

Passengers complain

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last night in a Suva hotel. He said that he was considering flying the rest of the way to America.

Electricians from a Suva electrical firm boarded the ship to repair damaged wiring.

A spokesman for Hunts, the ship's agent, said that the Sydney marine superintendent of Chandris lines had arrived in Suva to inspect the damage.

Two marine surveyors from the line's shipping office in Athens were also expected in Suva.

HELPFUL

The cause of the fire was not yet known, he said.

"According to the commander of Australis, Captain D. J. Challioris, the passengers were very helpful and co-operative during the fire," he said.

One passenger alleged that women and children had been neglected by the officers and crew.

"Women and children were left in areas where there was still a lot of smoke," he said. Some received more attention than others."

"The fire damage has been played down. There is quite a lot of damage."