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By METRO NEWS REPORTER - 2nd May, 2012

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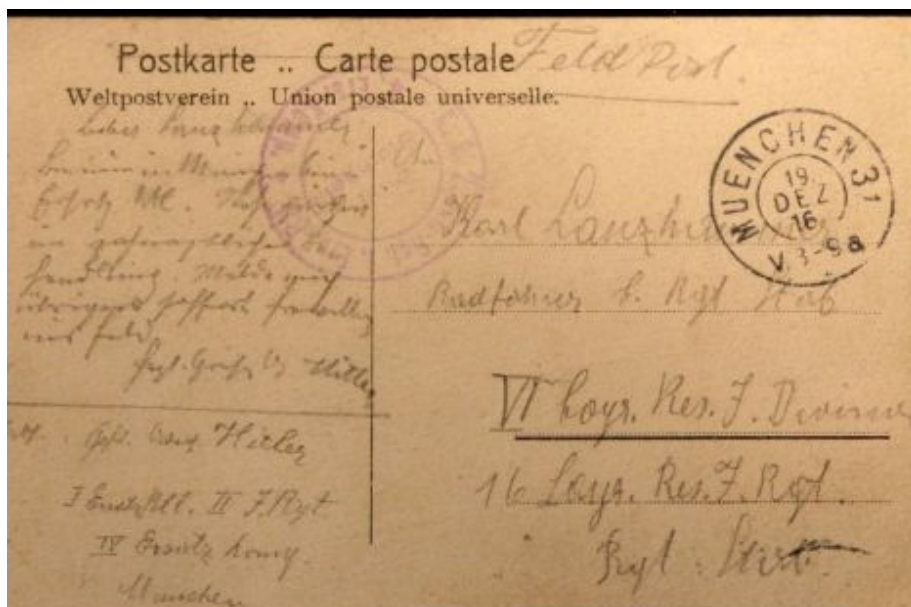
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# Poorly-spelled postcard by 27-year-old Adolf Hitler emerges

**An extremely rare postcard written by a 27-year-old Adolf Hitler, including spelling mistakes, expressing his desire to return to the frontline in World War I has emerged at a European roadshow.**



The postcard only recently emerged

(Picture: PA)

The card recently surfaced at a family history roadshow a century after being sent by the future Nazi dictator to his German army comrade Karl Lanzhammer, a member of his regimental headquarters.

In the card, written in December 1916 while he recovered in a Munich hospital from a leg wound suffered in the Battle of the Somme, he claims to want to 'report voluntarily for the field immediately'.

Dr Thomas Weber, an expert on the period from the University of Aberdeen, commented: 'What's clear is Hitler desperately wants to return to the front and that's rather unusual, even for soldiers who were generally willing to fight in the war and thought Germany's cause was a just one.'

'By 1916, if they were on home leave, they tried to stay as long as they could, while Hitler desperately wants to get back to the front.'

'We know from other sources he disliked the sentiment on the home front, where the war was being increasingly criticised, and what he wants is to return to his surrogate family on the front line.'



Adolf Hitler pictured in 1938 (Picture: AP)



The postcard was sent in 1916 (Picture: PA)

In the card Hitler misspells the German word for 'immediately' as 'soffort' instead of 'sofort'.

His message in full reads: 'Dear Lanzhammer, I am now in Munich at the Ersatz Btl (battalion). Currently I am under dental treatment. By the way I will report voluntarily for the field immediately.

'Kind regards A. Hitler.'

The owner of the card, who wants to remain anonymous and is understood to have already sold it, said he inherited it from his stamp-collecting father.

Dr Stuart Lee, a digital expert from Oxford University who was present at the roadshow when the card emerged, said he 'felt a shudder run through me' when he realised it was written by Hitler.

'I found it hard to believe that at a local event to record ordinary people's stories, I was seeing a previously unknown document in Hitler's own hand,' he said.

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