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

4694 Private
Ernest William Bradley

53rd Battalion



05003019

To

Pte E. Barnes
A. Co 53 Bttn
a. 1. 7

About

4694 Pte E. W. Bradley
53 Bttn a. 1. 7

K 1. 9. 18

Written 21. 11. 18
MES

53rd Battn.
A.I.F.

BRADLEY
E.W. 4694

"KILLED 1-9-18"

Of A. Coy. On 1st Sept. at Peronne in our attack about 7.30 in morning - was killed outright by M.G. bullets, hit in head and chest. I was about 10 yards away at the time.

He was buried about 3 miles in front of town of St. Quentin, about 1½ miles from the Somme. I have not see his Grave, but nearly all the men killed were buried at this spot, and a Monument erected for all the men of 53rd Battn. who fell in the attack. Pte. E.Barnes of A.Coy. told me where he was buried.

I knew him as "Brad" - he came from Newtown, Sydney.

Informant - McCullum.Pte.L. 4610
53rd Battn. A.Coy., 4th Pltn.
Anzac Buffet.

A.D.G.
18-11-18
London
26-11-18
H.G.

Note:- Written Barnes 21-11-18

S.

Havre. 27th. November 1918.

53rd. Australians. Bradley, E. W. 4694.

K. September 1st./1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew him well. He came with me from the 11th. reinforcements to the 53 rd. sailing from Sydney 31st October 1917 in the Euripides. About September 1st. we were near Peronne holding the line. About 6 a.m. we attacked and had got about a mile when Bradley was shot through the head, and killed right out. I know that he was buried. I am not certain where but think it was Peronne.

Inf:-Private. S. G. McGlashan, 4685.
53rd. Australians. D. 14.
Australian Conv. Camp.
Rouelles.

OWSG.

RRB.

Havre. 5th. December 1918.

53rd. Australians. Bradley, E. W. 4694.

K. September 1 1918. Det. D/B.

I know a Bradley in D. Company, who was killed near Peronne when we took it. I don't know what killed him but I saw a large grave in which he was buried. The Grave was on the east side of Peronne and I think they were going to make a cemetery there. He was about 5 feet 10, dark, about 25 years old and had only been about 6 or 8 months with the Battalion.

Inf:- Private. R. Parker, 2469.
53rd. Australians. D.
Havre Hospital.

ACH.

RRB.

A.I.F. 53rd Battn.

BRADLEY
E.W. 4694.

"Killed in Action 1.9.18."

Re 4694. Pte. E.W. Bradley, 53rd Battn. He and his best mate, Charley Bird were killed in a shell hole on the 1st September 1918, as far as I know he was shot through the breast; he was buried at Peronne with a lot more of the 53rd Battn; he had a good burial and a cross was put over each grave with the name on it. This is news I have got from other boys in the Battalion whotsaw him. I myself got wounded early in the attack. I came from Australia with Bradley and know him well. I have asked about a dozen in the battalion and they all say this is right.

Letter from:- E. Barnes, 4529 Pte.,
53rd Battn. A.I.F.
France.

London
17.12.18.

S.

53rd Batn.,
A.I.F.

BRADLEY,
E.W. 4694.

"Killed 1-9-18."

"I knew him well. He was in my section saw him hit, advance on Peronne. He was caught by machine gun bullet through heart. Died instantly. I was wounded at same time. He came from N.S.W. We called him "Bill".

Informant:- Lang, L/Cpl. L. 5400,
53rd Batn., A.I.F.

R.P.B.,
London,
20-12-18.
J.E.A.

S.

53rd Battn.
A.I.F.

BRADLEY.
E.W. 4695/4.

"Killed in Action 1?9-18"

I saw Bradley's grave with cross over it just out of Peronne. Buried with many and marked by Monument.

Informant:- 3502. Callaghan.Sergt,R.L.
Ward 28 B.
3rd A.A.H.DARTFORD.

R,P.T.
London.
24-12-18.
J.E.A.

S.

53rd Batn.
A.I.F.

BRADLEY, E.W. 4694.
Ismay, J. 3511A.
Johnson, A.C.D. 2688.
Littleton, J.B. 2437.
Lyons, T.P. 3346.
McArdle, L/Cpl. R.F. 4824.
Mathers, T. 3502.
Rose, W.J. 3170.
Sowter, P.E. 3499.
Styles, W.J. 1745.

"Killed 1st September 1918."

"I am a Painter attached to Batn. Headquarters and I painted all these names on a large Memorial Cross which is erected in the French Cemetery at Peronne. They were all killed in the vicinity on September 1st 1918, but are not necessarily buried in the Peronne French Cemetery. I made small Crosses for most of them as well. There is a record of locality of Graves with Battalion Headquarters.

Informant:- L/Cpl. A.V.Fisher, 2280,
53rd Aust.H.Q.Sig. (Painter by Trade),
Aust. Conv. Camp,
Rouelles.

London,
7-1-19.
RDM.

S.
CP.

ack. p.c. 12.12.18 J.J.D.

4694, E.W. Bradley, 53 Bn. K. in a. 1.9.18 I

S2

4529 Pte E. Barnes
53rd Battalion
A. F. F
France
4th Dec 1918

Dear Miss

I received a letter from you yesterday asking me about 4694 Pte E.W. Bradley 53rd Bn He and His best mate Charley Bird were killed in a shell hole on the 1st Sep. 1918 as far as I know he was shot through the brest. he was buried at Peronne with alot more of the 53rd Battalion he had a good burial and a cross was put over each grave with the name on it. this is news I have

got off other Boys in the Battalion that saw him & myself got wounded early in the attack. I came from Australia with Bradley and know him well. I have asked about a Dozen in the Battalion and they all say this is right. I will come to a close now

Remain
Your Truly
F. A. G. Barnes

53rd Bttn.
A.I.F.

BRADLEY.
E.W. 4694.

"Killed 1-9-18."

I was right alongside him in the same shell hole at Peronne during the advance on Mt. St. Quentin on 1st Sept. He was hit by Machine gun bullet right through the body, and killed immediately. I attended a memorial service at a little church graveyard near Peronne and saw a cross erected over his grave. I came from Australia with him on the "Euripedes" about end of November 1917. No other man of same name in Bttn. He was a Pte. in D.Coy, 14th Pltn, about 5'4", thickset, dark hair. It happened just at daybreak, about 6 a.m. He was liked by everybody in Bttn.

Informant:- Pte.H.Delaney 4688
D.Coy. 14th Pltn,
53rd Bttn. Dartford.

Home address:-
George Street,
Clyde, Sydney,
N.S.W.

H.S. Cowan,
London.
16-11-18.
H.G.

S.

Havre. 13th. November. 1918.

53rd. Australians.

Bradley, E. W. 4694.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Ismay, J. 3511A.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Johnson, A. C. D. 2688.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Littleton, J. B. 2437.
~~Unoff.~~ M. September. 1/1918.

Lyons, T. P. 3346.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

McArdle, L/Corporal, R. F. 4824.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Mathers, T. 3502.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Rose, W. J. 3170.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

Sowter, P. E. 3499.
~~K.A.~~ ~~W.~~ ~~unoff.~~ M. September. 1/1918.

Styles, W. J. 1745.
K. September. 1/1918. Dets. D/B.

X Slips

I am a Painter attached to Battalion Headquarters and I painted all these names on a large ~~xxxxx~~ Memorial Cross which is erected in the French Cemetery at Peronne. They were all killed in the vicinity on September 1st. 1918 but are not necessarily buried in the Peronne French Cemetery. I made small Crosses for most of them as well. There is a record of locality of Graves with Battalion Headquarters.

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