

Moena Camp
Cairo
Egypt

31. 1. 14

My Dear Father Mother George + Anne

I have sent home to you by one of our men who are returning to Australia, a complete copy of our paper which we had printed while on board the boat. It shall be posted in Sydney so it is sure to arrive safely.

Well had the weather is beginning to get warm here; to-day is very sultry, & I hope that we shall not be here too much longer because I believe the summer of this country does not start till May & if it gets much hotter than we are getting now it will be impossible to go outside about midday.

I have not been out of camp since I wrote to you last so can't tell any more about Cairo & its surroundings but we are beginning to get sports going in camp now. Of a night it is quite a city. A picture shows 2 Boxing

Stadium so you see we have plenty of amusement after our days work which is nearly as long as yours starting 7.30 AM we leave camp & return about 4.30 P.M. very often a little later than that so you see we are trying our best to get fit.

I had a letter from Peta dated 2nd May & she told me that Uncle Bill had sold his business & that they were going to Hurlstone Park to live. she also told me that Aunt Ada was not looking well & that Aunt thinks I shall never return. Well Dad I hope you dont let mother worry like that, because it makes it harder for us to think that those who we love ^{those} & who love us are worrying over our safekeeping. Tell them Dad that for them & our country we who are from Australia are ready to give what is most precious to all that is our life. that if by doing so we help to keep you all safe and free & tell Mother & Aunt Ada that I wish them to remember the best of me.

Heanon Vaughan's Sermons 'Weeps
not for the Dead but for the Living.
because if by chance my time has
come to leave this world I wish not
for a better death than one on the
battlefield helping Englishmen to
keep our Empire in freedom.

I know that my father will only be
pleased to know that his son was
able to go & take the share of his
family's safekeeping.

Dad I often lay in bed at night & wonder
what you are all doing & if Mother is
well. Because by the stream of her letters
she seems to me to be worrying over me
& that is the last thing that I wish for
surely Dad you & George can keep her
mind from the subject & tell Annie that
she promised to look after Maum till I
return.

Father England will want more men yet
& mother said that you said you would
have to be leaving I know you did not
mean it. but Dad it is both yours &
George's duty to stay with her & Annie.
Tell Mother that I expected a

family photo for Xmas as she promised me before I left that she would have it taken & send one to me. I have Rita's Photo here & it has been placed in such a position that when I am in bed she is looking over me & taking care of me as a Mother should do. & that it would be lovely to have the family photo with me alongside her.

Well Dad this is not a very pleasant letter but it hurt me when I heard that Aunt was worrying & that I knew Mother would be doing the same. That although I had better write & tell you that my last wish will be that you all shall be proud & not grieve if I never return. I have met a young officer of the Manchester & I've got talking about our homes & he showed me the letter his mother wrote when she heard he was ordered to be ready to leave for the front & one sentence I thought was simply lovely it read like this. (I have given my husband for my country's need when she called & now she calls again. To God give my only son.) what a time she

must suffer waiting news of her son -
I wish my people to think the same as
she does.

Well Dad I will close now I dont know
if I have made my thoughts plain, but
the chief thing I want mother to understand
is that she not to worry over me as I
think by all the worrying she shant
be able to decide whether I return or
not as that part says with the
Almighty & if my time to die has
arrived well I shall die a soldier as
it was my wish to be a soldier & a man
Goodbye Dad Mum George Annie plus
I love & kisses

From

Your Son & Brother
Lyle

Mother dont worry I am enjoying myself
& am happy.

Remember mother that I am only a son &
that many a husband with families are
here & it is for them who we must pray
that they may be spared to return to
their wives & families & not for us single
boys who have nobody depending on us.