

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

123 Sergeant
Ernest Raymond
Bregenzer

22nd Battalion



0511205E

20th Battn.
A.I.F.

BREGENZER "D.C.M."
Sgt. E.R. 123

"KILLED 18-8-18"

I was blinded and afterwards taken Prisoner of War. This was near Framville. Just before I was wounded, I saw him lying out apparently killed and afterwards I enquired and was told that the body was his.

He was a D.C.M. South African Soldier.

Informant - Vanselow. Pte. L. 7093
(Intelligent & Interested)

Home Address:-
19 Chatham Street
Canterbury
Melbourne.

20th Battn.
King George Hosp.
Stamford Street, S.E. 1

D. Newton
1-11-18
London
26-11-18
H.G.

H.

22nd Battn.,
A. I. F.

BREGENZER,
E.R. 123,

"Killed - Aug. 18th 1918."

"Villers Bretonneux Cemetery on right hand of Villers Bretonneux. I saw his grave about a month ago, a party of us were sent to do them up again and I remember his particulars. I knew him well, came from Australia with me.

Informant:- Sykes, G.A., 689,
W. 15 Harfield.

D. P Dickson,
London,
11-12-18.
J. R. A.

H.

A.I.F. 22nd Battn.

BREGENZER
E.R. 123.

"Killed 18.8.18."

Of A. Company. Lieut. C.J. Fulton, Australian Officers Club, 138, Piccadilly, could give full particulars about Bregenzer; he was with him when he was killed.

Informant:- Pte. S.R. Adams, 103,
22nd Battn.
A. Coy.
Anzac Buffet.

A.D.G.
London
13.12.18.
J.E.A.

M.

Note:- Written Lt. Fulton, 9.12.18.

A.I.F. 22nd Battn.

BREGENZER
E.R. 123.

"Killed 18.8.18."

I saw Bregenzer of B. Company killed by sniper's bullet (I think in stomach) about 6.30 a.m. at Herleville. He and Sgt. Dolan (afterwards missing) had gone ahead with a machine gun which was broken in their hands, and they returned. Dolan jumped into our shell hole and Bregenzer was shot about three yards from it. I saw him fall and feel sure that he was dead. He was buried in the shell hole by the Boches. Sgt. Ernest Raymond Bregenzer was from Camperdown. Book-keeper. 42 years.

Informant:- Pte. A.V. Taylor, 4558,
22nd Battn. B. Coy,
France.

H.C.H.
London
18.12.18.
H.G.

M.

22nd Battn.
A.I.F.

BREGENZER.
Sgt. E.R. 123.

"Killed in Action 18-8-18"

He was a Sergeant. and a "D.C.M." He was shot during a very gallant attack to mop up a German machine gun which was holding up the attack of his sector. He jumped ^{out} of the shell hole to attack the Germans and was killed instantly, by rifle fire. I did not see the casualty. Lieut Mallinson could give further details.

Informant:- Lieut. J.H.B. Armstrong.
22nd Battn Repat: P/W.
London Office.

L.A.W.
London.
2-1-19.
J.E.A.

Note:- Written Lieut Mallinson 31-12-18. M.

A.I.F. 22nd Battn.
B. Coy.

BREGENZER D.C.M.
E.R. Sgt. 123.

"Wounded & Missing 10.8.18"

Swift was in my A. Coy, 2nd Platoon. He was missing at Huleville in the hop-over on August 18th. Nobody saw him after hop-over, but a photo addressed to "My Dear Tom" from "Your loving wife Vio" was found near a grave in which were buried (by the Germans who had temporarily occupied the ground) one Sergeant (Sgt. Bregenzer D.C.M. of B. Coy) and six unknown Australians. B. Coy erected a cross. The photo mentioned above was forwarded either to Headquarters or to Swift's Brother in the 7th Battalion. Tom Swift was a married man, fair, short, nuggetty, slightly bandy-legged, had a wound mark on face.

Informant:- Sgt. W.M. Bunting, 2262,
22nd Battn. A. Coy,
France.

H.C.H.
London
3.1.19.

J.E.A. Note:- Written Swift about Brother 17.12.18.

M.

22nd Battn.
A.I.F.

BREGENZER.
E.R. 123.

"Killed in Action 18-8-18"

He was of B. Company. Was acting C/S/M. At Herlsville during our attack, he was carrying machine gun when shot by machine gun bullet. I was about 150 yards away, but I saw him fall. We were taken prisoners about 2 hours later..

Informant:- Pte R.T.Veale. 5703.
22nd Battn. A.Coy. P/W.
RED CROSS.

A.D.G.
London.
6-1-19.
J.E.A.

M.

22nd Battn.,
A.I.F.

M. 18. 8. 18

BREGENZER,
Sgt. E.R. 123.

"The above named man was killed by a M.S. burst or pineapple bomb in a shell hole on the morning of 18-8-18 about 6 a.m. at Herlville. He was killed indtantly - while he was shooting. The Huns put up a cross and buried him and 6 others, the grave was marked "7 Unknown Australians". They were buried just a few yards from where they were killed. Their names are:-

Lt. Westaway, H.W.
Sgt. Bregenzer, E.R. 123.
L/Sgt. F.Dolan (?) 3825,
A.S.Hurst,
E.J.Kelly,
L/Cpl. J.D.Jackson.

V.D.
Red Cross,
London,
7-1-19.
J.E.A.

M.

22nd Battn.
A.I.F.

BREGENZER.
Sgt. E.R. 123.

"Killed in Action 18-8-18"

He was killed at my side. We were in front of Mr Westerway's post sniping Germans coming down a communication trench. I think he got shot through the heart. He just said "Goodbye, I'm hit" and fell over. Killed practically instantly. I know nothing of burial, but Sgt Fizelle told me on my return that they had found his body and buried him. He was a fairly big man, B.Coy, Acting C/S/M and the only man of that name in the Unit. Very popular with the boys, and one of the old original battalions.

Informant:- 1738. W.H.T. Jewell.
22nd Battn. Repat: P/W.
RED CROSS.

M. ILS.
London.
7-1-19.

Off.M.

22nd Btn.

BREGENZER, E. R.
Sgt. 123.

K. in act. 18/8/18.

"I knew casualty. He was a stout man, 5 ft. 10 ins. fair complexion, about 32, known as "Ted". He embarked from Australia with the 22nd Battalion on the 8/5/15 on the troopship "Ulysses". Casualty was in the front line at Caffy when he was sniped through the head by a bullet and killed instantly. I was alongside of him at the time of his death. We went out in No Man's Land to see if everything was quiet when he was hit. He was Sgt. of my platoon. He was buried near where he fell."

Private address:-
Macarthur, Vic.

Informant:- Pto. J. S. Grayland,
No. 1131, 22nd Btn.

H.A.T.
21/3/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

22nd Btn.

~~WESTAWAY, H. J.~~
~~2nd Lieut.~~
BREGENZER, E. R.
Sgt. 123.

"K" in act. 18/8/18."

"They were both killed a few yards from me in an attack on a village called Herleville in France on the morning of the 18th August, 1918. Sgt. Bregenzer was killed by machine gun fire and died almost immediately after being hit. Lieut. Westaway was killed beside me by a "pine apple" bomb and died instantly. I was wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans some little time after their death, and on being repatriated heard from some of the men of my Battalion that the Huns had buried six Australians in the shell hole where we had fought them. They (the Huns) had put a cross up and had marked it "Six Unknown Australians". I'm sure Bregenzer and Westaway were there, and the other lads would be Sgt. Nolan, Lt. Col. Jackson, Pto. Hurst, and Pto. Kelly, all of the 22nd Btn. They were all killed in the same shell hole. I think, but am not certain if I'm correct, that the Battalion also put up a cross after the ground had been cleared up some days later."

Private address:-
Lonsdale Street, Hamilton.
20/5/19.

Informant:- Lieut. R. Mallinson,
22nd Btn.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

22nd Btn.

Sgt.

BRENNER, E. R.
No. 128

E. R.
E. R.

Kld. in act. 18.8.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, well built, dark complexion about 37 years of age, known as Breg. He was acting Sgt. Major at the time. Casualty was advancing at Flamerville. I was in the same advance. An H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I did not see Casualty killed, but I saw his body laying in a shell hole. I was taken prisoner shortly after, but I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- O. Hart
No. 5365

Private address
Rotham Street,
Collingwood.

T.C.F.
30.5.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

M
C. Smith

48

To

Lt-Mallinson
22 Battery
A.I.F.

About

123 Sgt-Pregenza ^{ex}
22 Battery
A.I.F.

K/A 18.8.18

Written 31.12.18
MSS