

Letters from

Private Jasper Nelson SCHWERDT
SX10989/ S32442

To his sister Edna

Written between January 1941 and
January 1942

Reported Missing on 16 February 1942

AUSTRALIAN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING



with
Australian Defence Forces

Write Home First

Think Clean
Talk Clean
Live Clean
Play the Game

.....194

Woodside Camp
Sunday night

Dear Edna

got Schwerdt
27th Battalion

just a few lines to let you know that I arrived here quite safe and got settled down now. It is a good job with this crowd ~~as~~ they are real good fellows. if there is any mail for me send it here. But address the letters the same way as I do on top well Edna dont forget to pay that payment on the bike on Friday night I wont be down for a nather foathnight as soon as I get payed. you might have to pay the next week as well. Boy shell dont leave it I will pay you when I come down I will give ^{you} some so you can get that coat. The Officers are well satisfied with my booking well there is much to tell you so I will close
love to all

from your Ever loving
Brother Joe [Signature]

Nov 4th
1940

Alice Springs

were around us with their autographs
Books for us to sign our names

Dear Edna just a few lines
to let you know that we
arrived here quite safe.
We left Wayville Thursday
morning by conveyance as
far as Terowie. There we load
d all the trucks and gear. We
left Friday mid-day and got
to Alice Springs Sunday we
were 48 hours on the train
it is 980 miles from Adelaide.
The people were very nice to
us They gave meals and then
fruit Cigarettes and books
at Quorn the wimam gave
the troops a dinner it was
wonderfull^{the} school kidds

Page 1 of 2

Nov 4th 2020

2

We had a wonderful trip
well Alice Springs seems a very
nice little town

things are very dear at the
store coal drinks are 1/3 bottle
The Hotel is open till 10 at night
westend is 2/3 a bottle cigarettes
7^d packet

well Edna that all the
news I can tell you

love from gas

don't
for get
DOMF on my
letter

Mr Schwendt S 32442

Alice Springs

Central Aust

DOMF

Page 2 of 2 .

Nov 4th 1940

2442
d/cr 8 BOMF
Alice Springs
Central Aust

Nice Spring
Sunday Nov 17th
1940

Dear Edna

Just a few lines to
answer your letter and was very
pleased to here from you and thank
for sending the other letters a long
well I am just getting settled down
I like it all right here I have met
Bill Steggants from the west coast
he is a motor driver he is a nice
chap well I wont be down for
mix as far as I know now
is isen very hot but the heat
is very clear the wind blow from
the east every day sence I've been
here we all wear shorts you dont
need a coat. the bright are just
nice to sleep you with one rug
on we sleep on nice beds
I am cooking in the officers mess
again I cant think of any more
news so I will close and hope
to here from you soon
love from Jas

DOMP
S. 32442

Alice Springs

Monday Nov 25th 1940

Dear Edna. just a few lines that I receive
your letter all right and the letter from
the AIF Recruiting depot. well I am
getting on all right. I like it here
I am just settled down now I am
cooking in ^{the} officer and Sargeant's mess
I am only getting 5/- a day I dont
know when I will get more money
I suppose I will be here a long time
unless I am get in the AIF
well the men much news to tell you
I have been out everywhere the last
for night. we are not to say any-
thing about what goes on here as
our letter may be censored
I wrote a letter to father
last week well I think I will
close I dont fell like writing to
night. I might go to a dance
~~if~~ I will have a look if it
good I will stay so well close
love from Joe

1

RED SHIELD HUTS-HOSTELS
ON SERVICE with the TROOPS



Date 28th Jan

From

No.

Ger Schmidt SX1098
Detached Reserv
M.T. Coy
Royal Park
Melbourne

"My strength is as the strength of ten, because my heart is pure"

Dear Edna

Just a few lines to let you know that I am quite well and had a good trip we got to Melbourne last Monday morning and it rained till Monday I had a good look a round it is a verry blissy place evrey thing mooves much quicker then Adelaide I met a nice girl and went out to tea on Sunday night this girl took me out on Sunday and showed me the lovely gardens of the Yarra river & went to St Kilda Beach and had a look at the big dipper the gardens are wonderfull here well Edna I will be leaving from here in a day or so but you can right and adress the letters as I did. I have some letters and a book tied up in bundle in that spare room the book has a lot of words wrote in it I would like you to send that book well Edna I will close and hope to here from you soon from your brother with lots of love

Gas X X X X X
X X X X

Formal alistmet
17 January 1941

JW Schwerdt
SX 10989 2/2 Reserved M T
Company

Feb 2nd 1941 Abroad

* one a boat

Dear Edna. just a few lines
to let you know that I am
all right and hope that this will find
you all well. I never wrote to mum
so you better send her a wire or a
letter that I have left to go over
seas and let Father no as well. I
cant tell you where I am. I will
drop you all a line when I get to
the first port. I had a good time
in Obelourne met quite a lot
of people and they was very nice
to me. I am ~~in~~ only taken a
chance to post this letter
well Edna I will close and hope
to here from you as soon as

So good-bye for this time
with lots of love from

how to address my letters

jas xxx
xxxx

* JW Schwerdt SX 10989
2/2 Reserved M T boy
Abroad

Formal Enlistment
17 January 1941.

Australian Young Men's Christian Association

PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING



WITH AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Any reference to Shipping or Troop Movements will result in the delay or mutilation of this letter.

No.

Name

Unit

Feb 8th 1941

Write Home First

Dear Edna

Just a few lines to let you know that I am quite well. we are at sea and having a good trip we get plenty to eat on board.

Well dear I'll close hope this note will find you all well from your ever loving Brother

Joe

xxxx

Vol. SX10989

Detachment 2nd

Reserve MT Coy
AIF A Broad.

Censored
Bernadene

9X10989

abalaya

March 14th 1941

2/2 Reserve MT Coy

AIF Abroad

Dear Edna just a few lines to let you know that I am quite well, and happy. But the weather is hot, and we get a lot of rain with it. I have recieved two letters from you. dont go to any trouble to send any thing over here. I can buy things cheaper here. I will send you a parcel as soon as I can. I have ordered some close, and it will be here sometime, next week.

pineapples are very cheap. I got ~~them~~ ^{the other day} 24, and they cost 30 cents. we get dollar's over here. and there a 100 cents in one dollar. and a dollar is worth 2/11 in our money

Beer is 30 cents a bottle, well Edna I will close and hap to here from you soon. I will write again next week
cheer O love from
Jus

Edna



WITH AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Any reference to Shipping or Troop Movements will result in the delay or mutilation of this letter.

No. SX 10989
 Name J.W. Schwerdt
 Unit 2 Reserve M.T. Coy April 8th 1941
AISI Abroad Write Home First

Dear Edna

I received your letter to day and was very pleased to here from home. well I am getting a long all right and I am in good health and that is every thing. I will be sending a parcel next week. it will take a fare while to get there. I have some thing now but I will send it all in the one lot. I bought a camera it cost \$2.50. that would be about 7/6. I went to a town last Saturday close are very cheep. you can get a ^{good} suit of close for 7 dollars. The downs are ^{very} much difrenc

Australian Young Men's Christian Association

PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING



WITH AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Any reference to Shipping or Troop Movements will result in the delay or mutilation of this letter.

No.

Name

Unit 19

Write Home First

then ours. there are white brow and black people. the little children hang a round and make freinds they just now a few words. I give them a few cents some time's. The weather is still hot it is the same all the year round we get rain neely day. how is Father I will send him a small parcel and one to mam. well Edna I will close and hope to here from you soon so b. keerio
love from Jas

XXXXXX

Baroud
Bernaden

P.S. I just came Back from
a game of Football we
play two games a week. It
keeps a fellow fit the sun
was shining nice when we made
a start and after 10 minutes there
was heavy rain but we still
played on
as

Australian Young Men's Christian Association

PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING



WITH

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

No. SX. 10989

Name JN. SCHWERDT

Unit 2/2 RES. M.T. Coy May 10th 1941

AIF ABROAD

Write Home First

Dear Edna

I received your letter and was very pleased to here from you I am sending a snap of my self taken in a kickshore I had a few rides in one last week, when I was abt on leave. I neve seen the march on cdngae day over hear. I was out on convoy. I send father a letter and send one to musa I will send a parcel to father a mum next week I dont suppose you get yours. well there was eng news to tell you I am in good health so I will close with lots of love from
jes.

James
Schwerdt

5x10989

Sunday Oct 19th 1961

Dear Edna

I recieved your letter and that watch cover quite safe. and was pleased to hear from you again. I had four days leave a spent my holiday in Singapore. I had quite a good time and had a good look around. I took a lot of snaps of the town. I met some (Australia) people and were very nice they took me to a chinese dinner. I ^{guess} use the chop sticks to well. they had a eight courses meal. they dont have bread or tea. they just have the big dish and they eat with chop sticks. I went to the new world one evening its a big place I had quite a lot of fun there. I had a letter from mam and one from Tom Foster. remember me to Elsie. its years sence I have seen her. I had a letter from both Schwerdt a few weeks ago and she said that ^{she} met you in town. I am sending some stamps of all different kinds. I am sending a snap that I had taken at the new world it only takes a few minutes to do them it not a very good one. well there isen much news to tell you so I think I will close. and hoping this will find you all well as it leaves me O.K.

P.S I will try and write more next time

From your loving
Brother Joe

Joe

Nov 19th

Dear Edna

I received your letter all right and was very pleased to here from you again. It was getting rather a long time since I got a letter from you I was thinking of writing again to see what was the matter. I am glad you are getting on so well with your dancing you are lucky to go to a dance a fellow never see at dance over here. I only go to the picture when there is a Europe picture on. I spend quite a few evenings out with some people I have met they treat me wonderful. I go to the picture with them some times and have quite a lot of dinners at there place. The weather is very hot in the morning the sun come out and in the after noon the rain just pour's down. dont go to any trouble and send things over here you have enough work to do with out going to a lot of trouble packing parcels there are to many thing get lost you are only feeding the theef. I had my photo taken

last week I want get them.
tell next week I will send you
one for christmas I am send-
ing a few more thing home soon
I haven got all the thing I want
just yet. There isen much that I
can write about so I think I
will close a hope this letter will
find you all well so it leaves
me good socheers for this
time with lots of love from
your ever loving
Brother Jas
Dexter

Jas
Dexter

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL
LETTER CARD

Affix
12 Cents
Malayan
Stamp
here.

ON ACTIVE
SERVICE

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



Miss Edna Schwindt
44 Lower North East Road
Pagetham
Adelaide
South Australia



AUSTRALIA.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

Miss Edna Schwindt
44 Lower North East Road
Pagetham
Adelaide
South Australia

Dec 16th 1941

Dear Edna

I recieved your letter quite safe and was pleased to here from you again. I am still getting along find so dont worry about me. Thing was upset for a few days. but now we are settled down again now we have had a lot of rain the ground is very wet. we have a job to dry our boots I have been three days trying to dry some close I have washed. I think I will have some luck to day the son is coming this morning. I haven had a letter from man for about four weeks I dont no what has happend she was in the hospital when she wrote how is Pop getting on tell him if you see him I will drop a line next mail. It was nice you went out fishing

Page 2 of 3

it is good sport. I like to
go out fishing when I first
come over here but we are
gone from that place now
how do you like your job at
Thaldens. how did you like
the photo I sent. I hope you
have received it all right.
I will tell you the even more
to write about so I hope
this letter will find you
all in the best of health
and hoping to hear from
you soon. I will close
with lots of love from
your ever loving
Brother Joe

AUSTRALIAN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

PATRON: HIS MAJESTY THE KING



WITH AUSTRALIAN
IMPERIAL FORCE

Write Home First

Dec 20th 1941

Dear Edna

Just a few lines to say that I have received that little parcel quite safe. And thank very much. Say Edna I am sending a Christmas card to Phyllis the girl that works out at Gyuses place I have for-gotten her set name. Would you give her this Christmas card. The Christmas is only a few days off. I don't know just where we will be. Well Edna there isn't much news to write about. Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year. I will close and hope this letter will find you all well as it leave me good.

Benard Benach From your loving
Brother Jas.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

LETTER CARD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.



Miss Edna Schwerdt
44 Lower North East Road
Payneham
Adeloid
South Australia **INDIA**

Handwritten signature

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

Handwritten: Makaya

Handwritten: AIP

Handwritten: Mr M T boy

Handwritten: Mr Schwerdt 510989

Handwritten: on

Page 1 of 2

Malaya Jan 30th
1942

Dear Edna

I received your letter
and was very pleased to here
from you again. Your letter was
three weeks getting here. I suppose
lucky to get here in that time.
Well Edna I am alright so dont
worry about me. It was nice
that father and mother came to
town for christmas. I bet
everyone will like it in Malaya
did you get them photos
that I sent, you never said
anything about them. I sent
one to mum and one to you.
I have met Jack Hammond and
Bill Stiggents over here it was
nice to see them. Well Edna
I can't write much to write about one
can't settle down to much
now. I suppose you here all
the news about Malaya
and whats going on.

Page 2 of 2

I will close and hope to
hear from you soon with
lots of love & kisses to
all from your loving
brother Joe xxxxx