

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

**5048 Private
Ernest Ludgate Hill**

26th Battalion



1330810G

A.I.F. 26th Battn.

HILL
Ernest Ludgate 5043

Killed in action 14/11/18

Previously reported Prisoner of War interned Limburg 14/11/18 - Now reported killed in action 14/11/18, by Court of Enquiry No. 3, held A.I.F. Hdqrs London on 15/10/19 (C.I.B.L. 3849)
(I.B. 819 - 21/10/19)

London
24/10/19

OFF.M.

26th Batta.
A.I.F.

Hill.
E.L. 5048

"Missing 14.11.16"

We regret to state that the previous report from H.Q. stating that above was a prisoner of war is incorrect. We are endeavouring to obtain information concerning his fate but fear owing to the lapse of time since the casualty occurred that we may be unsuccessful.

London.
20.2.18.

Off.M.

South Batt,
A.I.F.

Hill,
E.L. 5048.

"Missing 14.11.16"

Prisoner of War - Interned Limburg

Cert. by information from Geneva Red Cross Battalion List A.I.F

Headquarters 16.7.17

London
4.8.17

Off M.

A.I.F. 26th Batta.

HILL
Ernest Ludgate 5048

"PRISONER OF WAR"

Australian Red Cross on 24.3.19 states - "No information yet to hand".

War Office non-officially Reported Missing. — List reports him as at Limburg on 17.9.18.

Cert. by Capt. Mills' report 25.4.19

London
30.4.19

OFF.M.

Hill . E. L. 5048. 26" Bl.

See under: -

Correspondence with Capt. Mills 21.6.19.
" " " " 30.6.19.
" " " " 21.7.19.
" " " " 1.8.19.

Copy letter

FROM:- Comite International de la Croix;Rouge.
Agence Internationale des Prisonniers de Guerre.
Geneve.

July, 11th, 1919.

TO:- Captain C. Mills, M.I.F.
Australian Red Cross Society,
Berlin.

Ref. A.88809.

Sir,

We are in receipt of your letter of June 30th respecting Pte. Hill, Ernest Ludgate, but think that there must be some error in the statement by the H.Q. of the Australian Red Cross Society, as to the report said to have been made by this Section of the International Red Cross that this soldier was a prisoner at Limburg.

There is no record, as you say, to this effect on the German lists from Berlin, and we have also no correspondence in our dossiers about him. It must therefore be concluded that we have had no enquiry about him.

As the British section of the Agency is now officially closed, it is unfortunately impossible for us to undertake any investigations in the matter.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Mariel Crosnier.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

BERLIN BRANCH

Telegrams: Britishredcross, Berlin
 Telephones: Centrum 7488
 War Office: " 6900 (No. 772)
 Your Reference
 Our Reference



BERLIN W. 8, July 11th, 1919.....
 Wilhelm Straße 70

5048. Private HILL, Ernest Ludgate, 26th Battalion.

10/5/19. Z.N. reports no trace yet, enquiries pending.

8/5/19. Güstrow reports through Z.N. no trace.

25/5/19. Lamsdorf. no trace. 8/5/19, Stendal. no trace.

22/5/19. Limburg reports, no trace within the reach of VIII.A.K. but Postprüfungs Stelle concludes from letters which passed through their hands that he must have been in Bavaria Kriegslazarett Abt. 62. Mil. Hosp. Deutsche Feldpost 45.

Inf. B. reports nothing traced 28/5/19.

10/6/19. Z.N. reports:-no property left (same as above)

Geneva R.C. list;-reports him P.O.W. interned at Limburg
 see letter from A.R.C., of 21.6.19 German units opposite
 on 14/11/16 at Le Bagné Le Sars, where he was missing
 were, 93 R }
 5th Garde Gren. } 4th Gds.Div. } B.Group.
 5th Foot Gds. } } 1st Army.

28/6/19. Munich Haupt Krankent Lager report that they do not have the respective Hospital books.

A.R.C. London reports with letter of 21.6.19. that 2621 John Hill was repatriated to Switzerland on 27.12.17 and to England on 14.6.18.

Copy of above card from Berlin Inf. Bureau is obviously incorrect and refers presumably to 5106, Robert Alexander Hill, 13th Bn. who died at Verdun 28.4.17. for who a card likewise exists.

"B". List.
 Progress Report. No. 9.



5048 Pte. HILL, Ernest Ludgate, 26th Bn. A.I.F.

14.7.19. Auflos. Kom. of Res.Inf.Regt. at Dessau: report NO TRACE.

11.7.16. Geneva Red Cross reports No Enquiries received there about him therefore no report could have been made.

5.8.19. Wrote to Abwicklungsstelle of Bavarian Kriegs. Laz. Department 62. Military Hospital asking for the Kranken books.

Information Bureau Berlin: has a card for 2621 HILL, John Aust: Forces, 48. Bn. died at Verdun and buried on 28.4.17. at the Military Cemetery, Verdun, Grave E.45. Wounds, Right arm and left knee.

Birth Place. Hilliscent.

A.R.C. London report with letter of 21.6.19. that 2621. HILL, John was repatriated to Switzerland, on 27.12.17 and to England on 14.6.18.

Copy of above card from Berlin Mfr. Bureau is obviously incorrect, and refers presumably to 5106. HILL, Robert Alexander who died at Verdun, 28.4.17. for whom a card likewise exists.

12.8.19. 1. Bavarian Train Abt. handed enquiry to Nachkommando Kriegs Laz. Abt. 62 Munich, who sent it on to H.K.L. Munich, as Kriegs Laz. 62. did not have him (HILL) on their books at Valenciennes. Neither can the Ministerium for Mies Angelegenheiten render any information.

12.8.19. ^{W/}Abwicklungs Stelle Spandau. Nothing known.

26.8.19. Limburg. Nothing known.

"B". List.
Progress Report. No. 9.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

BERLIN BRANCH



Telegrams: Britishredcross, Berlin
Telephone: Centrum 7488
War Office: 6990 (No. 772)
Our Reference
Our Reference



BERLIN W. 8,
Wilhelm Straße 70

1/7/19

The Commissioners,

Australian Red Cross Society, LONDON.

re 5048 Pte. HILL, Ernest Ludgate. 26th Bn, A.I.F.

With reference to a file from this office dated 24/4/19 called
"Information to be added to LIST OF PRISONERS OF WAR STILL TO BE
REPATRIATED"

attached to Progress Report No 5, the note made therein regarding
the above named soldier

"W.O. non-officially reported missing. List reports him
as at LIMBURG on 17/9/18"

should read

War office Non-officially Reported Missing List reports
him as at LIMBURG on 17/9/18.

Will you kindly amend the file accordingly.

S. Mills . Capt. A.I.F.
Australian Red Cross Society.
Berlin.

5048. Pts. HILL, Ernest Ludwig, 26th Bn.
Australian Imperial Force, Englische Armee

Born at }
Geburtsort } Grey Abbey, Ireland.

Date of Birth }
Geburtsjahr } 1895.

Age. }
Alter } 21.

Missing at }
Vermisst bei } Le Barque Le Sars.

German Units opposite. } 93 R. } B.Group.
} 5th Garde Gren. } 4th Gds.Div. } 1st Army.
Deutsche Truppen gegenüber } 5th Foot Gds }

Said to have been a P.O.W. at Limburg.

The Chief Registrar's office, Limburg reported to the Queen Victoria Jubilee Funds Association, Geneva, that he was a P.O.W. and employed behind the German lines in France.

There were two other Australian P.O.W. named HILL. Their particulars are:-

5106.HILL, Robert Alex. 13th Bn.

2621A.HILL, John, 48th Bn.

They must not be confused with the man about whom the enquiry is made.

Soll in Limburg als Kriegsgefangener gewesen sein.

Die Hauptregistratur Limburg berichtete der Königin-Viktoria-Jubiläum-Fonds-Gesellschaft in Genf, dass er Kriegsgefangener und hinter der deutschen Front in Frankreich beschäftigt sei.

Es waren dort noch zwei andere australische Kriegsgefangene namens HILLS. Genaue Angaben wie folgt:

5106.HILL, Robert Alex. 13. Batln.

2621A. HILL, John, 48. Batln.

Die Vorgenannten müssen nicht mit dem Mann verwechselt werden, nach dem jetzt Nachforschungen angestellt werden.



Australian Red Cross Society.

Prisoner of War Mission.

BERLIN W. 8.

Willstrasse. 70.

5048. Pte. HILL, Ernest Ludwig. 28th En. A. I. F.

- 12.9.19. Enquiry referring to information of the K. V. Jubil. Fonds Ges. Genf at Chief Registry Office Gefangenen Lager Limburg.
- 26.9.19. Answer from Limburg: Nothing known, as no Hill E. L has been reported.
- 26.9.19. Enquiry at the Generalstab/Kriegsgliederung: Sector of operation at Novembert 16. " Le Barque (Road Albert-Bapaume ". Gefangenen Sammelstelle Cambrai. 2 Etappen Inspektion, at present X. A. K. Hannover.
- 26.9.19. Enquiry passed through H. B. Referat III to:
- 1) 2. Etappen Inspektion 10 A. K. Hannover.
 - 2) San. Komp. A. 3. 287. 4 GD
Feldlaz. 392. 397.

Answers not yet arrived.

<u>Reg.No.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>	<u>Surname.</u>	<u>Chr.Name.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>
5048	Pte.	H i l l	Ernest Ludgate	26' Bn.

C R O I X - R O U G E , G E N E V A .

Not reported on lists.

R. G. I. I N F O R M A T I O N B U R E A U , B E R L I N .

No trace.

Enquiring P. o. W. P. Office 24 Berlin , and Limburg.

The above office has a card for:

H I L L John , Australian Forces, 48 Bn. Reg. No. 2621
died at Verdun and buried on 28. 4. 17. at the Garrison
Cemetery Verdun, Grave E. 45.

Wounds: Right arm and left knee.

Birthplace: Hillicent.

Capt. M. H. 's Report.
13. 3. 19.

Recd. 22. 3. 19.

5048 Pte. H I L L, Ernest Ludgate. 26th Bn. A.I.F.

Australian Red Cross on 24.3.19 states:- "No information yet to hand".

W.O. non-officially Reported Missing. List reports him as at Limburg on 17.9.18

Captain Mills' Report.

25.4.19.

Recd. 29.4.19.

July 21st, 1919.

Officer in Charge, Records,
Australian Imperial Forces.
130. Horseferry Rd.,
London, S.W.1.

5048. Pte. HILL, Ernest Ludgate, 26th Bn. A.I.F.

The above named soldier is shown in your
"LIST OF PRISONERS OF WAR STILL TO BE REPATRIATED"
as unofficially reported prisoner of war.

In a letter dated 21st June, 1919, the Wounded & Missing
Enquiry bureau of the Australian Red Cross Society states:-

"5048. Pte. Ernest Ludgate HILL, 26th Bn,
A.I.F., is reported on the Geneva Red
Cross List to be a prisoner of war in-
terned at Limburg."

It is assumed that the source of the above information
is the same in both cases, namely:- the Geneva Red Cross Society
Please note from the attached correspondence that the Geneva
Red Cross Society denies having made any such report.

I should be glad if the source of this information could
be ascertained as it is of some importance in connection with
our enquiries here.

LM.
Captain, A.I.F.,
Australian Red Cross Society,
Berlin.