A postcard sent by a young Adolf Hitler was uncovered as part of a World War I history project funded by the European Union.
The future German dictator, then 27, penned the note in December of 1916 while he was recovering from injuries sustained on the war front.

Hitler sent the postcard, which bears a picture of the German town of Nuremberg, to Karl Lanzhammer, a member of his regiment. “Dear Lanzhammer,” he wrote in German. “I am now in Munich at the Ersatz Battalion. Currently I am under dental treatment. By the way I will report voluntarily for the field immediately. Kind regards, A. Hitler.”

The bulk of Hitler’s known correspondence during the war was to fellow soldiers, suggesting they were his “surrogate family,” said Thomas Weber, a history professor at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland and an expert on Hitler’s life during World War I.

“Every other soldier would have been writing back home,” Weber told the BBC.

The Europeana 1914-1918 project has collected 45,000 objects and testimonies.