

BY AIRMAIL:

3rd December, 1949.

Dear Mr. Maplestone,

With reference to your official letter of the 25th ultimo respecting the unfortunate contretemps in the case of the Steamer "DANUBIAN", I am writing you a private line at Mr. Sladder's request to express regret for the embarrassing situation in which you were placed.

As the desired Certificates in this instance were in respect of a survey carried out before fusion on a ship holding a British Corporation class, the matter was one which would normally be referred for attention to the ex British Corporation Office at Blythswood Square, Glasgow, who act in a liaison capacity in cases of this kind. Your cablegram of the 4th ultimo therefore was conveyed to Glasgow by telegram on the same day, as follows :-

"REFERENCE YOUR LETTER 11TH AUGUST PLEASE ATTEND TO FOLLOWING CABLEGRAM RECEIVED FROM ALEXANDRIA SURVEYORS QUOTE OWNERS DANUBIAN URGENTLY REQUIRE CLASSIFICATION CERTIFICATES".

There is little doubt that the misunderstanding occurred owing to their interpretation of the expression "Alexandria Surveyors", which probably led to the Certificates being forwarded to the ex British Corporation non-exclusive surveyor with whom, of course, the clerical staff had hitherto been accustomed to correspond.

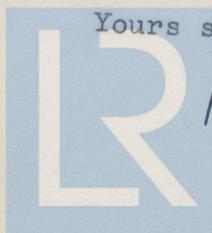
The consequence of this simple error unfortunately created a most awkward situation which you can be assured will not be allowed to recur.

The comments of the Glasgow liaison staff are still awaited, and when these are received an official reply will be addressed to you. In the meantime, however, it was thought well to let you know without delay what we consider to be the explanation.

With kindest regards.

C.R. Maplestone, Esq.,
ALEXANDRIA.

Yours sincerely,



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