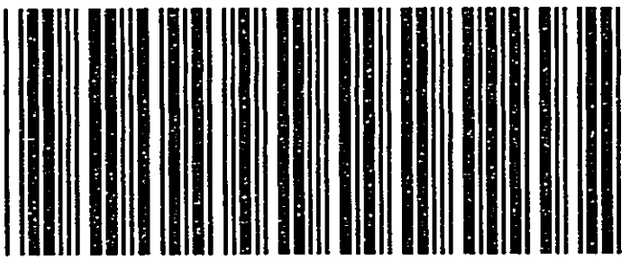
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1155 Private Laurence Stanley Denham

60th Battalion



0910404I

A.I.F. 60.

N
DENHAM, L.S. II55

K. Sept. 26th 1917. Det D/B.

S/B. A. Walker in A Coy. III. bandaged up Denham who was very badly wounded, and would be able to give information about him. He is with the Battalion still

Inf. Pte H.C.Rowe I278 A. III.
55 Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 20 3 18.

JT.

M

D

60th A.I.F.

Denham. L.S. 1155
A Coy.

(K. Sept. 26/17.)
Det. D/B.

The Battn. was in the trenches at Polygon Wood on Sept.26. when a very heavy shell fire was opened by the enmy. Denham was hit by a shell, and the back of his head was blown off. I was told this by Cpl. Blair, who was with him at the time and was wounded and is now in England with the training Battn. for the 5th Division A.I.F. I cannot say if he was buried. I knew him well and have no doubt as to identity."

Eyewitness: Not of casualty. Told by: Cpl. Blair, now with Training Batt. of 5th Div.A.I.F. in England.

Description:

H. Lawlace

Informant: Pte. W.F.Best 2627
60th A.I.F. A Coy. 4 Pl.
Bath War Hospital.

Home address:
31 Blair St,
Moreland, Victoria,
Australia.

written Blair
30-4-18.

17/4/18.
F.J.Kingsley.

M
P1

Havre. 2nd. May. 1918.

60th. Australians. Denham, L. S. 1155.

K. September. 26/1917. Date. D/B.

Private O'Connor, B. Company, told me that he was in the same party when he was killed. He was with a fatigue party at the time near Zonnebeke Lake. They had no time to bury him. He was about 5 feet 7, dark, about 20 or 22 years of age.

Inf:- Private. J. S. Thwaites. 1515.
60th. Australians. B.
Hospital Ship.

CKR.

William O'Connor
22.5.18.

M
PI

A. I. F. 60th Battn.

DENHAM
L. S. 1155.

KILLED in ACTION 26/9/17.

Re 1155 Pte. L. S. Denham A Company 60th Battalion, though uncertain whether he was actually buried I am perfectly convinced that on the morning of the 26th. September the above mentioned soldier received a severe head wound and was taken to the advance dressing station in an unconscious condition. Pte Denham was about 5' 10" in height. was distinguished by his Auburn complexion which was made more noticeable by his slight build.

NOTE:- This report was received unsigned. It is evidently sent us by Cpl. Blair, 60th Battalion, to whom we wrote, 30/4/18.

London
29/5/18.

H
P. I.

60th. Battn. A. I. F.

Denham, L. S. Pte. No. 11155.

A. Company.

Killed. Sept. 26th. 1917. Det. D/B.

I saw him killed instantly by a shell whilst we were in the front line between Glencorse Wood and Polygon Wood, Ypres. He was taken back and buried near the Dressing Station, by a party from the Dressing Station. I could not give particulars of burial. I knew him in the company. He came from Taffa, Victoria.

Description. Age. 22. Height. 5-5. Complexion. Fair. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. Walker, A. No. 2258. A. Company. 60th. Battalion.

Taken at.
No. 4. Command Depot.
31. 7. 18.
S. W.

S. Whitmee,
No. 4. Command Depot,
Hurdcott.

J. E. A.

M P. 1

A.I.F. 60th Btn

DENHAM
Lawrence Stanley 1155

"K/A. 26-9-17"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt.Mills 10-10-19.

H

LONDON 22-10-19

11155
L. S. Denham
60 Battn
Ain A 26.9.17 M
P

Dear Madam

Am pleased to be able to supply the following information as concerning the deceased soldier

11155.
Pte L. S. Denham
A. Coy 60th Battn

Though uncertain (to say) if he was actually buried I am perfectually convinced that on the morning of the 26th September the above mentioned soldier received a severe head wound and was taken to the advance dressing station in an unconscious condition

Pte. Denham

Standing About. 5 ft 10 in light was distinguished by his Auburn complexion which made more noticeable by his slight build

Note This report was received unsigned it is evident sent us by Capt Davies. 60th Battn. as soon as dead

London 24-5-18 30-4-18

1455 Bty Sgt. Major A.F. McDonald,
41st Battery, 12th Army,
Field Artillery Brigade,
A.I.F. B.E.F.

May 31st, 1918.

Dear Sgt. McDonald,

We have received an unofficial report concerning the death of -

1155 Pte.L.S. DENHAM, 60th Battalion, A.I.F.

The report is unsigned but is presumably from a Cpl. Blair of the same unit to whom we wrote for particulars.

He states:- "Though uncertain whether 1155 Pte.L.S. Denham A.Coy, 60th Bttn, was actually buried I am perfectly convinced that on the morning of the 26th September he received a severe head wound and was taken to the advance dressing Station in an unconscious condition. He was about 5'10" in height, and was distinguished by his Auburn complexion which was made more noticeable by his slight build."

We trust we may still succeed in obtaining much more definite information to send you and we fear it is somewhat unlikely as it is so long now since your friend's casualty took place and we have been making exhaustive enquiries for details of his death and burial.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Jessie McConnell

SECRETARY.

pc28.1.18.

In The Field
18/1/18

Dear Miss Deakin

I would be glad if you would write, & enquire for particulars concerning C.S.M. Denham of the 60th Battalion & Company Machine Gunners. 5th Division. & they would find if he was buried in a regular cemetery or in the field. He was killed at Ypres on the 26th September 1917. The people should be notified to whom he is buried & where the cemetery is. He was married & his wife lives at [illegible] I should like to get a photo of his grave as they suggested. That would be much better than a photo of the cemetery. I should be glad if you should learn any particulars of him, & your note to Mrs Denham. Lyabob. Bletchley Bucks England who will know & appreciate any thing you may learn. If he is buried in a Registered Cemetery I would be grateful if you [illegible]

2.

let me know.

Yours faithfully

1455 B S M. Mc Donald A E.

47th Bty

12th (Army) Te. A.B.

A Jct Sp.

2nd May, 1918.

1455 Sgt. A.E.McDonald,
41st Battery, 12th Army,
F.A.B., A.I.F., B.E.F.
France.

Dear Sgt. McDonald,

We are sending you an unofficial report we have received concerning your friend-

1155 Pte. L.S. DENHAM, 60th Battalion, A.I.F.

from a man in his unit.

3627 Pte. W.F. Rost who was interviewed recently in Bath War Hospital, and who stated as follows:- "The Bttn was in the trenches at Polygon Wood on Sept 26th when a very heavy shell fire was opened by the enemy. Denham was hit by a shell and was killed instantly. I was told this by Cpl.Blair, who was with him at the time and was wounded and is now in England with the Training Battalion for the 5th Division A.I.F. I cannot say if he was buried. I knew him well and have no doubt as to identity."

We have now written to Cpl. Blair and will advise you as to his reply and we trust very much he may be able to give us particulars of his burial.

Assuring you of our sympathy and with all good wishes to you yourself.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY. Baker