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

5376 Sapper
Herbert Vaughan
Ettingshausen

14th Field Company Engineers



10204119

28 SEP 1916
V.A.D. DEPARTMENT

Ivy Cottage,
Castle Bromwich, Nr Birmingham
September 28th 1916.

Dear Sirs,

I have been visiting some wounded Australian soldiers in a local hospital, who are very much concerned about one of their comrades who is reported "missing". I understand that enquiries re missing men are undertaken by the British Red Cross Society, and if this is correct, I shall be very glad to know if you can obtain tidings of this man.

His name is "Sapper H.W. Ettingshausen, 14th Field Co. Engineers, 5th Australian Division". He has been missing since July 19th, and was in an engagement ~~AX~~ just south of Armentieres.

His mother is naturally in great distress, and has cabled twice to the men in hospital, asking if any news has been received. I should therefore be very grateful if you have any information concerning him.

Yours truly,

(Miss) Beatrice A. Wood.

December 6th.

110. SGT. G.T.WILSON
14. Field Co. Engineers.
A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Dear Sgt. Wilson,

Many thanks for your letter of 28th. Nov in answer to our enquiry for:-

5376 SAPPER H.V.ETTINGHAUSEN 14th. Field Co. Eng.

We are sorry to have troubled you with this enquiry, b but you will realise how anxious we are to obtain information of our men from others of their Battalion.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

VD

Secretary

F.Co.

16th April 1917.

6105 Sapper Oscar Olaf Wemestad,
14th Fld.Coy.Engrs, A.I.F.
British Prisoner of War,
Gefangenenlager,
Dülmen, Westphalia.
GERMANY.

Dear Sapper Wemestad,

We have been requested by our Sydney Bureau to make enquiries for a man of your unit -

5376 Sapper H.V. Ettinghausen,

reported Missing 20-7-16, and have been informed by Sapper Small of your Company, that you had written to him saying Sapper Ettinghausen was also a Prisoner of War.

We should be most grateful if you would write and tell us anything you can about Sapper Ettinghausen. We trust you are receiving your parcels regularly and in good order, and that they contain what you desire.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

V.D

Secretary

16th April 1917.

Miss Beatrice A. Wood.
Ivy Cottage.
Caster Bromwich.
near Birmingham.

Dear Madam,

We have to advise you of the receipt of two further unofficial reports about No. 5376. Sapper H.V. Ettinghausen, 14th Field Coy. Australian Engineers in one of which he is reported as a prisoner of War in Germany.

We place little reliance on this rumour as we have never received notification of it from Germany, nor have we heard from him.

Our other informant - No. 2103. Sapper. W. Paxton of the same Company who on March 31st. was in No. 1. Command Depot, Perham Downs, Salisbury, reports that he saw the above soldier after his return from an important attack in conjunction with the infantry at Fromelles on July 19th. 1916. He was then badly wounded but in spite of this he would not remain to have them dressed but rushed back to the attack and was never seen again. Search was made next day but no trace of his body could be found and informant fears that ~~xhx~~ he could not possibly recover from his wounds, and the dexcription he gives may be of some help. Sapper Ettinghausen was tall, slight and thin faced with medium colouring. He was about 35 years of age. and came from New South Wales.

Hoping that these details will be of some help & assuring you that all possible efforts are being made to obtain further inform ation.

Yours faithfully,
for I.D.
A.K.B. Secretary.

ack
Jan. 21. 17

France
Feb 5th 1917

FEB 1917

To Miss Deakin
Secretary
Australian Red Cross
Society
54 Victoria St London

Dear Madam

I am in receipt of your
letter 30/1/17 and am sorry to
say that I was killed in action the
night of 19/20/16 I had occasion to re-
cross "No Mans Land" and while there
as I passed by the body of H.V. Hughes
I took it upon myself to search him for
him, but I regret to say he was
past beyond human aid but his
identity was not to have been lost
sight of as I took from him his
also he had suffered the same
as I have

Yours very

That I was on the same section of our company as Connell & I was on daily fatigues with him & can not call to mind any mistake in fact I can vouch for the facts as stated by me in the letter
Will thank you for your note-book shortly

Believe me to be
Yours Respectfully
Sapper L. E. J. Hackstone

To Secretary.

I may state that I was officer in charge of the Engineer party on the night mentioned although I never saw Sapper Cunningham after 1 or after the shots started the above Sappers mentioned the fact that he had been killed & I think there is little doubt of the poor fellow being dead.
L.G. Merkel Lt. Hobart

5376. Spr. H.V. Ettinghausen
14 Field Co Engrs

M. 20.7.16

S

P. 1(2) 4.

Note written also to L.G. Merkel Esq. 21.7.17

September 28th, 1917.

Miss Elizabeth A.Wood,
Ivy Cottage, Castle Bromwich,
Nr Birmingham.

Dear Madam,

We are sending you an extract from a letter which has been received about No.6776 Sapper H.V.Ettinghausen,
14th. Field Coy,
Australian Engineers.

from a man of his company to whom we had written for confirmation of the persistent unofficial reports that he was taken prisoner.

Informant - No 6105 Sapper C.C. Fernestead wrote to us from Munster, Germany, to this effect "I am sorry to say I cannot give any sure information about Sapper Ettinghausen. A party of our unit was sent in after the Infantry had taken the German trenches on the 19th July 1916. When we were near the German trenches we had to lay down on account of machine guns and Ettinghausen threw himself down alongside of me. After that I know nothing until an hour afterwards when I found myself nearly buried in rubbish on the edge of a big shell hole and all my mates gone. When I got up I was hit with a bullet through my leg and one in

"my side but I managed to get into the trenches which were still held by the Australians. The next morning the Germans retook the trenches and some prisoners and it is possible that Pettinghausen was among them but I did not see him and have not seen him since. I did not see all that was taken because some of them were sent out to work before I got out of hospital".

Regretting that we have been to obtain a definite account his death

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

B M for L A W.

September 27th, 1917.

Rev.John Rosbell,
Bishop's House,
Bath St., Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

We are sending you an extract from a letter which has been received about No 5176 Sapper H.V.Ettinghausen
14th Field Coy,
Australian Engineers.
from a man of his company to whom we had written for confirmation of the persistent unofficial reports that he was taken prisoner.

Informant - No 6163 Sapper O.C.Wemestead wrote to us from Munster, Germany, to this effect "I am sorry to say I cannot give any sure information about Sapper Ettinghausen. A party of our unit was sent in after the Infantry had taken the German trenches on the 19th July, 1916. When we were near the German trenches we had to lay down on account of machine guns and Ettinghausen threw himself down alongside of me. After that I know nothing until about an hour afterwards when I found myself nearly buried in rubbish on the edge of a big shell hole and all my mates gone. When I got up I was hit with a bullet through my leg and one in my side, but I managed to get into the trenches

which were still held by the Australians. The next morning the Germans retook the trenches and some prisoners and it is possible that Ettinghausen was among them but I did not see him and have not seen him since. I did not see all that was taken because some of them were sent out to work before I got out of hospital".

Regretting that we have been unable to obtain a definite account of his death.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

A M for L A W.

Ivy Cottage,
Castle Bromwich.
Nr Birmingham.
October 9th 1917.

Dear Madam,

I am very much obliged for your further letter concerning Sapper H.V. Ettinghausen, 5376. and I indeed appreciate the immense amount of trouble you have taken in making the numerous enquiries.

As I believe I explained when I first wrote, Ettinghausen was the particular chum of a wounded Australian soldier I was visiting in the Birmingham Hospital, and this man received several cables from the Mother of Ettinghausen, begging for news. He is now back in France, and I have not heard from him for a considerable time. But I am sending your latest particulars on to him, and he will no doubt pass them on to Australia.

Personally, from the various accounts you have sent to me, I fear there is little doubt that Ettinghausen is dead, but should you get any authentic news of him later on, I should be very much interested to hear.

Again thanking you for your kindness in this matter,

I am,

Yours truly,

Beatrice A. Wood.

May 24th, 1917.

Rev. John Roskell,
Bishop's House,
Bath Street,
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

- Sapper HERBERT V. ETTINGHAUSEN 14th Fld.Coy.Engrs.
(late 7th Fld.Coy.Engrs) A.I.F.

With reference to your enquiry for the above soldier, who was previously reported Missing since 20-7-16, we regret to inform you that he is now reported at A.I.F. Head Quarters as Killed in Action on that date.

We are making enquiries for details of his death, which we shall forward to you immediately on receipt.

Regretting that we have to send you such sad news.

Yours faithfully,

V.O

Secretary.
L.Rw

G-C

30.8.17

6165 Sapper O.O.NEMESTAD.
14 Field Co. Austn. Engrs. A.I.F.British Prisoner of War
Gefangenenlager. Mulheim. Munster. Germany

Dear Sapper Nemestad

Very many thanks for your letter in answer to our enquiry, concerning: Sapper 5376 Ettinghausen of your unit. The information you have sent will be of much assistance to us and of value to our enquirers. We are very pleased to hear that you are receiving your parcels regularly: but regret to learn that the bread from Switzerland does not arrive in good condition. But we believe that by this time you will be in receipt of the biscuits which are being substituted for the bread and which we hear from some of our men are much appreciated

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

V. D

Secretary

May 24th, 1917.

Miss Beatrice A. Wood,
Ivy Cottage,
Castle Bromwich,
near Birmingham.

Dear Madam,

Sapper Herbert V. Ettingshausen, 14th FldCoyEngrs.
(late 7th Fld.Coy.Engrs).A.I.F.

With reference to your enquiry for the above soldier, who was previously reported Missing since 30-7-16, we regret to inform you that he is now reported at A.I.F. Head Quarters as Killed in Action on that date.

We are making enquiries for details of his death, which we shall forward to you immediately on receipt.

Regretting that we have to send you such sad news.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Ivy Cottage,

Castle Bromwich.

March 8th 1917.

Dear Madam,

I duly received your letter of the 1st inst, re the enquiries you have been making re Sapper H.V. Ettinghausen, of the Australian Engineers, and I am very much obliged for the trouble you have taken in the matter.

From the report received from Sapper Hiddlestone I am afraid there is little hope, but still, one hears very extraordinary tales of lost men re-appearing.

I have passed on the information to the friend of Ettinghausen for whom I made the enquiry, and he is very grateful for the interest given to the matter.

Should you hear later on any good news, I shall be very glad to receive it.

With many thanks,

BBelieve me,

Yours faithfully,

Beatrice A. Wood.

23rd January, /7.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you very much for your confirmation of Sapper Middlestone's letter in answer to our enquiry for -

No. 5375 Sapper H. V. ETTINGHAUSEN

of your unit.

Yours faithfully,

V.D

SECRETARY.

L. G. Mirkel Esq.,
14th Field Coy. Engrs.,
A.I.F.

26th January - 9

Rev. John Moskell,
Bishop's House.
[illegible].
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

Re your inquiry for No. 5576. Pte. Herbert V. Uttinghausen, 14th Field Coy. Australian Engineers, we beg to inform you that we have received several unofficial reports from men in his battalion who say that if he is alive he must be a Prisoner of War.

We have not received his name on any German Lists of Prisoners and we fear that these reports are incorrect as we have been for some time past in communication with men who were captured a long after July 20th. the date on which he went missing.

We are still making every effort to get definite news of his fate, but so far our efforts have been of no avail.

We shall inform you should any such reports be received.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. P.h for AG 13.

26th January -7.

Miss Beatrice A. Wood.
Ivy Cottage.
Castle Bromwich.
near Birmingham.

Dear Madam,

Re your inquiry for No. 3376. Pte. Herbert V. Etting hausen, 14th Field Coy. Australian Engineers, we beg to inform you that we have received several unofficial reports from men in his battalion who say that if he is alive he must be a prisoner of War.

We have not received his name on any German Lists of Prisoners and we fear that these reports are incorrect as we have been for some time past in communication with men who were captured long after July 20th. the date on which he went missing.

We are still making every effort to get definite news of his fate, but so far our efforts have been of no availa.

We shall inform you should any such reports be received

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. Ph for F. A. W.

23rd February, 1r.

Dear Sapper Hiddlestone,

Very many thanks for your letter of February 5th in answer to our enquiry for -

No. 5376 Sapper H.V. EMMINGHAUSEN 14th Field Co.Engineers.

The definite information you have sent will be of much assistance to us.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

M.D.

SECRETARY.

Sapper F.E.Hiddlestone,
14th Field Co.Engineers,
A. I. F.

March 1st 7.

Rev. John Roskell,
Bishop's House,
Bath Street, Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of an unofficial report about No. 5376 Sapper H.V. ETTINGHAUSEN, 14th Field Coy, Australian Engineers, from Sapper Hiddlestone of the same company.

He writes that he saw Sapper Ettinghausen in No Man's Land on the night of July 19th, 1916. He stopped to speak to him, but he was then beyond all human aid. He had been very badly wounded in the shoulder and the face, and was dead when informant saw him. They were in the same section, and informant had been in daily touch with him, so he feels that no mistake was made.

This letter received confirmation by the Officer who censored it - Lieut.L.G.Merkel of the 14th Field Coy - He says that he was in charge of the Engineer's party on that night, and while he did not see Sapper Ettinghausen after the attack began, he feels sure that he was killed during the night.

We are continuing our enquiries, and will advise you of any further reports that we receive about him.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.
LAW

14th Field Co.Engrs. ETTINGHAUSEN

Sapper H.V. 5376

Missing July 20/16.

"I may state that I was Officer-in-Charge of the Engineer party "on the night mentioned, although I never saw Sapper Ettinghausen "after 1 hour after the show started the above Sapper mentioned "the fact that he had been killed and I think there is little "doubt of the poor fellow being dead."

Letter from L. G. Merket[t].
14th Field Co.Engrs.
France.

S
P.I.

London
23.2.17.
NOTE: Written also to L.G.Merket[t] Esq. 21.2.17.

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

14 Fld.Co: ETTINGHAUSEN, H.V. 5376.

M. July 20. 1916.

He went over in a "stunt" on July 19th, at Fleurbaix. I saw him go across. He did not come back. I took part in the stunt. A good many prisoners were taken. He was missing afterwards, and if alive must be a prisoner of war.

References: Sapper F.A.Gumley, 500%. 3rd.Sect: (14 Fld.Co.)
A.G.B.D.
Staples.
19.1.17.

Sa.

Miller
Enq.
27/1/17

RECEIVED
26 JAN 1917

Bong Bong St.
Kiaping N.S.W.
Dec 6th 1916

Dear Sir,

I am taking the liberty of writing to you as I had news from the Military Authorities some time back stating my Brother has been missing since July 19th 1916. The Red Cross here in Sydney have tried to trace him but so far have been unsuccessful. Now I write asking you if possible can he be traced. I have an Idea he is a prisoner somewhere in Germany & I would feel most grateful if I could get some satisfactory news concerning his whereabouts. If you would let me

H X

Know what the fee is. I would be very loo pleased to send it on. My Brothers address is Sapper Hebert T. Ettinghausen No 3376, 14 Field Company Engineers 5th division. Trusting to hear from you soon.

I remain

Yours Sincerely

(Miss) M. Ettinghausen

Bonfy Borg Street

Hiawa.

N.S. Wales.

16th April 1917.

Rev. John Roskell,
Bishop's House.
Bath. St.
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

We have to advise you of the receipt of two further unofficial reports about No. 5376. Sapper H.V.Ettinghausen, 14th Field Coy. Australian Engineers in one of which he is reported as a prisoner of War in Germany.

We place little reliance on this rumour as we have never received notification of it from Germany, nor have we heard from him.

Our other informant - No. 2405. Sapper W. Paxton of the same Company who on March 31st. was in No. 1. Command Depot, Perham Downs, Salisbury, reports that he saw the above soldier after his return from an important attack in conjunction with the infantry at Fromelles on July 19th.1916. He was then badly wounded but in spite of this he would not remain to have them dressed but rushed back to the attack and was never seen again. Search was made next day but no trace of his body could be found and informant fears that he could not possibly recover from his wounds andthe description he gives may be of some help. Sapper Ettinghausen was tall, slight and thin faced with medium colouring. He was about 35 years of age and came from New South Wales.

Hoping that these details will be of some help & assuring you that all possible efforts are being made to obtain further information.

Yours faithfully,
[illegible]
Secretary.

16th April 1917.

Rev. John Roskell,
[illegible]
[illegible]
Birmingham.

Dear Sir,

We have to advise you of the receipt of two further Unofficial reports (Serl No. 5576. Sapper H.V.Ettinghausen, 14th Field Coy. Australian Engineers in one of which he is reported as a prisoner of War in Germany.

We place little reliance on this report as we have never received notification of it from Germany, nor have we heard from him.

Our other informant - No. 2405. Sapper W. Paxton of the same Company who on March 31st. was in No. 1. Command Depot, Perham Downs, Salisbury, reports that he saw the above soldier after his return from an important attack in conjunction with the infantry at Fromelles on July 19th.1916. He was then badly wounded but in spite of this he would not remain to have them dressed but rushed back to the attack and was never seen again. Search was made next day but no trace of his body could be found and informant fears that he could not possibly recover from his wounds andthe description he gives may be of some help. Sapper Ettinghausen was tall, slight and thin faced with medium colouring. He was about 35 years of age and came from New South Wales.

Hoping that these details will be of some help & assuring you that all possible efforts are being made to obtain further information.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

29th January -5

Miss D. Ettinghhausen,
Bong Bong St.
Yiema.
New South Wales.
Australia.

Dear Madam,

Your enquiry re your brother No. 5576. Pte. Herbert W. Ettingshausen, 14th Field Company, Engineers A.I.F. has been forwarded to us by the Canadian Red Cross Society.

We regret to say that his name has not come through on any list of Prisoners. Should it do so, we shall cable immediately to our Sydney office, Dalton Buildings, 115 Pitt Street, so if you will kindly enquire there you will get all the information we have without loss of time.

With sympathy in your great anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. E.A. for E.H.

30th January -7.

No. 5784.
Sapper F. Hiddlestone,
14th Field Co. Engineers.A.I.F.
B. E. F.

No. 5376.

H. V. Ettinghamsen, 14th Field Company Engineers,A.I.F. reported

Missing 20;7;16.

H.V.Ettinghamsen

March 1st 7.

Miss Beatrice A. Wood,
Ivy Cottage,
Castle Bromwich, near BIRMINGHAM.

Dear Madam,

We are in receipt of an unofficial report about No. 5376 Sapper H.V. ETTINGHAUSEN, 14th Field Coy, Australian Engineers, from Sapper Hiddlestone of the same company.

He writes that he saw Sapper Ettinghausen in No Man's Land on the night of July 19th, 1916. He stopped to speak to him, but he was then beyond all human aid. He had been very badly wounded in the shoulder and the face, and was dead when informant saw him. They were in the same section, and informant had been in daily touch with him, so he feels that no mistake was made.

This letter received confirmation by the Officer who censored it - Lieut. L.G. Merkel of the 14th Field Coy - He says that he was in charge of the Engineer's party on that night, and while he did not see Sapper Ettinghausen after the attack began, he feels sure that he was killed during the night.

We are continuing our enquiries, and will advise you of any further reports that we receive about him.

Yours faithfully,

V.C.

SECRETARY.
K.A.W.

14th Field Co.Engrs. ETTINGHAUSEN

Sapper H.V. 5376

Missing July 20/16.

"I have to say with much regret that on the night of 19/7/16 I had "occasion to recross "No Man's Land" and while doing so I passed by "the body of H.V.Ettinghausen. I stopped to ask him if I could do "anything for him but I regret to say he was then beyond human aid "his shoulder seemed to have been blown clean away, his face seemed "also to have suffered, he was certainly dead when I saw him. I "may say that he was in the same section of our Company as myself "and I was in daily touch with him and I am not likely to have made "any mistake, in fact I am positive of the facts as stated by me in "the letter.

Letter from:- Sapper F. E. J. Middlestone,
France. 5.2.17.

NOTE. Written also to L.G. Merkel Esq. 21-2-17.

S
P.I.

London
23.2.17.

A.I.F.
14th. Fld. Coy. Engrs.
late 7th. Fld. Coy. Engrs.

ETTINGSHAUSEN.
Herbert V. 5376

" Missing 20.7.16.

Now reported Killed in Action 20.7.16. previously reported Missing.

Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 17.5.17.

S.P.I

London.
19.5.17.

Australian Engineers

Eltinghansen, Pte H.V. 5376,
14th Field Company

(M. July 20th/16)

"I have heard from Winesteade who is a prisoner of war that Eltinghansen is also a prisoner of war. He lived in New South Wales and was unmarried, about 21 years of age and very quick of speech."

Eye-witness: Told by Winesteade, ~~6d~~ WEMESTAD 14 Field Coy, Engineers

Description: Short, thickset, dark, square features, very pigeon chested

Informant: Pte Geo. Small, 5394,
14th Field Coy, Aust. Engineers,
1st London General Hospital,
Camberwell.

Home address:
Sydney P.O.,
Australia.

Cross check for Cambrewell 20.3.17.

p. 1.
S

20th March 1917.
Alice F.M. Baldwin.

Written by Wemestad 12.4.17 Ed.

14th F.Co. Engs.
A.I.F.,

ETTINGHAUSEN
H.V. 5376

"Missing July 20th/16"

He was in No 2 Section and was taken prisoner. It happened on night of July 19th at Fromelles. "Ted" Small and Fred Sainty were with Ettinghausen when he was taken - and they state they absolutely saw him being taken. By writing to "Ted" Small No 3 Section 14th F.Coy. Engs. France, further particulars could be obtained.

Reference:- 2419 S.Patterson
14th F.Co. Engs. A.I.F.,
Dartford
30.4.17.

London
3.5.17.
W.G.J.

Note: We have a report from Small.

S.
P.I.

14th Fld. Coy. Engrs.. Ettinghausen.
A. I. F. Sapper H. V. 5576
3

"Killed in Action 20.7.16"

I am sorry to say I cannot give any sure information about Sapper Ettinghausen. A party of our unit was sent in after the Infantry had taken the German trenches on the 19th July 1916. When we were near the German trenches we had to lay down on account of machine guns and Ettinghausen threw himself down alongside of me. After that I know nothing until about an hour afterwards when I found myself nearly buried in rubbish on the edge of a big shell hole and all my mates gone. When I got up I was hit with a bullet through my leg and one in my side, but I managed to get into the trenches which were still held by the Australians. The next morning the Germans retook the trenches and some prisoners and it is possible that Ettinghausen was among them but I did not see him and have not seen him since. I did not see all that was taken because some of them were sent out to work before I got out of hospital. The parcels are coming good lately.

Letter from:-
6105 Sapper O.O.Wimestad
14th Fld.Coy.Engrs.
Munster. Germany. 1.7.17.

London.
17.9.17.

S.
P.I.

France.

A.I.F. Engineers. 14.Fld.Coy. ETTINGHAUSEN. H.V. 5376.

M.July 20.1916.

Ettinghausen and Wemestad went over with one section of the company with the 4th wave of infantry at Flearbaix on July 19th. A section consists of about 38 men. Both were missing. We talked about them a good deal, both having German names, but no one could tell anything about them. It was believed that they were prisoners.

Informant: Sapper R.H.Meakin. 14.Fld Coy.
5. B.R.C.S. Hospital.
BOULOGNE. 3.10.16. JT.

I give this as Wemestad has lately been cancelled as prisoner.
JT.

Field Coy.
14th Aust. Engs.

Ettinghausen

H.V. 5376

"Missing July 20/16"

A very important attack was being made at Fromelles on 19th July. This man went over with the infantry at 9 p.m. I saw him after his return. He was dreadfully wounded in the lower part of the body. He would not remain to have his wounds dressed but rushed back with the attacking party and was not seen again. We searched next day but could find no trace of his body. I do not think he could possibly recover from his wounds. In this attack the ground we gained was finally lost. This man was tall, slight, thin faced. Medium complexion about 35 years. He came from N.S.Wales.

Reference:- 2403 W Paxton,
14th Aust. Engs.
(Field Coy) Perham Downs Camp,
23.3.17.
31

London
12.4.17.
A.R.McPhee

S.
P.I.

AQR
F.M. 29.8.17

Mulheim I

~~Münster i.~~ Münster III
Germany

The Secretary 1-7-1917
Enquiring Bureau A.R.C.S.

Miss V. Deakin.

Your letter of 16th April arrived here yesterday, but I am sorry to say I can not give any sure information about Sapper Ettinghausen. A party of our unit was sent in after the Infantry had taken the German trenches on the 19th Jul. 1916. When we were near the German trenches, we had to lay down an account of machine guns and Ettinghausen threw himself down alongside of me. After that I

know nothing, untill about an hour afterwards, when I found myself nearly burried in rubbish, ~~and~~ an the Edge of a big shell hole, and all my mates gone. When I got up I was hit with a bullet trough my leg and one in my side, but I managed to get into the trenches, with was still held by the Australians. The next morning the Germans retook the tranches and some prisoners, and it is possible that Ettinghousen was among them, but I did not see him, and have not seen him since. I did not se all that was taken, because some of them was sent out to work, before I got out of the hospital.

The parcels are coming good lately, but the bread from Switzerland is in a bad state, when it arrive hier.

Hoping this war will soon finish I remain

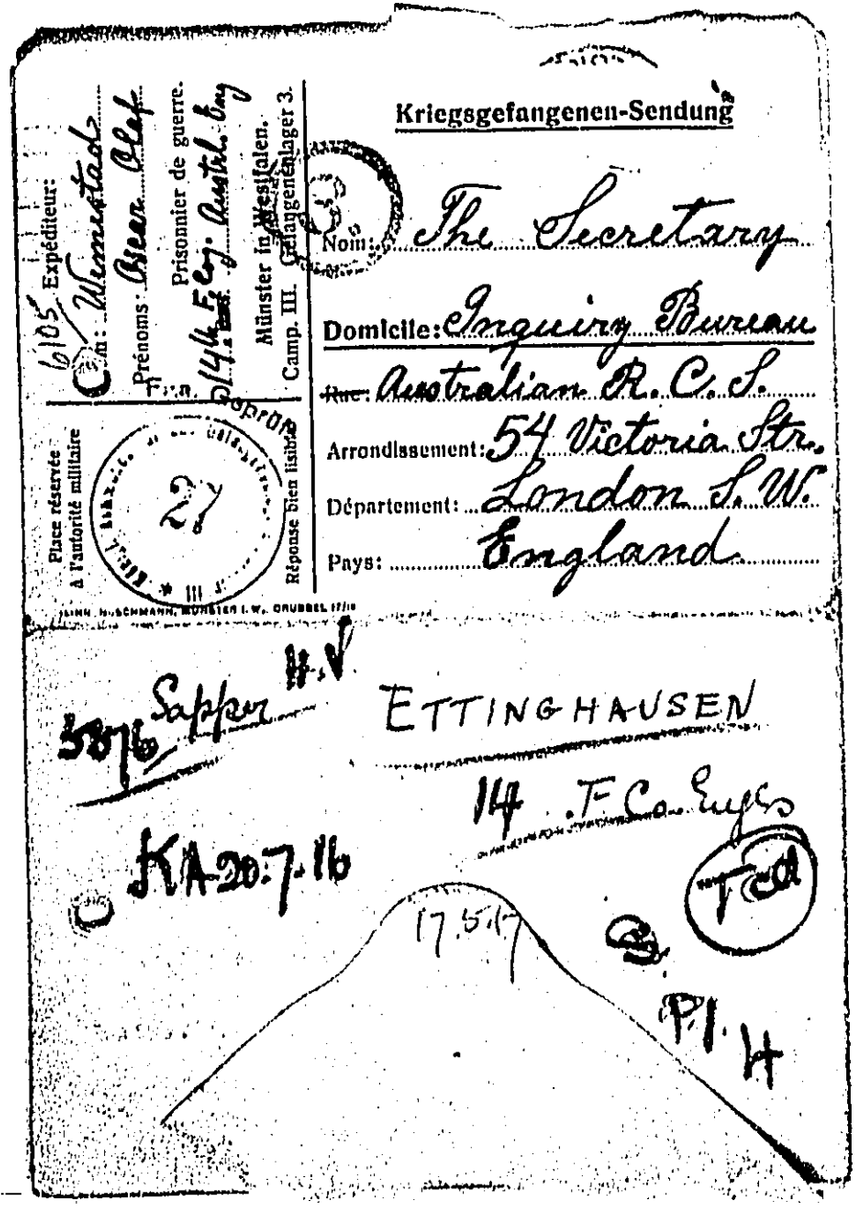
Yours Sincerly

610 Sapper O. O. Wiinestad

14th Field Comp.

Australian Engineers

P.S. Cpl. A. Mason of same Coy. is also a prisoner of War



Kriegsgefangenen-Sendung

Expéditeur: Cn.: Wunstadt

Prénoms: Bren. Capt.

Prisonnier de guerre. 5/4th Fus. Austl. Inf.

Münster in Westfalen. Camp. III Gefangenenlager 3.

Nom: The Secretary

Domicile: Enquiry Bureau

Rue: Australian R. C. S.

Arrondissement: 54 Victoria Str.

Département: London S.W.

Pays: England

Place réservée à l'autorité militaire

Réponse bien lisible

6105

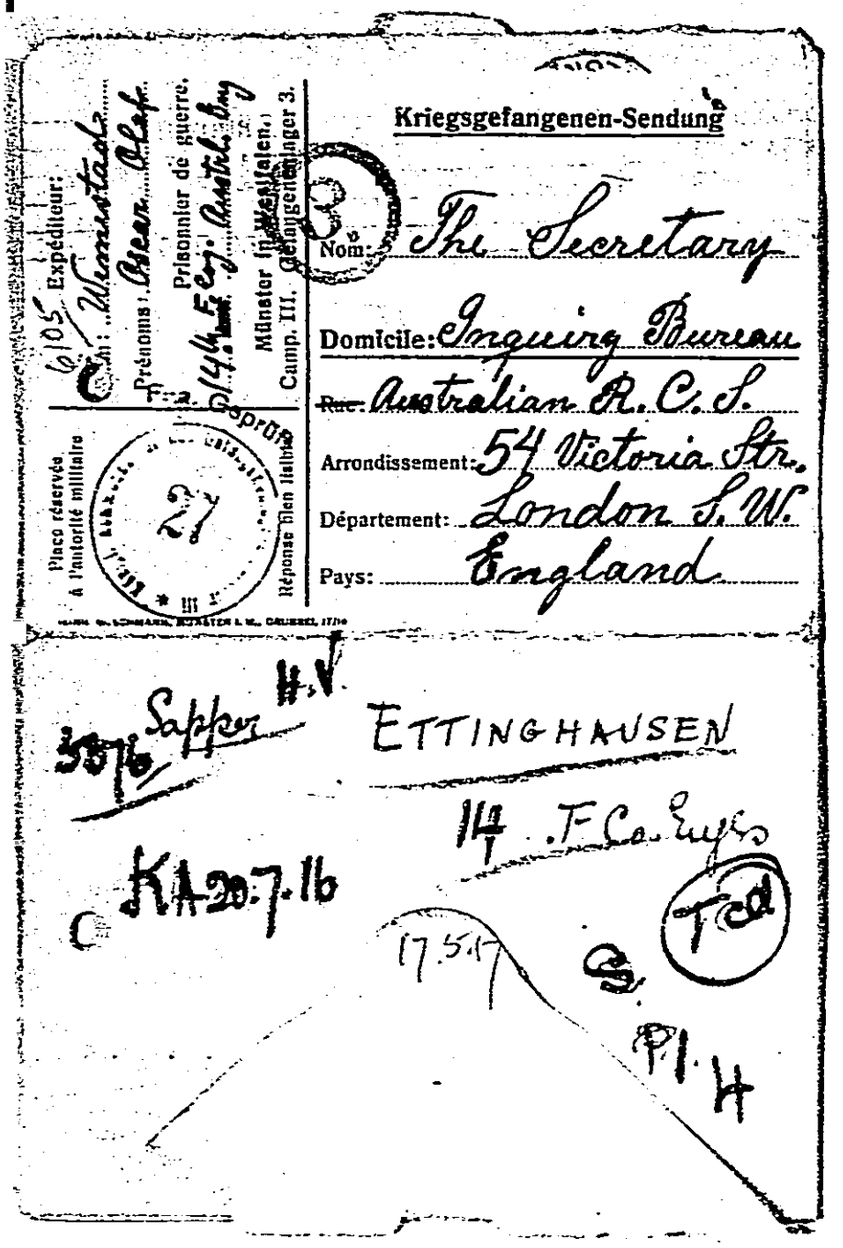
3876 Sapper H.V. ETTINGHAUSEN

14 T Co. Engrs

KA 20.7.16

17.5.17

P.1.4



Kriegsgefangenen-Sendung

Nom: The Secretary

Domicile: Inquiry Bureau

~~Rue~~: Australian R.C.S.

Arrondissement: 54 Victoria Str.

Département: London S.W.

Pays: England

Prénoms: Bean Alf.

Prisonnier de guerre. 14th Fd. Engr. Austl. Army

Münster in Westfalen. Camp. III. Gefangenenlager 3.

Geprüft

Place réservée à l'autorité militaire

Réponse Bien Italiée

Expéditeur: Wemyss

6105

3576 Sapper H.V. ETTINGHAUSEN

14 T.F. Co. Engrs

K.A. 20.7.16

17.5.17

S.

T.Cd

P.1.H

14th Fld.Coy.
A.I.F.,

Ettinghausen
Sapper H.V. 5376

"Missing 20-7-1916"

I regret to state that I can not give you any information concerning him.

My brother must have had another name in his mind when he informed your searcher that I knew where he was. What I did tell him was that a Sapper Wernestead of the same Company, reported "Missing July 20th" has since been reported in the "Times" as "Prisoner-of-War" in German hands.

Cert. by letter from Sergt. G.C.Wilson, 110
14th Fld. Coy. Engrs. A.I.F.,
B.E.F.
28-11-16.

London
29-12-16.

2 P.I's

S.

A.I.F. 14th. Bn.
4th. Section.
14th Co. A.Engrs.

H.V. ETTINGHAM, 5376.

Missing July-20-16.

Informant states that on July 19th, 1916 at Trouville, near Armentieres - in an attack making for the 3rd. line of trenches, a good many of their men were cut off and taken prisoners; nobody say them wounded, but generaly reported he was taken prisoner. Spr.5985 D.W.Williams,14th.Field Co.Australian Engrs. gave this report also. He was tall,dark,clean shaven and about 21.

Informant was not very reliable.
Ref: Spr.F.Alta, 14th A.Engrs. F.Coy., 3rd. Sec.
3rd. London Gen. Hosp.Wandsworth.

London,
26-9-16.
M.Martin.

Home address;
15,Villa Place,Hessle Rd.Hull.Yorks. Aug.21-16.

Off.M.

FRANCE

14th Fld.Coy.
A.I.F.,

Ettinghausen.
H.V. 5376

"Missing July 20th 1916"

My brother Sergt.G.C.Wilson, 110, No. 4 Section, 14th Field Coy, informed me that Ettinghausen is now reported as a "Prisoner-of-War" in Germany. He was "Missing" at Fleurbaix on July 19th.

SA.

Reference;- Sap. R.B.Wilson, 6295,
No. 4 Section, 14th Company,
No. 26th General Hospt.
Etaples. 27-10-16.

Note. Written Sergt.Wilson 8-11-16.

S.&
2.P.I's

Havre Jan. 17th 1917

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS NOTTINGHAMSHIRE R.V. 5376
14th Field Co.
R.July 20/16

I was told by Sapper F.Middlestone 5764 14th Field Co. who is still with his unit that Ottinghausen was taken P/W.

Informant H.A.Hardwick 5029
14th Field Co. Engineers, A.I.F.
R.E.Hanfrano
R.S.S.

Not Rec'd on
Written Spr Middlestone 24.1.17

CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY,
14, COCKSPUR STREET, LONDON, S.W.
ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT. 25. I. 17.

Passed to you please.

J. K. Rhodes.

Act Pte 7.11.16

5576 14 Field Co Eng
H.V. Ettinghausen
M. 20.7.16 Hy 5.8.16

France S
25/11/16
P. 1(2)

The Secretary
Wounded & Missing
Enquiry Bureau
Aust. Branch B.R.C.S.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 10th inst. re the whereabouts of 5376 Sapper H.V. Ettinghausen 14th Fld Coy Engrs. A.I.F. reported missing July 20th. I regret to state that I can not give you any information concerning him.

My brother must have had another name in his

mind when he informed your searcher that I knew where he was. What I did tell him was that a Sapper Wernestead of the same c y reported missing July 20th had since been reported in the "Times" as prisoner of war in German hands.

Wishing you & the admirable Society you represent every success.

I am
Yours respectfully
G.L. Wilson

110 Sgt G. L. Wilson
14th Fld Coy Engrs
A. S. F.

RECEIVED
21 OCT. 1916
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

BIRMINGHAM

Oct 20. 16

Lieut

Capt dept.
Post Card Sent 23-10-16-

Dear Sir,

Could you obtain for me any information re the following

Sapper N.V. Ettinghausen
5376
1st Field Co. Eng.
Australians

Last heard of on July 19 near Armentieres. Since his wounded comrades in hospital here are very anxious to hear whether he is dead or alive.

If Australians do not come under your charge will you be kind enough to pass this letter in to the right hands.

Yours Sincerely
John Rosell (RW)

A.I.F. 14th Fld.Coy. Engrs.

ETTINGSHAUSEN
Herbert Vaughan 5376

"K/A. 20-7-16"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt.Hills 10-10-19.

London
23-10-19

S & P.I.

November 10th.

Sergeant G. C. Wilson,
NO. 4 Section,
14t . Field Coy., Engineers,
A.I.F.,
B.E.F.

Dear Sergeant Wilson,

We are making enquiries for a member of your Coy., 5376 Sapper H. V. Ettinghausen, 14th. Field Coy., Engineers, A.I.F. who is reported Missing July 20th. 1916, and your brother 6295 Sapper R. B. Wilson, 4th. ection, 14th. Field Cgy. Engineers now in No. 26 General Hsopital informed one of our searchers that you had told him Ettinghausen is now reported as Prisoner of War in Germany. His name does not appear on any of our Prisoners' Lists to date, and we should be most grateful if you could send us word of the Camp in Germany where Ettinghausen is now detained. Apart from the fact that we are most anxious to cable our Australian enquirers some definite tidings, we are also extremely anxious to obtain the exact address of any Australians who may happen to have been taken prisoner by the Germans in order that we may at once forward them weekly parcels of food and comforts and supply them with a warm outfit with-

out any loss of time. The Prisoners of War Department of the Australian Red Cross undertakes to look after our men in every possible way while they are in Germany, and it is most important that we should know their address without the least possible delay, so that the very necessary parcels of food, toilet necessaries, clothing etc., should reach them at the earliest possible moment.

Hoping to hear from you soon, with best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.