

Lloyd's Register of Shipping

RECEIVED

20 DEC 1962

Ans'd.....

ROTTERDAM, 18th December, 1962.
Westblaak 32, P.O. Box 701

All communications to be addressed to

THE SURVEYORS

Your reference:

C.

Our reference:

vdW/B

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 7th November.

I started my enquiry with the Groningen Surveyors, who had no information to offer.

A short time ago I had occasion to speak about the "RANA" with Mr.E.Smit, the Netherlands Government Shipping Inspectorate's Naval Architect.

As the case is ~~sub~~ "sub judice", you will appreciate that Mr.Smit could not give official information and besides that very little is known.

I have, however, understood that the ship was lost on a voyage from Boston to U.K. with a cargo of 610 tons barley covered by 400 sacks of barley disposed in two layers.

The ship encountered rather heavy weather on the 1st November, when the Master and a Member of the Crew at 4 a.m. heard two low noises, the cause of which they could not identify. I understand that they took no action and not being on watch, slept in again.

At 6 o'clock the ship started listing over starboard side. Upon investigation they sounded 85 cm. water in the hold and notwithstanding the use of bilge pumps, the list increased so much that on the 2nd of November the portlights in the aftership were in the water and were stove in by the sea.

At 13.00 the list seemed to have reached 50 degrees; at 14.00 the Master was the last one to leave the ship.

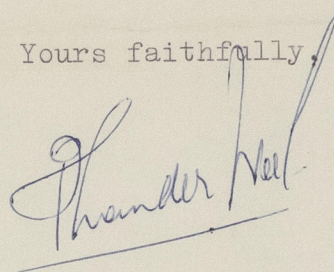
Date 18th December, 1962.

He soon afterwards reboarded the ship, but had to leave again ~~at~~ 16.30 and the ship capsized at 16.40.

I am not quite clear if I am correct as regards the dates. If the dates are correct, a considerable time must have elapsed between the crew noticed the list on the 1st November and the actual foundering on the 2nd, but this makes little difference for our purpose and it will eventually become known when reading the report on the case before the "Raad voor de Scheepvaart".

You will no doubt treat this matter as strictly confidential.

Yours faithfully,



The Secretary,
LONDON.



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Mr Macmillan
Please acknowledge receipt and thank
us informed of future developments

Wm
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Mr Vander Weel. He should keep



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