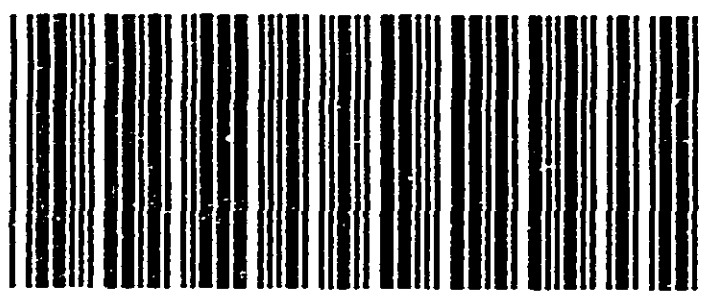
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

3755 Private
David Edward Arnold

55th Battalion



0131005A

55th Battn.
A.I.F.

ARNOLD.
L.F. 3755.

"Killed 16-4-18"

He was of A.Company. I Platoon. On 16th April at Villers Bretonneux, he was in machine gun post. Killed outright by shell, same shell killed Lieut Collins and 4 other men. I was in the line at the time about 60/70 yards away from the post. He was taken out that night by S/Bearer for burial, they were all taken away at the same time. I have not seen his grave, but in all probability would be buried in Aubigny Ceburs Military Cemetery. Knew him well, we had been in the same company for 2 years. Christian name Dave, came from Sydney.

Informant:- Pte.G.A.Parker. 2464.
55th Battn. A.Coy.I Platoon.
HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.
London.
11-9-18.
J.E.A.

S.

55th Batn: Arnold, D.H. 3755.

K. 16/4/18.

I saw Arnold's grave in the cemetery at Aubigny, he was buried together and in the same grave as Lieut Collins of the same Batn:. I saw the cross on it giving full particulars of them both. The Batn: colours was also placed on the grave.

55th Batn: Bond, H.D. Pte. 3358.

16 A. Dartford. 17/8/18.

R.I.P.

55. A.I.F. Arnold, L. . 3756

K. April 16/18
Lots. E/B.

"I know that L/Cpl. L. .Arnold (55.A.I) was killed instantaneously by a shell about April 16th, while we were holding the line on the left of Villers Bretonneux. Several others were killed at the same time. Lt. Collins (55.A.I) Pte. Robinson (55.A.I) and Pte. Lay (55.A.I) too. They were buried at Aubigny cemetery. I have seen their graves. There was a cross put up, and their names were on it. I was on an opposite post, and saw the shell burst. I sent up some stretcher bearers. S/Bearer Christie (55.A.IV) now Co.Cook, also S/B. Maley (55.A.IV)."

Eyewitness: He saw the grave.

Description: 7... inforcements, 17 Or 19 in. Hair, single

Informant: 3.1. H. Coxe. 2525.
55. .I.F. A Coy. IV .l.
3rd Southern General Hospital,
The Base, Oxford.

Home Address:
20..18. 56 Wynnham St, Alexander, Sydney. N.S. .
H.A.F-Cambridge.



55th BATTALION

ARNOLD D.P. Private No. 3755
Collins A.J. Lieutenant.

"KILLED 10-4-18"

I knew both the above - they were in No. 1 Platoon. We were in the front line at Villers Bretonneux on the above date. They were supporting our outpost. I did not see them killed but was told that a shell burst in the trench and killed six of them including the above. This was in the morning. That same night, as I was doing despatch running, I saw Collins and Arnold being carried out of the trench, and I subsequently saw the Pioneers making crosses for their graves with their names on them. They were buried in a new cemetery that the Battalion made themselves.

I knew them both well. Arnold was a Stretcher bearer. He was a muggety fellow - a bit deaf - fairish complexion - we called him Dave.

IMPORTANT:- Private S. P. Baker No. 5236
55th Battalion
Home address:- Gingie Station Walgett.

W.A.I.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital
Randwick 15-9-18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.