

Combat Engineer Paul Pocka[©]
Regimental number: 1100
2nd Field Company, German Army

born: unknown–died: 29 September 1918

Paul Pocka was a “pionier”—the equivalent of a combat engineer in the German army, a position similar to that of a sapper in the British army.¹ He would have performed engineering and construction tasks, presumably with the 2nd Field Company.²

He was a prisoner of war when he was admitted to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. He was recorded as having died on 29 September 1918, although this may have been the date of his burial in Duisans British Military Cemetery, with the Canadian chaplain W. Fisher presiding.³ The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records his burial in Duisans (Plot 3, Row O, Grave 25).⁴

Sadly, many non-Allied soldiers who died at No. 1 CCCS are very poorly documented and it is difficult to remember their lives in these biographies.

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¹ “The German Pionier: Case Study of the Combat Engineer’s Employment During Sustained Ground Combat: A Monograph,” MAJ Erich Schnee, P.E. (<https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/AD1071311.pdf>: accessed 28 March 2021)

² “No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 28 March 2020), entry for Pocka, Paul

³ Ibid.

⁴ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 6 July 2020), entry for Pocka, Paul