

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

**3963 Corporal
Hyman Wittner**

22nd Battalion



3000810C

att 22nd Batt: A.I.F.

Wittner T/Cpl. H. 3963.

(K. Feb. 21/17)

"T/Cpl. Wittner was killed on patrol and then the Germans retired and we found his body five days later and he was buried I think but am not absolutely certain by the Padre, Rev. Major Darnford. He was killed at the Sage near Wallencourt. He was badly knocked about by machine gun bullets".

Eye-witness: No, told by Clerk from the Batt. Office,
Pte. Tennyson. *Pte. Tennyson 16/11/17*

Description: He was a Rumanian, short very dark and one of the bravest lads in the Batt.

Informant: Lt. H.W. Westaway,
att. 22nd Batt: B. Coy.,
3rd London General Hospt.,
Wandsworth.

Home address:
A.A. H.Q.,
Horseferry Rd.

Nov. 8/17,
W.A. Davies.

M
Walter Tennyson
16/11/17

22nd Btn.

WITTEER, H.
T.Cpl. No. 3963

"Killed in Action 21/2/17"

"I went out with a party of seven in all on the 21st February, 1917, at LeSairs. We went out for reconnoissance purposes just before the enemy evacuation of that part. We got out too far and walked into the enemy's trenches. We were ordered to lay down for $\frac{1}{2}$ of an hour when we got the word to fall back. When we reached our lines, casualty was found to be missing. Subsequently, the body was found in the "Strong Hold" just outside the enemy's trench."

Informant:- L. Styles,
No. 920,
22nd Btn. *M*

Private address:-

36 Cobden Street,
Richmond.

H.C.B.

9/11/17

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

Hayre

21st Nov. 1917.

22nd AUSTRALIANS

WITTNER, T. Cpl. H. 5963

3963

K. 21.2.17. Det. D/B.

I knew Cpl. Wittner of C Co. We called him Charlie. He was a Roumanian Jew. He was dark, medium build, and about 22 years of age. They went out on patrol at Ginchy in Feb. Fritz started playing a machine gun on them and got him through the head. A L/Cpl. Kerrigan of the 22nd battn. (Now back in Australia) who was with them said he and Charlie were in a shell hole together and when he found he was dead, he came back. They went out the next night to get his body in, but it had been taken away. When we advanced we found a grave with an inscription "To an unknown A.I.F. 22nd Corporal" and this was believed to be his grave. Kerrigan told me this. I knew Wittner well. I am a Russian and we were friends.

Informant: Pte. B. Goffin, 5014
22nd Australians, C Co., 12th Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Ronelles.

m

GIF

22nd Battn.
A.I.F.

Wittner.
T/Cpl. H. 3963

"Killed in Action 21.2.17"

Re 3963 T/Cpl. Wittner. Cpl. Wittner was we a member of a patrol under late Lieut. Massie. They walked into a German post and Wittner was shot through the head and killed instantly. The spot he was killed was near the Bapaume - Albert road just out of Le Sars near the Butte de Warlencourt. We advanced over the ground two or three days later, but could find no trace of his body. He would most likely have been buried by the Germans. Cpl. Wittner was a short dark nuggety man and was a R of Rumanian birth. He came I believe from Greensborough Victoria.

Letter from:-

Sgt. H. Norman

Coy. Clerk. C. Coy. France 20.11.17.

(The above information given by Lieut. H. Braithwaite, M.C.)

London.
28.12.17.

M.

ack
by P. C.
F.M. 29.11.17

3963 T/Cpl H WITTNER 22 BALDWIN

KA. 21. 217

M 3

France
20-11-17

The Secretary,

Austro Red Cross Society

Wounded + Missing Enquiry Bureau.

London

Dear Miss Deakin,

Re your enquiry of 3963 T/Cpl H Wittner
Cpl Wittner was a member of a patrol under
Lt. Massie. They walked into a German
post and Wittner was shot through the head
& killed instantly. The spot he was killed
was near the Bapaume - Albert road, just
out of Le Sars near the Butte de Walloncourt.
We advanced over the ground two or three days
later but could find no trace of his body.
He would most likely have been buried by the
Germans.

Cpl Wittner was a short dark musty man
and was of Roumanian birth. He came I
believed from Greensborough Vic.

Yours truly
W
The German Sec
Adj. Clerk. C. Coy.

(The above information was given by A. H. BRATHWAITE M.C.)