

58<sup>th</sup> Battalion

7/10/17

Dear Mrs. Barlow,

Lest the mails containing letters written just after the fight at Bullecourt have, as I fear, been lost at sea, I must ensure that you get from me news of your brave husband. He was with us but a short time and we had just begun to know him properly and appreciate his fine qualities. He was my Grenade officer, keen and capable at the work. He was with me a few minutes before his death. His own portion of the work had been done but we were being very severely shelled and casualties were numerous. I lost many good men that 12<sup>th</sup> of May and as report after report was brought to me from different parts of the line that this officer and that had been put out of action Lt. Barlow came to me and said, "I am not wanted at Head Quarters now Sir; let me

go and take one of the leaderless platoons." I gave him permission to go and it was not 10 minutes before he was killed. His was the supreme sacrifice, putting aside all thought of personal danger so that he might serve his regiment in its bitter struggle. It was the spirit of men like him that won the day and gained for the 58<sup>th</sup> a splendid victory that will live in the history of the A.I.F.

Accept my sincere sympathy in the loss you have suffered, a loss which we all share.

yours sincerely  
Rashdenby Lt. Col.

P.S. All his effects were collected & forwarded to you through the usual official channels.