

# AMSTERDAM SHIPYARD LTD.

## G. DE VRIES LENTSCH Jr.

~~CRASWEG 33 33, AMSTERDAM N., HOLLAND, TELEFOON 60804~~

~~Telegram: Vrieslentsch-Crasweg-Amsterdam~~

Designers and builders  
of wooden, steel and  
lightmetal craft  
Installation and repairing  
of marine engines

Mr. Kenneth J. Curtis  
1209 Main Street  
DUBUQUE, Iowa 52001  
U.S.A.

Your ref.

Our ref. GVL/lc  
Subject: "Pious Puffin II"

~~AMSTERDAM N.,~~ January 28, 1974

Address: Herman Heyermansweg 2  
Amsterdam Zuid 2, Holland  
P.O. Box 7337  
Telephone: 020-791610  
Telefax: 020-791611  
Bank: 60170 Amsterdam  
Telex: 16161 Amsterdam 2

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 17th of December 1973, which we received today. So it has been on the way more than one month. The reason for the delay may be that it was not sent by airmail, Christmas and New Year and the fact that you did not mention a street in your address. Therefore it was first sent to the post-office in Amsterdam North, where our yard was. However in 1969 we sold our yard and since then the office address of Amsterdam Shipyard G. de Vries Lentsch Jr. is at:

2 Herman Heyermansweg, P.O. Box 7337, Amsterdam-Zuid.2, Holland.

We have read your letter with much interest and we wonder if you are the owner of "Pious Puffin II" and want to sell the yacht or if you have bought her. Recently we namely saw an advertisement in one of the yachting magazines, in which "Pious Puffin II" was offered for sale.

Thank you very much for the compliments you make us. It will be very interesting to see "Pious Puffin II" again. When you arrive in Holland, then please contact me. The office of Amsterdam Shipyard is now at my home address and you can reach me day and night at the telephonenumber 020 - 79 16 10. The telegram address is: Amshiplentsch Amsterdam.

If any work has to be done on the yacht, then we are very interested to advise you, make a design for a rebuilding if any, find a suitable yard, to execute the work and supervise it.

Since we sold our yard, I founded a sister-company Amsterdam Naval Architecture Gerard de Vries Lentsch Jr., which is doing this kind of work. We have all the construction plans of "Pious Puffin II" in our files.

Enclosed we send you the Master Carpenter's Certificate, filled out and signed by us. For your information we inform you the following:

1. The yacht was ordered by Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell, as you may know, one of the richest women in the world. We never met her and in fact built the yacht for the Englishman Captain Cunningham Reid. In 1947 it was not allowed for British subjects to spend foreign currency for the building of a yacht abroad. Before the war we had sold a secondhand "Lemsteraak" type of yacht to Captain Cunningham Reid and he was so satisfied with that boat, that he wanted to order a new one after the war. In order to solve the problem of payment mentioned before, he asked Mrs. Doris Duke Cromwell to pay for the yacht and she gave "Pious Puffin II" as a gift to him. Captain Cunningham Reid served during the first World War in

FOR CONDITIONS OF SALE P.T.O.

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the British Royal Airforce and then became a hero because he shot down the German Colonel Von Richthofen. He was the type of a playboy. The original price of "Pious Puffin II" was \$ 80.000.-, but during the building Captain Cunningham Reid ordered so many alterations and extras, that the price finally became much higher. Mrs. Cromwell one or two times paid a rather large amount for extras, but the last time she refused. Captain Cunningham Reid neither paid us. We sued him and put a lien on the yacht in the south of France. We however lost the case. Captain Cunningham Reid of course said that not he, but Mrs. Cromwell had ordered the yacht. As Mrs. Cromwell no longer was on speaking terms with Captain Cunningham Reid, we "fell between the ship and the quay" with the last amount of extras.

2. In the builder's certificate we mentioned the original General Motors diesel engines. From the advertisement we saw we noticed that "Pious Puffin II" now has Caterpillar engines.
3. Enclosed we send you our invoice for services rendered.

Hoping to have the pleasure to meet you some time, we remain,

yours very truly,  
AMSTERDAM SHIPYARD  
G. de Vries Lentsch Jr.

  
Ing. Gerard de Vries Lentsch Jr.  
Director

Encl.

P.S.

As you see we did not fill out the gross and net tonnage, as these are unknown to us. The displacement is 79,3 tons (calculated).