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Melbourne, August 18, 1914.

Upon our arrival on Saturday (15<sup>th</sup>/8) we learned that war had erupted between Germany/Austria and England/France/Russia/Serbia/Belgium. A watch [guard] of marines came on board and our "Lothringen" dropped anchor at Hobsons Bay near Williamstown. We do not have wireless telegraphy on board and therefore ran unwittingly into war captivity after our 47-day journey from Antwerp to here. Our handwritten documents were confiscated on the same day and brought ashore. None of us is allowed ashore and we are not allowed any

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newspapers. To prevent us from fleeing they have removed 5 thrust bearing brackets and the sliding block bearing cups of the main engine, which were brought ashore; – today, however, all was brought back because we are to enter the harbour and unload our cargo. Today I received a postcard from Nordenham. Except for 3 donkey [people?] and the waiters none of the crew wants to work.

Melbourne, August 22, 1914.

On Wednesday (19<sup>th</sup>/8) we went up the Yarra River and docked at the Victoria Docks. The cargo for Melbourne and Hobart will be

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unloaded here. Yesterday, the majority of the crew were brought to the "Victoria Barracks" in St Kilda Road. All those remaining on board are being paid wages set by the Australian government. I received 74 shillings 8d for the 7 days we are supposed to lie at anchor here, which amounts to a pay of £16 per month (320 Mark).

Melbourne, August 29, 1914.

Last Wednesday (26<sup>th</sup>/8) we returned to our mooring place in Hobson Bay near Williamstown. Apart from us, the Lloyd steamer "Pfalz", the German-Australian steamer "Hobart" and the steamer "Altona" as well as the Hanse steamer "Wildenfels" are lying at anchor here. On the 25<sup>th</sup>/8 I received a

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card from Eliese and a letter from home, and another letter from home on the 29<sup>th</sup>/8. I have sent a card home.

Melbourne, September 7, 1914.

Last Thursday (3<sup>rd</sup>/9) the Lloyd steamer "Hessen" arrived here, so now there are 6 German ships lying at anchor here. On Friday (4<sup>th</sup>/9) we were released on parole, i.e. on the basis of our word of honour we are allowed ashore anytime we wish, but have to report every day to the police station or on board. Last Saturday, I was in town. On the 5<sup>th</sup>/9 I received a letter from H. Onken and one from home.

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Melbourne, September 15, 1914.

On Tuesday (8<sup>th</sup>/9) they cancelled our parole and we now have to stay aboard again the whole time. The reason for cancelling our parole was that our 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate visited the Dutch

steamer "Houtman". The 1<sup>st</sup> Mate of the "Houtman" had our 2<sup>nd</sup> Mate arrested. Since the 9<sup>th</sup>/9 we have to write our letters in English or French; letters written in German will not be posted. On the 9<sup>th</sup>/9 I received a letter from home and one from Ad. Flocke and a card from H. Onken. On the 4<sup>th</sup>/9 I received

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newspapers from home. Steamer "Wildenfels" has sailed to Sydney today under the Australian flag. The government allots 1½ oz of meat, 1 oz of potatoes and a bit of vegetables per man per day.

Melbourne, September 20, 1914.

On Tuesday (15<sup>th</sup>/9) we learned that the German ships lying at anchor here are to proceed to Sydney and Brisbane under the Australian flag and with an Australian crew. We have therefore stopped work on Wednesday (16<sup>th</sup>/9). On the 16<sup>th</sup>/9 I received a card from Else in Nordenham.

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Melbourne, September 28, 1914.

On the 26<sup>th</sup>/9 the captain, the officers and the engineers of the steamer "Pfalz" were brought ashore, but in the evening they came aboard our ship because they could not find accommodation ashore. The steamer "Pfalz" now has an Australian crew. On the 21<sup>st</sup>/9 I have sent a letter to Willi, on the 22<sup>nd</sup>/9 a letter home and a card to Assmanns.

Melbourne, October 6, 1914.

On the morning of the 29<sup>th</sup>/9, the officers and engineers of the steamer "Hobart" came aboard our ship and in the evening were brought to the steamer "Altona". From the 21<sup>st</sup>/9 to the 29<sup>th</sup>/9 we

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have worked again. On the 30<sup>th</sup>/9 the captain, the officers and the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer of the steamer "Pfalz" took a train to Sydney. The other 3 engineers stayed with us. At 5.45pm today the "Pfalz" set sail for Sydney, followed at 6.15pm by the "Hobart". Both ships are crewed by Australians and are flying the Australian flag.

Melbourne, October 9, 1914.

On Wednesday (7<sup>th</sup>/10) we suddenly had to pack our gear and leave the ship. Marines came aboard and took over. At 6.30pm we were taken away on a tugboat,

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together with the officers and engineers of the steamers "Altona", "Hessen", "Hobart" and "Pfalz", and brought to the police barracks in St Kilda Road. For dinner we got dry bread, canned meat and water and then had to sleep on the bare ground of the horse stable. We received a rubber mat, a couple (2) woollen blankets and a towel, and now live in the new stable building alongside the crew. We are to eat in the same mess. If we want to go out, we have to do it at our own expense. Thus we have no choice but to stay put in the horse stable. The captain, some officers

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and the 1<sup>st</sup> engineers have accepted parole. The food is more or less OK, but the same every day; mornings: meat, bread, jam and coffee; lunchtimes: meat with roast potatoes and onions, soup and bread; evenings: meat, bread, jam and tea. Last night, in the crew's mess,

there was a ball, a German choral society performed and the prisoners of war themselves contributed the music. This ball will be held every Thursday. *[note in parentheses added later]* (Soon afterwards attendance was prohibited and the prisoners were brought to Langwarrin).

Melbourne, October 15, 1914.

The days of the barracks are over, thank God, on Monday (12<sup>th</sup>/10) we moved,

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after being assured that the government would pay us 30 shillingss a week. We stayed at the barracks for five days, and the past three days we have been living at the "Federal Palace Hotel" in Collins St, where we have to pay 5sh 6d per day. But since we can't afford this with the government money we will today move to the "Commercial Hotel", corner Spring St and Lonsdale St, where we pay 5sh a week, meals excluded. Last Monday (12<sup>th</sup>/10) we got parole and have to report once a week to the nearest police station.

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Melbourne, October 22, 1914.

I slept only 2 nights at the "Commercial Hotel" because the meals were getting too expensive, and so we (3 engineers from the Palatinate and I) moved once again, on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. 14, to 227 Park Street, South Melbourne. We are staying with a German dental technician, Mr K. Zandler, and pay £1 (20 Mark) a week for board and lodging plus laundry. We quite like it here. Yesterday the first pay arrived, for the period from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of the current month, that's 6 days = 25sh 8d. There will be money every fortnight from now on. According to a letter from Norddeutsche Lloyd [Company], we will receive full wages until 1<sup>st</sup> Nov. this year. It's probably money we won't

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receive until after the war is over.

Melbourne, November 2, 1914.

Today I received 60sh (60 M) from the Australian government for the period from 18<sup>th</sup> Oct to 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Melbourne, November 16, 1914.

Today I received 60sh (60 M) from the Australian government for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Melbourne, November 30, 1914.

Today I received 40sh (40 M) from the Australian government for the period from 15<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. For unknown reasons,

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our pay has been cut to 20 shillings (20 M) per week by the government. Given local prices, 20sh a week is rather pitiful; it's too much to die and too little to live. I now pay 17 shillings (17 M) a week for board and lodging.

Melbourne, December 11, 1914.

Today I received an advance of £5 (about 100 M) from our agent Ostermeyer at Van Rompay & Co. [might be Van Rompuy & Co.]

Melbourne, December 16, 1914.

Today I received 40sh (about 40 M) from the Aust. government for the period from 29<sup>th</sup> Nov to 12<sup>th</sup> Dec.

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Melbourne, December 30, 1914.

Received today from the Aust. government 40 shillings (40 M) for the period from 13<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> December. On 21<sup>st</sup> Dec I received a letter from Willi, which was sent from Jersey City on 25<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Melbourne, January 1, 1915.

Today I received 20 shillings (20 M), belatedly for the period from 15<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1914.

Melbourne, January 12, 1915.

Received 40 shillings (40 M) today from the A. g. for the period from 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 1914 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 1915.

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Melbourne, January 30, 1915.

Today I received 40 shillings (40 M) from the A. g. for the period from 10<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> January. I received 2 postcards from home via Denmark. All the ships detained here in Australia are now being used, either as transporters for the government or as freighters for various companies. The "Lothringen" (as well as the "Hessen") runs as "H1" between Bombay-Calcutta and here for Burns, Philp & Co; the "Pfalz" runs as transporter A42.

Since a few days ago, Germans are no longer allowed at any public event, be it the cinema, the theatre, a pub or a dance hall.

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Melbourne, February 10, 1915.

Today I received 40 shillings (40 M) from the A. g. for the period from 24<sup>th</sup> Jan to 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Melbourne, February 18, 1915.

Today we received a letter from the Australian government saying that we will get the allotted 20 shillings per week only until the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. On 1<sup>st</sup> of March, we shall be interned again.

Melbourne, February 20, 1915.

Today I received the sum of 40 shillings (40 M) from the A. g. for the period from 7<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February.

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Melbourne, February 27, 1915.

Today I received an advance of £1 (about 20 M) from our agent Ostermeyer at Van Rompay & Co.

Melbourne, March 1, 1915.

Today I received 22sh 10d (22 M 85 Pf) from the A. g. for the period from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Total: £23 8s 6d = 468/6s

Langwarrin, March 9, 1915.

For 8 days now we have been interned here in the German Prisoner's Camp; we were told that we were being detained "for political reasons". On Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> of March, at 4pm we, i.e. the captains, the officers and engineers of the various steamships, had to report to the

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Military Intelligence Department in St Kilda Road, Melbourne, and where then escorted to the train station by military guards. We departed for Langwarrin at 5.19, where we arrived at 6.30 and were immediately brought to the "German Prisoner's Camp", which is about 20 min from the train station. Langwarrin is on the Melbourne-Frankston-Mornington rail line, about 30 sea miles from Melbourne and 4 sea miles from the ocean. Our camp is situated on a small hill, fenced in by barbed wire and separated from the crews' camp. We live in round tents, the captains in twos, all others in threes or fours. A larger tent with tables and benches serves as our mess.

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I was lucky enough to get a tent for three. Each received a waterproof rubber mat, a palliasse and two woollen blankets, and since our luggage had not yet arrived, we had to make do for the first night. Because of the cold and a storm we slept very badly. The following night our luggage arrived and the cots we had bought ourselves, so we now live a bit more humanely. The food isn't exactly abundant but adequate. There are three meals a day; for breakfast we get meat with gravy (occasionally with potatoes as well), bread, jam and black coffee; for lunch we have soup and a serving of meat, gravy and potatoes (every now and then some vegetables as well) and bread;

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at 3.30pm we have black coffee and for dinner we get meat with gravy, bread, jam and tea. Occasionally, for breakfast or dinner, we get rice, cheese and cold cuts instead of the meat with gravy. There is no butter, milk, eggs, etc, but it can be bought if one has the money. There's only white bread. Vegetables are served just once a week.

As long as the weather is okay, it's bearable here. When it's stormy and dry, we get a horrible dust that sometimes develops into a sandstorm. During heavy rain it's just as uncomfortable because the tents aren't really waterproof, especially not when there's heavy wind,

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as the raindrops on the windward side push in, and one has to be glad if the tent doesn't topple, as has happened a few days ago.

Each day half of us are allowed outside the fence onto the field between the camp and the train station. We play a lot of baseball [a variety thereof] there, as well as other games, so as to pass the time and keep fit. We can write as many letters as we want, but the ones in German have to be kept short. We don't have to put stamps on the letters.

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Our camp is situated on a little hill, 100 x 140 metres big and accommodates 43 people and 8 service personnel. The two Lloyd captains had a house built from corrugated iron, at their

own expense, and 9 of us, in teams of 3, are building a log cabin per team and have to fell our own timber in the surrounding areas. There is a lot of bushland here and as for trees, there are really only eucalypts. Last week we teamed up to dig a cave for the coming cold days. It's a hole of 6 7 m in diameter and about 1.7m depth. We made a roof of untrimmed logs, covered

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with shrubs and topped with soil. In the centre of the cave we have installed an old cube-shaped water tank and reconfigured it into a stove by adding a flue. The cave accommodates about 50 people and offers a cosy shelter. It was named "U-boat". The cave seems to become an attraction, because every day Major Lloyd, who is the camp commander, or the officers and soldiers, sometimes accompanied by strangers, come and all want to see the cave. Last week I received a pair of the sturdy boots that are being worn by the soldiers here. In the camp for the crews, adjacent to ours, there are about 400 Germans, a few Austrians and a Turk.

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In our camp there are:

The captain, 4 officers and 4 engineers from the S. [steamship] "Lothringen".

From the S. "Pfalz": 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer F. Hesberg; 3<sup>rd</sup> engineer H. Ohlenberg; 4<sup>th</sup> engineer E. Kreth.

From the S. "Hessen": Capt. D. Reimers; 1<sup>st</sup> mate Hinsch; 2<sup>nd</sup> mate Krone; 3<sup>rd</sup> mate K. Hagemann; 4<sup>th</sup> mate W. Dähne; 1<sup>st</sup> engineer Landau; 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer A. Tiemann; 3<sup>rd</sup> engineer J. Kretschmer; 4<sup>th</sup> engineer Knaack.

From the S. "Hobart": 1<sup>st</sup> mate Gerdau; 2<sup>nd</sup> mate D. Buthmann; 3<sup>rd</sup> mate Schmidt; 4<sup>th</sup> mate P. Rahn; 1<sup>st</sup> engineer Hinrichs; 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer Steding; 3<sup>rd</sup> engineer Lübke; 4<sup>th</sup> engineer Hensen.

From the S. "Altona": Capt. A. Hurwitz; 1<sup>st</sup> mate Hähnel; 2<sup>nd</sup> mate Brodersen; 3<sup>rd</sup> mate Behrens; 4<sup>th</sup> mate F. Ritter. 1<sup>st</sup> engineer A. Rademacher; 2<sup>nd</sup> engineer Kleessen; 3<sup>rd</sup> engineer Bumann; 4<sup>th</sup> engineer J. Eckhoff. Further: E. Edwards, director of Continental Tyre Co., Melbourne.

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Dr. Pringsheim

Engineer Butzmühl; a ship's boy, Kuhr-Golz; and an elderly gentlemen by the name of Roehl (34 Clive Road, Camberwell, off Riversdale Road, Auburn).

Langwarrin, April 25, 1915.

Last Thursday (22<sup>nd</sup>) another German from Melbourne was interned, by the name of Löblein from the Continental and Rubber Co., so there's now 44 of us. We are no longer allowed outside the camp in the afternoons, but in the mornings, from 9 to 1, and escorted by a soldier, we can go to the bush and fell trees for our house-building activities. Occasionally, we also go and gather firewood for our "U-boat" because any little diversion is welcome.

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Our crews also have a chance to earn a shilling (1 Mark) a day for 4 hrs of work. They fell wood for cooking purposes, some also help with the weighing and portioning of food, others repair tents, and there is even a shoemaker. The crews also built the barbed-wire fences, the sanitary facilities, the water pipes and the kitchens.

All up, there are 4 camps here, i.e. the crews' camp (the largest), the officers' camp, the criminals' camp and the so-called Tripperary Camp, all guarded by about ... [figure missing] soldiers. At night, the fences are illuminated with petroleum lamps.

In the criminals' camp they have imprisoned a few loutish seamen and firemen

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who kept making trouble in the other camp. They live in a corrugated-iron building, two per cell, which is being locked at night.

In the "Tripperary Camp" there are several large corrugated-iron buildings and a few tents. It got its strange name from the fact that here they detain and treat the Australian soldiers who have venereal disease. Some of them have seen action in Egypt, but most are from "Broadmeadows", the drilling camp of the "Victorians" (the residents of Victoria). At the moment, there are about 100 sick soldiers in this camp.

Here in Australia there is a bad drought again,

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just like last year, when the harvest was very poor and unemployment in rural areas very high. Wheat flour now costs three times as much as at the start of the war, and a dozen eggs cost 2½ shillings, as opposed to 10 pence in October last year. Butter costs 1s10d per oz, which is twice as much, and meat, too, has got much more expensive. All products that used to be imported from Germany, such as glassware, paints etc, will now become very expensive. Since we manage to get newspapers despite the ban, we know exactly how the war is developing and that things are very favourable for Germany; the local newspapers even report how badly the English fare, who are becoming less and less confident of victory.

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There was a lot of clamouring here about "the atrocities of the Germans" who presumably maimed and butchered old men, women and children, none of which could be proved despite the many inquests, but the uneducated folks here believe anything the local papers write. But we have also seen some German newspapers and know therefore how to interpret the heavily censored English war reports. The blockade of England by the German U-boats, which was first derided as "paper blockade", seems to have been rather effective to judge from the enraged and embittered newspaper reports. There are also rumours of peace,

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but this will hardly happen before October this year.

The Germans living in Melbourne occasionally send small donations, tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, soap, sausages and ham, pies, non-alcoholic drinks etc, but distributed among so many people there is little left for the individual. Our Mr Pfaff of the Lloyd subsidiary visits us every fortnight.

Last Friday (23<sup>rd</sup>) Pastor Gutekunst from Melbourne held a service here and upon our request will now return every fortnight.

Since we have been getting too much meat, we are now exchanging some of it for vegetables and have thus peas and beans once a week.

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Langwarrin, May 14, 1915.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month the 1<sup>st</sup> mate of the Hamburg-America steamship "Markomania", the companion ship of the famous small cruiser "Emden", arrived here along with 80 German seamen who, because of the rebellion in Singapore, are being transferred from there to Sydney. On the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month they indeed went on to Sydney. Since 1<sup>st</sup> of May the captains, mates and engineers receive pocket money of 4 shillings (4 M) a week. We also have a new camp resident, engineer Löblein.

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Langwarrin, May 30, 1915.

Several days ago we have acquired a new enemy because treacherous Italy has declared war on Austria, whereupon Germany also declared war on Italy, so that we have less hope than ever for a speedy end to this conflict. The Australians landed at Gallipoli in early April to conquer the Dardanelles, and have since suffered substantial losses. These losses and especially the scuttling of the "Lusitania" have greatly agitated the population here. The German clubs and gymnastic squads in Melbourne have all been shut down. But we are still upbeat, because the Russians seem to be close to collapse, according to the latest news.

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Eight days ago, I, along with Mr Kamenz and Kreth, moved into our newly built cabin, built in the latest fashion from bushes. It is 4m long and 4m wide, the walls are made from bush and covered with mud, the roof is covered with corrugated iron. Three windows provide the necessary light and because it is often so cold here, we have also installed a stove. It was made from a small iron oil barrel, and by adding a door, ash drop, grid and flue we got ourselves a very handy heater. The flue was fashioned from tins that were fitted together. We made a table, 4 benches and a dresser

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from crates. Thus we are now living cosily and in comfort, after roughing it out in tents for 12 weeks.

Since the government provided us with only a tin plate and tin cup, most of us have bought some chinaware.

We have to pay for 2 stewards in the mess tent, the other two are paid by Major Lloyd. The stewards get 1 shilling (1 M) a day.

We are given ½ oz of soap a week and three times a week some petroleum for the lamp (which we had to buy ourselves) or three tallow candles per week. Since we're getting pocket money, we have to pay our stewards ourselves.

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Langwarrin, June 3, 1915

Yesterday morning, after a long and patient wait, we finally received the promised pocket money, 16s (16 M) for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 28<sup>th</sup> May.



At the same time they granted our wish to be allowed to read the newspapers, so that we now can hold and read a newspaper without fear of being caught. In the cave we built early in April we have begun to hold "cave nights" every Saturday evening for general entertainment. There are lectures, patriotic songs, and especially the weekly review done in verse by Mr Daehne is very interesting. Some of us have composed

[Note in Margin:] T 0/16/00

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songs of hatred where everybody chimes in eagerly. There is also a gramophone, and the house orchestra consists of violin and mandolin. On Saturday mornings the program is being announced and in the afternoon the invitations go out.

At the moment we're about to establish a gym, having been given parallel bars and a punching ball by the German Club in Melbourne; we have built a high bar ourselves.

In the course of time I was sent by our agent food etc for the amount of 18s 6d (18.50 M).

I owe Mr Kamenz 14s 1½d (14.15 M) for carving wood, knife and nails.

[Note in Margin:] K./18/6

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Langwarrin, June 18, 1915.

Today I received 8s (8 M) from the A. g. for the period from 29<sup>th</sup> May to 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Langwarrin, July 1, 1915.

On 29<sup>th</sup> June we got a new inmate, Mr Steinmetz. From the newspapers we gathered that all the Germans interned here are to be brought to Sydney. The NSW concentration camp for ship crews is located in Liverpool (about 30 miles from Sydney), the one for ship officers in Berimac [Berrima].

[Note in Margin: T /08/00]

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Langwarrin, July 7, 1915.

Today I received 8s (8 M) from the A. g. for the period from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> June inclusive.

On 30<sup>th</sup> June, there was a tragic incident here in which an Austrian was killed and a German badly wounded. On that day at 5pm, one of the prisoners in the crews' camp went to the freshwater tank next to the gate, took a sip and then also rinsed his plate and cutlery. The guard outside the gate told him to stop and ordered him away, but in English of course, which the man didn't understand and therefore didn't heed the order. Immediately,

[Note in Margin: T/08/00]

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the guard took aim and shot the German in the lower abdomen. The bullet went clean through and hit an Austrian, who was sitting peacefully in his tent, in the chest. Right away all the guards were alerted but it was only when the deputy camp commander, Lt. Northcote, arrived on the spot that some soldiers dared to come into the compound, i.e. after about 10 minutes, to carry off the wounded to the hospital tent. The Austrian died that same evening

and was buried on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month, while the other is recovering slowly. Of course, there was enormous outrage in the camp over this shooting affair, all the more so because that same guard apparently

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said on that same morning that he wanted to kill a few Germans before they were all shipped to Sydney.

We have recorded the whole episode and notified the American consul. The Australian government will probably hush it up and all visitors were ordered to keep quiet. Major Lloyd has expressed his regret and all the guards will be exchanged. In the [the rest of the sentence has been erased]

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Langwarrin, July 12, 1915.

On Saturday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, another three naturalised Germans were interned in our camp. They are the German consul W.F.C. Adena and the two directors of the Australian Metal Company F. Wallach and W. Schmidt. The reason for their internment is not known.

Langwarrin, July 17, 1915.

Today I received the sum of 8 shillings (8 M) from the A. g. for the period 26<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> July. Two more German were interned, named Kersten and Noelle. Both were naturalised and business people.

[Note in Margin: T /08/00]

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Langwarrin, August 5, 1915

Today I received the sum of 8 shillings from the A. g. for the period 10<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Langwarrin, August 17, 1915

Today I received the sum of 8 shillings from the A. g. for the period 24<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August. After having been suspended in uncertainty for 7 weeks about whether we would be leaving here, we were told last Sunday that on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> we would be transported via railway to the two NSW concentration camps. The crews to Liverpool and the ship officers to Berima [Berrima].

[Note in Margin: T /16/00]

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Liverpool, August 30, 1915.

The last night in Langwarrin was pretty sleepless for us because we had to get our luggage, cots, mattresses to the train station the day before and so we were left with just a blanket and a hand basket.

On Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> August, at 7.45am we marched from camp to the train station. There were about 300 of us and we got a special train with 2<sup>nd</sup> class cars (in Australia they have only 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class), which are akin to the German 3<sup>rd</sup> class cars. We departed Langwarrin at 9.15am. The distances are roughly these: Langwarrin to Melbourne 30 miles, Melbourne to Albury 191 miles,

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Albury to Liverpool 350 miles, and Liverpool is 24 miles from Sydney. – At 10.45am we rode through Melbourne and arrived in Seymour at 1.10pm, where we officers were allowed to disembark and eat in the train station restaurant. The others only got rusks and canned meat and tea. At 1.38pm departure from Seymour and at 5pm arrival in Albury. Albury is the border station between Victoria and New South Wales, and because the rail widths are different in each state, all had to change train here. After we had changed trains we were allowed to disembark again and have our dinner. At 7.30pm we left Albury in two separate trains. Now we

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continued non-stop through the night and arrived in Liverpool on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 8.35am. All had to disembark and at 9.30am we marched off to the German concentration camp, where we arrived at 11.30am. We were told right away that we ship officers were to proceed to Berima [Berrima] later on. We were then put up in barracks, 50 men each; long, narrow wooden constructions with corrugated-iron roofs and the sun-facing side without a wall and protected only by a curtain, and thus very airy. Two adjacent barracks form a company, which is subdivided in 10 units of 10 men each. The units are 7.5m long and 2.4m wide, so that there are just 1,85 sq m to a man, and the beds have to be built as

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double bunks, one atop the other, to gain space. In this unit one has to live, eat and sleep. Each company is led by a German who has to divvy up the bread and jam allotted to his company, who reads out all the names at the twice-daily roll-call, who reports his men to work and takes responsibility for all. Here in camp anybody can work, half in the morning, the other half in the afternoon. There are 44 barracks, or 22 companies of 10 units at 10 men each, so all up about 2200 Germans are interned here. The reserve officers have their own camp, live in tents and have their own mess and kitchen. There are not just the internees from Sydney, but

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also those from Singapore, Colombo, New Guinea, Nauru, Tasmania, from Adelaide, Brisbane and Melbourne. The camp for the captains and officers of the merchant ships is in Berima (Mossvale station) about 40 kilometres from here, but because there is not much room there only the captains, 1<sup>st</sup> mates and 1<sup>st</sup> engineers were brought there (11/9/15). In Berima each officer gets 4 shillings a week, while we who were left behind here get nothing and have to work to earn anything. Since 6<sup>th</sup> September we work a few hours a day, for which we get 1 shilling a day; we have to fell trees, but others do other types of jobs. Each has to pay 3d (25 Pfennig) per week for the kitchen personnel and the cleaning of the lavatories.

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All camp matters are being dealt with by a committee we elect, and it was also the interned Germans that built most of the camp's infrastructure. We have little to do with the soldiers or officers of the guard, because we have our own camp police. All camp inmates alternate doing half a day of police service. There are 2 kitchens. Reveille is at 6.30am; at 7.45am we muster for roll-call and are handed our breakfast, at 8.45am we report to work, at 12.45pm we line up for lunch, at 1.45pm we report to work, at 5.30pm we muster for roll-call and are handed our tea [correct], and at 10pm it's lights out.

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For breakfast we get meat with gravy and tea; for lunch we get vegetables (mostly turnip and other roots, occasionally pumpkin or cabbage) with meat and potatoes, plus soup or coffee, and in the evening there is tea. Each unit of 10 men has a daily allowance of 3 loaves of white bread, and every 8 days everybody gets a tin of jam (about 1 ½ oz). The food is quite tasty and abundant, but tea and coffee are pretty bad. The canteen has yielded a profit of 40,000 Mark in one year, which was spent on building barracks, plus a theatre and an electricity generator to illuminate the fence. The sanitary facilities are totally inadequate; there are just 8 water-taps and 6 shower heads for 2200 men, which

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are also turned off half the day. Ten men share a washbasin, and there's one bucket for 50 men. A few entrepreneurial Germans have constructed a hot-water shower, which costs 1d (8 1/3 Pfennig) every time you use it. Then there is "The Bark", a kitchen with dining room where the wealthier internees eat. Next to it is a coffee and cake stall where you can always get coffee, chocolate and cakes. The theatre, built from corrugated iron, has more than 300 seats and standing room for 50, there are several beautiful sceneries and backdrops, and the plays are good. Plays are performed three or four times a week, there are two concerts a week and one lecture.

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Admission to plays and concerts is 1 penny (8 Pf), lectures are free.

Liverpool, September 24, 1915.

(From A. g. [Australian government] total of 64s = £3 4s)

Today I received 8s (8 M) from the A. g. for the last 14 days in ~~Mei~~ Langwarrin and 11s (11 M) for 11 days of work. Yesterday I received 4/4 (4.70 M) from the proceeds of selling the corrugated-iron roofs of our houses in Langwarrin.

Liverpool, October 11, 1915.

Today I received 8s 6d in cash for 12 days' work; the balance of 3/6 remains in the savings account. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of this month I received an advance of 15s (15 M) from our agent.

[Note in Margins: T 0/18/00 L 1/03/00 {L stands for Lohn/Löhnung = salary} K /15/00]

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Liverpool, October 22, 1915.

Today I received 7s 6d and a credit note for 3/6 for 11 days' work. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, 80 ships' officers were brought to Berrima so that now there are practically only 4<sup>th</sup> mates and 4<sup>th</sup> engineers here. They simply say there's no room for us there. In Berrima, the internees live in a former gaol and are allowed to roam free within a radius of 2 miles (3km) from 9am to 5pm.

Liverpool, November 9, 1915.

Today I received an advance of 30s (30 M) from our agent Pahnke.

[Note in Margin: L 0/11/00 K 1/10/ ]

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Liverpool, November 30, 1915.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month the reserve officers were brought to Trial Bay, and yesterday about 900 Germans and Austrians arrived here from Fremantle (Western Australia) who had been interned on Rottneest Island near Fremantle. So all the Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Turks and Bulgarians detained in Australia are now here, in total about 3300 men. The only true prisoners of war are the roughly 45 men from the HMS "Emden", among which there are a few invalids and some who have recovered from their wounds, and a few men from the HMS "Planet".

At last, we, along with the ships' officers

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that came from WA, are to be brought to another camp, to Trial Bay, which is located between New-Castle and Brisbane. The engineers' assistants have to remain here.

Saturday, December 4, 1915.

At 1.30pm, 75 of us departed from the camp and arrived at Liverpool train station at 2.55pm, where we immediately left on a special train for Sydney, right to the harbour, to the ship that was anchored at Sussex St. We were immediately brought aboard while some had to load

[Note in Margin] Distance from Sydney to South West Rocks = 209sml [sea miles]

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our luggage. At 5.30pm we departed on the steamship "Yulzilbar" (800 tonnes). We travelled steerage, the food was OK, but we had to sleep on the bare floor with just 2 blankets, which was not very comfortable of course. ~~Many of us~~

On Sunday, Dec. 5, at 2.30pm we arrived at Macleay River Heads (Trial Bay) and after waiting for the high tide for 2 hours, we continued up the river. At 5pm we arrived at the jetty and right away marched off to the camp, where we arrived at 6.15pm.

We first ate dinner and then had to

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pitch the tents ourselves, 6 men to a tent. There was one barrack for 36 men and some more are to be built for the rest of us.

Trial Bay, December 8, 1915.

We live here within the walls of a gaol for political criminals, which has been vacant since 1902 and is situated on the South West Rocks next to Trial Bay. On the ocean side the shore is very rocky and there is a permanent surf, whereas the bay side features a beautiful flat beach. Mountains surround the hinterland. On this peninsula, in the centre of which,

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high upon the rocks, lies the gaol, the internees are now free to roam from 9am to 5.30pm. Two sentries guard the border to the hinterland during the day, and during the night all internees have to be in camp. The terrain at our disposal has a diameter of about 1,5km. Reveille is at 6.30am, and until 7.30am they distribute the fresh water; each receives just barely ½ litre of rain water to brush the teeth and 1½ litres of well water for our ablutions, and that's it for the whole day. At 7.30am we receive the daily bread allowance, 1 loaf of bread for 4 men, about 1 oz per man. Every 8 days each receives a tin of

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jam (1½ oz). At 8am we have breakfast and at 9am it's roll-call and work assignments. The work is voluntary, one gets a shilling (1M) for half a day. After the roll-call one is free to go to the beach, swimming hours are 11am to noon and 3.30pm to 4.30pm. At 1pm we have lunch and at 5pm everybody has to be back in camp for roll-call. Right afterwards we have dinner, at 9.30pm it's bed time and at 10pm lights out. Once a week you can go and get a bucketful of well water to wash your clothes, which means you have to go swimming to wash yourself.

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Trial Bay, December 20, 1915.

During the week we received a few garments consisting of 1 pair of pants, 1 shirt (woollen), 1 hat, 1 pair of shoes, 1 woollen jacket and a towel. Upon arrival, each of us got 3 blankets, later they gave us palliasses, that is, we had to sew and fill them ourselves. Normally, we just wear a shirt, shorts and sandals here because the weather is quite constant; temperatures don't drop at night like they did in the Liverpool camp, for instance, and thanks to the sea breeze it never gets as hot during the day as it did there.

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Trial Bay, January 2, 1916.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of Dec. I received an advance of 30 shillings (30 M) from our agent.

On Christmas Eve, courtesy of the government (canteen), each internee was given a few nuts and fruit, and every 3 men got 2 bottles of lager beer, and on Christmas Day each got a piece of cake. Also, on Christmas Eve we were served a special dinner of veal with potatoes and green beans, fish and pea soup with bacon. We had put up a Christmas tree in the canteen and we sang and played Christmas carols. On New Year's Eve we were allowed to buy half a bottle of beer each and to stay up until 1am.

[Marginal : K. 1/10/ ]

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Trial Bay, January 16, 1916.

On 8<sup>th</sup>/1/1916 I received £2 (about 40 M) from A. Flocke in Boston via registered mail, of which I lent £1 (20 M) to Mr Kroth.

Today, Sunday, I was vaccinated against smallpox.

A few days ago, two gentlemen from Liverpool arrived here on the steamship "Yulzilbar". As we found out later, during their voyage there was a case of smallpox and the two gentlemen were quarantined and all of us in camp who hadn't been vaccinated in the past 3 years, were ordered to get vaccination.

[Note in Margin]: From Flocke 2/00/00 [£2]

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Trial Bay, January 30, 1916.

On 28<sup>th</sup>/1/16 I received pay of 19s (about 19 M) for work done.

Yesterday at 10am, all (voluntary) workers went on strike to protest against the sudden transfer to Liverpool of a comrade who, at the last general assembly, had moved that the American consul be asked to visit in order to settle a few matters, among them the prices at

the canteen. As a consequence [of the strike] the commander, Lieutenant Eaton, immediately had the gates and the canteen locked so that now we can only move about in the courtyard.

[Note in Margin:] L 0/19

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He also had all lamps, cooking stoves and petroleum cans removed, we no longer get the newspapers or the mail and are not allowed to write. The turrets and alcoves along the prison walls are now manned by guards, and the wall is illuminated at night, which makes it look as if we had mutineered. Today the commander forbade us to speak German at the meetings, and no more than 12 people are allowed to gather. The kitchen staff, the woodcutters, the cleaners and the medics continue to work.

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Trial Bay, February 3, 1916.

Today, 94 internees arrived from Hong Kong and because no barracks were built during the strike, they have to sleep on the stone floor of the big dining hall. The strike continues; we have sent off a second letter to the American consul, signed by all. The commander does not want to negotiate with us until we resume work, and we first want to see the American consul here. Another 5 gentlemen were sent to Liverpool; the reserve officers and the pastors have

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shown their solidarity. We are now being escorted to the beach every day.

Trial Bay, February 13, 1916.

Thank God, the strike is over. Today the American vice-consul was here, listened to our complaints and promised to intervene on our behalf. In the afternoon, a general assembly was held and it was decided to resume work. Everything should revert back to how it was before the strike, only the newspapers will be withheld for the time being. It's not a very favourable outcome, but prisoners of war

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seem to have little choice, even if work is voluntary.

Trial Bay, February 15, 1916.

Today I received work pay of 10s (10 M).

Trial Bay, February 18, 1916.

Today I received an advance of £2 10s (about 50 M) from our Lloyd agent.

As far as mail is concerned, our weekly allowance is: 1 letter and 1 postcard within Australia plus 1 letter and a postcard overseas. Instead of the letter and the card overseas we can also write 3 postcards. We are allowed

[Note in Margin:] L 0/10/00 / K 2/10/00

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150 words per letter or card, just like in the Singapore camp. The letters sent within Australia have to be written in English; those overseas we can write in German.

Here we are not given any soap, whereas in Liverpool we received  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz a week.

We have to pay the kitchen staff, the dishwashers (bakery hands] and the medics ourselves, and that's 2s (2 M) per month. We might have had to pay more, but since November last year the cafeteria in the hallway is being run by the camp. The profits are being shared by the whole camp and

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some of it goes towards buying vegetables for everybody.

At the kiosk we can buy porridge for breakfast, 2d (16 Pf) a plateful, a cup of coffee costs 1d (8 Pf) and a cup of chocolate 2d (16 Pf), and they also sell non-alcoholic beverages, cigars, cigarettes etc.

At the moment there are about 500 men in the camp, about 30 reserve officers who are kept apart from us, and the rest are merchants and clerks from Colombo, Singapore, Hong Kong and Australia, and a few pastors and a priest, a few Buddhists, a few leading seamen from the

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"Emden" and about 70 ship's officers.

The wings A and B of the main building accommodate 254 men, 2 per cell, who really have the best deal. The reserve officers live in two peripheral buildings. Then there are a few who live in yet another stone building and for the others they have built wood barracks, or are still building them. The hospital is in a smaller stone building and the canteen is located outside the gaol walls. We now have a German doctor from Sydney, who used to be interned in Liverpool, as our camp doctor. (Dr. Herz)

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The parcel service in Australia is very tedious. 2 Christmas parcels that were sent from Melbourne on Dec. 21 to Liverpool didn't arrive here until February 20! From Germany to here delivery takes 2, 3 to 4 months. Many parcels are also being ransacked on the way or never make it here at all.

Trial Bay, February 29, 1916.

Today I received £2/10 (about 50 M) from our agent. Since the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month newspapers are allowed again, but we had none for a whole month. We are all very happy about it because we can keep track of the war's progress.

[Note in Margin:] K. £2/10

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5<sup>th</sup> of March, 1916.

The Australian government has granted us ship's officers in Trial Bay 2s (2 M) a week in pocket money and thus I received 22s today for the period from 5/12/15 to 19/2/16. (Will no longer be paid.) As for salary, I received 17s (17 M) today.

Yesterday we moved from the tent into the newly built barrack. It is .. *[figure missing]* m long, 2.75m wide, 2.6m high and divided in 7 units, 6 of them for 10 men each and one for 8 men. In the latter I live with Messrs E. Oppermann, E. Kreth, P. Bahn, D. Buthmann, G. Turm, W. Blesse and L. Alberding. Our unit (D3) is 6.4m long, the



[Note in Margin:] Tusch G. £1/02/00 / L. £0/17/00

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beds have to be stacked vertically so as to gain room for a table and chairs. The gaol wall serves as rear wall of the barrack, the front features a door and two wood-framed windows per unit, the floor is made from wood and the roof from corrugated iron.

12<sup>th</sup> of March, 1916.

Today I received £2/10 (about 50 M) from our agent. Trial Bay is a rather solitary place; the next railway station is Kempsey, 30 English miles away. 5 miles from here, at the Macleay River, is Jerseyville, a small village where once a week a steamship

[Note in Margin:] K. £2/10/00

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arrives from Sydney. Facing us at Trial Bay, about 3 English miles away, is a small resort called South West Rocks.

Our mail arrives per train via Kempsey, from where it is brought here by car. All foodstuffs bar meat come via steamship from Sydney.

Trial Bay, 18<sup>th</sup>/3/16.

Today I received a salary of 16s (16 M).

For a few weeks now, the gates have been opened already at 8am. Water distribution from 6.30am to 7.15am; bread distribution 7.15am; roll-call at 7.45am; breakfast 8am. Since a few days ago

[Note in Margin:] salary £0/16/00

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we are allowed only one letter a week to Europe and one to Australia.

28<sup>th</sup> March, 1916.

Today I was paid a salary of 11s (11 M).

26<sup>th</sup> April, 1916.

On April 1 I received 30s (30 M) from our agent.

From now on we are allowed to write two letters a week, regardless to where.

Yesterday I received 30s (30 M) from our agent.

2<sup>nd</sup> May, 1916.

Today I received 28s (28 M) in pay.

For carrying luggage 12s (12 M).

[Note in Margin:] salary £2/11/0 / comp. £3/10

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Trial Bay, June 4, 1916.

On 14<sup>th</sup>/5 I received a salary of 9s (9 M). On 1<sup>st</sup>/6 I received £2 (40 M) from our agent.

Today I received a salary of 12s (12 M). Since the beginning of April we no longer have water shortage, because after the rainy period in March the freshwater pipe, which is being fed from a dam about ½ hour from here, has been reactivated. During the summer the dam was empty, and we had to use the rain water gathered in tanks and other big containers.

In this area there are two rain seasons a year, in spring and autumn, but generally the weather is very nice and constant.

[Note in Margin:] salary £1/01/0 / comp. £2/00/00

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13<sup>th</sup> of June, 1916.

Today I received a salary of 12s (12 M).

Lately we have built two tennis courts in voluntary work. The commander provided the material for it. (At any rate, it will be paid from the canteen's profit, as all the barracks, etc were paid from it.) Our skittle club has built a ninepin alley, also with voluntary work and material provided free of charge. A theatre is also being built.

On 29<sup>th</sup> of June I received £2 (about 40 M) from Lloyd.

Salary on 7<sup>th</sup> of July [was] 14s (about 14 M).

[Note in Margin:] salary 1/6/ / comp £2

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Salary on 16<sup>th</sup> of July 18s (about 18 M)

Salary on 28<sup>th</sup> of July 21s (about 21 M)

From Lloyd on 2<sup>nd</sup> of August £2 (about 40 M)

On 14<sup>th</sup> of August salary 23s (about 23 M)

Salary on 29<sup>th</sup> August 22s (about 22 M)

On Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> of August, our newly built theatre was inaugurated. A song recital was organised that was very nice.

The theatre was built from timber and paid for by the government (canteen profit). But we had to come up with backdrops and sceneries and costumes ourselves. The theatre is 40m long and 8m wide and seats

[Note in Margin]: salary £4/4/0 comp. £2

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more than 250 people. Tickets are 1s, 6d, 3d and 1d. Every performance is repeated so that all camp inmates can see it. Variety shows alternate with comedies, two events a week. So far they played the following comedies: "Mr Senator", "Cider" and "Foundation Party".

Salary on 7<sup>th</sup> of September 22s (22 M).

From Lloyd on 7<sup>th</sup> of September £2 (about 40 M)

Trial Bay, September 15, 1916.

Since the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month the canteen is being run by us, and all profits go towards the camp. However, we had to take on all

[Note in Margin]: L. £1/2 [company] K. £2/

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outstanding debt which, as it turned out eventually, amounted to £193 (about 3860 M). But this will be paid off soon and then we can use all profits for the camp's benefit.

From now on, our daily rations will be cut significantly; they are now per man and day:

Meat	10 oz = 283g (283)
Bread	12 oz = 340g (340)
Potatoes and vegetables	8 oz = 226g
Milk	1/20 oz = 23g (or an equal amount of vegies)
Peas and beans	2 oz = 57g
Jam	2 oz = 57g
Sugar	2 oz = 57g
Coffee	3/4 oz = 21g
Tea	1/8 oz = 3,5g
Salt	1/2 oz = 14g
Pepper	1/72 oz = 1/4 g

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We also receive 150 oz (68kg) of flour per day and per ca. 500 men, which is being handled by the bakery cooperative, which bakes fresh cakes and bread rolls every day, as well as dark bread twice a week.

So far we have received:

Meat	20 oz	= 566g
Bread	1 oz	= 454g
Potatoes	1 oz	= 454g
Vegetables	1/2 oz	= 227g
Jam	3 3/8 oz	= 95g
Etc		

Since 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, there is only one roll-call a day, namely at 5.30pm. The gates are opened even before 7am.

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Money received in the period from 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1915 to 1<sup>st</sup> of September 1916. (18 months)

Pocket money from the Aust. government	Salary for work done	Advances from Nordd. Lloyd
£ 1/02/00	£ 3/16/	£ 4/00/00
£ / 8/	1/01/	2/

/16/	2/11/	3/
/ 8/	/16/	2/10/
/ 8/	/17/	2/10/
/ 8/	/10/	2/10/
/16/	/19/	1/10/
	/11/	1/10/
	1/03/	0/15/
	1/ 2/	/18/6
£ 4/ 6/00	£ 13/ 6/00	£ 21/ 3/6

Credit on 1 <sup>st</sup> of March 1915	30s	
Owing to Flocke		£2
“ “ Kamenz		14s/1½d
“ “ Bühler		2/
	-----	
		£ 4/ 6/1½
		4/ 6/00
		13/ 6/
		21/ 3/6
		-----
		£ 43/ 1/7½

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Total income	£ 43/ 1/7½
Balance on 1 <sup>st</sup> Sep 1916	<u>£ 19/15/00</u>
Total expenditure	£ 23/ 6/7½

Average monthly expenditure = 18) 466,6/ 25,9 = 25s 10d  
 About 25.90 M a month

On 4<sup>th</sup> of October I received a salary of 29/ (29 M).

Since October 10, roll-call is again twice daily, mornings and afternoon, because an inmate tried to escape. He was captured on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day not even 30 mile from here.

[Note in Margin:] salary 29/

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On 11<sup>th</sup> October I received an advance of £2 (40 M) from Lloyd.

On 19<sup>th</sup> October salary of 15/6 (15.50 M)

On 31<sup>st</sup> October salary of 15/6 (15.50 M)  
 and £ from Lloyd £2 (40 M).

Trial Bay, November 1, 1916.

A few days ago the new commander of all Australian prison camps, Colonel Holman, visited here. Upon our request for extension of the boundaries and for escorted walks, he informed us that we were shortly to be granted day parole and freedom of movement within a 2-mile

radius. They would also install an electricity generator to illuminate the camp and the barbed-wire

[Note in Margin:] salary 31/      company money £4

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fence that surrounds the camp area. Possibly the gaol gates will stay open at night and the guards will be trimmed back by 30 soldiers.

We are also to receive 100 new tin plates since the old ones are badly corroded.

Our mail will no longer be sent via the Liverpool camp, but directly to the censor in Sydney. The canteen debt we had to take on turned out to be higher, namely about £260, but the new commander said he would come up for £100.

Salary on 15<sup>th</sup> November of 15/6 (15.50 M)

Salary on 28<sup>th</sup> November of 15/6 (15.50 M)

On 6<sup>th</sup> of December, I received £2 from Lloyd.

[Note in Margin:] salary £1/11      company money £2

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Salary on 15<sup>th</sup> of Dec. 1916 15/6 (15.50 M)

On 18<sup>th</sup>/12 I received Christmas money from our agent Plate of £2 (40 M). From Lloyd I received £3 (about 60 M).

Trial Bay, December 25, 1916.

Our request for day parole within a 2-mile radius, which was supported by the new commander, has now been rejected in Melbourne.

The right to run the canteen ourselves was also rescinded, namely by the Military Garrison. The canteen will continue to be run along our principle and with our people, but all profits go the above-mentioned authority in Sydney, which has taken over

[Note in Margin]: salary 15/6    K. [company money] £5/-/-

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all the prison camp canteens and will do all the purchasing. Although they say that the profits will be used to our benefit, the authority has granted nothing in writing.

From today, the morning roll-call has been dropped again, so we have to muster just once, at 5.30pm.

For Christmas each was allowed to buy a bottle of red wine (2/6) and each received a little present in the value of 1/6.

The Christmas celebration was held on Christmas Day, because on Christmas Eve [which is when German and Austrian families often have their main Christmas celebration] one of our inmates died from blood poisoning and was buried on Christmas Day on the hill about 500m from the camp.

On 28<sup>th</sup> of December salary of 15/6 (15.50 M)

[Note in Margin:] salary 15/6

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On 10<sup>th</sup> of January 17 salary of 15/6 (15.50 M)

On 1<sup>st</sup> of January, the whole of Australia advanced the clocks by one hour to save daylight. This war-induced measure will be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> of October to 1<sup>st</sup> of April from now on. Our evening roll-call will now be at 6.30pm, and since 11<sup>th</sup> of February lights out is at 11pm.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 1917, we are being provided with flour only and bake our own bread. So now, instead of the usual dreary white bread, we have high-quality German bread, including rye and light rye.

On the 7<sup>th</sup>/2/17 I received £2/10/ from Lloyd, about 50 Mark.

[Note in Margin]: L. 15/6     K. £2/10/

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Salary on 17<sup>th</sup>/2/17 of £ 2/6/6

I received £3/-/- from N.D. Lloyd {*Norddeutsche Lloyd Company*} on 7<sup>th</sup>/3/17

Salary on 13<sup>th</sup>/3/17 of 15/6

On 19<sup>th</sup>/3/17 the delivery of newspapers was stopped at the orders of the Defence Department in Melbourne, or so we were told. Maybe it was also because of the good news, the revolution in Russia, which has greatly perturbed the people in Australia.

On 23<sup>rd</sup>/3/17, newspapers were permitted again upon our request.

Salary on 22<sup>nd</sup>/3/17 of 15/6

From Lloyd on 1<sup>st</sup>/4/17: £3

[Note in Margin]: L. £3/17/6     K. £6/-/-

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Trial Bay, April 3, 1917.

Today our boundaries were extended, we now also have the slope of the hill south-east of the camp. Our previous territory had a [circumference?] of about 1,5km, or about 14 hectares.

The additional area has a circumference of 1km, or 6-7ha. The highest point we can now access is about 65m above sea level, so we now have the most magnificent view of the sea and the bay.

On 25<sup>th</sup>/3/17 the clocks were turned back an hour and roll-call is again at 5.30pm, and lights out at 10pm.

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Salary of 15/6 on 5<sup>th</sup>/4/17

Salary of 15/6 on 29<sup>th</sup>/4/17

Received from N.D. Lloyd on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 1917: £3

Salary of 15/6 on 7<sup>th</sup>/5/17

A few days ago we were given permission to send 2 postcards a week on top of the 2 letters. But then, after a few weeks, a new order was given that any card that contains more than an address and a sender is to be considered a letter. Hence correspondence has been reduced to the old status since nobody in their right mind would send a postcard with just an address and sender.

[Note in Margin:] L. £2/6/6 K. £ 3/-/-

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Salary of 15/6 on 19<sup>th</sup>/5/17

Evening roll-call is now at 5.15pm because it's getting dark earlier now.

I received £3 from N.D. Lloyd on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1917

Salary of 15/6 on 6<sup>th</sup>/6/17

Trial Bay, June 11, 1917.

Since yesterday, correspondence with inmates of other camps in Australia is prohibited. Exceptions can only be granted by the commander.

Today, Mr Plate, the N.D. Lloyd agent who is interned here, received

[Note in Margin:] salary £ 1/11/- comp. £3

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a letter from Shanghai stating that married ship's officers are to get only 60% of their wages from now on, and unmarried ship's officers only 25%.

On 6<sup>th</sup> of June, 1917, all internees were photographed on Australian government orders. Each received a number that he had to hold in front of him while being photographed.

Salary of 15/6 on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1917.

22<sup>nd</sup> of June, 1917.

Today we had a very tragic accident. While swimming, our company leader, Arno Friedrich, was swept away by a receding wave and carried far into the ocean. Although the incident was noticed immediately,

[Note in Margin:] salary 15/6

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the choppy waves and a fierce wind stymied all rescue attempts. Several comrades tried to swim out with a long life rope but were constantly thrown back by the strong surf. Within 30

minutes Friedrich was so far out to sea, we could not see him anymore. In the meantime, a few comrades had offered to go out in a fishing boat and, after lengthy hesitation, even got the nod from the commander. The fisherman lives about 1km from where the accident happened, and by the time the boat finally materialised, 1½ hours had elapsed and there was no trace left of the victim. The boat even went out to a steamship anchored in the bay,

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but the crew hadn't seen anything, hadn't even noticed the accident and the huge crowd. In the choppy sea, Friedrich, who was not a good swimmer, would not have kept above water for very long and drowned. The sea has never returned his body, so maybe he also fell prey to sharks.

Our canteen has a monthly turnover of between £1500 and £1800, and given the exorbitant prices, they must make good profits. All goods that are not bought at the canteen attract a surtax of 5% payable to the canteen.

Our kitchen, which prepares the food for almost 500 men, receives a subsidy

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of about £100 (to £200) a month from the camp coffers for meat, vegetables etc. This subsidy consists partly of a share of canteen profits, partly of cooperative money, and the rest comes from monthly contributions of 1s per man.

One can see how much money is being spent by the camp inmates from the fact that the monthly bank withdrawals total more than £1000, that the government pays about £ ... [amount at first missing, then thinly pencilled in: 150], and many receive their money in registered mail. The camp now counts about ... [figure missing] members.

Salary of 15/6 on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 1917

Company money of £3 on 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1917.

[Note in Margin:] L. 15/6    K. £3/-/-

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When we went to the beach early on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July we discovered a huge whale trapped on a sandbank near our beach because of the low tide. Soon the whole camp had gathered at the beach and was debating how best to kill the animal. A few of the guards came along with their rifles and shot at the whale, but that made little impression. When the water was at its lowest, a few strong comrades approached the whale with a harpoon and began boring into it with the result that the whale died after prolonged agony. All around, the knee-deep water

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was stained blood red. They then wrapped a rope around its fin and when the rope broke, a chain, and began tugging with all their combined might. But the colossus wouldn't budge, so we waited until the afternoon and the return of the high tide to tow him ashore, which we finally managed after much effort. The next day we began skinning the whale, because we wanted to get to the blubber, which was about 15 to 20cm thick, so we could boil it and sell the thus produced fish oil.



After harvesting the blubber we began to cut up the colossal carcass and the innards and take them out to sea in a boat; but we never finished the job because after a few days, the decomposing heap

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began to stink so horribly that nobody wanted to work on it anymore. Thus we began dragging along enough wood to burn the carcass, which took us about 14 days. The whale was about 16m long, its widest diameter was about 2m, and the fin was about 3m wide.

The whalebone is to be sold as well, but here in Australia it might be hard to find buyers for it.

For the first two days the event brought a welcome diversion to the monotony of our camp life, but then the reek from the carcass became so overpowering that we could smell it through the whole camp. Also, the blood and the pieces of whale meat in the water attracted so many sharks that swimming became virtually impossible.

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The fisherman who lives nearby has caught 8 to 10 sharks with his rod in the ensuing weeks, and we did too one morning. The sharks occasionally came to within 1m of the shore, but all attempts to spear them failed.

Some comrades have finally received the nod from the commander to buy a fishing boat. The boat arrived on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, two days after comrade Friedrich drowned.

Salary of 15/6 on 20<sup>th</sup>/7/17

Salary of 15/6 on 28<sup>th</sup>/7/17

Received from Lloyd on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1917: £3

[Note in Margin:] salary £1/11/ comp. £3

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On the 29<sup>th</sup> of July, Mr Plate (chief agent of Nordd. Lloyd) summoned us ship's officers and told us that the funds for our support would run out by Christmas and that a timely securing of new funds was doubtful, although he had advised Bremen by telegram and by letter. Since many of us are earning money here and some reserve officers have received fairly large sums of arrears from the government, Mr Plate asked us to agree to a reduction in our subsidy so that the funds would last a bit longer for the people in Liverpool and Berrima, who have no opportunity to earn money. The request was generally accepted, and so I now take just £1 a month.

The Lloyd crews in Liverpool now receive a subsidy of £1 a month.

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The substantial amount of fish oil that we harvested from the whale's blubber with such effort and at great cost isn't wanted anywhere in Australia and hence has to be destroyed because it, too, has begun to stink. There are no buyers for the baleen (whalebone) either, so the whole whale affair has turned into a huge fiasco and cost the camp a tidy sum.

Salary of 16s on 19<sup>th</sup>/8/17

On the same day I received from Lloyd £3 for September, October, November.

Salary of £1/12/- on 18<sup>th</sup>/9/17  
From Lloyd on 4<sup>th</sup>/9/17 (for August) £1/-/-

Sep 1917. The gates now open at 6am and close at 6pm; roll-call is at 6pm.

[Note in Margin:] salary £2/8/- comp. £1/-/-

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Salary of £1/12/- on 19<sup>th</sup>/10/17

Trial Bay, October 23, 1917.

From Lloyd I received £1/-/- for the month of December.

Today we inaugurated the engineers' school for a 1<sup>st</sup> form class with a little celebration. The director of the school is Dr Pupke (from the German-Australian Steamship Company), the teachers are Messrs Klock, Dr Defregger, Dr Jacob, Engineer Mewes, Engineer Butzmühlen, Engineer Loeblein and ship's engineer Zinnius. Eleven gentlemen will attend the class plus 6 will sit in for some lectures. Fittig, Maskow, Macfarlane, E. Meier, Conrad H. Bade, J. Jessen, Stehl, Aden, H. Hegerhorst, J. Meentzen.

Those sitting in are: C. Baur, F. Meier, Mencke, A. Schlesinger, H. Martens.

The school building has been financed by students and teachers alike, the canvas for the roof was

[Note in Margin:] salary £1/12/- comp. £1/-/-

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donated by Mr Plate. The school building is about .. [figure missing] long, .. [figure missing] wide and 3m high, built by the students themselves. The costs for the materials amount to 500-600 Mark.

Salary of £1/12/- on 26<sup>th</sup>/10/17

19<sup>th</sup> of November 1917.

Salary of 16s

I was issued the following pieces of apparel by the government: shirt, trousers, hat, towel and a pair of shoes. In January 1917 I received: shirt, towel, hat, ~~woollen jacket~~, in April 1917 I received: trousers, shoes and sweater.

On December 16, 1917, Mr Plate summoned us Lloyd ship's officers and informed us that married officers were to get the full wages for the duration of the war and the unmarried ones 25%. We had to undertake that if

[Note in Margin:] salary £2/8/-

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the monthly subsidy were to be greater than 25% of our wages, we would have to repay the difference at the end of the war.

From Lloyd on 20<sup>th</sup>/12/17: £2/-/-  
(£1 for Christmas, £1 for December).

Christmas 1917 was a rather dismal affair; although we had a Christmas tree and a concert, there was no celebratory mood. This time we were not allowed any wine or beer.

I received £2 from Lloyd on 29<sup>th</sup>/1/18 (month of January).

I am given £2 (40M) a month again because I'm attending school and cannot earn extra money.

From mid-January to the end of February 1918 evening roll-call was not until 7pm.

[Note in Margin:] comp. £4/-/-

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The gates stayed open until 7pm.

Income in the period from September 1, 1916, to March 1, 1918 (18 months)

<u>Monthly subsidy from Lloyd</u>	<u>Salary</u>
£ 2/ -/-	£ 1/ 2/-
4/ -/-	1/ 9/-
2/ -/-	1/11/-
5/ -/-	1/11/-
2/10/40-	-/15/6
6/ -/-	-/15/6
3/ -/-	-/15/6
3/ -/-	3/17/6
3/ -/-	2/ 6/6
3/ -/-	1/11/-
3/ -/-	-/15/6
1/ -/-	-/15/6
1/ -/-	1/11/-
4/ -/-	2/ 8/-
£ 42/10/-	1/12/-
	<u>2/ 8/-</u>
	£ 25/ 4/6

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Income	1354/6
+ balance on 1 <sup>st</sup> /9/16	<u>395s</u>
- balance on 1 <sup>st</sup> /3/18	841,5s
monthly expenditure =	<u>841,5</u> = 46,75s
	18 =====

Company money on 5<sup>th</sup> March 18 (for February): £2

On 27<sup>th</sup>/3/18 I was issued by the Aust. govt. 1 shirt, 1 pair of trousers, 1 hat, 1 jumper and a towel.

Company money on 31<sup>st</sup>/3/18: £1  
“ “ 9<sup>th</sup>/4/18: £1 (for March)

Company money on 29<sup>th</sup>/4/18 (for April): £2

[Note in Margin:] comp. £6

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On May 18, 1918, at 9am, we were ordered to pack all our things, the camp will be dismantled, and the following morning at 9am we have to be ready for departure. Destination unknown, everybody has to take along a day's ration.

The news hit us like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, because nobody had thought they would transfer us to a new camp before armistice, where we would have to start from scratch and rebuild all the many little amenities. We have to abandon hundreds of beach huts, the theatre, the engineers' school, the one year old school, etc of a value of many thousands of marks. At a short 24 hours' notice we did not manage to pack up everything, so many of the beach hut owners burned their huts down

[Note in Margin across this and the opposite page: Upon our departure from Trial Bay the Australian cruiser "Brisbane" lay at anchor in the bay]

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in frustration and also so as not to leave anything in the hands of the Australians. The gymnastic club only took along the movable objects.

Blankets and hand luggage will be transported alongside us, whereas the larger luggage is being stowed in the hall and will be transported later on. About 25 men stay back for that job.

We marched off on May 19, 1918 (Whitsunday) at 9am to Jerseyville, the pier on the Macleay River (about 8km from here), where we arrived at 11am and right away boarded 4 small river steamers (2 propeller steamers and 2 stern wheelers). Our hand luggage and the bed linen, which had been brought by car, was stowed on the 2 stern wheelers, and at noon we took off from Jerseyville towards Kempsey, about 35km upriver.

Arriving at Kempsey at 4pm, we disembarked right away and marched off to the train station, where 2 chartered trains were awaiting us. The luggage was handled by a few volunteers. While marching through the streets of Jerseyville and Kempsey (about 6000 inhabitants) we found the locals a bit frosty-looking, but they didn't bother us in the least. I departed Kempsey on the first train at 5pm. Eight of us shared a 2<sup>nd</sup>-class compartment (Australia only has 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class) and had plenty of room. We passed Telegraph Point at 5.50pm, Wauchope at 6.22pm, Kendall at 6.50pm, Coopernook at 7.35pm.

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Taree at 8.10pm, Gloucester at 10.30pm, Duncoe at 11.50pm, Wallarobba at 12.10am (20<sup>th</sup>/5/18), Newcastle at 2am, Gosford at 3.45am, Cowan at 4.45am, Ryde at 5.20am, Granville at 5.55am, Liverpool at 6.05am, and then proceeded on a secondary track that had been built by German prisoners directly to the German concentration camp Holdsworthy where we arrived at 6.35am on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

We were then subjected to a body search during which they confiscated all papers, letters, documents (and even toilet paper) to have them censored. Many had to strip down to their undershirt, socks and seams were all searched. Then we were escorted to the camp and

given a breakfast of grits and coffee. Since most of us had had very little to eat during the trip and nothing could be bought anywhere, the food tasted rather good.

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Our camp, which is part of the main camp but with newly built barracks, was cordoned off with a double barbed-wire fence the day before our arrival. On both sides of the fence guards are posted and any kind of communication across the fence is prohibited and punishable with 1 to 3 days' gaol. Quite outrageous really – you have friends and acquaintances over there and can't even nod or speak to them!

Our barracks, like those in the main camp, are long and narrow structures, no walls on the northern (sun-exposed) end and only a canvas curtain for protection. But since in Australia nothing ever gets done or delivered in time, almost all the curtains are still missing,

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and so we are living pretty much in the open. Yet at this time of year, the temperatures sharply drop at night, to almost 0 degrees, whereas during the day it's 20-24°C. The once unbearable dust problem in the Liverpool camp has been fairly eliminated by bituminising the ground. The kitchen and the sanitary installations are quite okay. The barracks have iron bunk beds, stacked three high, so we no longer have to sleep on the floor.

We are not supposed to stay in this camp very long, by the way, because they are building a new camp 500m to the east of here (when we arrived they had just begun!), with barracks (and units of 4 men each), 3 dining halls, theatre, gym, school, bandstand and sporting grounds.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of Mai, 1918, our main

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luggage arrived, which was thoroughly searched. They confiscated the petroleum and gas cookers and all tools. Unbelievable people, these Australians! One can get all sorts of tools from the canteen, but when you bring some from one camp to another, it all gets confiscated! You can buy timber and nails here but have no tools to build tables or benches!

It's very boring here; during the day it's reasonably warm, but at night we're sitting here in the open barracks, dressed in winter gear and still trembling like lapdogs from the cold. Next door in the main camp they have a theatre, a cinema, a roller-skating rink, cafes, etc but all unreachable for us, hell, we can't even talk with our own countrymen!

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Company money of £2 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 1918.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 1918, they gave me back the documents and photos that had been confiscated.

We had to leave behind our vegetable garden in Trial Bay, which had just begun to yield good crops. There was a sarcastic little note about it in the Sydney newspaper "Sun" of 9<sup>th</sup>/6/1918:

[original in English] Germans help Soldiers

The German Concentration Camp at Trial Bay has been closed, and the Germans have left behind them a vegetable garden of considerable value. The Germans have spent nearly £1000 on it, and it is set out on scientific lines containing cement pits, trenching & so on, and is now chock full of seedlings and plants."

[Note in Margin:] K. £2/-/-

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Of all the kiosks and huts in Trial Bay, as well as the vegetable garden, we were not allowed to sell anything; the Australian government even owed the camp £300 worth of rations...

24<sup>th</sup> of June, 1918. There is a lot of feverish commotion in the camp because of constant rumours that we are to be exchanged. Negotiations about the exchange of prisoners are in full swing in The Hague, and we have reasonable hope to be included [in such a program] but it may well take some time. 700 men are to be shipped home in the foreseeable future.

The barracks in the new camp are almost finished, but they have stopped work on it, presumably over a dispute

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with the Labor Unions (trade unions), which won't allow that the camp be built by lowly paid prisoners.

Company money of £4 for June and July on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 1918.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 1918, I received a pair of boots and a shirt from the Aust. government.

Having waited in vain for the longest time to see the new camp built, we were finally able to relocate on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 1918. We were allowed to go back and forth all day between the interim camp and the new one and had to move most of our belongings ourselves. Only the heavy luggage was transported by car. The weather was rather wet and the soil soggy,

[Note in Margin:] comp. £4

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so we constantly sank deep into the soft ground. Still, we were happy to move into the new camp and be able to make ourselves at home again.

The camp itself (Eastern Compound) measures about 200 sq m [*which seems small, but it's not clear if the diarist means 200m x 200m*], and there is also a recreational and sports ground, 200m long and 100m wide, which is open during the day. The camp contains 13 residential barracks, 2 of which have their own mess and are for the reserve officers; the other barracks are subdivided into 12 units for 4 men each, and there is a mess for the company leader.

Each unit is 3.40m long and 2.70m wide and contains 4 iron bunk beds, two atop each other.

Not far from the gate is the canteen, and the same building also houses the cooperative, which sells coffee, beer and cakes and where our orchestra holds its concerts. They have also

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installed a kitchen, so we can order food à la carte. But space in this so-called "Duck Coop" is rather cramped.

Further along the western fence is the well-appointed general mess, and at a decent distance is the bathhouse with 9 showerheads and a whole number of wooden washbasins with a faucet each. The same complex also houses the lavatory.

Between kitchen and barracks are 3 spacious dining halls. However, they have only one 2m wall on the southern end. The top two halls, furnished with tables and benches, are at everyone's disposal for dining, reading, etc, whereas the bottom hall is for the reserve officers and part of it serves as a storage room for luggage; it also accommodates the camp library.

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On August 13, I broke a bone in the right forearm while exercising [on the horizontal bars]: swing to gain momentum, wrist turn to the right and jumping off in forward swing. On landing, I stumbled and fell backward onto my right arm, which broke from the impact on the hard floor. We had not yet been able in the short time to build a sand pit.

Dr Herz applied a first-aid dressing and I then went over to the camp hospital, where Major (Dr) Walley put my arm in a splint. After a sleepless night Dr Walley took off the splint, whereupon we discovered that a band-aid had caused a gigantic boil. The splint was put back in place and henceforth the dressing was changed every 2-3 days.

The camp hospital consists of 4 wards with 10 beds each plus a number of tents and is fenced in. The food

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is quite good and so is the treatment. In each ward there are 2 orderlies. Every Wednesday is visiting day, but one can only have one visitor at a time. Visitors from the main camp come Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Sunday I could visit the camp.

On Aug. 27, 1918, I was sent to Sydney to have my arm X-rayed. At about 10am, escorted by a soldier, I was brought to Liverpool train station by ambulance. Arriving around noon in Sydney, we took the tram to the Garrison Hospital in Victoria Barracks, Oxford St., Paddington, where we reported to the physician. But the X-rays could only be done at the large military hospital in Randwick, to where we were to be brought by ambulance at 1.30pm, and so we had some time left to have lunch in a restaurant.

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At 2pm we arrived in Randwick and 2 X-rays were taken without having to remove the bandage. Back at the Garrison Hospital we had to report back to the physician, and then slowly made our way to the train station, where we left for Liverpool at 5.10pm. From Liverpool train station a car drove us back to the camp and the hospital.

On 29<sup>th</sup>/8, that's two days later, I was sent back to Sydney and was admitted to the Garrison Hospital because the X-rays had shown that the bone was not healing properly. Around 3pm I was led to Ward 2, where I was issued pyjamas, a shirt and shoes. I was told to have a bath and get into bed (bed No. 10). All civilian clothes

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were taken off me for the duration of my hospital stay. The physician, Captain MacInnes, soon came by and informed me that I was to be operated on the next day, as he wanted to secure the bone with wire. He noted on my patient record: [English quote] "Fracture of right radius, X-ray photo shows malposition of right radius and fragments" [note in parenthesis is in a very different, older-style handwriting, translating the English quote back into German]

The nurse had me take some castor oil and began to prepare my arm. It became evident that an abscess, the one caused by the band-aid on the very first day, had not healed properly. Hence surgery was postponed by 5 days, to Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup>/9/1918. On Tuesday morning I was woken at 5 o'clock, was given a cup of hot milk and an enema and was told that I would be operated on

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that same morning. My protest went unheeded, but afterwards the day nurse told me that there had been a misunderstanding and that I was indeed to be operated on the following day.

In the afternoon I was given again a glass of castor oil and my arm was shaved and washed with ether. In the evening I was told to have a bath and put on clean underwear. On Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup>/9/1918, at 4.30am I was given a bowl of porridge and afterwards an enema. I received no further breakfast and at 10 minutes to 9am I was brought into the operating theatre. After about 10 minutes' wait on the operating table, Dr MacInnes came in, checked my heart and then put the [anaesthesia] mask (a mix of ether and chloroform) on my face, telling me to breathe fast and deep. The smell was so repulsively sweet I began coughing. But then I managed to breathe fast and deep. After a few inhalations my head began to rush, my heart started palpitating

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faster and faster – and off I was! It all lasted just seconds. The first thing I noticed when I came to was that my mouth was full of saliva and that I seemed to be tied fast, but after spitting a few times, I began to feel better.

When I first managed to read the clock it was 11.30am, so I had been anaesthetised for 2½ hours. Surgery took more than an hour, as I was told later on, and was done by the head physician, Lieutenant-Colonel Crawford Robertson, and Captain MacInnes. They screwed a steel plate onto my bone (see drawing [this again is in a different handwriting, as is the caption that accompanies the drawing]).

[sketch of a steel plate and a screw, the caption reads:] steel plate, blue. 3 or 4 screws.

Once fully awake, I felt like newborn. My arm was tightly splinted and lay in a sling on a pillow. I was not in a great deal of pain, and

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the taste of ether and chloroform in my mouth slowly dissipated. At 4pm I already received a proper meal. When I began to feel more pain in the evening, I was given a morphine injection and slept pretty much right through. The pain was strongest on the day after the operation, but in the evening they began to let up and on the following day I was already up and about again.

Thus I was bedridden for just 2 days, and the Australian soldier next to me (Rudder) really looked after me during that time, anticipating my every need. In general, the soldiers who shared my ward were very decent and courteous towards me. The treatment by the doctors, nurses and orderlies was very good, one was treated just as well as the Tommies. (Sister[s] Sinclair, MacNamara, Lowie; privates Whatmore, Pyke, Thew, Callow, Carrol)

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There were 11 beds in the ward. A nurse supervised it, and 1 or 2 orderlies attended to the basics. On the porch there was always a guard from the Garrison Military Police to keep



watch over the Germans in the hospital. Every week an officer came and asked us Germans if we had any complaints.

The food was okay; at 8am we had porridge, 2 slices of bread with butter, and tea; at noon we had broth, meat with potatoes and vegetables, and a dessert; at 4pm we had 2 slices of bread with butter, 1 egg and tea, plus during the week and courtesy of the Red Cross we received 1 sandwich, 1 scone and a piece of cake. At 7pm we made ourselves tea or chocolate and most of the times also had cake or bread with it. The Tommies often received sweets and fruit, etc from their relatives and liberally shared it with me.

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Four days after the operation they took off the bandage; the wound still festered a bit, but only for 2 days. After 10 days they removed the stitches; there were 9 horsehair stitches, and the cut was 10cm long. On Sep. 19 the physician, Dr Brown (Captain), removed one splint and prescribed massages. From now on my arm was massaged every day for half an hour. On 24<sup>th</sup>/9/18 the other splint and the remaining bandages were removed, the physician was very pleased with the healing process, he even said it was the greatest success of his practice. On September 28, 1918, I was discharged from the hospital and brought back to the camp.

P.S. The crockery in the hospital was less than satisfactory. The enamel plates were washed in the kitchen and, with one exception, were always clean, but the enamel cups were *[the postscript continues on the bottom of p129]* chipped and some had lost their handle. They, as well as the cutlery, were washed by the orderly in an adjacent room and were hardly ever clean. The same tap also served to rinse out the bedpans.

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On 12<sup>th</sup> of August I was issued 2 pairs of woollen socks by the Aust. government.

On Aug. 23, 1918, I received £2 from Lloyd for the month of August

On Sep 20, 1918, £2 from Lloyd (Sep)

On Oct. 16, 1918, I received £2 from Lloyd for October.

On Nov. 16, 1918, I received £2 from Lloyd for November

In early November I was issued a jacket, a pair of trousers and a towel by the Aust. government.

[Note in Margin: comp. £8]

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Since mid-August 1918 we have a cinema in the camp. The projector was installed in the upper dining hall, and movies are shown on 3 to 4 evenings a week.

They also started to build a theatre, but because the war seems to be drawing to a close, construction was abandoned. Only the auditorium was finished and the film projector was relocated there.

In early October 1918, Bulgaria concluded a ceasefire with the Allies. The Turks and Austria-Hungary followed suit by the end of October. Germany, faced with an overwhelming majority, had no choice but to do the same.

On November 11, armistice between Germany and the Allies began, and

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the conditions were brutal for us: surrendering the fleet, vacating the territories left of the Rhine, releasing the prisoners (unilaterally), etc. The German emperor had to abdicate and fled to Holland – all very depressing news, we could hardly fathom how our situation had deteriorated so badly in just a few months.

But at least there is hope now that our captivity will soon end. It may yet take a few months but the moment of freedom is bound to arrive for us, too.

On 10<sup>th</sup>/12/18 I was issued a pair of (used) shoes and 1 cap by the Aust. govt.

On 13<sup>th</sup>/12/18 I received £3/10 from Lloyd (£2/10 for December and £1 for Christmas).

[Note in Margin: comp. m. £3/10/- ]

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Just before Christmas 8 Germans (naturalised Australians) were released from this camp, as were a number from the main camp.

The majority of us is bound to be stuck here until March or April 1919, and despite the armistice our circumstances have not changed a bit.

It's the dust storms that rage here almost every second or third day that make our lives hell. You can't find shelter from them, and in the evening you're as dirty as a Moor; you wash it all off but next day it's the same again. It's a wonder that one stays healthy considering all the dust we inhale. The dust is inevitable; because so many men are locked up in a small space, the soil is constantly

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kicked loose, resulting in fine dust that is being swept up by the frequent heavy gusts and transformed into thick dust clouds that swirl through the camp. The barracks offer no protection as the dust seeps through anything.

Christmas 1918 has passed without celebration; we spent both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve in the movie theatre, you could hardly hear a toast to the new year, even though we expect so much from 1919, as it should bring us the long-anticipated freedom.

My right arm is slowly getting stronger and I can cautiously resume gymnastics. It did take a long time, however, to get to this stage, and for a long time I could clearly feel a cracking at the point of fracture.

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On 3<sup>rd</sup>/1/1919, I weighed (wearing shirt and pants) 139 English pounds (which equals 63kg or 126 oz.)

On 10<sup>th</sup>/1/1919, I received £2/10/- from Lloyd for the month of January.

On 23<sup>rd</sup>/1/1919, I was issued 2 pairs of socks and 1 shirt by the government.

In mid-January we learned from the newspapers that the English government no longer deemed it necessary to detain German civilian prisoner and was to start their repatriation from England on January 6, 1919; those unfit for service and elderly civilians reportedly had been shipped home already in December.

Here only a few naturalised Germans have been released. The Australian newspapers are campaigning

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for the forceful repatriation of all Germans, whether naturalised or not, and there is also fierce protest against the release of Germans.

At the end of January 1919, the newspapers reported that the repatriation of the Germans interned in Australia was to begin in early February. From what we hear, all Allied prisoners in Germany have already been sent home, whereas the release of the imprisoned Germans hasn't even begun.

12<sup>th</sup> of February, 1919.

At the end of last month, the Spanish influenza (flu) (epidemic lung infection), which in the second half of 1918 ravaged almost every country on this earth, claiming countless lives,

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erupted in Australia as well. Because Australian ports imposed quarantine on all ships arriving from infected countries, the influenza had been successfully kept away from Australia, until it finally found its way into Melbourne and took hold.

The authorities there tried to cover up the resulting cases, until some people got sick in Sydney, at the end of January 1919, who had been in Melbourne before.

The government of New South Wales immediately took drastic action to nip the epidemic in the bud. The borders were closed and in Sydney they imposed the wearing of facemasks and isolated all patients. Everybody in the streets and on the trams and trains had to wear a mask over nose and mouth to protect against

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the influenza bacteria.

Until 1<sup>st</sup> of March (about 6 weeks) Victoria had 7943 influenza cases, 494 of which were deadly; in NSW, there were 296 cases and 13 deaths.

The prison camps here in Holdsworthy have been isolated as special quarantine area and until now (2<sup>nd</sup> of March) nobody has contracted the flu.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of March, the order to wear masks was rescinded and all theatres, nightclubs, cinemas, churches and taverns, which had been closed for 5 weeks, were reopened ([this in different handwriting] the number of illnesses grew right away).

On 14<sup>th</sup> Feb, 1919, I received £2/10/- from Nordd. Lloyd (for month of Feb)

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Income and expenses from March 1, 1918 to March 1, 1919 (12 months)

Income		£ 28/10/- (from Lloyd)
	or	570s
Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> /3/18		<u>908s</u>
		1478s

Balance 1 <sup>st</sup> /3/19		<u>863s</u>
Total expenses		615 shillings in 12 mos.

Or monthly: 615 : 12 = 51,25s  
 =====

In the 4 years behind barbed wire (1<sup>st</sup>/3/1915 to 1<sup>st</sup>/3/1919) I have spent 1923.1s or £96/3/1, which amounts to 40s or £2 a month.

During the same time I received from Nordd. Lloyd £91/5/- in support money (+ 18s 6d from Pfaff) (Melbourne agency). From Nordd. Lloyd's Melbourne agent I received £6/-/- at the outset of war.

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On March 6, 1919 I received £2/10/- from Nordd. Lloyd (for the month of March)

On April 14, 1919 I received £2/10/- from Nordd. Lloyd (for the month of April)

As we learned from the newspapers in early April, England has already repatriated 26,000 German civilian prisoners. 5000 are still in England, 4000 of which want to remain there.

On 6<sup>th</sup> of May I received £2/10/- from Nordd. Lloyd (for the month of May)

On May 19, 1919, I received £2/10/- from Nordd. Lloyd (for the month of June)

Holdsworthy, 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 1919.  
 They finally intend to begin repatriating us, and

[Note in Margin:] comp. £10/-/-

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are making the necessary preparations. All Germans transported here from Ceylon, Singapore, Hong Kong, Borneo, etc will be sent back to Germany. Of the Germans interned here in Australia, only those who were born here and have an Australian wife are allowed to stay. The Germans who came from New Guinea and the former German protectorates have to remain here until it is decided whether they can go back there or not.

Each internee has a luggage allowance of 84 English lbs, plus hand luggage. The vast majority of us have substantially more luggage, however. The excess luggage we have to have shipped to Rotterdam through a company, which costs us 30 shillings per 112 Engl. lbs (about 50kg).

For everybody, there is compulsory vaccination against

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the Spanish influenza. I was vaccinated twice, on 12<sup>th</sup>/5 and 17<sup>th</sup>/5/19.

On 15<sup>th</sup>/5/19 the steamship Willochra (8500t) left Wellington, New Zealand, with about 400 German civilian prisoners on board. It will stop in Sydney and take on 800 to 900 men from here.

The majority in our camp are to leave on the 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> of the month aboard the steamship "Kursk" (8900t), which is lying at anchor in Sydney right now.

[end of diary]

Copies of pages removed from diary by Friedrich Meier in 1915

[Page 1]

1<sup>st</sup> October 1914 relocated to Kistnerstr. 37 <sup>II</sup> [the <sup>II</sup> possibly standing for 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, or else 2<sup>nd</sup> district]

1<sup>st</sup> October 1915 relocated to Rutenbergstr. 25 <sup>I</sup>

Willi Heinrich Simon Meyer jr. born 4<sup>th</sup> April 1915

Adolf: in the first half-year of the war was an assistant on [indecipherable], then on the steamship "Amisia", shipping company Seefahrt & Ostseefahrt. Nov. 1915 until 1<sup>st</sup> June at Lloyd as lathe-operator. From 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1916 trained for the navy in Wilhelmshaven. Stoker on HMS Schwaben, then at [indecipherable] in Oldenburg.

Hermann: Easter 1913 mechanical engineer at Lloyd. On 21<sup>st</sup> Jan. 1917 conscripted into the infantry, trained in Lübeck. Since 8<sup>th</sup> March in Belgium.

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 1866 my father began work at Norddeutsche Lloyd. Willi married on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1911.

2 x 50 M : D 2098437; A 2475081

100 M : G 6108426

Souvenir album: J. Jebsen, Apenrade

A. Lembach, Berlin Westend, [indecipherable street address] No. 5

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[Sketch of a small house, presumably one of the beach huts mentioned in the Meier diary, featuring a door, two windows, a sliding gable-window and a chimney. An annex seems to have been built around a tree. The captions read:]

Owners and builders: W. Kamenz; E. Kreth; F. Meier

Roof: corrugated iron. Framework: tree logs. Walls: bush covered with loam.

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On 22<sup>nd</sup>/9/14 Letter to Willi

In Oct [19]14 2 letters to Willi (letter to Assmann)

On 21<sup>st</sup>/12/14 Letter from Willi

On 22<sup>nd</sup>/12/14 Letter to Willi

On 28<sup>th</sup>/12/14 Letter to my parents (via Switzerland)

On 16<sup>th</sup>/1/15 Card from my parents (via Denmark)

On 17<sup>th</sup>/1/15 Letter to my parents (via Denmark)

On 27<sup>th</sup>/1/15 Card from my parents (via Denmark)  
 On 28<sup>th</sup>/1/15 Letter to Willi Schnitker  
 On 30<sup>th</sup>/1/15 Letter to my parents (via Switzerland)  
 On 2<sup>nd</sup>/2/15 Card to Kedenburg (N.Y.)  
 On 5<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Letter to Flocke (Boston)  
 On 5<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Card to J.E. N.Y.  
 On 12<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Letter from T. Assmann  
 On 14<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Letter to T. Assmann  
 On 15<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Letter from Willi  
 and Card to Willi  
 On 27<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Letters to Willi and parents  
 On 10<sup>th</sup>/3/15 Card from Mother  
 On 11<sup>th</sup>/3/15 Letter to Willi  
 On 14<sup>th</sup>/3/15 Letter to parents (via Switzerland)  
 On 14<sup>th</sup>/2/15 Card to W. Schnitker (Boston)  
 On 20<sup>th</sup>/3/15 Letter from W. Schnitker

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On 21<sup>st</sup>/3/15 Letter to W. Schnitker (Boston)  
 On 28<sup>th</sup>/3/15 Letter to parents (via Denmark)  
 On 1<sup>st</sup>/4/15 Letter to H. Onken (Switzerland)  
 On 5<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter to Willi  
 On 7<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter from Mother (through the Assmanns)  
 and letter from Adolf (through the Friedrichs)  
 On 8<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter to parents (through Assmann)  
 On 8<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter from A. Flocke (Boston)  
 On 9<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter to A. Flocke  
 On 12<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter from my parents (via Rotterdam)  
 On 17<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Letter to my parents (through Willi)  
 On 22<sup>nd</sup>/4/15 Letter to K. Heinze (Mozambique) (ret. to sender)  
 On 30<sup>th</sup>/4/15 Card from H. Kedenburg (Hoboken)  
 and letter from J. Engelbrecht (New York)  
 On 2<sup>nd</sup>/5/15 Letter to H. Kedenburg and to J. Engelbrecht  
 On 8<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter from Willi, 2 from my parents and 1 from M. Heckmann  
 On 9<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to my parents (via London)  
 On 13<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to Willi  
 On 14<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to K. Heinze (Mozambique)  
 On 16<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to M. Heckmann

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On 18<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to my parents (through Willi)  
 On 19<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter from my parents and one from Lina (via Denmark)  
 On 25<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to my parents (via London)  
 On 30<sup>th</sup>/5/15 Letter to W. Schnitker (Boston)  
 On 5<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letters from Willi, from Else, from H. Onken and W. Schnitker, plus Card from  
 Adolf  
 On 6<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letters to H. Onken and to Else (via London)  
 On 10<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to Willi  
 On 13<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 On 19<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to Adolf  
 On 21<sup>st</sup>/6/15 Letter to Eliese  
 On 23<sup>rd</sup>/6/15 Letter from my parents

On 24<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to my parents and a letter from Eliese and one from Mimi  
On 25<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to Lina  
On 28<sup>th</sup>/6/15 Letter to Mimi  
On 1<sup>st</sup>/7/15 Letter to A. Flocke  
On 3<sup>rd</sup>/7/15 Letter from my parents  
On 4<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter to my parents  
On 7<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Parcel  
On 7<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter from my parents and to my parents

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On 15<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter from my parents (via Denmark)  
On 16<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter to my parents and Card  
On 24<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter from H. Onken and from Willemsen  
On 25<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter to the Willemsens  
On 26<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letter to H. Onken  
On 28<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letters from A. Moryson and Ad. Flocke  
On 30<sup>th</sup>/7/15 Letters to A. Moryson and A. Flocke  
On 2<sup>nd</sup>/8/15 Letter from M. Heckmann  
On 6<sup>th</sup>/8/15,  
Langwarrin Letter to my parents  
On 9<sup>th</sup>/8/15 Letter to M. Heckmann

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Liverpool

On 23<sup>rd</sup>/8/15 Letter to my parents  
On 28<sup>th</sup>/8/15 Letter to Willi  
On 2<sup>nd</sup>/9/15 Letter from my parents (via London)  
On 5<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letters to W. Schnitker and H. Kedenburg  
On 5<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letter to W. Schnitker  
On 12<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letter to my parents  
On 20<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letter to H. Kedenburg  
On 24<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letters (2) from Else and from Mother  
On 26<sup>th</sup>/9/15 Letter to Else and letter from Flocke  
On 4/10/15 Letter to A. Flocke  
(money)  
17<sup>th</sup>/10/15 Letter to my parents  
On 19<sup>th</sup>/10/15 Letter from my parents  
On 24<sup>th</sup>/10/15 Letter from Willie  
On 24<sup>th</sup>/10/15 Letter to my parents

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On 31<sup>st</sup>/10/15 Letter to Willie  
On 6<sup>th</sup>/11/15 Letter from my parents  
On 10<sup>th</sup>/11/15 Letter to my parents  
On 15<sup>th</sup>/11/15 Letter from my parents  
On 17<sup>th</sup>/11/15 Postcards to my parents, to H. Onken and to A. Moryson  
On 22<sup>nd</sup>/11/15 Postcard to Willie  
On 23<sup>rd</sup>/11 Letter from Eliese  
On 28<sup>th</sup>/11 Postcard to W. Schnitker  
On 29<sup>th</sup>/11/15 Letter from W. Schnitker (through Kamenz)  
On 2<sup>nd</sup>/12/15 Letters from my parents/ from Lina/ Adolf

## Trial Bay

On 9<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Letter to my parents  
On 12<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Letter from Else  
On 14<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Letter from H. Onken  
On 15<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Postcard to A. Flocke  
On 21<sup>st</sup>/12/15 Card to H. Onken  
On 23<sup>rd</sup>/12/15 Letter to W. Schnitker  
On 29<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Letter to Else  
On 30<sup>th</sup>/12/15 Letter to Willie  
On 4<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter from my parents  
On 5<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter from my parents  
On 6<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter to my parents  
On 8<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Money order from A. Flocke (£2)  
On 9<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter to Ad. Flocke and letter from H Kedenburg

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12<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter to H. Kedenburg  
14<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letters from Else and from M. Heckmann  
17<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letter to Else  
20<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Card from Adolf Flocke  
23<sup>rd</sup>/1/16 Letter to M. Heckmann  
27<sup>th</sup>/1/16 Letters from H. Onken, from H. Rodenburg and card from the Schnitkers / and card to Schnitkers  
15<sup>th</sup>/2/16 Letter to H. Rodenburg  
16<sup>th</sup>/2/16 Card to H. Onken  
20<sup>th</sup>/2/16 Parcel from my parents / and from the Kandlers  
20<sup>th</sup>/2/16 Letter to my parents / and 1 to the Kandlers  
22<sup>nd</sup>/2/16 Card to Eliese  
3<sup>rd</sup>/3/16 Card to my parents and letter to Ad. Moryson and Card from Ad. Flocke  
5<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Card to Adolf Flocke  
8<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter from Willi  
9<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter to Willi  
11<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Card from Adolf  
12<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Card to Adolf  
13<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter to my parents  
14<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter from Kamenz  
15<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter from Adolf  
19<sup>th</sup>/3/16 Letter to Adolf (21<sup>st</sup>/3/16 Letter to Kamenz)  
31<sup>st</sup>/3/16 Letter (photo) to my parents  
5<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter with photo from W. Schnitker  
7<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter to W. Schnitker  
12<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter from W. Kamenz  
15<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter to my parents  
21<sup>st</sup>/4/16 Letter from my parents  
26<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter to my parents  
27<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter from my parents  
28<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter to Kamenz  
30<sup>th</sup>/4/16 Letter from Ad. Flocke

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1<sup>st</sup>/5/16 Card from Adolf  
 4<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to the subsidiary of Norddeutsche Lloyd returned to sender  
 5<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to Ad. Flocke  
 6<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter from my parents and letter from Mimi  
 7<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to my parents and letter from H. Onken  
 12<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to H. Onken  
 18<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to H. Rodenburg  
 20<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to Mimi and Card from Adolf  
 25<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter Card to Adolf  
 26<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter from Adolf  
 28<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter from Else and Card from Mimi  
 30<sup>th</sup>/5/16 Letter to Adolf  
 1<sup>st</sup>/6/16 Card to Mimi  
 4<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter to Else / letter to the Kandlers  
 10<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter from my parents and letter from Else  
 12<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter to my parents  
 17<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter from Minnie (2 from Mother)  
 18<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter to Else  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/6/16 Letter to Minnie  
 27<sup>th</sup>/6/16 Letter to my parents  
 1<sup>st</sup>/7/16 Letter to W. Schult  
 7<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Card to Dad  
 9<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter from Willi and letter from the Kandlers  
 11<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter to the Kandlers (parcel on 12<sup>th</sup>/7/16)  
 14<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter from H. Onken  
 15<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter to Willi  
 19<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter to my parents also returned (Letter returned T.B.D.) [??]  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/7/16 Letter from Else  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/7/16 Letter from my parents  
 24<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter to Else  
 26<sup>th</sup>/7/16 Letter to H. Onken / 27<sup>th</sup>/7 Letter from the Kandlers  
 1<sup>st</sup>/8/16 Letter to my parents  
 5<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter to the Kandlers  
 10<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter from Else  
 13<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter to Else  
 16<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter to Mother  
 18<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter from Adolf  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/8/16 Letter to Adolf  
 28<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter from my parents and from Miss H. Schridde  
 29<sup>th</sup>/8/16 Letter to my parents / on 2<sup>nd</sup>/9 Letter to the above [Schridde]  
 11<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter from H. Rodenburg  
 9<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter to my parents  
 14<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter to H. Rodenburg  
 17<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter from my parents  
 19<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter with photo to my parents  
 30<sup>th</sup>/9/16 Letter from Willi  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/10/16 Letter to Willi  
 6<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Card from Adolf – Letter to my parents

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10<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Letter to Adolf  
 8<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Letter from my parents  
 13<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Letter to my parents – (3 Cards)

23<sup>d</sup>/10/16 Card from Adolf 20<sup>th</sup>/10 Letter to the Kandlers  
 24<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Letter to Adolf  
 28<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Card from Adolf; Letter with photo to my parents  
 29<sup>th</sup>/10/16 Card from Theo Ifsen [Ifsen?] on 1<sup>st</sup>/11 letter to the same  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/11/16 Letter from H. Onken; Letter from Else  
 4<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to H. Onken  
 6<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to Else  
 9<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 12<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Card from Adolf  
 14<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter from my parents; Letter to Ad. Flocke  
 17<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to Adolf; 1 parcel from my parents  
 20<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to my parents  
 24<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to H. Kedenburg  
 25<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter (photo) from Adolf; and letter from Willi  
 26<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter from my parents  
 27<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter (photo) to Willi  
 29<sup>th</sup>/11/16 Letter to Adolf  
 5<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter to my parents  
 8<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter (photo) to Else 9<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter to Kamenz  
 11<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter to the Kandlers  
 17<sup>th</sup>/12/16 2 parcels from my parents 18<sup>th</sup>/12 Letter from Kamenz  
 19<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter from my parents, from Else and from H. Onken  
 20<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Card from Th. Ifsen and letter to my parents  
 25<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter to H. Onken 24<sup>th</sup>/12 parcel from the Kandlers  
 28<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter from Adolf Letter to the Kandlers  
 29<sup>th</sup>/12/16 Letter to Else  
 1<sup>st</sup>/1/17 Letter to Th. Ifsen 31<sup>st</sup>/12/16 (photo) Letter from Kamenz  
 4<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to Adolf (photo) 12<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to Kamenz  
 16<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to my parents 13<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to F. Schmidt  
 19<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter with photo from Willi  
 20<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter with photo to Willi  
 23<sup>d</sup>/1/17 Letter from Kamenz # 26<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to the Kandlers  
 27<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to my parents  
 28<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Card from W. Schnitker  
 30<sup>th</sup>/1/17 Letter to W. Schnitker; letter from Mimi  
 31<sup>st</sup>/1/17 Letter from Else  
 1<sup>st</sup>/2/17 Letter to Mimi  
 6<sup>th</sup>/2/17 Letter to Else # 28<sup>th</sup>/2 Letter to Kamenz  
 21<sup>st</sup>/2/17 Letter to my parents # Parcel from K. Jahn  
 24<sup>th</sup>/2/17 Letter to Mister Jahn  
 25<sup>th</sup>/2/17 Letter from my parents  
 27<sup>th</sup>/2/17 Letter from my parents; from Elise and from Auguste Ifsen  
 1<sup>st</sup>/3/17 Letter from my parents # Letter to my parents  
 3<sup>d</sup>/3/17 Letter from Adolf Flocke  
 5<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to Guschi [Auguste] Ifsen  
 6<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to Eliese Katz  
 15<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to H. Rodenburg  
 16<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to Ad. Flocke  
 19<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to my parents  
 21<sup>st</sup>/3/17 Letter from H. Onken

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23<sup>d</sup>/3/17 Letter to H. Onken  
 25<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter from Adolf

28<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to Adolf. Letter from Kamenz  
 29<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letters from my parents and from Adolf  
 30<sup>th</sup>/3/17 Letter to the Kandler  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/4/17 Letter to my parents # 5<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter to Kamenz  
 10<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter to Adolf  
 20<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter to my parents // 17<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter from Kamenz  
 27<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter to my parents  
 29<sup>th</sup>/4/17 Letter from my parents and letter from Lina  
 1<sup>st</sup>/5/17 Letter to Lina  
 5<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to my parents  
 8<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to Willi  
 11<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter from Fritz Schnitker  
 12<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to Fritz Schnitker  
 15<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to Fritz Schnitker  
 17<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter from Else  
 18<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letters from my parents; 1 from Else; 1 from Adolf and 1 from Miss Schridde  
 18<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to Else  
 20<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to H. Schridde  
 24<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to Adolf // 28<sup>th</sup>/5 Letter to Kamenz  
 28<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter from Hermann // Card from Adolf  
 30<sup>th</sup>/5/17 Letter to my parents  
 4<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Card to Mimi  
 7<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Letter to Hermann  
 15<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Card to Dad  
 21<sup>st</sup>/6/17 Card to my parents  
 28<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Letter to my parents  
 29<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Letter (photo) from my parents  
 30<sup>th</sup>/6/17 Letter to Willi  
 5<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to my parents  
 7<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter from Theo Ilsen  
 8<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter w/photo from my parents; letter from Adolf and letter from my parents  
 9<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to Theo Ilsen  
 13<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to my parents  
 16<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to Adolf  
 20<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to Mother  
 27<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Card to W. Schnitker  
 28<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Card to H. Kedenburg  
 29<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter from Adolf Flocke (22<sup>nd</sup>/6/16)  
 30<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to A. Flocke  
 31<sup>st</sup>/7/17 Letter to my parents  
 5<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Postcard to H. Schridde  
 6<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Card to Minnie  
 7<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter from parents; letter from W. Schnitker; letter from M. Heckmann  
 9<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter to M. Heckmann  
 13<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter to my parents  
 14<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 20<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter to Else  
 17<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter from Else and from Adolf

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17<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter from Kamenz  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/8/17 2 letters to Kamenz  
 28<sup>th</sup>/8/17 Letter to Adolf  
 4<sup>th</sup>/9/17 Letter to my parents

8 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	Letter to the Kanders
15 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	Letter to my parents
17 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	2 letters from Adolf
20 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	Letter to Adolf
21 <sup>st</sup> /9/17	Letter to H. Onken // 23 <sup>rd</sup> /9 Letter from Kamenz
28 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	Letter to my parents
30 <sup>th</sup> /9/17	Letter from my parents
5 <sup>th</sup> /10/17	Letter to my parents
14 <sup>th</sup> /10/17	Letter to my parents
19 <sup>th</sup> /10/17	Card to H. Rodenburg
23 <sup>rd</sup> /10/17	Letter to my parents
25 <sup>th</sup> /10/17	1 letter from my parents; 1 from Else; 1 from Adolf
27 <sup>th</sup> /10/17	Letter to Else
1 <sup>st</sup> /11/17	Letter to Adolf
2 <sup>nd</sup> /11/17	Letter to my parents
10 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Card from H. Kedenburg; letter from A. Flocke
13 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Letter to my parents
17 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Letter to Ad. Flocke
22 <sup>nd</sup> /11/17	Letter to H. Kedenburg
23 <sup>rd</sup> /11/17	Letter (w/photo) from Adolf; letter from Fr. Schnitker
24 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Letter to Adolf
24 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	2 letters from Adolf
29 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	1 card from Adolf; letter from Theo Ilsen
29 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Letter to Fritz Schnitker
30 <sup>th</sup> /11/17	Letter from my parents; letter to Adolf
1 <sup>st</sup> /12/17	Letter with photo from Willi
3 <sup>rd</sup> /12/17	Letter to Theo Ilsen
4 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter to my parents
5 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter with photo and card from Adolf
6 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter from A. Ilsen
7 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	2 letters from my parents; 1 letter from Adolf
11 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter to Willi
13 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter to A. Ilsen
15 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Card from H. Rodenburg
16 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter from Adolf
18 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter from Adolf; letter to the Kanders
20 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter to H. Rodenburg
21 <sup>st</sup> /12/17	Letter to H. Rodenburg; letter from the Kanders
22 <sup>nd</sup> /12/17	Letter to H. Ohlenberg 22 <sup>nd</sup> /12/17

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23 <sup>rd</sup> /12/17	Letter to my parents
27 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Letter to Kamenz
29 <sup>th</sup> /12/17	Parcel from the Kanders
1 <sup>st</sup> /1/18	Letter to the Kanders
2 <sup>nd</sup> /1/18	Letter to Adolf
3 <sup>rd</sup> /1/18	Letter from Else and from parents
6 <sup>th</sup> /1/18	Letter to Else
11 <sup>th</sup> /1/18	Letter to my parents
16 <sup>th</sup> /1/18	Letter to H. Rodenburg
18 <sup>th</sup> /1/18	Letter to Fr. Schnitker
21 <sup>st</sup> /1/18	Letter to Adolf
22 <sup>nd</sup> /1/18	Letter from M. Heckmann
23 <sup>rd</sup> /1/18	2 letters from my parents; 1 card from Adolf

24<sup>th</sup>/1/18 Letter to M. Heckmann (photo)  
 28<sup>th</sup>/1/18 Letter to my parents  
 1<sup>st</sup>/2/18 Letter to Adolf  
 8<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter to Hermann  
 9<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter to H. Onken  
 11<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter from Else  
 13<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter from Flocke; 1 letter from W. Schnitker  
 14<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter to Else  
 15<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/2/18 Letter to my parents // Letter from Theo Ifsen  
 20<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Card from W. Schnitker  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/2/18 Letter from my parents // Letter from H. Onken  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/2/18 Letter to A. Flocke // Letter from Adolf  
 27<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter from Else  
 28<sup>th</sup>/2/18 Letter to Adolf  
 1<sup>st</sup>/3/18 Letter to Theo Ifsen  
 4<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to Else  
 9<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to Mother  
 13<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to W. Schnitker (with photo) // Letter from H. Kedenburg  
 13<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter from Willi and letter from W. Schnitker  
 15<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to H. Kedenburg (w/photo)  
 18<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to my parents  
 20<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to Willi  
 21<sup>st</sup>/3/18 Card to W. Schnitker  
 28<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to the Kandlers  
 30<sup>th</sup>/3/18 Letter to my parents  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/4/18 Letter from my parents  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/4/18 Letter to H. Onken  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/4/18 2 letters from Adolf  
 4<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter from Ad. Flocke; letter from Jul. Hinrichs  
 5<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter to Adolf  
 8<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter from Hermann  
 10<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter to Jul. Hinrichs Letter to my parents  
 17<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 19<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter from Hermann

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24<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter (w/ photo) to Ad. Flocke  
 25<sup>th</sup>/4/18 Letter to Adolf  
 1<sup>st</sup>/5/18 Letter to the Kandlers  
 6<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to Flocke  
 7<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to my parents  
 18<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to my parents (photo)  
 17<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter from Willi  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/5/18 Letter to Minnie  
 24<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to my parents / 28<sup>th</sup> letter from the Kandlers  
 28<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter from Lina, from Adolf and card from Adolf  
 29<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to Adolf  
 31<sup>th</sup>/5/18 Letter to Lina  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/6/18 Letter from Adolf, 1 from my parents, letter from H. Rodenburg  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/6/18 Letter to M. Heckmann, 32 Huddestorf, Kr. Stolzenau  
 6<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to Mother  
 7<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter from my parents  
 10<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to H. Rodenburg (photo)

11<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to Adolf (photo)  
 16<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to A. Meinke PoW 1708, Field Artillery Reg. 48, Artillery company 73,  
 Dar-es-Salaam  
 18<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to my parents  
 25<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter (w/photo) to the Kandler  
 27<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter to Adolf  
 18<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter from Ad. Flocke 90 Abbe Ave, Springfield, Mass.  
 1<sup>st</sup>/7/18 Letter to Ad. Flocke  
 28<sup>th</sup>/6/18 Letter from my parents  
 1<sup>st</sup>/7/18 Letter from Else; card from Adolf  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/7/18 Letter to my parents  
 8<sup>th</sup>/7/17 Letter to Else (w/photo)  
 4<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter from Else  
 5<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Card from Adolf  
 12<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter to Willi  
 15<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter to Adolf  
 17<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter from W. Schnitker (w/photo)  
 19<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter (w/photo) to W. Schnitker  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/7/18 Letter to Else  
 25<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter to Mother  
 30<sup>th</sup>/7/18 Letter from Theo Ifsen // Letter to W. Schnitker  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/8/18 Letter to Theo Ifsen  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/8/18 Letter from Adolf  
 4<sup>th</sup>/8/18 Letter to Adolf  
 11<sup>th</sup>/8/18 Letter to my parents  
 14<sup>th</sup>/8/18 Letter (with photo) from H. Kedenburg  
 15<sup>th</sup>/8/18 Letters from Willi Schn. and Fritz Schnitker  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/8/18 Letters from my parents and from Adolf  
 24<sup>th</sup>/8/18 Letter (with photo) from Adolf

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3<sup>rd</sup>/9/18 Letters from Willi and from Ad. Flocke  
 12<sup>th</sup>/9/18 Letters from my parents and 2 from Adolf  
 24<sup>th</sup>/9/18 Letter and card from Adolf and letter from my parents  
 28<sup>th</sup>/9/18 Letter from Else  
 29<sup>th</sup>/9/18 Letter to my parents  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/10/18 Letter to Adolf  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/10/18 Letter from H. Rodenburg  
 7<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to my parents  
 5<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter from Adolf  
 9<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to Willi  
 12<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Card from Adolf  
 13<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to Else  
 16<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter from my parents  
 17<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to H. Kedenburg  
 20<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to Adolf  
 23<sup>rd</sup>/10/18 Letter to W. Schnitker  
 30<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to my parents  
 28<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter to Ad. Flocke  
 28<sup>th</sup>/10/18 Letter with photo from Adolf  
 3<sup>rd</sup>/11/18 Letter to Adolf  
 7<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to H. Rodenburg  
 8<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter from my parents / 1 from Else (with 2 photos) / 1 from Adolf  
 10<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to my parents

11<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter from Else  
 12<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to Else  
 15<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter from Adolf  
 17<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to Adolf [plus indecipherable annotation]  
 21<sup>st</sup>/11/18 Card from Adolf  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/11/18 Letter to my parents  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/11/18 Letter from Adolf and letter from my parents  
 25<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to Willi. Letter from H. Onken  
 26<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter from Else (3 photographs for Willi)  
 28<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter to H. Onken  
 29<sup>th</sup>/11/18 Letter from Adolf  
 1<sup>st</sup>/12/18 Letter to Else  
 4<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to Adolf  
 7<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter from my parents  
 9<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to my parents  
 18<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to Kandler  
 20<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to Willi. Letter from Adolf  
 21<sup>st</sup>/12/18 Letter from Hermann  
 22<sup>nd</sup>/12/18 Letter to Adolf  
 24<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter from W. Schnitker, Forth Oglethorpe, Ga.  
 26<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to W. Schnitker, (No. 3177) W.P. Barracks  
 30<sup>th</sup>/12/18 Letter to Hermann / 24<sup>th</sup>/12 Parcel from  
 31<sup>st</sup>/12/18 Letter from Willi / the Kandlers  
 2<sup>nd</sup>/1/1919 Letter to the Kandlers

[Transcriber's notes:

Page 36. T 0/16/00 i.e. government-provided allowance of 16s; T stands for Taschengeld = pocket money

Page 37. K./18/6 = agent money of 18s 6d; K stands for Kompanie = company

Page 70. Dr. Herz = Maximilian Herz, a well-known orthopaedic surgeon]

[Translated from German by Rosemarie Graffagnini and proofed by Miles Harvey for the State Library of NSW]