

U. S. S. New Hampshire,
October 19th 1917.

Mr. J. W. Luker,
Bashi, Alabama.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your letter of October 15th, and in reply have to inform you that as your son was transferred to the hospital ship Solace before his death, all his effects, accounts, and papers went with him. So I cannot tell you how much money he had due him at the time, or give you any further information about the matter.

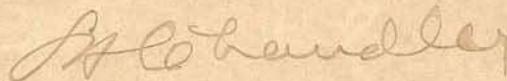
The right way for you to proceed is to write two separate letters as follows:-

1. To the "Chief of Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D.C." stating that you are "the father of Walter M. Luker, late seaman second class, U.S.N., who recently died on board the Hospital Ship Solace, as the result of an accident received while serving on board the U. S. S. New Hampshire," and requesting to be paid "the death benefit provided by law as becoming due upon your son's death".

2. To the "Auditor for the Navy Department, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C." telling him who you are as in the first letter, and requesting him to pay to you as your son's legal heir, such sum as may have been due him on his death.

Your letters will be given due consideration by the officials to whom addressed, and you will receive replies from them in due time.

Very sincerely yours,



Captain, U. S. Navy,
Commanding.