

Sloane 3467  
Tel. No. ~~Holborn 2424~~  
Ext. ....  
Correspondence on the subject  
of this letter should be  
addressed to  
THE UNDER-SECRETARY  
OF STATE,  
AIR MINISTRY.....  
and should quote the reference  
P.417743/44/S.14 Cas.B.2.  
Your Ref. ....



AIR MINISTRY,  
LONDON, W.C.2.  
2, Seville Street,  
London, S.W.1.  
25th February, 1948.

Madam,

I am directed to refer to your letter of 3rd February 1948, and to say that arrangements have now been made whereby close relatives of members of the British forces who are buried in countries in north west Europe (Germany excepted) may visit war graves by paying their return fares in sterling to a travel agency in this country, and obtaining foreign exchange up to £10 on application to the Bank of England through any bank in the United Kingdom.

An official scheme under which financial assistance towards the cost of visits to war graves will be given to near relatives in necessitous cases has been approved in principle, but the date of its introduction has not as yet been decided on. When this decision has been taken it is expected that a public announcement will be made.

It is the intention of the Graves Registration and Enquiry Service of the War Office to photograph the graves of all service personnel. Some considerable time may elapse before this task is completed, but you may rest assured that as soon as photographs of the grave of your husband and his aircrew companions are received one will be sent to you.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient Servant,



Mrs. A. H. Brown,  
13, Brookbottom Road,  
Radcliffe,  
Lancs.

*Arthur Livingston*

25th February 1948:

Referring to arrangements that could be made to visit the grave.



DH

SLOANE 3467

Telephone :

Extn. ....

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P.417743/44/S.14.Cas.AV3

Your Ref. ....



AIR MINISTRY,

(Casualty Branch)

2, SEVILLE STREET,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

12<sup>th</sup> October, 1948.

Madam,

I am directed to forward for your  
retention photographs of the grave of your  
husband 2209356 Sergeant A.H. Brown, who  
is buried in Wevelghem Communal Cemetery.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

M. Cusbe

Mrs A.H. Brown,  
13, Brookbottom Road,  
Radcliffe,  
Lancashire.

12<sup>th</sup> October 1948:

These I think are the photographs to which the letter refers.

The headstone was eventually replaced by the standard War Graves Commission  
version.





FT/JW  
IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION,  
WOOBURN HOUSE, WOOBURN GREEN,  
HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

Ref. In reply please quote  
UNIT

18th November 1953

Dear Madam,

With reference to your letter forwarding a contribution towards the cost of engraving the inscription on the grave of the late Sergeant A.H. Brown, I regret that the Commission are unable to supply photographs of graves as this is not part of their duty. The British Legion, 49 Pall Mall, London S.W.1 have a service by which these may be obtained and if you would write to them they would be able to assist you. In writing you should quote the full location of the grave which is as under:-

Wevelgem Communal Cemetery, Belgium,  
Plot E, Grave No. 498.

Yours faithfully,

*J. J. M. J.*  
Secretary

Mrs. A. Sumner,  
13 Brookbottom Road,  
RADCLIFFE,  
near Manchester,  
Lancs.

2209356 SERGEANT  
A.H. BROWN  
AIR GUNNER  
ROYAL AIR FORCE  
28TH MAY 1944 AGE 27  
DUTY NOBLY DONE

18th November 1953:

Mother contributed towards the inscription on the grave. Specifically the line "Duty Nobly Done".





This photograph was taken in 1985 when Mother and I visited Wevelgem.

Some significant changes have been made since 1948:

FG Lebano must have been exhumed from Lichtervelt and reburied at Wevelgem.

The original grave containing the five bodies is now two graves.

The crew have been re-united.

The graves today are still the same and are cared for diligently by the Wevelgem cemetery staff in conjunction with the Imperial War Graves Commission.





BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen and I offer you our  
heartfelt sympathy in your great  
sorrow.

We pray that your country's  
gratitude for a life so nobly given  
in its service may bring you some  
measure of consolation.

*George R.I.*

Mrs. A. H. Brown.