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

5302 Private
Edward Bettam

23rd Battalion



0370302F

32. K Oct 13/17 Dec 5/13 Hogarth C. 2672.

Hogarth was killed at Celtic Wood while with the M. G. Sec.; was resting when a shell came killing 3 & wounding 2. I was with them and had just left when the shell came. I got S/Bo to get him out and I saw him buried by my mates in the rear of the front trench at Celtic Wood. A small wooden cross with the three names cut in being erected the other two being Pte P. McGoldrick (Hogarth's pal) (of Perth) and P McCagh (of Arrino Wa) — Hogarth (of Freemantle) was a particular friend of mine and a fine fellow. These three were three of the best in our battalion & the boys thought the world of Charlie (Hogarth).

N.A. Rand 7.5.18

N.R. Elvidge Cpl W.R. 4066 3

Midland Junction Wa. 32 CCo Westham

225225 Pte.J.Bettam,

Mrs. Bryan,
The Hollies
9, Chester Rd,
New Oscott, Erdington,
Nr. Birmingham.

Byoulla, Broadlands Road,

Highgate, N.6.

10th May. 8

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you that we have received an unofficial report respecting - 5302 Pte.E. BETTAM, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F. - 5399 Pte.T.E. Matthews, of same unit, when interviewed in an Australian Camp, in France, stated that on Oct 9th, 1917, he saw Pte. Bettam severely wounded in the legs, lying in a shell hole in No Man's Land at Daisy Wood. Pte. Matthews pulled him out, but he could not walk and said he was badly hurt. Pte.Matthews was a stretcher bearer and promised to go back for him as soon as he had taken the man he was carrying to the dressing station - but he was unable to go back. The ground was held.

We are continuing enquiries in the hope of obtaining more definite news - meantime we fully realise and sympathise with your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss-) [illegible]

5327 Pte.W.F.Collins,
23rd Bttn, A.I.F., 19 Hut,
5th Camp, No 3 Command
depot. HARDCOTT.

Name.	Number and Unit.	Inquiry and Remarks.
Reese Pte. A. B.	6554 - 15th Btn.	no news for 6 mths.

Final Draft 2/10/19.

c/o Mr. Bryan
The Hollies
9 Chester Road
New Oscott
Erdington
Mr Birmingham

Re: 5302 Bethany Rd.
23rd Jan.

(2) (In Supplement April 13/18)
~~Not worth reporting~~

Stevens Lieut (2nd) A2. 45A1F K Feb 7/18

He belonged to A Co & was in charge of a night patrol early in February. He approached one of our posts which had not been informed of the password and was killed instantly by a bullet through the head*, the sergt with him being severely wounded. I was not present. His grave, which I have seen, is in the funeral cemetery on the left of Spoilbank & is marked with a specially good cross.

Informant QMS. CK Brent 2788 45A1F. B Co.

A Hampell
Dartford April 13/18

* A bomb was thrown at him, but it was a bullet which killed him.

M

No 225225 J. Betten,

Byculla,

Broadlands Road,

Highgate, N.6.

28th May 1918.

Re 5502 Edward Betten 23rd Battn., A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

We deeply regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported wounded and missing is now reported killed in action on 9/10/17.

We are making further enquiries in the hope of learning full details of his death and will immediately forward to you any information that we receive.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

Miss

Secretary.

INQUIRY BUREAU, 39 BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

Cross Index No. Bath 9112.

NAME (Surname first) Beresford, Bernhard. *No.* 1066. *Rank* Pte.

Regiment 35th. Australian Infantry. *Coy.* D. *Plat.* 14.

Hospital Bath War. *Ward* X. 1.

Arrived April 10th. *At Front from* November, 1916. *To* April, 1918.

Home Address Limeburners Creek, N.S.W.

Depot Newcastle (Broadmeadow).

GIVES INFORMATION REGARDING:—

Missing man Brunker, J.H. *Casualty?* K.I.A.

Regiment 35th. A.I.F. *Battln.* *Coy.* D. (16) *No.* 1076.

Red Cross List dated April 1st. *page* 40.

3 S

The 3rd Division advanced to attack at Paschendaele on October 20th. The 35th Batt: came into action at daybreak (Oct. 6th and 7th). We were heavily shelled and all our causalties were caused by shrapnel. I did not see Brunker killed but his body was found and buried [illegible]s. I enquired about him particularly

Mrs Bryan,

The Hollies,

9 Chester Road,

New Oscott, Erdington,
Nr. Birmingham.

28th May 1918.

Re 5302 Edward Bettam 83rd Battn., A.I.F.

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported missing is now reported killed in action on 9/10/17.

We are making further enquiries 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,
Miss
Secretary.

(17) Pritchard

Pritchard T 2717. 50 A I F K Sept 20/17

Tom Pritchard of A Co (M G) was killed outright by a shell at Hell Fire corner about 20 yds from the Y M C A dug-out which is 3 miles behind the line at Polygon Wood. Another man was also killed & one wounded by the same shell. He was hit in the head & body and I saw him brought in.

One of the best jumners in the Co & very popular. No one else of his name in the Co. He was a man of about 5 ft 10. I did not know his number. He was buried at Hell Fire corner & I have seen his grave which was marked at the time with a rough cross.

Informant Pte W Bennetts 3500 50 A I F A III

A 3

A G Campbell
Dartford April 3/18

5527 W.F.Collins,

23rd Battalion,

A.I.F.,

B.E.F.

28th May 1918.

Re 5502 Edward Bottom 23rd Battn.,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 9/10/17.

We are making further enquiries 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,

Miss

Secretary.

A.I.F. 23rd Btn

BETTAM
Edward 5302

"MISSING"

Killed in action 9-10-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 14-5-18.

M

London
16-5-18

25rd Batn
A.I.F.

BETTAM
Edward 5302

"Wounded" 9.10.17.

Wded 2nd occ. No further report.

Cert. by A.I.F.HdQtrs 17.11.17.

No further report.

Cert. by letter from Rouen 22.11.17.

P.I

London.
27.11.17.

[redacted]

23rd Batn
A.I.F.

E
BATTAM
Edward 5302

"Wounded 9.10.17."

Wounded 2nd occ. No further report.
Cert. by A.I.FlHdQtrs 17.11.17.

No further report.
Cert. by Rouen letter 22.11.17. & 4.12.17.

P.I

London.
15.12.17.

A.I.F. 23rd Btn

BETTAN
Edw. 5302

"Wded-Nov-Dec"

Wounded & Missing 9-10-17 - previously reported Wounded
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 21-1-18.

M & P.I

London
23-1-18

Havre 28th April 1918.

23rd A.I.F. Bottam P. No.5302.

W/M 9th Octr 1917.

I knew Pte Bottam of B. Co. (?) he came from Melbourne in the 14th to the 23rd reinforcement with me in the 'Miltiades' sailing 1st August 1916. I was S/B and saw him badly hit in the legs, he was lying in a shell hole with water in it in No Man's Land at Daisy Wood on the 9th Octr 1917 daylight. I pulled him out and left him lying in the open. He could not walk. He talked to me, he said he was badly ~~wounded~~ hit. I promised to go back for him when I had taken the man I was carrying to the D/Station. I was not able to get back. We held the ground.

Inf:- Pte T.E.Mathews No. 5399.
23rd A.I.F. A.Co. III Pltn. S/B.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

M
P!

1 copy

p.c. 26-11-17.

Old Pass Hfl.
Notice of Hfl.

The Hollies
9 Chester Road
New Oscott
Erdington
Nr. Birmingham
Nov. 14th 1917

The Red Cross Society

Mrs Bryan is writing to say that her Brother 5302 Edward Bettam B Company. 23rd Batt 6 Inf Brigade A I F. Serving with the B E F 1914 in France. was wounded on the 9th of Oct since then we cannot get any news of him either from the War Office or himself. We should be very grateful if you could find out for us where he is as we are geting very anxious indeed about him. Trusting you will be able to find out something for us as soon as possiable

Yours truly
E Bryan

AUSTRALIAN
RED CROSS.

Byculla
Highgate
21/11/17

C.W.S. 23.11.17

Sir

I wish to apply to you for a little bit of Information concerning my Brother Pte Edward Bettam number not known he was wounded on the 9th of October this year and is in the 23rd Batt. I have written to Headquarters but they said that they have had no word from Hospital about him so I thought that if he was a Prisoner of war that

you would know as you
Send Parcels to them I
would be very grateful to
you if you would let me
know as soon as Possible
Thanking you in anticipation
I am
Yours Truly
No 225225 Pte J. Bellam
Byculla
Broadlands Rd
Highgate N 6
London

November 26th, 1917.

225225 Pte.J.Bettam,
Byculla,Broadlands Rd,
Highgate, N.6.

Dear Sir,

With reference to you inquiry for

5302 Pte.Edward Bettam,
23rd Battalion,
A.I.F.

we beg to inform you that the latest official report states him to have been wounded on 9.10.17,(2nd occasion). We have wired to France for further information concerning him and will advise you as soon as we hear.

Hoping that we may have good news to send you.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Ryan

SECRETARY.

AUSTRALIAN

RED CROSS.

Rms. 10.12.14

Hurdcott
Wilts
Dec 4th

To — The Australian Red
Cross Society

Sirs Would you
make inquiries, & inform
me as to the Where-abouts
of Pte E. Bettam (5302) B. Coy
23rd Battn. (who was wounded
at Ypres on Oct 9th)

— I remain
Yours Truly
5327 Pte W. F. Collins
23rd Battalion
19 Hut 5 Camp
No 3 Command

Hurdcott
Wilts

February 1st, 1918.

Mrs. Bryan,
The Hollies, 9, Chester Rd,
New Oscott, Erdington,
Nr. Birmingham.

Re 5302 EDW. BETTAM, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry for the above soldier who was previously reported Wounded, we regret to inform you that he is now reported Wounded and Missing since 9.10.17.

Further enquiries are being made and we hope soon to send you detailed information.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

F.M.B.

5327 Pte.W.F.Collins, February 1st, 1918.
23rd Bttn, A.I.F., Hut 19,
No 5 Camp, No 3 Command Depot,
Hurdcott.

Re 5302 Edw.BETTAM, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for the above soldier who was previously reported Wounded, we regret to inform you that he is now reported Wounded and Missing since 9.10.17.

Further enquiries are being made and we hope soon to send you detailed information.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

February 1st, 1918.

225225 Pte.J.Bettam,
Byoulea, Broodlands Rd,
Highgate, N.6.

Re 5302 Edw.BETTAM, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported Wounded is now officially reported as Wounded and Missing since 9.10.17.

We are making further enquiries in the hope of obtaining more definite information as we fully realise your anxiety about him.

Assuring you of our sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

J.M.B.