

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2564 Private
Gordon Robert Butt**

1st Battalion



0660702L

A.I.P. 1.

K. 9.4.17.

BUTT. 2564. G

He was killed at Demicourt on 9th. April, by a sniper. I saw his body lying in the trench about two minutes after death. We buried his body that night near the Beet-root factory, on the Demicourt Road. I was present at the burial. We put a little cross on the grave. He belonged to A.Co.

SA.

Reference: Sgt. G.H. Marks. 2394. A.Co.
Verlinethun.

Staples.
6.12.17.

H.B. Name, number and date of casualty checked
from Bn. records.

P.1

1st Australian Imperial Force

Butt, Pte. G. 2564
A Coy.

(K. April 21, 1917 Bets D &
3).

Heirnie. " Butt was killed instantaneously. He was shot through the head with a revolver by a German officer when we were clearing out the German dug-outs after taking their trenches at Her-
niss near Bullecourt. I saw him a few minutes after he was killed. I helped to bury him the same night in the open near the trench where he was killed. A cross was placed over his grave with his name, number and regiment, etc. Butt was in my platoon (III Plat. A Coy.) We used to call him " Billy". There was no other Butt in A Coy. He came from South Coast, New South Wales, somewhere near Helenburg. "

Eye witness - Not of death, but soon immediately after.

Description :- No nickname (unless " Billy" was) or scars, looked about 20. *P.1*

Informant :- Pte. Thomas Walter Brodie, 5977.

Home address :-

C/O Mrs. Dwyer, 110, Cal-
way St. Newtown,
N.S. Wales.

A Coy. III Pl. Aus. Infan. Force, 1st Batta
Red Cross Hospital, Richmond, Surrey.

16.1.18.
A.D. Shera.

1st Australians.

Butt. Pte. G. 2564.
A Coy.

K. Apl. 9/17.
Det D/B.

"I saw Butt walk up to the mouth of a German Dug-out and a German Officer shot him through the head with a revolver. He died almost immediately I saw him lying dead in the road. He was buried by my Pal C.L. Martin who has since been killed."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description:

Informant: Pte. J. Organ. 5191
1. Australians. A Coy.
Kitchener's Hospital,
Home address: Brighton.
Mt. Kera, ^{Kelso}
Via. Wollongong.
N.S.W. Australia.

P/ Cd 2nd

18/2/18
F.R. Harman.

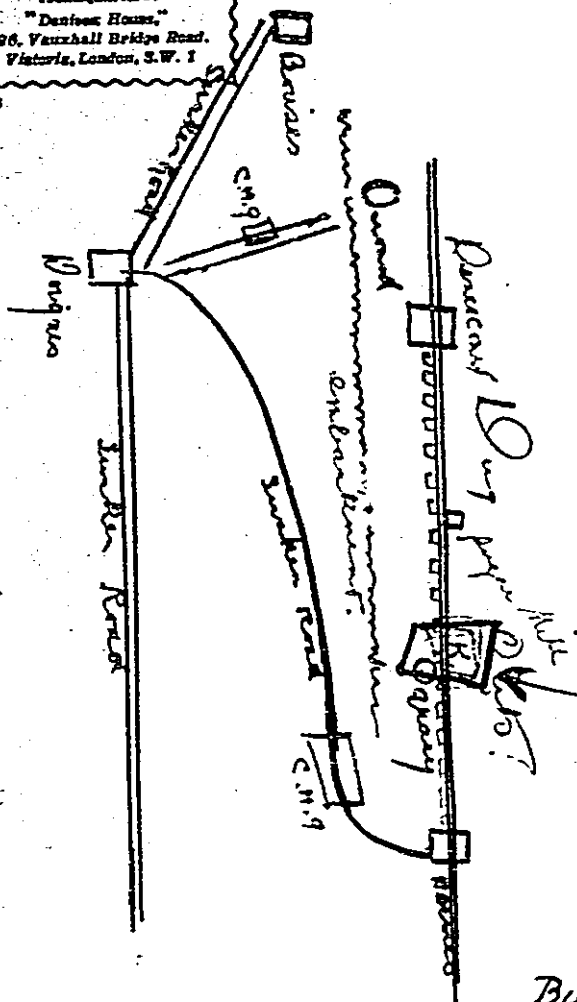
Soldiers' Christian Association.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

S.C.A. CAMP HOME.

191

Patron:
FIELD-MARSHAL
THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT,
K.G., K.T., K.P., Etc.
Chairman:
Col. D. F. DOUGLAS-JONES.
Secretary:
G. J. BYRNELL.
Headquarters:
"Dentons House,"
226, Vauxhall Bridge Road,
Victoria, London, S.W. 1



Combs

Combs
Healy

Bull Gordon
1 A.I.F.
A.Co. 3 pltn
H. Easter Monday
between Hermes
& Denicomb

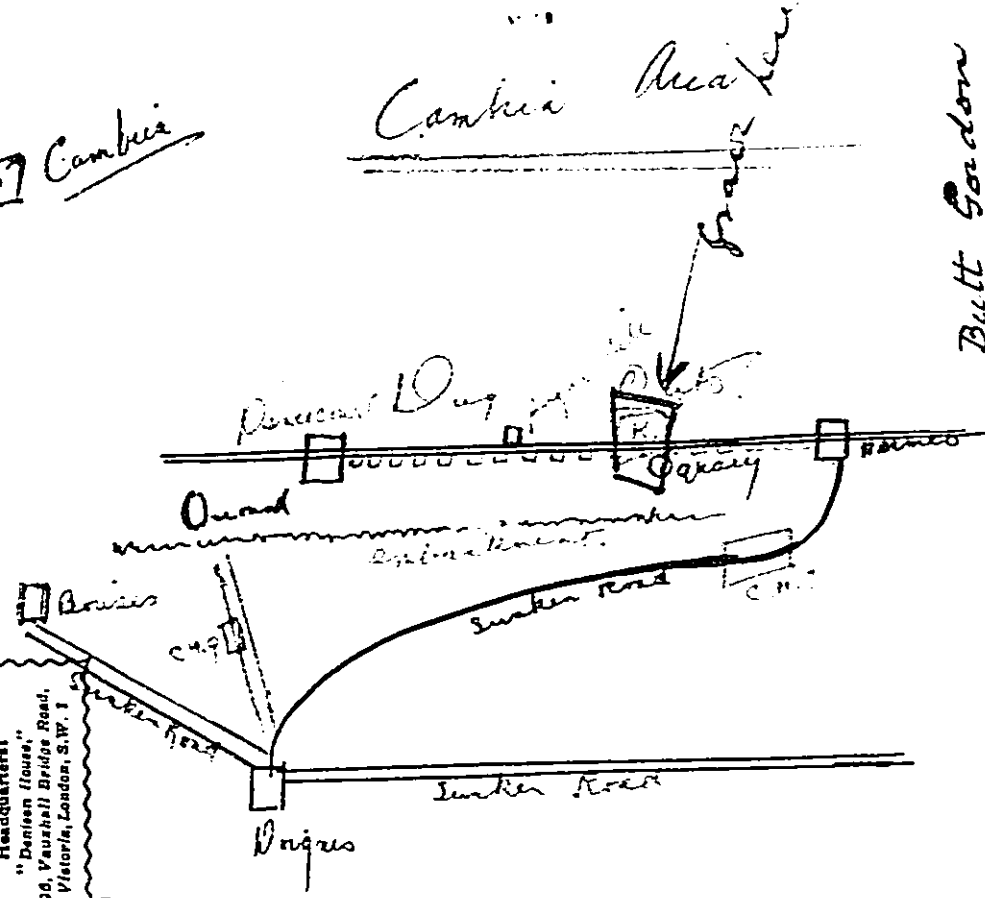
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 Secretary:
 G. J. BYRNELL.
 Headquarters:
 "Denison House,"
 296, Vauxhall Bridge Road,
 Victoria, London, S.W. 1

☒ Cambria



Butt Gordon

1 A.I.F.

A.Co. 3 plin

K. Easter Monday
between Hermin
& Denicomb

Barry

5046

S.M.

Whereabouts

1st Btr.

Letters returned from unit:

File in General Correspondence under
Inquiries for 2564 Gordon Bull 1st Btr.

No. 5046 from Barry S.M. at present in unit.

No. S.M. Barry
in verification room.

HQ 22-6-48

P.I.D.

L.A.W.

Stagers

21 98

regory Francis

14. Bde. M.G. Coy.

Berry Samuel. 2080. 2/4 Pioneer

O

Berry Stanley Percival 5786 16/23 Bde are
the only S Barrys in the A.I.F. verification

Berry 5042. T16 F. 1st Bde. HQ 27.6.18

PIE (not Sq/Maj) was at 7 Cows. Dep Boulogne
3.12.17. Disch to B/Dep from 39 G.H. 13.2.18

or Barry 5140. 21st Bde. HQ 27.6.18

Michael

are nearest numbers



Carded 22.11.17

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY
AND
ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.



Postal Address:
No. 4 BRANCH,
B.R.C.S.,
B.E.F.,
HAVRE.

Telephone No.
57 [Brit. Military].

Enquiry Department for
Wounded and Missing:
12, RUE GÉNÉRAL-GALLIÉNI,
HAVRE.

20th November 1917

Dear Madam.

Private S. L. Barry, 5046 of the 1st Battalion
A.I.F., A. Co., at present stationed at the 1st Australian
Base Depot, A.P.O. S/12, B.E.F. has asked me to obtain for
him a photograph of the grave of

Pte. Gordon Butt,
1st Battalion, A.I.F.
A. Co., 3rd Platoon

who was killed on Easter Monday, 1917, near the Sugar Mill
between Hermies and Dernicourt. I enclose herewith a
rough sketch shewing the position of the grave, and I shall
be glad if you will put this matter through the Graves
Registration Committee.

Yours faithfully,

H. F. Gallwey

W. E. M. Dept. (Havre Branch)

Miss V. Deakin,
Australian Red Cross Society,
54, Victoria Street,
London, S.W. 1

7. 15 PM

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

WOUNDED & MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU

7. 15 PM

4 FEB 88

30, GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W. 1.

UNDELIVERED FOR REASON STATED
RETURN TO SENDER

5046 Pte. S. H. BATT

1st Battalion (Infantry)

NOT USED
29 APR 1918
M. IN. RETURN TO SENDER

12 FEB 1918
M. IN. RETURN TO SENDER

London

25-64

G. Butt



22nd January 1918

5846 Pte S.M. Barry,
1st Battalion,
Australian Imperial Forces,
B.E.F.

Dear Pte Barry,

In answer to your enquiry through B.R.C.S. Havre for news of - 2564 Pte Gordon B^utt, 1st Btn. A.I.F., we regret to inform you of an unofficial report received from a man of his unit.

Informant stated that he saw Pte B^utt killed by a sniper at Dennicourt on April 9th and buried near the Beet-root factory on the Denicourt Road, a small cross being erected over the grave. He was present at the burial.

Further inquiries are being made and as soon as we obtain news we shall advise you.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

W. H. W.
Secretary



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

TELEPHONES
Tel: VICTORIA 8578.
VICTORIA 2576, 3377 & 5573.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

THE COMMISSIONERS,

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

35, GROSVENOR PLACE.

LONDON, S.W. 1.

February 4th, 1918.

5046 Pte. S.M. Barry,
1st Infantry Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
B.M.F.

Dear Pte. Barry,

In further answer to your enquiry for

No 2564 Pte. G. BUTT, 1st Battalion, A.I.F.

We regret to inform you of another unofficial report
given by a man of his unit when in hospital in England.

He stated that Pte. Butt was killed instantaneously
by a German Officer who shot him with a revolver when they
were clearing out the German dugouts after taking their
trenches at Hermies near Bullecourt, and he helped bury him
the same night in the open near the trench where he was killed,
a cross being erected over the grave. They called him "Billy",
and informant states that he came from near Helenburg, on the
South coast, New South Wales.

Should we obtain further details of Pte. Butt's death we
shall immediately forward it to you and trust that these reports
will be of some assistance to you his relatives.

yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin, Secretary.

*Type again
with Evening Bell
to H Payne &
104 B.A.S.S.
B.A.S.S.*

February 4th, 1918.

5046 Pte. J. M. Barry,
1st Infantry Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
B.M.F.

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In further answer to your enquiry for

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shall immediately forward it to you and trust that these reports
will be of some assistance to your relatives.

Yours faithfully,

For: H. E. J. Geary - L. B.

H. Payne Callney, Esq.,
Red Cross Searcher,
WOUNDED & MISSING BUREAU,
No 4. B. R. C. S., ~~Kew~~ ^{B.R.C.}

February 28th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

Will you kindly convey the following unofficial report concerning - ⁴2588 Pte. GORDON BUTT, 1st Battalion, A.I.F. - to 5046 Pte. S.M. Garry, 1st Bttn, A.I.F.

Our informant 5191 Pte. J. Organ, 1st Bttn, who is at present in Kitchener's Hospital, Brighton, certifies as follows:-

"I saw Butt walk up to the mouth of a German dugout and a German officer shot him through the head with a revolver. He died almost immediately I saw him lying dead in the road. He was buried by my pal C.I. Martin who has since been killed."

We regret the distressing nature of this report but as it contains direct evidence we feel it may be of some value.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. McConnell

SECRETARY.

File in General Correspondence