

4, ST. MARY AXE,

LONDON. E.C.3

15th January, 1945.

Dear Mr. Sladden,

Thank you for your letter of the 9th, which duly reached me, with regard to the "Ashbury" and Mr. Ellis explained the position when he returned from Newcastle, but of course I appreciate nothing could be done and no arrangements made before the ship's arrival.

Unfortunately, the loss of the vessel with the whole of her crew is what we cannot help regarding as a calamity and disaster for all concerned.

Having been laid up for the last fortnight, I have been unable to attend the Classification Committee but hope to see you shortly and meanwhile appreciate and thank you for the trouble you took in connection with the "Ashbury".

Yours sincerely,

W. C. Alexander

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