

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

**2428 Private
Albert Arnold Richards**

5th Pioneer Battalion



2280707Q

NOTE TO MELBOURNE.

5th Pioneers.
A.I.F.

RICHARDS.
A.A. 2428

"Whereabouts"

We received a letter from Miss A. Richards (Sister of above) Murphy, St., Wangaratta, asking us to try and find the above's whereabouts asking us to inform him that his mother and two sisters were drowned in a flood last June and that his people have written regularly to him; he seems to have been complaining that he has received no letters since April last. We attach his history for your private information - it is hard to know what you are to tell his people. If possible we will try and get him informed of the death of his mother and sisters.

Marched into 5th A.D.B.D. ex England (under escort) having been absent from draft embarking overseas and giving wrong name 16.3.17.
A.W.L. from working party 6 hours 28 days F.P. 7.4.17.
A.W.L. 8.a.m. 5.6.17 to 8.p.m. 6.6.17. award 28 days F.P. No.2 by O.C. 5th Pioneers - forfeits 30 days 8.6.17.
Field Gen. Court Martial - A.W.L. 8.30.a.m. 3.7.18 to 7.p.m. 8.7.17.
Award 60 days. Total forfeiture 78 days - £19.10.0. 22.7.17.
Committed to Military Prison in the Field to serve sentence of 2 years 1 H.L. awarded by F.G.C.M. vide D.O/36/4202. 23.8.17.
London. 18.1.18. H.Qrs. 12.1.18.

5th Pioneers late 6th Bn.
5th Division.
A.I.F.

RICHARDS.
Albert Arnold. 2428.

"Received no Australia letter since April"
"Wounded Sept Oct"

Ad: 132nd Fld Amb 30-9-18.
Cert: by Hpl Index.

Ad: 132nd Fld Amb 30-9-18. Discharged to Duty Unit 30-9-18.
Cert: by A.I.F.Hqrs 18-11-18.

London.
19-11-18.

M.

Australian Staff.

10/1/18

A. Richards Esq

Murphy St.

Wangaratta

Victoria

about 2428 Pte. A. A. Richards

Pioneer Batt

5 Div. C. Coy

23rd Bn
AIF

2nd Lieut. E.L.

"Missing 26.1.18."

Killed in action 26.1.18. reported missing
cert. by AIF HQ 3.1.18.

Lond on.
9.1.18.

about 19.12.18. - London
that received
26.1.18.

Murphy St. Wanganatta

Ans Draft
10.1.18

19-11-17

To the Red + Head quarters

Dear Sirs

My Son is in active service
I think some where in France for
the last 3 1/2 years? I have received his
letters regularly. But he is complaining
that he has not received a letter from
home since April last: and the whole
of the family has been writing regularly
to him = Last June we had a disastrous
flood in Wanganatta in which his poor
mother + two sisters were drowned
I cabled the sad news to him I
received a cable back from some
of the Officers ^{5 days after} saying they could
not locate him undelivered absent
I was in hopes they would locate
him a little later on but it appears
they have not done so and the poor
boy knows nothing of the disaster
Hence my reason for writing and
asking the Red + Head if they could do

something for me by way of locating
him ~~and~~ = and letting him know
of the death of his mother & two sisters
Gladys & Lillian = and also to let him
know that none of us as neglected to
write to him regularly. I did not receive
any letter from him last mail. and I
am afraid that he may think that we
are neglecting to write = and may cause
him not to write and I feel most
miserable in the matter = If you can
locate him and give him the information
contained ~~herein~~ herein it would be great
relief to me = and I would be most
thankful = Trusting you will do your best
for me

I remain Yours most sincerely
A Richards
Murphy St

My Son's Address

Wangaratta
Vic

Pte A A Richards No 2428

Pioneers Battalion

5 Division C Company

Australians Imperial Force
Abroad

January 19th, 1916.

2428 Ets. A. A. Richards.
5th Division Pioneers,
Aust. Imp. Force, E. S. F.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you we have received a letter from your sister, Miss A. Richards, asking us to convey the sad news to you that your Mother and two Sisters were drowned in a flood last June.

She adds that your relations have written regularly to you.

Assuring you of our sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

L.B.