AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL

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Subject 1st. Aust. Division, 6th. Battalion. 16-5-16 to 17-6-16.

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		[Pte J. Johnson]			7.2.84

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6th. Australian Infantry Battalion.

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Statement by Repatriated Prisoner of War.
Taken at Ripon (Yorkshire) 23.11.18.
Original Manuscript filed with Records.

Administrative Headquarters,
Australian Imperial Force
"B" Records Section.

3rd December, 1918.

Reg.No. 4244.

Rank. Private.

Name. JOHNSON. J.

Company. "D" Company.

Battalion. 6th Battalion.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF CAPTURE .

(a) Date. 30th May, 1916.

(b) Place. Fleurbaix.

I was attached for duty with the 1st Pioneer Bn., as a sapper. We were working down the saps on the evening of 30.5.16 and had just blown a mine under a German sap. We came out of the sap at about 5 pm and were told by an officer, whose name I forget, to remain in the trench and build dug-outs. After two hours continuous bombardment, "Fritz" raided our trenches. Seven of us were then in a sap. The Germans penetrated our lines, saw us in the sap, and asked us to surrender. We refused, and they threw in a couple of bombs, wounding Sapper Manns. Then we decided that we had better surrender. We saw no officers or N.C.O's at the time, nor had we arms or ammunition with which to put up a fight. At about 8.45.pm I saw Pte. Cox. S. shot through the stomach. He rolled back into the sap , and I think, died. I was unconscious when made a prisoner.

(Sgd) J. JOHNSON.

Witness. (Sgd) Vivian N.W. WILLIAMS. Sgt.