

4.7.24

Achmetaga  
Euboea.  
Greece.

My dear Ruth. The first news  
of it has just reached me  
here - oh my dear if  
only one could escape  
from the misery of it for  
a moment : or think of  
any way to help you.

It's true. They say its  
true: He's truly dead,  
that "proud-like spirit"  
beautiful and free". Up  
there on his mountain.

One can't be thinking yet  
it over of the comfortable  
words that the poets  
invent to make it seem  
more bearable. Only one

runs away turn one's  
one mind. This not  
to remember as we  
wakes up.

Courage to you. It is  
hard for us, and how  
much harder for you, to  
think of you without him.  
I remember when first  
I met him - He came  
to Monte Carlo - ran up  
barefoot on to that  
terrace. . . And then  
we went up on to  
my hill there and we  
sat in lavender and  
he told me of 'finding'  
you in Venice.

And do you remember

a morning in Franks'  
shop when first I saw  
his Ruth. You've always  
been, you two, such  
a good unit," the  
Mallory's".  
I'm dull, sick with thinking  
of it - all. I can do  
is to send you love from  
both of us, so much of  
it. You know don't you  
how glad we shall be  
if you can think of any  
way in which we can  
help - - e.g. about the  
children, and coming to  
England to us. We will

be writing soon about  
this, but at the moment  
you will not hear from  
her as I have kept the  
news from her. She has  
been ill with paratyphoid  
fever and had a relapse  
just when we were to have  
started at last for home:  
I am nursing <sup>her</sup> here in this  
remote but most kindly  
place, and she is getting on  
splendidly; but she needs  
all her spirit still and I  
want if possible to delay  
the shock for a few days  
till she is better able to  
get over the feeling of sick-  
ness. May we meet soon  
Yours ever  
William Webster