sr. Executive Assistant II

FAO No. 78