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

6225 Lance Corporal Arthur Bertram Bott

14th Battalion



0460806O

TELEPHONE CITY 2402.
CABLE ADDRESS:
BUDOLDEN, LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
BUDOLDEN LED LONDON.
CODES USED { A.B.C. 5TH. LIEBERS. WESTINGHOUSE. WESTERN UNION. PRIVATE.

J·W·MOLDEN
EXPORT BUYING & FINANCIAL AGENT.
FREIGHT, SHIPPING & INSURANCE AGENT.
8, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN OFFICES.
364a LITTLE COLLINS STREET.
MELBOURNE.
54, YORK HOUSE.
YORK STREET.
SYDNEY.

WEM/MD

Nov, 10th. 1917.

The Secretary,
(wounded & missing enquiry bureau)
Australian Red Cross Society,
54, Victoria Street,
S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

re 6225 L/Cpl. A.B.Bott.
14th. Battalion,
A.I.F.

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 8th. inst., copy of which I have despatched to his relatives.

Very much appreciating your kind attention.

Yours faithfully,

W. M. E. Maine

TELEPHONE CITY 2402.
CABLE ADDRESS:
BUDOLDEN, LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
BUDOLDEN LED LONDON.
CODES USED { A.B.C. 5th
LIEBERS.
WESTINGHOUSE.
WESTERN UNION.
PRIVATE.

J·W·MOLDEN
EXPORT BUYING & FINANCIAL AGENT.
FREIGHT, SHIPPING & INSURANCE AGENT.
8, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN OFFICES.
364a LITTLE COLLINS STREET.
MELBOURNE.
54, YORK HOUSE,
YORK STREET.
SYDNEY.

WEM/MD

re Yk. A.B. Batt 6225 14 Bttn

January 3rd. 1918.

The Australian Red Cross Society,
Wounded & Missing Bureau,
36, Grosvenor Place,
S. W. 1

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 29th. ulto. for which I beg to thank you.

Yours faithfully,

W. M. Maine

TELEPHONE CITY 2402.
CABLE ADDRESS:
BUDOLDEN, LONDON.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"BUDOLDEN LED LONDON."
CODES USED { A.B.C. 6th / LIEBERS. / WESTINGHOUSE. / WESTERN UNION. / PRIVATE.

J·W·MOLDEN
EXPORT BUYING & FINANCIAL AGENT.
FREIGHT, SHIPPING & INSURANCE AGENT.
8, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN OFFICES.
364a LITTLE COLLINS STREET.
MELBOURNE.
54. YORK HOUSE.
YORK STREET.
SYDNEY.

WEM/ED

December 4th. 1917.

The Secretary,
Wounded & Missing
Enquiry Bureau,
36, Grosvenor Place,
S. W. 1.

Dear Sir,

6225 L/Col. A.B. BOTT, 14th. Batt. A.I.F.

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 3rd. inst. re above, which I am sending out to Melbourne by first opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Molden

A.I.F. 14 — BOTT Lce.Cpl.A.B. 6225

M. April 11th 1917.

See Battn Note. Bullecourt.
Pte Maslin of the 14th and others saw him wounded and either taken prisoner or at any rate unable to get away when the Germans overrun us.

Informant: F.J.Flint. 6262.
No.25 General Hospital
BOULOGNE 25.5.17.

AAPW

Written Pte Maslin 12.6.17

Havre — 25th Oct. 1917.

14th AUSTRALIANS — BOTT. L/Cpl. A.B. 6225

M. 11.4.17.

He was in D Co., 15th Pltn. He was very well liked and was a prominent speaker at Debates held between Companies. He was a fair headed chap with prominent tooth, which enlargened his mouth when he smiled or spoke. His mate was Allan McDonald, (L/Cpl. at the time, but now a Sergt.) D Co., 16th Pltn. He left the battalion with a withered arm about the 18th Oct. McDonald told me that he saw Bott lying in a shell hole, but could not say if he was dead. I think that Sergt. McDonald writes to Bott's relatives.

Informant: Pte. J.E. Saunders, 217
14th Australians, D Co., 16th Pltn.,
H. M. Hospital.

JTK

Written Sgt. McDonald 2-11-17

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

BOTT.
L/Cpl.A.B. 6225

Previously reported Missing 11.4.17 now reported Killed in Action 11.4.17

Cert.by H.Q.23.11.17.

London.
28.11.17.

P.I.

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

Bott.
L/Cpl. A. B. 6225

"Killed in Action 11.4.17"

re No.6225 L/Cpl.A.B.Bott 14th Battn. early He was a great personal friend of mine and on my return to the 14th Battn. at the beginning of August I made exhaustive enquiries with a view of finding out what really happened to him on that fatal 11th April. My enquiries failed to elicit any tangible information, & personally I consider that he was killed in the attack. He was never seen in the enemy trench by any who returned, in fact I enquired after him on the day of the attack during the time that we had a temporary hold on that portion of the Hindenburg line not one of the many I questioned had seen a sign of him, so when I ascertained that he had not gone through the dressing station, I had very little hope for him. I have written and acquainted his people to this effect, as I thought it would be better than raising any false hopes. You asked me for a short description of my friend. He was short, (app.5'4") fair, and thickset. On one side of his face he had a birth mark, a liver coloured blotch.

Letter from:- Allan M.McDonald
Sergeants Mess,
Verne Citadel. 28.11.17.

London.
4.12.17.

Off.M.
P.I.

POST CARD

HELP TO WIN THE WAR
BUY WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
ELIGIBLES ENLIST

HELP TO WIN THE W
BUY WAR SAVINGS CERTIF
ELIGIBLES ENLIS

Prisoner of War

No. 6220

L/Cpl. A. B. Bott, Kia 11.4.17
D. Coy. 14th Battalion
Head Camp of War xx
Gustrow. I. M.
Germany

10 Connellyst
Brunswick
Victoria
Australia.
3/12/17.

Dear Burt, Ans by post. Date 14.2.18

We are longing to hear from you. Hope you are well, and can write soon.

With love from all,

Lucy

J.F.Holden, Esq,
8, Leadenhall Street,
E.C.

December 29th, 1917.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you of an unofficial report from Sgt. Allan,McDonald, when at Herne Citadel, Weymouth, about No 6225 L/Cpl. A.B.BOTT, 14th Battalion, A.I.F. who was Killed in Action on 11.4.17.

He writes to this effect "LCpl. Bott was a great personal friend of mine and on my return to the 14th Bttn, at the beginning of August I made exhaustive enquiries with a view of finding out what really happened to him on that fatal 11th April. My enquiries failed to elicit any tangible information & personally I consider that he was killed in the attack. He was never seen in the enemy trench by any who returned, in fact I enquired after him on the day of the attack during the time we had a temporary hold on that portion of the Hindenburg line not one of the many I questioned has seen a sign of him, so when I ascertained that he had not gone through the dressing station, I had very little hope for him. I have written and acquainted his people to this effect, as I thought it would be better than raising any false hopes. You asked me for a short description of my friend. He was short (app 5'4") fair and thickset. One one side of his face he had a birth mark, a liver coloured blotch".

Should we obtain further news of him we shall advise you immediately. His relatives must be aware this report is not more detailed.

Yours faithfully,

LMW.

SECRETARY.

11.6.17

Re MASLIN / 14 Batt A IF
BEF

for

6.225 /

Lieut A. B. BOTT

14 Batt IF

M. 11. 4 17

12.6.17

FRONT B. E. F.

TION AS TO

Rank	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Casualty.
Pte	1 Aust. Pioneer Batt.			W. unoff M. Mar 24. 17.

N BY

Rank.	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Home Address.
Pte	1 Aust Pioneer Batt.	A	III	4 the Crescent Footscray Melbourne Victoria

DF INFORMANT (in first person).

that on March 24th dressing for parade aeroplane dropped a bomb about 20 feet. He was wounded behind the ing station called Edgehill and 3 station. He was in III platoon too and

RECEIVED
- 8 JUN. 17
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

ER THE FOLLOWING :—

t, give name, number, etc., the man who told him.	—
ormant says a man was killed, death instantaneous, and was ody buried, and if so where?	—
here any other man of same e in Co. or Battalion?	Yes brother who was bugler to the company.

20 Bob.

Signature of Searcher R. C. Paul.

Date of Report June 4th / 17

1917, Feb, Apr, Aug 1918 and Special Reinforcements

- 1 to 4 Signal Troops - March 1917 to Feb 1918 Reinforcements

- 1 Signal Squadron Engineers - Dec 1917 to Feb 1918 Reinforcements

31.8.17

Mr. J.W.Molden
8. Leadenhall Street. City

Dear Sir,

In reply to your enquiry for 6225 L/Cpl Bott. 14th. Battn. A.I.F. we regret to state that he is still officially reported "Missing" as from 11.4.17

We have received a report from men of the 14th. Battalion, who say that during the attack on Bullecourt their left flank was exposed, and most of their men were killed, while some were taken prisoners.

Some of the unit are reported to have seen Bott wounded when the enemy surrounded them.

We regret that so far, L/Cpl Bott's name has not come through on the German lists of prisoners of war.

We are sorry we are unable to give any more definite news but are continuing our enquiries and will advise you immediately any information comes to hand.

Assuring you of our sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

V. Dyer
Secretary

2.11.17

Sgt. Allan McDonald
10. Coy. XVI Pltn.
14th Batn. A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Abt. 6225
L/Cpl. A.B. Bott
14th Batn. A.I.F.

M. 11-4-17

4.11.17
A.I.F.

November 8th, 1917.

Mr.J.W.Holden,
8, Leadenhall St,
E.C.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you of another unofficial report received about No 6225 L/Cpl.A.B.Bott,
14th Battalion,
A.I.E.

Informant being No 217 Pte.J.E.Saunders of the same unit.

He stated that he was told by L/Cpl.Bott's mate, Allan McDonald, that he had seen him lying in a shell hole but he could not say if he were dead. Informant adds that L/Cpl. Bott, who was fair with prominent teeth, was very well liked and a prominent speaker at company debates.

We have written to Sgt.McDonald for further details and as soon as we receive further news we shall let you know.However, such a long time has passed since his casualty occurred that we fear there can be little hope of his being alive.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

LAW

SECRETARY.

Ack
4 p.c
F.M. 30.11.17.

6225

Lcpl A.B. BOTT

14 Batt'n A.I.F.

K.A. 11.4.17

Off M
P.I. 5.

Sergeant. Mess
Verne Citadel
Portland
28/11/17

The Secretary
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

Dear Sir

Your enquiry re the grave No. 6225 Lcpl A. B. Bott 14 Batt'n, only reached me last night. He was a great personal friend of mine & on my return to the 14th Batt'n at the beginning of August I made exhaustive enquiries with a view of finding out what really happened to him on that fatal 11th April. My enquiries failed to elicit any tangible information, personally I consider that he was killed in the attack. He was never seen in the enemy trench by any who returned, in fact I enquired after him on the day of the attack, during the time that we had a temporary hold on that portion of the Hindenburg line. Not one of the many I questioned, had seen a sign of him, so when I ascertained that he had not gone through the dressing station, I had very little hope for him. I have written acquaintances people to this effect as I thought it would be better than raising any false hopes. You asked for a short description of my friend. He was short (abt 5'-4") fair & thickset, on one side of his face he had a birth mark, a liver-colored blotch. I'm sorry that I can render any other information to assist you. Yours sincerely

Alan M. McDonald

36, Grosvenor Place,

December 3rd, 1917.

Mr. J.W.Molden,
8, Leadenhall Street.
E.C.

re 6225 L/Cpl.A.B.BOTT, 14th Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported Missing is now reported "Killed in Action on 11.4.17".

We are making further inquiries in the hope of learning details of his death and will send you any information that we receive.

Regretting the distressing character of this news.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.