

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, April 20, 1917, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. April 29, 1917.

Dear Alec:

At the dinner party at Bert's one of the gentlemen close to the "Throne" said that the Allies were in a very dangerous position, that the Germans are sinking more ships all the time. The Allies are doing splendidly, but the trouble is that they have to send supplies to Saloniki, Jerusalem and Bagdad, as well as keeping their own people supplied and more ships are being torpedoed than are being built so that our entry is of supreme importance to them.

Elsie suggests why mightn't your boat solve the whole problem, not so much by chasing submarines but by its ability to advance over mines so close up to the German fleet at anchor that men on it could direct the movements of Hammond's boats which now have a very small radius.

Many of us are covertly longing for an attack on one of our war-ships by a German submarine that would light the match which would set the dynamite on fire, which is necessary to arouse the people, at present they are largely indifferent. It breaks my heart to think of the fine young fellows in our Universities drilling away that they may be ready when the call comes, and how they will be so unnecessarily sacrificed because there are no others to fill up the ranks and dilute them.

Much love. Mabel.