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

2741 Private
Nicholas Joseph Doyle

3rd Battalion



0950703O

3rd A. I. F.

Doyle, N.J. 2741

(M. bel. K. Nov. 5th/16)

"I was quite close to Nicholas Joseph Doyle (3. C. X.) when he was killed on Nov. 5th on the right of Flers. We were sitting in the front line. Pte Doyle and Pte Robertson were close together (and I was about twelve yards from them) when a shell burst right in front of them, about 10 or 11 a.m. The shell blew me further up the trench, but I was not hurt. We dug for them afterwards, but we never found them and they were not seen again. I came away ill the same day."

Informant: Pte Arthur Sawyer, 4515A,
3rd A. I. F., C. Coy, X Platoon,
3rd Southern General Hospital,
Cowley Section, Oxford.

Home address:
11, Llewellyn Street,
Balmain,
Sydney.

21st Dec. 1916.
Hilda M. Pickerd-Cambridge.

A.I.F. 3rd Battn

DOYLE
A.J. 2741

Missing 5-11-16.

Missing 5-11-16 - Believed Killed
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters List.

Killed in Action 5-11-16 - previously reported Missing - believed Killed.
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters. List.

London
22-12-16.

OHMS

Boyle N.J. 5th

A.I.F. 3.

BOYLE, N.J. 6741
Robertson, H.H. 6774.

K. 3.Nov. 1916.

Robertson was, I think, an 18th. Welch man, and Boyle used to belong to the 3rd. Batt. Transport for some time before he came into the infantry.

I was within about 20 yards of Robertson, Boyle and a man called Donaldson at Flers at about 5 A.M. on Nov.5, when a shell hit the parapet near where they were standing. I went along after the explosion; Donaldson's body was lying there. The other two men had absolutely disappeared. I, and two other men named Smith and Hollamett, were splashed with blood and mud thrown up by the shell.

We are certain that both Robertson and Boyle were blown to pieces.

BA.

Reference : Pte J.F.Stapleton, 6185, C.
No. 1. A.A.S.C.

Staples
23.March 1917

3rd Batt. A.I.F.

DOYLE. Pte N.F. No.274[illegible],
"C" Coy, 3rd Batt.

Killed Nov. 5/16. Det.D./B.

"When in our front line trenches at Flers, about 2 p.m. on Nov. 5th,1916, a German 5,9 shell was responsible for the death of the above soldier. Doyle was blown to atoms. I was his section commander and an eye-witness of the casualty. I knew Doyle well and could not mistake his identity. A Pte Donaldson, of No 7 Section was killed by the sane shell."

Witness. Corporal Gordon.W.H. No.33[illegible], 7 Sec., 10 Plat.
"C" Coy, 3rd Batt.

May.
9th April,1917,
S.W.

Worgret Camp,
WAREHAM.

A. I. F. 3. DOYLE, N.Y. 2741.

K. November 5th, 1916.

He was killed at Flers on November 5th the same day as I was wounded. The casualty occurred in the Sunken Road just behind our front line and was caused by a shell soon after we had finished a raid. I saw his dead body as I was coming out in a wounded condition next morning. He belonged to C.Coy. and came from some part of Sydney. He used to be a sailor. I am sure he is the men enquired for.

SA.

Reference:- Cpl.A. Hudson. 2607. Bomber.
No. 26 Gen. Hosp.

Etaples
15.5.17.

3rd Battalion
3rd ~~Battery. A.F.A.~~
3rd Transport-Section

DOYLE, N.J.
3741 Pvr.

Killed in Action 5/11/16.

I knew Doyle, a good sort of chap. He was in the front line trenches at Flers when a shell came over a 5 point 9. He must have been killed at once.

Informant: Garrett, Pte, 1958.
3rd Battalion.
No.4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

H.S.H.
4/10/17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.