

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

**2nd Lieutenant
Leslie Byrt Pritchard**

22nd Battalion



2210205C

A.I.F. 22nd Battn

PRITCHARD
2/Lt Leslie Byrt

Killed in Action

Killed in Action 6-8-16 - Previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters List 19-12-16.

London
20-12-16.

OFF.M.

22nd A. I. F.

Pritchard, 2nd Lieut. L. B.

(M. Aug: 5/16.)

Informant states that on the night of August 4th 1916 at Pozieres 2nd Lieut. Pritchard was killed. Informant did not personally see him, but his mate - Inseal of the 22nd Batt: D Coy did and told informant. 2nd Lieut. Pritchard had been wounded slightly two or three weeks before but refused to leave the field. *write*

Reference:--

Pte. W. F. Hill, 1079,

22nd A. I. F.

3rd. London General Hospital,
Wandsworth,

Home address:--

Thorpdale, Gipps Land,
Victoria,
Australia.

Sept: 3rd.
Milne.

22nd A. I. F.

Pritchard, 2nd Lieut. L. B.
(M. Aug: 5/16.)

Informant states that "On August 4th at Pozieres we made an attack and Mr. Pritchard got into the 1st line of German trenches and it is believed that he was killed on the 5th in those trenches. I got this information from men in his company."

Reference:--

2nd Lieut. Wolff,

22nd A. I. F.

3rd. London General Hospital,
Wandsworth.

September 7th
Manning.

France.

A.I.F. 22.

PRITCHARD 2 Lt. 7.B.

M. 5.8.16.

He was a 2 Lt. in D.XV. and was in support on 5.8.16. in the early morning and I was told by Sgt. Bishop, since killed, which buried me wounded him. I have heard since but I cannot remember when that he had died of wounds before he got away from the field. He was with Capt. Andrews at the time. I only knew one Mr. Pritchard. He had only recently joined us.

HBO.

Reference: Pte. A.J. McIntyre. 518. B.

2 A.D.B.D.

Staples. 16.9.16.

6/11
1

22nd Battn.
A.I.F.,

Fritchard
2nd Lt. L.B.

Mon. August 5th 1916.

On August 5th 1916 at Pozieres during very heavy firing, Lieut. Fritchard was wounded in the shoulder. He would not go back to have it dressed but went on. The fighting was very stiff, and we lost a lot of men. I do not believe he was taken prisoner and although I have not met anyone who saw him killed, the general belief is that he was killed.

Reference:- Lieut Handasyde, 22nd Battn. A.I.F.,
1, Moreton Gardens, S.W. 12/9/16

Home address:-
Camberwell, Victoria.

London
22/9/16
H. Burford Hascock.

Off. M.

22nd Australian Imperial Force.

Pritchard, 2nd Lt. L. E.

(W. Aug. 5/16.)

Informant states that Lt. Pritchard went out with
22nd Battalion and was killed in a night attack on 4th August.

Reference: Hughes, Lt. A.

Australian Imp. Force, 22nd Bde.
(from 24th)

4th London General Hospital,
Denmark Hill, S.E.

Home address:

22nd Batt. A. I. F.

25th Sept. 1916.

U. Campbell.

031 M

FRANCE.

A.I.F. 22.

PRITCHARD. 2 Lt. L.B.

M. Aug. 5.1916.

He belonged to XIV Pl. D.Co. He was killed on Aug. 4th. at Pozieres. I heard Lt. Blanchard A.Co. (prev. S.M., D.Co.) state this when we came out on Aug. 5th.

Mr. Blanchard is somewhere in hospital. I think he saw Mr. Pritchard killed.

Reference: Pts. C.J. Neale, 1102. D.Co.
No. 1. A.D.B.D. Staples. 30.9.1916.

Writ.

11.10.16.

SA.

22nd A. I. F.

P ritchard, 2nd Lieut. J.B.

(M. Aug. 5/16.)

Informant states that on Aug: 5/16 at Pozieres Ridge we made an attack by night- one of my men - I cannot tell who, as it was pitch black, came to me and said there was an officer lying dead outside the trench. There were only three of us in the line Wolfe and myself and Pritchard. Wolfe is in Hospital so if the man was right the officer he saw lying dead must have been Pritchard. We never could understand why his body was not found but it may have been blown to pieces after the man had seen it.

Reference:-- Capt. W. H. Bunning,
22nd A. I. F.
Hospital - 1, Moreton Gardens,
S.W.

Home address:-- 205, Rae St,
North Fitzroy,
Melbourne.

Oct: 6th
N. Burford Hancock.

11/11

A.I.F. 22nd Battn

PRITCHARD
2/1st L. B.

M. 5-3-16

"I regret that I am unable to give any of the information desired. 2/Lieut Woolf who is in 3rd London, may know something of Mr. Pritchard.

Ref. letter from Capt. Andrew,
22nd Battn.
3-10-16

London

Off.M.

5-10-16

A.I.F. 22nd Battn.

PRITCHARD
2/1st L.B.

Missing 4-8-16.

During an attack on the evening of 4-8-16, at Pozieres I saw Major Mackay killed, & as I turned round to tell Pritchard he was now in charge of the Company. I saw him bowled over. He was only about 30 yards behind me, but in the rush of the attack, I could not swear whether Pritchard was killed or severely wounded. I fear he must have been killed as an officer from another battn who had been near us that night, gave me a detailed description of a Lieutenant whose body he had seen lying out in the same place two days later and it corresponded exactly with that of Pritchard. I was the only officer who came through alive out of the six of us.

Ref. Lieut Elanhard
A. Coy.
22nd Battalion.

V.D.

London
17-10-16.

SM.

France.

A.I.F. 22.

PRITCHARD 2 Lt.L.B.

N. 5.5.16.

He was killed at Pozieres on 4th. Aug. by M.G. fire. He was near Major Mackay at the time. They were right on the German parapet. He had charge of Pl. XV. D. Co. His body was recovered and buried afterwards, somewhere behind the lines. Our padre was with the fatigue party that buried the body. The padre is still with the Bn. Mr. Pritchard was in the 10th. Rfts. to the Bn.

SA.

Reference: Sgt. J. Etheridge. 816. D. Co.
2 A.D.B.D.

Staples. 21.10.16.

W.M.
ed

22nd. Battn.
A.I.F.

Pritchard,
Lieut. L. B.

"Missing 5/8/16"

I am sorry that I am unable to give you any definite information about Lieutenant L. Pritchard. All that I know is hearsay. Lieutenant Handasyde of 22nd. Battalion mentioned to me that a Sergeant Burke, also of the 22nd. Battn. had seen Lieut Pritchard killed on August 5th. 1916.

Cert. by letter from W. S. G. Wolff,
3rd. London General Hosp.
6th. October 1916.

London
24-10-16

Off. M.

Lieut L. B. Portchard

22 Batta

M.S. 16.

3rd London General Hospital

11th Oct 1915

Letter from Lieut Wolff.

The Secretary

Aust Branch B.R.C.S.

ACP
10/10/16

Dear Sir,

Re your letter of Oct 4

to hand.

I am sorry that I am unable to give you any definite information about Lieut L. B. Portchard. All that I know is hearsay. Lieut Handyside of 22nd Batta mentioned to me that a Sgt Burke, also of the 22nd Batta, had seen Lieut Portchard killed on Aug 5th 1915. Lieut Handyside would be able to give full information. He was in this Hospital until a couple of days back, but I believe he has since gone home.

Sorry that I cannot give any better information.

I am

Yours Sincerely
W. Wolff

M.H.

8858.

13th September, 1916.

Pte. Inseal,
D. Coy.,
22nd. Aust. Inf. Battalion,
B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

We are making inquiries about the fate of 2nd.
Lieut. L.B. PRITCHARD, 22nd. Battn. A.I.F., who is posted
as "Missing", 5-8-16, and have been told you can give us
definite information about him.

We will be most grateful for anything you can
tell us.

With best wishes,

Yours truly,

V.D.
per HD

Secretary



AUSTRALIAN BRANCH. BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8858

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
"THE SECRETARY,"
WOUNDED AND MISSING
— INQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH B.R.C.S.

54, VICTORIA STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

28th Sept. 1916.

Captain Andrews,
22nd Battalion,
A. I. F.
4th London General Hospital,
Denmark Hill.

Dear Sir,

We are anxious for information about 2nd Lieut
L. B. Pritchard 22nd Battalion, who is missing since August
22nd, and are told that you were with him on that day.

An unofficial report states that he died of wounds,
and we should be most grateful for any definite information
you can send us.

With apologies for troubling you.

Yours faithfully,

B. Beakie

Secretary.

(per LAW.)

77.0

Secretary

B. R. C. I. Aust. Branch,

Dear Sir

I regret that I am unable
to give any of the information desired.
Effieat. Woolf who is in 3rd London I
may know something of Mr. Pritchard

2/10/16

Yours faithfully

Andrew

22 Batten

15-8-16

Pritchard

2/5 L.B.

Letter from Capt. Andrew 22 Batten

17/11.

4.

8858

4th October 1916.

2nd Lieut. W.S. Woolf,
22nd Battalion, A.I.F.
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Dear Sir,

We are anxious for information about 2nd Lieut
Leslie Egert. Pritchard, 22nd Battalion, who is Missing
since August 22nd, and have been told that you may be able
to help us.

An unofficial report states that Lieut Pritchard
died of wounds, and we should be very grateful for any
definite news you can send us.

With apologies for troubling you,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

8858

6th October 1916

Capt. Andrew,
Maryleigh,
Calisads,
Paicloy, S C O T L A N D.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you for your letter of the 3rd. inst.,
about 2/Lieut. Pritchard - we have already received a report from
2/Lieut. Woolf, but he only has second-hand information.

We have received a cable from Melbourne yesterday en-
quiring about you and are replying to-night that you are on
Furlough.

Yours truly,

m. G. A.

Secretary.

8858

10th October, 1916.

2nd Lt. W. S. Wolff,
22nd Batt. A.I.F.,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you for your letter of 3th inst.
in reply to our enquiry about ^LLt. Pritchard.

We hope you were not severely wounded, and are making
a good recovery.

Yours truly,

V-8. [Signature]

October 12th,

Lieut. Blanchard,
"A" Coy.,
22nd Battrn. A.I.F.
4th London General Hospital,
Denmark Hill.

Dear Sir,

We are told that you saw 2nd Lt. L.B. Pritchard,
22nd Battrn. A.I.F. killed in action on August 4th at Pozieres.
We are very anxious to get definite information about him as
he is officially missing since August 5th and so will be most
grateful for anything you can tell us.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

V.O.

Secretary.

J.A.W.

ack 12 Feb. 1911

Porloque

9: A.D.B.W.

Su 17. B.L.F.

France

27. 8. 1911

The Rev. Mrs

Angus Branch

Dear Sirs

If you had any detailed information
about the death & burial of Lt. Leslie Byrd
Prichard. 2nd B. Co. 22 Batt. A.S. who was
killed somewhere in France on the night of 14
August 1916 - his father. Mr J.B. Prichard
would be most grateful to you for it.
his address is -

J.B. Prichard

Montrose

Down St

Port Brunswick

Nfld

Thanking you & anticipating & expressing from
appreciation of other favours received

Yours faithfully

Wm. C. Powell

Ed. J. P. P.

15th February

-7.

J. B. Pritchard Esq.,
Montrose.
Down St.
Brunswick.
Victoria.
Australia.

Dear Sir,

At the request of the Rev. J. Gault, we are forwarding to you all the information we possess about your son Lieut. Leslie Byrt Pritchard, 22nd Battn. A.I.F. who is now reported killed in action on August 5th.

From several unofficial reports given by fellow officers and men of his battalion, it seems that your son met his death during a night attack on the German Trenches at Pozieres on August 5th 1916. There was very heavy firing and Lieut. Pritchard was wounded in the shoulder. He refused to have it dressed but went on in the attack in the face of a fierce resistance.

Lieut. Blanchard, 22nd Battn. states that he saw Lieut. Pritchard fall during the rush of the ~~rush~~ attack. Although only 30 yards in front of your son, Lieut. Blanchard could not tell whether he was killed or severely wounded.

J. B. Pritchard. Esq.,

-2-

15.2.17.

Sgt. Etheridge states that your son was killed at the German parapet by machine gun fire. Informant adds that your son's body was recovered and afterwards buried behind the lines by a fatigue party. The padre attached to the Battalion accompanied the burying party.

We are writing to the padre and hope to hear fuller details from him.

Your name has now been registered as an inquirer and if you apply at the Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau, Colonial Mutual Chambers, 60 Market Street, Melbourne. all these reports, of which the above is a digest, will be forwarded to you. All the information we receive is sent out in duplicate to our Melbourne Bureau.

May we offer our sincere sympathy with you in your great loss.

Yours faithfully,

V. K

Secretary.

(KAW)