



March 11

Dear Mr Buck,

I left the Herefordshire Regt shortly after July 31st - then all we knew about your son was that he was missing, & I do not remember seeing him on the day of the battle. He was a great friend of mine, a member of the Guild, a real live member too. I can remember him so well; he was in 15 platoon - time after time he would be the first in church & would give me a hand. He was a real help in the platoon & he gave me the impression of being a reliable man. Dear fellow, I am sorry he has been officially returned as killed, as he was a good soldier

I am sure a good son to you.
May God grant him Eternal Rest.

Yours truly.

A. E. Popham
Ct.

Telephone No.—REGENT 6640.
Telegrams—"NATIONALLY, CHARLES."

BRITISH RED CROSS
AND
ORDER OF ST. JOHN.

Enquiry Department for
Wounded and Missing,
18, CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE, S.W.1.

8. iii. 18

Dear sir

Thank you for your
letter & for sending us a
copy of the letter from the
German soldier. It is sad
news that he had to give
you; but still you must
have been glad to hear
what he could tell you.

Yours faithfully,
Lucan

Mr. J. Buck

HP L

POST CARD.

CORRESPONDENCE

ADDRESS.



My dear B.
Just a line to let you know
we are alright. Shall be home
late Sunday night. It is very
hot here to-day. Charles team
won yesterday. I hope you
are getting on alright. Now
I must close. Hoping to
remain your E. L. S.
XX Percy. XXXX

Miss B. Sturns
New England Cotton
London Rd

Hitchin

Thet's



Friday
Dec 22/16

15. Platoon, No 4 Coy. 1st Herts Regt
B. E. F. France.

My dear Sister Jessie

Just a few lines to thank you very much
for your kind & welcome letter & cards, also
for the lovely smokes you sent me. Please
thank Irene & Reggie for their nice presents
& give Cyril a big X for me. I expect you
are busy now getting ready at the schools
for Xmas. I wish I was going to be with
you all but we must live in hopes of all
being together next Xmas. I am glad to
say I am in the best of health & having a
good time. I hope you are all well at
home. Tell Beaty I will write to Fred when
she lets me know if he is moving again.
Tell Bertha that Sharp has got someone to help
him with his letters. Now I must close
with best love to you all & best wishes for
a Happy Xmas & a Bright New Year.

X X X I' loving Brother X X X X X X X X
X X X X X Percy X X X Take care of X X
X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

12/1/14

B. E. F.

My dear Sister,

Just a few lines in answer to your most kind & welcome letter I received yesterday. I was very glad to hear you were well. I am in the pink & having a good time. I must thank you very much for the nice present you sent me on my birthday. I hope that long before another one comes round I shall be home again & everything settled. I was glad to hear you had been over to St. Albans & found everything alright with the exception of the kitchen linoleum. Do not worry about that if nothing worse than that happens I shall not mind. It is very good of

You to go over so often as you do
& I am sure I shall never be
able to thank you enough for
the trouble you are taking for
my benefit. I was glad to hear
about Mr. Hedges. I have never
heard anything from Mr. Saunders.
I should not have known they had that
card if it had not been for you going
over. I hope you will have a jolly
time at the Sunday School when
you take Cyril to celebrate his
third birthday. Kindly remember
me to that postman (Mr. Warren
is his name). Tell him I am in
the pink. I was very sorry to
hear about Mr. Wilson. Fancy
you a cycle rider now. I expect

you & Beatie have some fine
times together now. I can see
I shall be able to have plenty
of company on my journey
after the War. Keep your practice
up. I will give you some long
runs. Will give Cyril a big
kiss for me. Give my love to
Ba C & all at home. Remember
me to Mrs. L. & family. I have
written a short letter to Reggie
on the back of this. DON'T say
it is MY turn to write now.
Must now close with fondest
love. Y. loving Brother
P.

God be with you all till I return
X X X X X

19/4/17.

B.E.F.

My dear Brother

Just a line to thank you for your short letter I received yesterday. I hope you are still quite well. I also hope that by now you have received that card you have been looking forward to for such a long time. I am glad to say I am quite well & enjoying lovely weather in the country. Kiss Cyril for me.

Now I must close with best love to you & all at home

Yr. loving Brother

X X X X P. X X X

God Keep you safe till I return



INTER ARMA CARITAS

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Prière de rappeler
dans la réponse
le No ci-dessous:

Please refer to
A23672

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OUR AGENCY
IS POST FREE.

Genève, Oct. 8th 1917

To Mr. P. Buck.

9, Balhol Rd.
Hitchin

Dear Madam, we are enclosing herewith a photograph which was returned to us by a German soldier; he wrote a letter with it, ⁸which we are forwarding a copy. It speaks for itself, and we feel we need not comment upon the contents. We should much like, however, if we may, to try and express on our own behalf a little of the sympathy we feel for you in this sad news, which we know must fall as a terribly hard blow on you.

No words can, unhappily, bring you much consolation, but you will, we trust, have the comfort

of knowing that your husband's last thoughts were
evidently of you and his little one, and this
must have soothed and supported him in
his death, when he gave his life for his country.

We are, Ma'am,

Yours faithfully

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
GENÈVE
AGENCE INTERNATIONALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
BRITISH SECTION

E. Long

On Active Service



MISS JESSIE BUCK,



Baliol Road,

HITCHIN.

Herts.

England

Translation.

To the Red Cross

G e n e v a

I beg to enclose a Post Card, which I took from a British Soldier at St Julien, in Flandres.

He was holding the card in his hand, and, as I learnt later on, that the finder was asked to forward it to his wife, I, wishing to fulfill the last will of the dead comrade, send it to you with the request to forward it to his wife.

The address is written on it. He fell on 31st July or 1st Aug. near St. Julien in Flandres.

May he rest in Peace, I should be very pleased to hear whether the wife has received the card.

Respectfully,

signed : Gefreiter Josef Wilczek

Kindly send the reply to my parents :

Add: Josef Wilczek,

MAKOSCHAU, Kr. Hindenburg O/S.

Telephone No. RECENT 6640.
Telegrams: "NATIONALLY. CHARLES."

BRITISH RED CROSS
—AND—
ORDER OF ST. JOHN.

ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT
FOR
WOUNDED AND MISSING,

4th March. 1918.

18 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1

Pte. Percy. Buck. 267098. D Coy., 1st Herts Regt.,

Dear Sir.,

We have made many enquiries about your son who was 'Missing' on July 31st though I fear we have long had to give up the hope of any good news. I must now tell you that we have just received an account of what happened from Pte. Ramsell. 269676. at present in hospital in France. From this account it seems only too certain that your son was fatally wounded. Pte. Ramsell says:-

"Buck was with us about nine months and I knew him very well. He was in the newspaper business in Hertfordshire, though I couldn't say the town. He sold papers. He was a great fellow for church and meetings and a friend of Chaplain Popham, who has the M.C. with one bar to it. He was a flat-footed fellow and walked with his feet outwards. He had bad feet; but he was well built, broad, and stood about 6ft; about 30 years old, fair. He was in my platoon and we went over the top together soon after dawn - about 5.30. on July 31st. It was the St. Julien front. We advanced too far and as it was against machine gun fire aimed low, we had a lot of casualties and had to retire. Our men were falling all round and had no time to pick up our wounded. I did not see him hit, but several other fellows did. He was hit in the side and fell into a shell hole. He was too severely wounded to move. He showed me a photo of his wife and child the night before. On the back of it he had written his wife's address, and the words - "Whoever finds this please forward" - or words like that. We never saw him again and his body was never found. His wife wrote to Capt Christie 4th Bn., who took command, of my Bn., after Capt. Fisher (our officer) was wounded, saying the photograph had been returned to her from Germany through Switzerland; but whether he

BRITISH RED CROSS

ORDER - 2 - ST. JOHN

was taken prisoner or died where he fell, and a German found the photograph, we never heard. Our belief was that he was too badly wounded to live.

Would you kindly let us know whether it is true that you have received a photograph from Germany? if so, it must ^{evidently} ~~have~~ have been picked up by a German.

We are indeed sorry that our enquiries should have had such a sad result and should like to express our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

For THE EARL OF LUCAN.

Mr. J. Buck.
9, Palliol Rd.,
Hitchin.

No.

C. 9962^a

(If replying, please
quote above No.)

ARMY FORM B. 104-82.

Record Office,

Box 2

Warley

5. 12. 1917

Madam

It is my painful duty to inform you that a report has been received from the War Office notifying the death of:—

(No.) 264098 (Rank) Pte

(Name) P. Buck

(Regiment) 1st Herb

which occurred whilst serving with the British Exped. Force France
on the 31st day of July 1917

The report is to the effect that he was

Killed in Action

By His Majesty's command I am to forward the enclosed message of sympathy from Their Gracious Majesties the King and Queen. I am at the same time to express the regret of the Army Council at the soldier's death in his Country's service.

I am to add that any information that may be received as to the soldier's burial will be communicated to you in due course. A separate leaflet dealing more fully with this subject is enclosed.

I am,

Yours truly,
P. Buck
9 Baliol Rd
Hitchin

Madam

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. Austen Colmel

Officer in charge of Records.

NOTE.

If any articles of private property left by the deceased are found, they will be forwarded to this Office, but some time will probably elapse before their receipt, and when received they cannot be disposed of until authority is received from the War Office. Some delay is therefore inevitable.

Any application regarding the disposal of any such personal effects, or of any amount that may eventually be found to be due to the late soldier's estate, should be addressed to "The Secretary, War Office, ^{Imperial Institute} Park Buildings, ^{S. Kensington} London, S.W."



The King commands me to assure you
of the true sympathy of His Majesty and
The Queen in your sorrow.

Lyby.

Secretary of State for War.

(7 29 88) W5976—27 5000 8/16 WV(P119) H16/1817
4933—H4855 5000 7/17

jects—Form No. 144.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
War Office,
Imperial Institute,
South Kensington,
London, S.W.7,
and the following number quoted.

WAR OFFICE,
IMPERIAL INSTITUTE,
SOUTH KENSINGTON,
LONDON, S.W.7,

12th January 1918.

E./ 2428/1 (Accounts 4.)

Madam,
With reference to your application regarding the late *No. 267098*
P. Buck, 1st Bn. Hertfordshire Regiment,

I am directed to acquaint you that, the accounts of the late soldier having now been received, it is found that the payments made to him or on his account exceeded the amount due to him, including the Gratuity due under the Royal Warrant for Pay, and that consequently there is no amount due from Army Funds to his estate.

The Officer in Charge of *Infantry*

Records

(No. 2) Warley

has been instructed to forward to

you any personal effects belonging to the deceased which may now be in his custody, or which may hereafter be received by him, and any application regarding such articles should be addressed to that Officer.

I am, *Madam,*

Your obedient Servant,

M^{rs} B. Buck
9 Balios Road
Hitchin
Herts

Agnew
for the Assistant Financial Secretary.

Widows—Form 12.

Any further communication on this subject should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
Ministry of Pensions,
(Widows and Dependants Branch),
45, Grosvenor Road,
London, S.W. 1,

and the following number quoted :—

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS,

(Widows and Dependants Branch),

45, GROSVENOR ROAD,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

No. *62 North*
W. Group III

28-2 191*8*

MADAM,

I am directed by the Minister of Pensions to inform you that the issue of your separation allowance will cease on the *24 March 1918*, and that you have been awarded a Pension of *13/9* a week for yourself and an allowance of *5/-* Total *18/9* a week for your *one* children, with a week effect from the *25th March 1918*.

The change of payment must not be taken as indicating that there is any proof of the death of your husband.

[P.T.O.]

The Pension will be payable weekly in advance through the Post Office as in the case of Separation Allowance, but on Wednesdays instead of Mondays. The first payment will be made on the 27th March 1918.

The enclosed forms of Life Certificate should be carefully completed as directed and returned to this office as soon as possible. If not returned within eight days the payment of the pension may be delayed.

I am,

MADAM,

Your obedient Servant,

Matthew Nathan
Secretary.

Bertha Buck
Mrs.
59 Upper Culver Rd
St Albans

x.a.B.