

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

2883B Private
Reginald Gordon
Crittenden

19th Battalion



0840202G

A.I.F.

19th Bn.

CRITTENDEN, R.G. 2883/B.

M. 3.5.17.

I knew Crittenden who came from Sydney, N.S.W. He worked at Jones' Jam Factory in Sydney, and was about 24 years old, and was single, I believe. On May 3rd, 1917, he was in the attack on the sunken road, Bullecourt. Up to this point we were together, but we then got so mixed up with other Units that I missed him. We then had to retire, and on going back we got into our own barrage, and I believe that Crittenden was killed at that time, but his Pl. Sgt., Named Bayliss could speak with greater certainty on that point.

Informant: G. Kellow, 5842, 19th Bn. C Co.
No. 57 Gen. Hpl.
Boulogne 28.9.17.

HH.

S

Written Sgt Bayliss 12.10.17

19th A.I.F.

Crittenden. R.G. 2883 B.

H. May 3/17.

"I was with Crittenden, C Co. at Bullecourt, on May 3. He was in the same gun team and was wounded by a shell, as we were advancing, in the early morning. I just heard him sing out and saw him fall."

Eye-witness:

Description: "Critto", about 5'11", fair, well built.

Informant: E. Smith, 5028,
19 A.I.F. C Co. XI Pl.,
Bethnal Green Mil. Hos.,
S. Justice Ward.

Home address: Home Rule, Mudgee, N.S.W.

2.11.17.
F.H. Bathurst.

S

19th Battn.

late 56th Battn.

A.I.F.

Crittenden.

R.G.

2865B

"Missing 3.5.17"

Re 2883 Pte. Crittenden. I may state that I was platoon Sgt. in which the above belonged. Also he went with the platoon on the attack of Bullecourt 3.5.17. On calling the roll the same night I found the above missing. On leaving the trenches next day he was still missing. I have made enquiries as regards to anyone who might have seen him in the attack, but can gather no definite information concerning him. I could not say if he is killed or a prisoner. If at any time I receive information I will at once let you know.

Letter from:-

C. Bayliss 814

C. Coy. 19th Battn.

France 30.11.17.

London.

13.12.17.

S.

A.I.F. 19th Btn
late 56th Btn

CRITTENDEN
Reg: Gordon 2883B

"MISSING"

Killed in action 3-5-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqs 8-1-18.

London
16-1-18

3

19th Battn.
A. I. F.

CRITTENDEN
R.G. 2883B

"Killed 3-5-17"

Crittenden was reported as Missing, but I'm pretty certain he was in the shell hole at Bullecourt when I got hit. It was after we had gone forward. The shell landed in the middle of the shell hole and I'm pretty certain he was killed. There were about a dozen of us in the shell hole and only two of us got out. I was unconscious for a minute or so and could see the bodies by light of the flares. I could not recognise them. The man who got out was a Cpl., I don't know his name but it was not Crittenden.

Informant. Hillier W. 2915
19th Battn., C. Coy.,
Hut 9,
WESTHAM.

W. A. Rand
London
12-3-13

S.
P.I.

A.I.F. 19th Battn
late 56th "

CRITTENDEN
Reginald Gordon
2883B

K/A 3/5/17
"Whereabouts wanted"

No trace in Germany
Gert. by Capt. Mills 10/10/19

C
London
16/10/19

S
P.I.

21/9/17

NAVAL AND MILITARY HOMES

171 High Street, Aldershot
Brook, Chatham—Tel. 549
12 Catherine Street, Devonport
Church Street, Harwich
32 Queen Street, Portsea, Portsmouth
Tel. 1235
Governor Street, Gibraltar
12 Piazza Maggiore, Floriana, Malta
India: Calcutta and Bombay
Camps: Martinique Barracks, Bordon, Hants



THE SALVATION ARMY

Naval and Military League

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS,
101 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

NAVAL AND MERCANTILE HOMES

West Indies: Trinidad
S. America: Buenos Ayres, Bahia Blanca,
Monte Video, Ensenada
Australia: 73 Goulburn Street, Sydney
20 R.-214-11, 211

13th September 17.

Dear Sir:-

19th Bn?

RE:- 2993. Pte. R.G. Crittenden.
7th Reinforcements. 56th Batt: A.I.F.
Missing 3rd May 17.

If you are not already enquiring for this man,
I shall be most grateful if you will include his
name in your searchers list, and advise us of any
information you are able to obtain regarding him.

The Mother in Sydney has asked us to make all
the enquiries possible.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Lieut-Colonel.

TO:- The Secretary,
The Australian Red Cross,
54, Victoria St.
S.W.

Pte. A. B. Britton 2883.

56 Batt.

see under

19. Batt.

Pte. L. S. Dean. 5810

24/9/17.

K

Pte. R. G. Britton 2883.

19 Batt.

see under

Pte Roy Quintal 3086.

19 Batt.

25/1/18.

Recd
by P.C.
F.M. 5.12.17

2883^B R. G. CRITTENDEN

19 Batt
(late 56)

M. 3-5-17 S. 4

20/11/17

C. Bayliss 814

C. Coy. 19 Batt

A. I. F.

France.

The Secretary

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

Australian Branch R.R.L.S.

54 Victoria St.

London, S.W.

Dear Madam,

In regard to your enquiry as to
2883 B R.G. Crittenden R.L. 19th Batt, reported as missing,
I may state that I was platoon sergeant in which
the above belonged. Also he went with the platoon
on the attack of Bullecourt 3/5/17. On calling
the roll the same night I found the above missing.
On leaving the trenches next day he was still
missing. I have made enquiries as regards to
anyone who might have seen him in the attack
but can gather no definite information concerning
him. I could not say if he is killed or a
prisoner. If at any time I receive information
I will at once let you know.

Yours Faithfully

C. Bayliss

THE SALVATION ARMY
WITH THE
BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE,

ARMY POST OFFICE 3
B.E.F.

10th January 1918.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.

ack 18

Handwritten signature
Sir,

*Ans
23.1.18*

2883 - Pte. R.G.Crittenden,
19th Battalion, late 55th Battn,
7th Reinforcements, 14th Bgde, A.I.F.
Reported Missing on 3rd May 1917.

I would esteem it a great favour if you could
institute enquiries with a view to ascertaining the
present whereabouts of this man. Thanking you in
anticipation,

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. J. Cairns

O.C.
Salvation Army with B.E.F.

18th March, 1918.

W.T.Haines, Esq.
O.C., Salvation Army with B.E.F.,
A.P.O.3, B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your enquiry about - 2883 Pte. REGINALD G. CRITTENDEN, 19th Battalion, A.I.F. - We regret to inform you that he was officially reported Killed in Action 3-5-17. We have received an unofficial report respecting him, from 2915 Pte.W.Killier, 19th Battn, A.I.F., now at Westham, who states "Crittenden was reported as Missing, but I'm pretty certain he was in the shell hole at Bullebourt when I got hit. It was after we had gone forward. The shell landed in the middle of the shell hole and I'm pretty certain he was killed. There were about a dozen of us in the shell hole, and only two of us got out. I was unconscious for a minute or so and could see the bodies by light of the flares. I could not recognise them. The man who got out was a Cpl. I don't know his name but it was not Crittenden."

We regret that we have only such sad news to send, and should we obtain further details we shall immediately advise you of them.

Yours faithfully,

F. S. G.
SECRETARY.