

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

**279 Private
Spensley John Hintze**

5th Battalion



1340713J

5 A.I.F.
C Co

HINTZE
Pte S. J. 279.
Heintz

W. & M. 27.4.15.

I have made inquiries ever since the 26th April when I heard he had been wounded, for one of our comrades, the nature of his wounds I could not find out, or whether he had left Anzac or not. Things at that time were very complicated. I kept up inquiries right throughout, but no trace of him could we find.

Two of our mates were invalided home. They told his mother he was in the firing line in August. That was a mistake. During that time we asked some of the 5th Battalion lads if he was in the trenches, and they stated he was. My mate went to the trenches and found it was not Heintz, but Hines. This Hines was in the same coy and battn as Heintz, and they pronounced him as Heintz. I told his mother of this.

He is the only son and a fine chap.

Ref:- Gnr A.E. McDonald, 1455,
2 A.F.A. Bgde. B.A.C.

CAIRO.
28.2.16.

(The above is an extract of a letter received by this office.)

M.

5th Btn.
C. Coy.

HINTZE,
Pte. S. J. ^{John} No. 279.
Finley

Reported Missing, April.

Informant states that it was common talk in the 5th Btn. that this casualty was missing on the 25th April at Anzac at the Landing.

Casualty landed alright and informant saw him in the morning marching and getting up into position. Informant was on the beach in the afternoon, and made inquiries of all the men of the 5th Btn. but casualty could not be located.

Ref:- Pte. A. Haddock,
No. 680, 5th Btn.

Private address,
Post Office, Hastings.

H.A.B.
3/4/16.

M
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE. 269

Med.

5th Btn. A.I.F.
C Co.

HINTZE
Pte S. J. 279.
penalty

M. 25/4/15.

Witnesses both state that on the morning of the 25th April, at Anzac, this casualty with four others under Capt. R.S. Clement, went out to the second ridge to capture the guns on the extreme left, and none of them ever returned. The body of Capt. Clement was found just over the second ridge.

Ref:- L/C H.G. Hough, 494, 5th Btn.,
24 Palmer St., Sth. Melbourne.

Pte C. Gibbs, 450, 5th Btn.,
119 Sackville St., Collingwood.

H.A.B.
5/4/16.

MELBOURNE.

M.

5th Btn.
C. Coy.

HINTZE,
Pte. S. J. No. 279.
family

Reported Missing, April.

Informant states casualty was a friend of his, and was his tent mate in Victoria and Egypt. They landed together from the "Novian" on the 25th April, and they all went over the hill with Captain Greig, when casualty was wounded in the hand. Casualty was sent away from the Peninsula in a hospital ship. About the month of June or July following informant was wounded, and some of his friends in Egypt told him that casualty went back to Egypt. Informant states that he is positive that casualty was not missing in April.

Ref:- Pte. W. J. Castles,
No. 326, 5th Btn.

Private address,-
15 Mackay Street,
East Prahran.

H.A.B. 21/7/16.

MA Cd
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

5th AUSTRALIANS. (C Coy.)

26th July, 1916.

S. J. HINTZE, 279. Wounded and Missing 27.4.15.

Witness said he was a great friend of Hintze's. He was called Ben and had a No. near 300. On 25 April, about 2.30 p.m., Witness was helping to carry down to the beach a wounded man called Thompson, who later died of his wounds. Witness heard Thompson call out "There is Hintze being put on to a barge". Witness said the barge was about 10 yards away, and although he looked, he could not be sure the man was Hintze, as he was very much bandaged about the head. Letters and papers have reached the Batt. for Hintze long after he was reported missing, even since the Batt. came to France.

Reference: L/Cpl. Davies, 324, C Coy.

No. 11 Stationary, Rouen.

WSH.

M.

A.I.F. 50.

MED

HINTZE S.J. 279

W.A.M. 27.4.15.

will I was his platoon Sgt. There was only one of that name in C Coy. He was missing after the landing on April 25th and I made every enquiry possible but could not find out anything at all about him. Cpl. Riner who was still with the 5th Batta and was in Staples about a fortnight ago might possibly be able to give some particulars as he and Hintze were in the same platoon.

Ref: Co-Sgt-Major A. Wright, 389, B (formerly C)
22 Gen. Staples. 28.7.16.

Written to Riner 2.8.16.

HSO.

M
cancelled

5th Battn.
A.I.F.

W. & M. 27/4/15:

Hintze,
Pte. S. J. 279
Rusley ✓

"I deeply regret to state that the following is the only information I could get as to the fate/our brave comrade.

As you already know, we landed at dawn on the 25/4/15, well, we lost our Platoon Officer shortly afterwards. This left me in charge, we managed to keep together until about midday, when, owing to the dense nature of the country and the very heavy fire that we faced, we became separated and by 6 p.m. I only had two of my own platoon with me, the others being made up of stragglers from all battalions, but I could not be quite sure as to when I saw the last of Pte. Hintze. I think it was just after mid-day. We formed up on the 27th inst. and it was my duty then to call the roll of our Platoon and endeavour to find out what had become of our lost comrades. I could not get any certain information about Pte. Hintze, one of the men (since killed) thought he saw him wounded, but it was found later that he was mistaken, so, as there was no certain information as to his fate I reported him missing, but I regret to say that he must surely have been killed, as we have heard nothing of him since.

"Ben, as he was known to the boys, was a very popular fellow, and was very well to the front when I saw him last, but,

unfortunately, like most of our best men, he, undoubtedly lost his life in fighting for the honor and freedom of those we all love so dearly at home. "

Letter from Sergt. Geo. T. Piper, 5th Battn. A.I.F.
dated 30/8/16. Recd. 4/9/16.

Perkins Brown.

London,
4/9/16.

E.

5th Battn.,
C. Coy.
A.I.F.

HINTZE,
Pte. S. John 279
Finley

W.&M. 27-4-15.

Killed in Action on 27-4-15 - previously reported Missing.
Cert. by - A.I.F. Headquarters' List on 13-12-16.

London,
15-12-16.

M.

A.I.F. 5th Bttn.
C. Coy.

HINTZE.
Spensley James John. 279.

Killed in Action. 27.4.15.

No burial.
Cemetary A.I.F. Hdqrs List. 26.8.19.

NAME

UNIT

ORGANISATION

CAUSE OF DEATH

London.
6.10.19

ANALYSIS LIST

CAUSES

✓
August 30th 1916

at Coy 2nd V.G.B.

Perham Downs.

Hants

England

W. Th.

27.4.15.

Dear Sir

in respect to your inquiry
regarding at 249 Pte S. Hinkley
who was in my Platoon in
the 5th Bn at. V. G. B., and was
reported, wounded and
missing on 27/4/15.

I deeply
regret to state that the
following is the only
information I could get
as to the fate of our brave
comrade.

As you already
know we landed at

/2/

dawn on the 25/4/15, well, we
lost our Platoon Officer
shortly afterwards, this left
me in charge, we managed
to keep together until about
midday, when owing to the
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being made up of stragglers
from all Battalions, but
I could not be quite sure as
to when I saw the last of
The Hintze, I think it was
just after mid-day.

13/

We formed up on the beach^{at} and it was my duty then, to call the roll of our Platoon and endeavour to find out what had become of our lost comrades.

I could not get any certain information about The Hintze, one of the men since killed, thought he saw him on a Naval cutter wounded, going off to one of the Hospital ships, so I reported him wounded, but it was found later that he was mistaken, so, as there was no certain information as to his fate. I reported him missing, but I regret

/s/

to say that he must
merely have been killed, as
we have heard nothing
of him since.

"Ben" as he was
known to the boys, was a
very popular fellow, and
was very well to the front
when I saw him last, but
unfortunately, like most of
our best men, he undoubtedly
lost his life in fighting for
the honor and freedom, of
those we all love so
dearly at home. //

I deeply
regret to say that I
think this is all

1/2/

the news I could get
of his fate at the time
when he fell.

Trusting this
little news will enlighten
my late brave
comrades people,

I am,

Yours sincerely
Geo. D. Piper,
sergeant

5th Bn. A.S.F.

Home address

60 River Street M.C.O.
South Yarra
Melbourne
chest 2 copies

8858.

4th Sept., 1916.

Sergeant George Piper,
3th Battalion, A.I.F.,

Attached 2nd Battalion Training Battalion,
Perham Downs, SALISBURY.

Dear Sir,

We are much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken in regard to our enquiry for news of No. 279, Private J.J. Hintze, 5th Battalion, A.I.F.,

We have sent a copy of your letter to Melbourne and feel sure that your words of praise of Private Hintze will be greatly appreciated by his sorrowing relatives.

Unfortunately it is now impossible to obtain full details concerning the fate of the brave heroes who fell at Gallipoli during the first days after the dreadful landing.

With good wishes,

Yours faithfully,



Secretary,

54 Victoria Street,
London, S.W.,
2nd August, 1916.

//////

Victoria 8858.

Corporal Piper,

5th Australian Infantry ^{at the} ~~Battalion~~

B.E.F., FRANCE.

Dear Sir,

We have been told you may be able to give us some news of No. 279 S.J. Hintze, 5th Battalion, C Company, reported "Wounded and Missing 27/4/15". We hesitate to ask anyone about Gallipoli casualties just now, but any news you can give would mean a great deal to Private Hintze's people, who have really heard so little about his death.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

R.T.S.
Secretary.