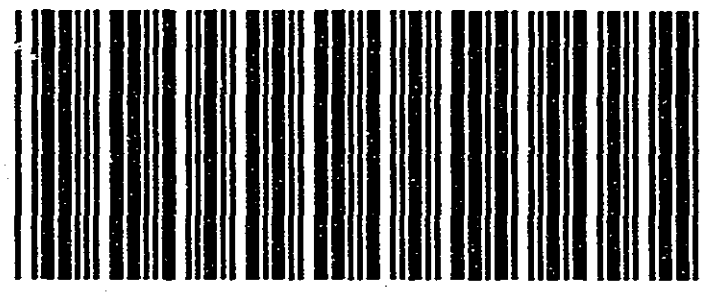
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

3216 Private
John Osmond Barnard

55th Battalion



02402019

A.I.F. 55th Btn B.Coy.
late 17th Btn

B [illegible] RD
John Osmond 3216

"Missing"

Killed in Action 20-7-16 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters 1-3-17.

London
6-3-17

S & P.I.

[redacted]

A.I.F.
55th Btn.
M.Coy.
(late 17th Btn)

Barnard
John Osmond 3216

Killed in Action 20.7.16.

No trace Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Hills 10.10.19.

London.
21.10.19.

S & P.I.

55th A. I. F. B Co. J. O. BARNARD. 3216.

Missing 20.7.16.

After the Fromelles attack on July 19th when returning to our trenches on the morning of July 20th, I saw Barnard lying dead in No Man's Land. His initial was J., his No. in the 3000's and he was in 7 Plat. B Co. I knew him well and came over with him.

Reference: Pte. A. E. Hardy, 3078. B Co.
No.9 General, Rouen. 13.4.17.

DHF.

A.I.F. 55. BARNARD. J.O. 3216.

H.July 20th.1916.

We were at Fromelles. Barnard was an oldish man and he was told off on that day to escort prisoners. Instead of this he went over the top and J.Laine who is still with the Battalion and who was with Barnard, told us that he was killed. We retired back on the next morning so that a number of killed and wounded were left out there.

RCF.

References: Pte.Larsour 3109.
No.5. A.D.H.D.
Etaples. Jan.15th.1917.

Written Pte Laine 22.1.17

55th A. I. F. Barnard, J. O. 3216. Duplicate

(M. July 20/16.)

"I was with Jack Barnard (55. B. VII.) on July 20th at Fromelles, we had taken a German trench the evening before. He was a middle aged man, and I told him to go to the rear of the trench where the fire was not so hot, but he would stay with his men. He had been detailed off to guard German prisoners, but he would go over with his lads. He was very popular and very brave, and never took care of himself. He was last seen wounded in the German trench by Pte. Jim Perkins, 3049, (55. B. VII.) just before we retired. He must have been left behind, and have fallen into German hands."

Informant:-- Sergt. Dennis O'Dea 3144.
55th A. I. F. C Coy
Formerly B Coy. VII Pl.
3rd. Southern General Hospital,
Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

Home address:-- 106, Great Buckingham St,
Redfern,
Sydney.

Jan: 2nd
H.M. Pickard-Cambridge.

Off M. 55 P.I. (3)

written Pte Perkins 11/1/17

21st April /7

Mrs T Bell,
Hay House Farm,
Earls Colne,
Essex.

Dear Madam,

We beg to forward a further unofficial report which has just come to hand concerning 3216 Pte J.O. Barnard, 55th Batt. A.I.F. Unfortunately it only confirms other reports of his death which we have already sent on to you:

3078 Pte A.H.Hardy of the same unit, who was in hospital in France 13.4.17 reported:-

"After the Fromelles attack on July 19th when returning to our trenches on the morning of July 20th I saw Barnard lying dead in No Man's Land. His initial was J. his No. in the 3000's and he was in 7th platoon, B.Coy. I knew him well and came over with him."

We regret that this news is so distressing, and if further particulars come to hand we shall at once advise you.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

22nd April /7

The Secretary,
B.R.C.S.
W. & M Enquiry Bureau,
Middlesex Branch,
79 Bishopsgate,
London. E.C.

Dear Sir,

We beg to forward a further unofficial report which has just come to hand concerning:- 3216 Pte J O Barnard 5oth Batt. A.I.F., Unfortunately it only confirms other reports of his death which we have already sent on to you.

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Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

22nd April /7

Mrs Alice Todd Brown,
Dunvegan Gardens,
Eltham S.E.

Dear Madam,

We beg to forward a further unofficial report which has just come to hand concerning:- 3216 Pte J O Barnard 55th Batt. A.I.F., Unfortunately it only confirms other reports of his death which we have already sent on to you.

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Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

18th April 1917.

The Secretary.
B.R.C.S.
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Dept.
Middlesex Branch.
72 Bishopsgate. London E.C.

Dear Sir,

With regard to your enquiry about No. 3216. Pte. J.O. Barnard we have to inform you that we have had a letter from L/Cpl. J.A. Perkin B.Coy. 55th Batt. A.I.F. who gives the following information, which may be acceptable to you, though it does not give any more definite information than that we have already given you. L/Cpl. Perkins says:-

" In regard to Pte. J.O. Barnard, 3216. I enlisted with him in Sydney We came to Egypt as the 7th reinforcements to the 15th Batt. left Sydney on the 23rd Dec. 1915.-re-formed the 55th Batt. in Egypt and were both in 7th R platoon. B. Coy. On the 19th July 1916. we made an attack on Fritz, J.O. Barnard being detailed off as Prisoners' guard at about 12 o'clock midnight 19-20th July. I saw Barnard in the front line of German trenches we had captured. I was on bank of parapet, John Barnard inside trench he offered me his hand to shake saying 'I told you I would be with you' that was the last time I saw him. During the 20th Jly, we returned to our own lines but J.O. Barnard was reported missing and up to date has not been heard of. His appearance was as follows:- height about 5ft. 6" slight build, age between 55 yrs. and 60 years; complexion fair: eyes-greyish blue; hair-white (and thin) moustache on top lip, other part of face clean shaven appearance of a man who has seen good days. In my conversations with him he has been to India also mixed with stocks&shares&c."

L/Cpl. Perkins also says that he may be in London during next month (May) and if so we may be able to interview him personally & any information we receive will at once be forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,
Secretary.

18th April 1917.

Mrs Alice Todd-Brown.
18 Dunvegan Gardens.
Eltham. S.E.

Dear Madam,

With regard to your enquiry about No. 3216. Pte.J.O. Barnard, we have to inform you that we have had a letter from L/Cpl. J.A.Perkins, B.Coy.55th Battn.A.I.F. who gives the following information, which may be acceptable to you, though it does not give any more definite information than that we have already given you. L/Cpl. Perkins says:-

" Inregard to Pte.J.O.Barnard, 3216. I enlisted with him in Sydney. We came to Egypt as the 7th reinforcements to the 17th Batt.left Sydney on the 23rd Dec. 1915.-re-formed the 55th Batt.in Egypt and were both in 7th pltn.B.Coy. On the 19th.July 1916. we made an attack on Fritz,J.O.Barnard being detailed off as Prisoners'guard at about 12 o'clock midnight 19-20th July. I saw Barnard in the front line of German trenches we had captured. I was on bank of parapet,John Barnard inside trench he offered me his hand to shake saying 'Itold you I would be with you'that was the last time I saw him. During the 20th July we returned to our own lines but J.O.Barnard was reported missing and up to date has not been heard of. His appearance was as follows:-height about 5ft.6" slight build, age between 55 years and 60 years; complexion fair; eyes - greyish blue: hair - white (and thin) moustache on top lip, other part of face clean shaven: appearance of a man who has seen good days. In my conversations with him he has been to India also mixed with stocks & shares etc."

L/Cpl. Perkins also says he may be in London during next month(May) and if so we may be able to interview him personally & any information we receive will at once be forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

18th April 1917.

Mrs T.Bell.
Hay House.Farm.
Earls Colne.
Essex.

Dear Madam,

With regard to your enquiry about No. 3216. Pte. J.O. Barnard, we have to inform you that we have had a letter from L/Cpl. J.A.Perkins, B. Coy. 55th Battn.A.I.F. who gives the following information, which may be acceptable to you, though it does not give any more definite information than that we have already given you. L/Cpl. Perkins says:-

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etc.

L/Cpl. Perkins also says he may be in London during next month (May) and if so we may be able to interview him personally and any information we receive will at once be forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,

I (NR) for V.D.

Secretary.

18 Dunrefan Gdns.
Eltham.
S.E.9.

The Secretary

Dear Madam

Thank you very much for sending me the further information about No. 3216. Pte J.C. Barnard. I shall always be glad to hear anything further should you hear more

Yours faithfully
Alice Todd Brown

22nd March 1917.

L/Cpl. J. Perkins,
B. Company.
55th Australian Infantry Battn.
B. E. F.

Dear Cpl. Perkins,

Very many thanks for your letter of March 11th.

in answer to our enquiry for:-

No. 5216. J. O. Barnard, 55th Battn. A.I.F.

The information you have sent will be of much assistance.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully, V.D.

Secretary.

Ack
F.M. 16 Sept

Lt. H. Perkins Jr.
B Coy 5th Batt
France

11-3-17

Gentlemen

In answer to your letter time dated 16th Jan. I in regards to Pte J. O. Barnard (3216) I enlisted with him in Sydney we came to Egypt as the 7th Reinforcements to the 17th Batt left Sydney on the 23rd Dec 1915 we formed the 5th Batt in Egypt and after both in 7th Platoon B Coy. on the 19th July 1916 we made an attack on Fritz J. O. Barnard being detailed off as Prisoners guard at ~~Dec~~ about 12 o'clock midnight 19-20 July I saw Barnard in the front line of German trenches we had captured I was in front of Parapet I saw Barnard wave to me he signed me his hand to shake hands I told him I would see him with him that was the last time I saw him during the 20 July we returned to our own lines that J. O. Barnard was reported missing and up to date has not been heard of his appearance runs as follows

height about 5'ft 6 inches
slight build
age about between 5'5 yrs and 6 yrs
complexion fair
eyes (grayish, Blue)
hair white (and thin)
moustache on top lip both part of face
clean shaven
appearance of a man who has seen good days

In my conversations with him he has been to India also married with sticks and stones etc I may be in London Penny next month if so I will call and interview you personally I am Yours

Respectfully
Lt H.O. Perkins Jr.

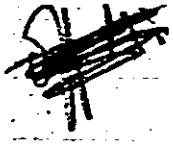
3216 J.O. BARNARD

~~328~~ Batt A 1st

55

M. 20.7.16 — S

~~Cpl~~ P.I.



27th January, /7.

No.3216, J. O. BARNARD 55th Battn. A.I.F.
reported "Missing on 20-7-16",

J. Barnard.

Pte. J. Laine,
55th Aust. Inf. Bn.,
B. E. F.

26th January -7.

Mrs T. Bell.
Hay House Farm.
Earls Colne.
Essex.

Dear Madam,

Since writing you on January 16th, we have received a further unofficial report about No. 3210. Pte. J.C.Barnard, 35th Battn. A.I.F. which we regret to say confirms the reports already sent you.

Informant No. 3109. Pte. Larmour, 35th Battn. who on Jan. 15th was in No. 5. Australian Divisional Base Details, B.E.F. says that Pte. Barnard was an oldish man. He was detailed to escort prisoners on July 20th at Fromelles. Instead of this he went over the parapet and Pte. J. Laine - still with the battalion - who was with Pte. Barnard at the time told informant that he was killed. They retired next morning and a number of killed and wounded men were left out there.

We have written to Pte. Laine in the hope that he can supply fuller details and we shall at once advise you of his reply.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

P.M. for S. A. G.

Secretary.

26th January -7.

Mrs Todd-Brown.
18 Davenport Gardens.
Eltham. S.E.

Dear Madam,

Since writing you on January 18th, we have received a further unofficial report about No. 3216. Pte. J.C.Barnard, 55th Battn. A.I.F. which we regret to say confirms the reports already sent you.

Informant - No. 3109. Pte. Larmour, 55th Battn. who on Jan. 15th. was in No. 5. Australian Divisional Base Details, B.E.F. says that Pte. Barnard was an oldish man. He was detailed to escort prisoners on July 20th at Fromelles. Instead of this he went over the parapet and Pte. J. Laine -still with the battalion- who was with Pte. Barnard at the time, told informant that he was killed. They retired next morning and a number of killed and wounded men were left out there.

We have written to Pte. Laine in the hope that he can supply fuller details and we shall at once advise you of his reply.

With sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. P M for L Gen

26th January -7.

The Secretary.
B.R.C.S.
Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau.
Middlesex Branch.
79 Bishopsgate. E.C.

Dear Sir,

Since writing you on January 18th, we have received a further unofficial report about No. 3216. Pte. J.O.Barnard,55th Battalion A.I.F. which we regret to say confirms the reports already sent you.

Informant - No. 3109. Pte. Lamour, 55th Battn.who on Jan. 15th. was in No. 5. Australian Divisional Base Details, B.E.F. says that Pte. Barnard was an oldish man. He was detailed to escort prisoners on July 20th at Pronelles. Instead of this he went over the parapet and Pte. J. Laine -still with the battalion who was with Pte. Barnard at the time, told informant that he was killed. They retired next morning and a number of killed and wounded men were left out there.

We have written to Pte. Laine in the hope that he can supply fuller details & we shall at once advise you of his reply.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. P.h for F. G. C.

Pte [redacted]
2e Pl. John G. Barnard 3246
55e Batt

24th 9[illegible] 1917

Mrs Agnes Bell,
Hay House,
Earls Colne.
Essex.

Dear Madam,

We enclose receipt for 4/6 for which we beg to thank you.

Please rest assured that anything we hear, we will forward to you at once. We are only too glad when we can be of help to relatives of members of the A.I.F.

Yours faithfully,

E.C.
for.
Secretary.

Willesden W. 21 Jan 17

Jan 21st

Sir John Bosmond Barnardo's Boys Garlo Colne Essex.

Dear Madam,

I thank you for your letter of the 18th it is very kind of you to have taken so much trouble on my behalf I have written to Lt. Dennis O'Dea about my brother, & if you can hear anything more

from Pte Perkins, I should be very grateful if you could let me know. My eldest boy has been in Egypt over a year, the next in age was killed at Ypres, & the youngest son is at the front gained the Military Cross last December, all my family have gone. With kind regards, again thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
Agnes Bell.

I enclose P.C. 4/6.

Re
Barnard
Pte J. Osmond - 3216
5th Bn

RECEIVED
22 JAN 1917

18, Dunvegan Gdns
Eltham
S. E.
Jan 21st

Dear Madam.

Thank you very much for your kind letter about No. 3216. Pte. J. O. Barnard 55th Batt. A.I.F. You say you are sending Sgt. O'Dea's latest address as I might write to him, as you only give the Hospital

at Oxford. I conclude
he is still there.
Yours faithfully
Alice Todd-Brown.

3216 Pte J.O. Barnard

B Coy. 55 Batt. 14 Inf Brig. 5 Division

A.I.F.

Missing July 20. 1916.

Enquirer: The Secretary

British Red Cross, W. & M. Enq. Dept.
(Middlesex Branch)
79 Bishopsgate
London E.C.

RECEIVED
5 OCT. 1916
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

Dear
Miss 18 Cumberland Gardens
Eltham.
S.E.

RECEIVED
3 OCT 1916
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

Oct 1st 1916.

The Secretary.

Dear Sir,

Can you help me with regard to getting any information about Private J.C. Barnard 3216 B. Company 5th Battalion 4th Infantry Brigade Australian Imperial Forces. He was in France and

Missing since the 20th July.
I shall be so much obliged if you will do what you can and let me know what the fees are.
Is there any where else I can write supposing he is a prisoner?
Yours faithfully,
(Mrs) Alice Todd Smith

Early Colac,
Colne
Lancs.

Aug 24th

RECEIVED
29 AUG 1916
EATON HOUSE TERRACE,

Dear Madam

I have heard from a friend of my brother that he has been missing since July 20th We have made enquiries at the War Office both with no results: I have been given your address & wondered if you could help me:

My brother Private 3216
John Osmond Barnard
was in 55th Battalion
(5th Infantry Brigade Australian)
We heard from him
the beginning of July
just before going into
action: if you could
help me I should be
so very grateful: it
would be such a re-
lief to know how he is
& where. I have
lost one son & have

my others at the front how
this suspense is feared.
Thanking you in anticipation,
Yours sincerely
Agnes O'Dell.

Bay House
Cobb's Colne
April 21st

Dear Madam Bartlett

I thank you for
your letter received
yesterday about Big
Brother. I am afraid
there is no doubt but
what he is killed.
I am exceedingly obliged
to you for all the
trouble you have taken;
if you should see Lieut
Perkins would you tell
him we should be
pleased to see him at
any time for a few days

I have just been nursing
up my own son who was
wounded, back went
back this week.
With kind regards,
Again thanking you,
Yours V. Sincerely
Agnes O'Dell.

Mrs. Colvin Watson,
Rose Cottage,
Earls Colne, Essex.

Aug 23rd 1916

No 3216
Private John Osmond Barnard
55th Battalion
14th Brigade Australian Infantry
Landed in France from
Egypt July 3rd
Reported missing July 20th

Enquiries to the Misses
Mrs T. Bell
Hay House Farm
Earls Colne Essex.

Mrs White

18, Dunvegan Gardens
Eltham
S.E.
Nov 15th/16

CENTRAL PRISONERS OF WAR COMMITTEE
17 NOV. 1916
ack. 4.11.16

Dear Sir,

Can you give me any information of Private J.O. Barnard, 3216, B. Company, 55th Battalion, 14th Infantry Brigade, Australian Imperial Forces. He is reported missing on the 20th July

If he were a prisoner would you get the information? Or can you tell me if I should apply anywhere else? Would it be possible to get into communication with any men of this regiment?

I enclose a stamped envelope.

Yours faithfully

(Mrs) Alice Todd Brown

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY. | THE ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM IN ENGLAND.

CENTRAL PRISONERS OF WAR COMMITTEE.

The Rt. Hon. Sir STARR JAMESON, Bart., C.B., Chairman
DONALD COWIE, Esq., Secretary

Cheques should be made payable to Sir Starr Jameson, and crossed Barclay & Co., not negotiable.

Telegrams: Prisoners, South Kensington, London
Telephone: Kensington 7040

Nearest Stations: BROMPTON ROAD TUBE. SOUTH KENSINGTON.

Please reply to:
THE SECRETARY,
Central Prisoners of War Committee,
and quote Records
J.D.

4, THURLOE PLACE,
[Nearly opposite the Brompton Oratory]
LONDON, S.W.

22nd November 1916

Dear Madam,

We beg to enclose a letter we have received enquiring for Pte. J.O. Barnard, 3216, an Australian who is reported missing. We have acknowledged the letter and informed Mrs. Todd Brown that you will deal with the case.

Yours faithfully,

For the Secretary.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross.

16th January, /7.

No. 3216 J. O. BARNARD 55th Battalion A.I.F.
reported "Missing on 20-7-16",

J.O Barnard

V. D.

No. 3049,
Pte. Jim Perkins,
VII Pl. B. Coy.,
55th Aust. Inf. Battn.,

B. E. F.

18th January -7.

Mrs Alice Todd-Brown.
18 Dunbegan Gardens.
Eltham.
S.E.

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you that we have received the following unofficial report from No. 3144. Sgt. Dennis O'Dea, 55th Battn. A.I.F. who on January 2nd, was in the 3rd Southern General Hospital, Oxford, about No. 3216. Pte. J.O. Barnard, 55th Battn. A.I.F.

He says that he was with "Jack"Barnard on July 20th at Fromelles. They had taken a German Trench the night before. He says that Pte. Barnard was a middle aged man and informant told him to go to the rear of the trench where the fire was not so hot, but he would stay with his men. He insisted on going over with his men instead of remaining to guard the German prisoners, as he had been detailed to do. Pte. Barnard was last seen wounded in the German trench by Pte. Perkins.No. 3049. 55th Battn.just before they retired. Informant thinks that there is a possibility that he fell into German hands. He says of him "He was very popular and very brave and never took care of himself"

We regret that his name has not come through on any lists of prisoners and we fear that it is not likely now to do so as we have been in communication for some time past with men who were captured after that date, and who are now in internment camps in Germany.

We send you Sgt. O'Dea's latest address as we think you may wish to write to him. He may be able to give you more detailed information than he gave our searchers.

We have written to Pte. Perkins and hope to hear further news of Pte. Barnard from him. In the meantime, we are continuing our inquiries and will at once inform you should any further reports be received.

May we express our sincere sympathy with you in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

V.D

Secretary.

18th January -7.

Mrs T. Bell,
Hay House Farm.
Earls Colne.
Essex.

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May we express our sincere sympathy with you in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

V.C.

Secretary.
LAW

13th January -7.

The Secretary.
B.R.C.S.
Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau.
Middlesex Branch.
79 Bishops Gate.
E.C.

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Yours faithfully,

V.D

Secretary.

J.R.