

TUSCANIA

WWI casualty
Van Hecke, Edward
1889 Belgium – 1918 France



Others Await News.

Relatives are also waiting information regarding Private Edward, Van Herke, detachment B, casuals, 527 West Twenty-eighth place; Corporal Raymond Groenler, One Hundred and Seventh supply train, 5708 South State street; Private Frank A. Girard, 3506 Pine Grove avenue; Lieut. Clinton W. Ball, One Hundred and Seventh engineers, whose cousin, L. E. Howard, lives at 4413 Oakenwald avenue; Albert H. Anderson, One Hundred and Seventh supply train; Charles A. Campbell of the One Hundred and Seventh engineers train, and Private Lawrence S. McCoy of the One Hundred and Seventh engineers train, whose brother, John E. McCoy, is a law student at Northwestern university.

Edward Van Hecke - "Chicago Tribune" 9 Feb 1918 p 3 - as Van Herke -
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/354981911/>

73481

REPORT MADE AT: <u>San Antonio, Tex.</u>	PLACE WHERE MADE: <u>San Antonio, Tex.</u>	DATE WHEN MADE: <u>Oct. 17, 1917</u>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <u>Oct. 19, 17</u>
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NAME OF PERSON OR PERSONS REPORTED ON:
In re Edward Van Hecke, possibly a deserter.

CHARACTER OF OFFENSE OR OFFENSES COMMITTED, STATE AND EXTENT OF PERSON'S INTEREST IN THE MATTER, ETC.:
At San Antonio, Texas.

Employee, instructed by Special Employee Goodman, went to the City Police station where above party was held, having been arrested by City Detective Albert Krog.

Van Hecke said he is a Belgian, 29 years of age, and that he came to the United States on April 1, 1913, entering at the Port of New York. He was born July 12, 1889.

After entering the country, he and his brother, Alois, 33 years old, who came with him, spent one or two days in New York and then both went to Chicago, Ill. where Edward went to work as a carpenter for the Walter Stock Car company. They lived first on Clark street, number not remembered, and then Edward moved to No. 525 West 28th Street, where he was living on June 5, 1917. On March 1, 1917, Edward joined with the Hat Males show as carpenter and travelled with them. On June 5, 1917, they were playing at Sterling Ill., but Edward gave his home address as 525 West 28th street, Chicago. Practically all the eligible show people registered, Edward said, giving their addresses somewhere in Chicago.

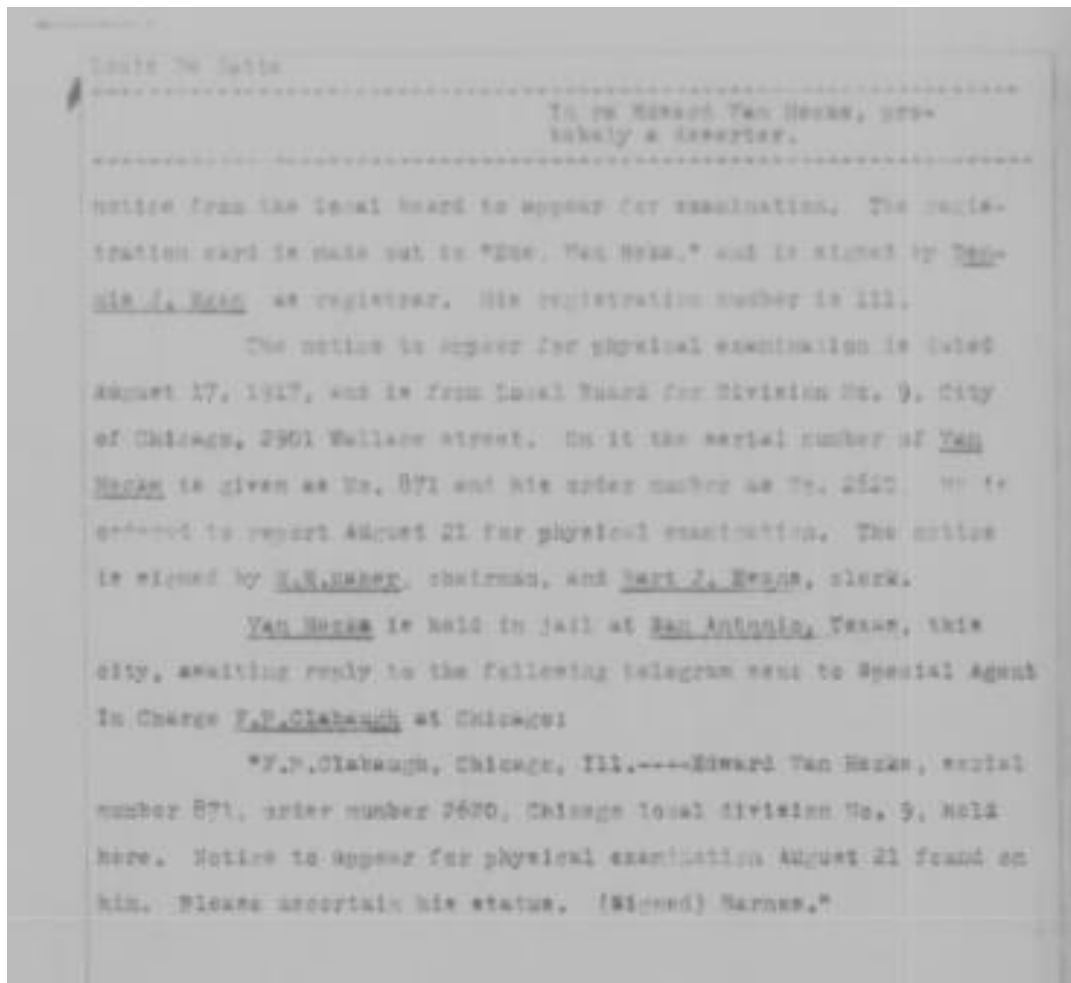
The show played west. At South Omaha, Neb., Edward received notice to appear for physical examination. This was received, he says, on September 17, 1917, and he was ordered to appear August 21. In his own language, he "put a letter" back to the Chicago board asking what to do, but he got no answer. Then he worked with Worham's show until they reached Waco, Texas, after which he and one Williams started to San Antonio, Williams saying he wanted to visit his folks here. Edward was picked up Friday of last week and held for examination.

On his person were found his registration card and the

COPIES OF THIS REPORT FORWARDED TO:
2 to Chicago--1 to Bureau--1 to Chicago--1 to file.

- 4 -

Transcription follows - FBI Case Files "Probably a deserter" - Page 1 -
<https://www.fold3.com/image/884020?terms=van,edward,hecke>



Page 2 - <https://www.fold3.com/image/884070/edward-van-hecke-73481-page-2-fbi-case-files?terms=van,edward,hecke>

Transcription:

Louis D. Mette, San Antonio, Texas – date entered Oct. 17, 17 – filed Oct. 19, 17

In re: Edward Van Hecke, probably a deserter

At San Antonio, Texas.

Employee, instructed by Special Employee Needham, went to the City Police station where party was held, having been arrested by City Detective Albert King.

Van Hecke said he is a Belgian, 29 years of age, and that he came to the United States on April 1, 1913, entering at the Port of New York. He was born July 12, 1889.

After entering the country, he and his brother, Alois, 33 years of age, who came with him, spent one or two days in New York and then both went to Chicago, Ill. Where Edward went to work as a carpenter for the Matter Stock Car Company. They lived first on Clark street, number not remembered, and then Edward moved to So. 525 West 28th Street, where he was living on June 5, 1917. On March 1, 1917, Edward joined with the Nat Moies shows as carpenter and travelled with them. On June 5, 1917, they were playing at Sterling, Ill., but Edward gave his home address as 525 West 28th street, Chicago. Practically all the eligible show people registered, Edward said, giving their addresses somewhere in Chicago.

The show played west. At South Omaha, Neb., Edward received notice to appear for physical examination. This was received, he says, on September 17, 1917, and he was ordered to appear August 21. In his own language, he "put a letter" back to the Chicago board asking what to do, but he got no answer. Then he worked in Wortham's shows until they reached Waco, Texas, after which he and one Williams started to San Antonio, Williams saying he wanted to visit his folks here. Edward was picked up Friday of last week and held for examination.

On his person were found his registration card and the notice from the board to appear for examination. The registration card is made out to "Edw. Van Heka," and is signed by Dennis J. Egan as registrar. His registration number is 111.

The notice to appear for physical examination is dated August 17, 1917, and is from Local Board for Division No. 9, City of Chicago, 2901 Wallace street. On it the serial number of Van Hecke is given as No. 871 and his order number is No. 2620. He is ordered to report August 21 for physical examination. The notice is signed by M.E. Maher, chairman, and Bart J. Evans, clerk.

Van Hecke is held in jail at San Antonio, Texas, this city, awaiting reply to the following telegram sent to Special Agent In Charge F.P. Clabaugh at Chicago.

"F.P. Clabaugh, Chicago, Ill.----Edward Van Hecke, serial no. 871, order number 2620, Chicago local division No. 9, held here. Notice to appear for physical examination August 21 found on him. Please ascertain his status. (Signed) Barnes."

At San Antonio, Texas.

The following message was received in re above party, report on whom has been made by Employee showing he might be a deserter in that he failed to appear for physical examination when called by his local Chicago board:

"Chicago, Ill., Oct. 24, 1917.---Barnes, Federal Bldg San Antonio, Tex.---Reference Edward Van Hecke. Man is not deserter from army. If you desire will have local board here authorize any local board San Antonio to examine and forward physicians' certificate. Man can then be released or held pending mobilization orders. (Signed) Clabaugh.

Employee, by direction of Special Agent in Charge Breniman, sent the following telegram:

"M.E. Maher, chairman, Local Board No. 9, 2901 Wallace street, Chicago, Ill.---Department Justice holding Edward Van Hecke, serial 871, order 2620, who was notified appear before your board August 21 for physical examination but failed to do so. Will you authorize examination of man before one of our boards. (Signed) Barnes."

Louis D. Halls	San Antonio, Tex. Oct. 30, 1917.	Oct. 27, 17
In re Edward Van Hecke. Probably a deserter.		
73481		
At San Antonio, Texas.		
The following message was received in re above party, report on whom has been made by Empeys showing he might be a deserter in that he failed to appear for physical examination when called by his local Chicago board:		
"Chicago, Ill., Oct. 24, 1917.---Barnes, Federal Bldg San Antonio, Tex.---Reference Edward Van Hecke. Man is not deserter from army. If you desire will have local board here authorize any local board San Antonio to examine and forward physicians' certificate. Van can then be released or held pending mobilization orders. (Signed) Clabaugh."		
Empeys, by direction of Special Agent in Charge Brennan, sent the following telegram:		
"H.W. Maher, chairman, Local Board No. 9, 2901 Wallace street, Chicago, Ill.---Department Justice holding Edward Van Hecke, serial 871, order 2620, who was notified appear before your board August 21 for physical examination but failed to do so. Will you authorize examination of man before one of our boards. (Signed) Barnes."		

Precinct 7-2nd 4 of Whiteide Code
 City or County _____
 State _____
 Signature of registrar William E. Collier
 Date of registration June 5th 1917
 6676

Form 1 REGISTRATION CARD No. 114
 1 Name in full 2620 Edward Van Meek
 (Given name) (Family name) Age, in yrs. 29
 2 Home address 525-28th Place Chicago Ill
 (No.) (Street) (City) (State)
 3 Date of birth July 12- 1889
 (Month) (Day) (Year)
 4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your
 intention (specify which)? no yes
 5 Where were you born? Sticken Belgium
 (Town) (State) (Nation)

7	What is your present trade, occupation, or office?	with travelling Carnival	
8	By whom employed?	Nat Reese	
	Where employed?	Travelling with carnival	
9	Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)?	no	
10	Married or single (which)?	single	Race (specify which): Caucasian
11	What military service have you had? Rank	no	branch
	years		Nation or State
12	Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)?	no	6676

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Edward Van Mecke

(SIGNATURE OF NAME)

2620

If person is of African descent, tear off this corner.

12-1-9-A

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1	Tall, medium, or short (specify which)?	Medium	Slender, medium, or stout (which)?	Medium
2	Color of eyes?	Brown	Color of hair?	Brown
			Bald?	no
3	Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)?	no		

WWI draft registration done in Sterling IL on 5 Jun 1917 while part of a traveling carnival - Edward Vanhek crossed off & becomes Van Mecke (?) -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6482/images/005247179_04991?pid=958389

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The war zone today gave up the names of hundreds of American soldiers saved from the torpedoed Tuscania.

But, as the war department statistical bureau worked to compile them that worried homes in this country might be assured of their son's safety, no new figures came in to extend hope that less than 125 United States soldiers had been lost.

Edward Van Hecke, 527 West 28th Place, Chicago, Ill.

Saved from Tuscania - "Dayton (OH) Daily News" Sunday 10 Feb 1918 p 2 and 3



The following casualties are reported by the commanding general of the American Expeditionary Forces: Killed in action, 51; missing in action, 57; wounded severely, 121; died of wounds, 14; died of disease, 5; wounded, degree undetermined, 88. Total, 336.

Killed in Action:

PVT. EDWARD VANHECKE,
Chicago, Ill.

"Tulsa (OK) Morning Times" Monday 2 Sep 1918 p 3

Official U. S. Bulletin

PUBLISHED DAILY under order of THE PRESIDENT of THE UNITED STATES by COMMITTEE on PUBLIC INFORMATION
GEORGE CREEL, Chairman * * * COMPLETE Record of U. S. GOVERNMENT Activities

VOL. 2

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1918.

No. 402

THE OFFICIAL U. S. BULLETIN: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1918.

11

CASUALTIES REPORTED BY GEN. PERSHING

Killed in Action.

WASH.
Edwards Van Hecke. Alvie Van Hecke,
527 West Twenty-eighth Place, Chicago, Ill.

"Official U.S. Bulletin" (US War Department) 3 Sep 1918 p 11 -

<https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/images/official-bulletin/pdf/18-09/2-402-september-03-1918-ww1-official-bulletin.pdf>

8753	VAN HECKE	251608	Edward	215
Rank Pvt.	Organization ILLS. Co.L, 9th Inf. 2nd Div.		Cause of death K/A	Date of Death 7/18/18
Date of Burial	Place of Burial—Unconfirmed		Cemetery Commune	No.
Authority File No. D 1306	Place of Burial—Confirmed Grave #26, American B/A Cty., Vierzy (Aisne)		Cemetery Commune	No. 615
Authority File No. D 11914	Disinterred and Reburied: Date 5/22/19 In: Grave #65, Plot #2, Sec. J, American Cemetery Ploisy, Aisne		Cemetery	No. 593
Emergency Address: Alvis Van Hecke (Brother) 527 W. 28th Place, Chicago, Ill.			Notified Emergency Address 1/4/19 1/15/20 - F.107	
R. B. Sketch No. 5309	Photograph No. F-5072-11276			
Grave Marker	Name Peg	Cross	Head Board	Bottle
		Yes		
Ident. Tags		Buried with body	On grave marker	
		No	No	
REMARKS: Identified by papers.				

Van Hecke, Edward

U.S. WWI Burial Cards ▾

<https://www.fold3.com/image/705230927?terms=van,edward,hecke>

REMOVAL PROJECT INFORMATION		
Body disinterred _____ for preparation and shipment.		
Arrived at (European port) _____, (date) _____		
Shipped to (U. S. port) _____, (date) _____, (boat) _____		
Arrived at (U. S. port) _____, (date) _____		
Shipped (date) _____ to (consignee) _____		
B/L or Express Order No. _____		
Received at Destination (date) _____ by _____		
Authority File No. D.	Reburied (date) 9-16-1922 Grave 30, Row 16, Block C, Oise-Aisne American Cemetery	(within custody of U. S.) Cemetery No.
60894		608
Emergency address notified of the reburial (date) 6-7-24 esm		

Reburial - <https://www.fold3.com/image/705230928?terms=van,edward,hecke>

VAN-HECKE EDWARD

Pvt Co L 9 Inf

Chicago Ill

Sn

Born 6/12/89

Enl

Died 7/18/18

Dis

X C 29 637

K

A

T 1 596 534

R

Cl

I 28 269

U. S. VETERANS BUREAU
MAIL AND RECORDS
Form 7202—Rev. Sept., 1926

INDEX CARD

2-13460

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MH-K3GL-M?cc=2968245&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AW75Q-4QZM>

Edwards Van Hecke, "United States, World War I American Expeditionary Forces Deaths, 1917-1919"

Page 55.

ILLINOIS. WHITE: INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL ARMY OR ASSIGNED THERETO UPON ENLISTMENT.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF DEATH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Van Hecke, Edwards	251,606	Pvt	Co L 9 Inf	July 18/18

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MW-K9NW-5?cc=2996059&personUrl=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPHW-521G>

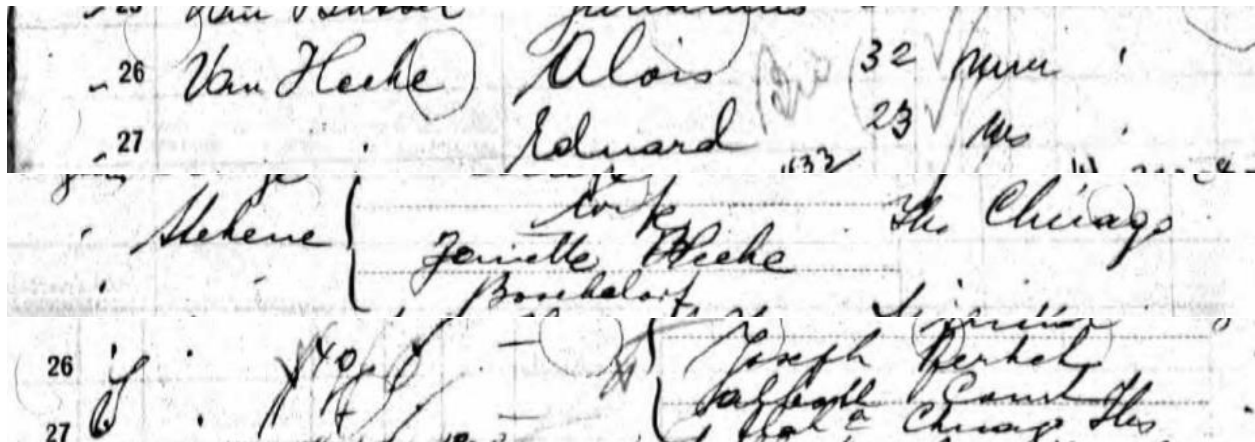
SOLDIERS OF THE GREAT WAR

279

ILLINOIS

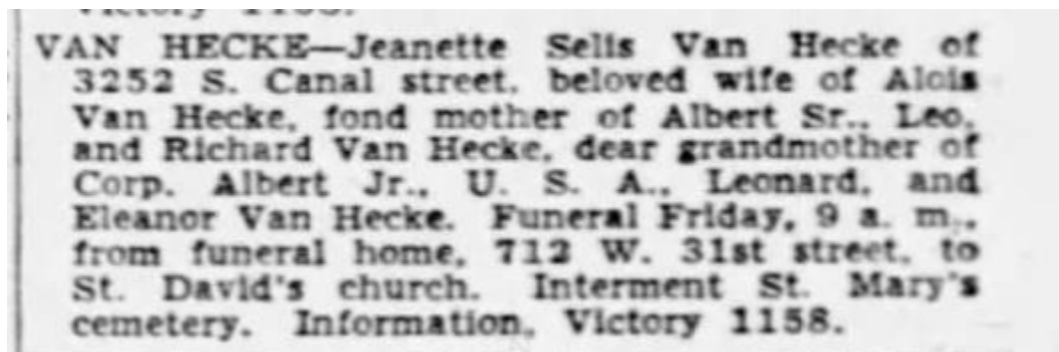
VAN HECKE, Edwards, Chicago.

Private, killed in action - https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/11723:61470?tid=&pid=&queryId=55be7a5ef93886161f0fabb09ea9cce8&_phsrc=hFB64343&_phstart=successSource



AEF casualties list: Edwards Van Hecke, pvt, Co L, 9th Inf, serial 251608

Siblings:



Obituary of Jeanette Selis Van Hecke, wife of Edward's brother Alois Van Hecke – "Chicago (IL) Tribune" Thursday 22 Nov 1945 p 47

V 520	
Family name Van Hecke	Given name or names Alois
Address 3252 S. Canal St.	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) P 40542	Title and location of court Superior Court, Cook Co., Ill.
Country of birth or allegiance Belgium	When born (or age) Nov. 18-1881
Date and port of arrival in U. S. Apr. 29-1913 X	Date of naturalization Sept. 24-1920
Names and addresses of witnesses Agnes Allison 525 W. 28th Place	
Wilhelmina Nordmeyer 3256 S. Canal St.	
U. S. Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form No. I-IP.	

Naturalization of Alois Van Hecke -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1629/images/31192_118273-08363?pld=5191008

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: Edward Van Hecke

Name variations: Van Hocke - Edwards - Vanhecke - hyphenated Van-Hecke

Military:

On Tuscania: Camp Travis Det. 2, Casuals - private

Serial number: 251,608

Entered service from: Chicago, Cook IL

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Edwards Van Hecke

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": brother "Alvie" [i.e. Alois] Van Hecke, 527 W. 28th Pl., Chicago IL

World War I draft registration (1917):

Veterans Administration Military Index: name hyphenated as Van-Hecke, no serial number

Enlisted: date not listed .

Discharged:

Address: Chicago IL

Rank/unit: private, Co. L, 9th Infantry

Birth & death:

Born: 12 Jul 1889 Belgium (in statement to FBI Oct 1917)

Died: 18 Jul 1918 France (on killed in action list as Edwards Vanhecke, in service)

Find A Grave record: 56640874 – presence on Tuscania indicated in flower

Burial location: Fere-en-Tardenois, Departement de l'Aisne, Picardie, France

Cemetery: Oise-Aisne American Cemetery & Memorial

Tombstone:

Father: Alphonse Van Hecke

Find A Grave:

Mother: Rosalie DeSmedt Van Hecke

Find A Grave:

Parents' marriage:

Spouse:

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage:

Children:

Siblings:

- Alois Van Hecke, 18 Nov 1881 Stekene, Belgium - 15 Jan 1962 Chicago, Cook IL. In 1930 census living in Chicago, Cook IL. Data available in Cook Co. IL & Archdiocese of Chicago IL records. Alois declared his intent to be a citizen 23 Jan 1920 in Illinois; naturalized in Cook Co. IL court on 24 Sep 1920, a resident of 3252 S. Canal St. He entered the US on 29 Apr 1913. – Husband of Jeanette Selis, d. Nov 1945 & buried in the same cemetery as Alois. – On his WWI draft registration (12 Sep 1918), Alois Van Hecke lived at 527 – 28th Place, Chicago, Cook IL. He was b. 18 Nov 1881 in Belgium & was a non-declarant. He was employed as a carpenter at Mather Car Works, 45th & Halsted St., Chicago IL. His wife was Jeannette Van Hick. He was tall, with a medium build. In the 1930 census, Alois Van Hick, 58 Belgium, lived with wife Jeanette, 58 Belgium at 3254 Canal St., Chicago, Cook IL. Neither had an occupation. - Buried St. Mary Cemetery & Mausoleum, Evergreen Park, Cook IL but not on Find A Grave as of 21 Apr 2023. Alois's WWI draft registration, filed the one before his brother Edward's - https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6482/images/005247179_04989?pld=9583893

Notes:

Pre-war:

Arrived in the US with brother Alois Van Hecke aboard "Lapland" which departed Antwerp, Belgium NYC on 29 Apr 1913.

Wartime:

Killed in action list appearing in newspapers 2 Sep 1918 spells name Edwards Vanhecke or Van Hecke of Chicago

Post-war:

Obituary:

Censuses:

Not a US resident in the 1900 or 1910 censuses