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

2869 Trooper
Edward Boyle

6th Light Horse
I met Boyle in Egypt. He and I were in the same Squadron. He came from Ireland or Wales. He was slim and athletic—standing about 5ft. 9in. tall, clean-shaven. He played football well. On 28th March 1918 C & D Troop were manning a ridge at Amman in support of 6th Squadron. Lying in front of our position, 50 yards away, was a wounded B. Squadron man. Boyle walked from D. Troop to C. Troop to get a better look at the wounded man; as he was walking over he said: 'There should be a good chance of getting him in.' Just then he was shot through the head and was killed instantaneously. I recovered all his personal property from his body, including a little round bone identification disc—on it was "Mother Hundle" (or Trundle). Six months later we came back to Amman and found Boyle's body lying where it had fallen. Sergeant McAll and I buried the body. McAll painted Boyle's name on the cross over the grave. Boyle was a very good fellow.

Informant: No. 571 — Corporal H.J. AUBURN, 6th Light Horse.
F.B.V. Private address: Henry Street, PARRAMATTA, N.S.W.
Hawson Chambers, Pitt St.
27.12.18. SYDNEY.
"Killed in Action 28/1/18".

I was in the same troop as Boyle. He joined the troop about May 1917. He was about 5 feet 7 inches in height, dark, clean-shaven. Lieutenant Campbell told me that Boyle was killed in the morning of 28th March, 1918 at Amman. Others told me the same. Boyle was a good chap, always merry and bright.

Informant: Trooper G. D. Sourrah, 2224, 6th. Light Horse.

Private address: - Irralsee, Nears Avenue, Randwick.

F.B.W.
No.4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

5/9/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.
6th Light Horse, A.I.V.

Boyle was in C squad of the 6th Light Horse. 285 was his number. He was killed outright at Amman on 23/4/18. I did not see him afterwards but as I was orderly Room Sergeant the news came to me officially - his Sergeant-Major reported his death - Sergeant-Major Sheridan. Sheridan returned with me and has gone to Coroma.

He was buried where he fell, this side of Amman.

Informant - Sergeant H. M. Chisholm, No. 102, 6th Light Horse, Head-quarters, Coroma.

Home Address - The Rectory, Coroma.

H.S.O.
Anzac Purlough,
Rawson Chambers,
26/12/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

9th Light Horse, A.I.V.

"Killed in Action, 23/4/18."

His name was Teddy, and he was in C squad. He was killed at Amman in April last and his body was identified and buried by Sergeant Morbeit of C squad, and he erected a cross on Boyle's grave and printed his name and particulars. Sergeant Morbeit arrived yesterday and lives at North Sydney.

Informant - Sqn. Quarter-Master Sgt. D. McChallough, 9th Light Horse, C squad.

Home Address - Coonamble,
New South Wales.

H.S.O.
Rawson Chambers,
27/12/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.
6th LIGHT HORSE.

ROYLES, E., Private.
No. 2009.

"KILLED 28.1.18."

I met Boyle in Egypt. He lived in Noyon Street, Waterloo. He was in L. Byrne's dairy at Epsom Street, WATSON. He was dark, clean-shaven, standing 5 ft 9 ins. He was 20 years of age, of big build. I heard that he was the heavy-weight boxing champion on the boat going home.

His mate (Ernest Gillett) told me that Boyle had been killed by a bullet about 28th March 1918 at ARRAH—this was the date of the first attack on Arras.

Boyle was a good fellow—very hard working.

Informant: W. Stevens, Trooper. 2829.
6th Light Horse.

Private address:
273 Birrell Street,
RODNEY.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.
SYDNEY BUREAU.

6th LIGHT HORSE A.I.F.

ROYLES, E., Private.
No. 2009.

"KILLED 28.1.18."

Informant described Boyle as about 5 ft 8 in, high, medium build, medium complexion, aged about 21. Came from Setland.

Informant states that they both belonged to D. Troop, G. Squadron. On 28.1.18 the Regiment was in action at Arras, Palestine, and were attacking the Turks. Just as they had got over a ridge during the course of the advance, Boyle was hit by a bullet in the side of the head and killed outright. Informant was about 12 yards away and looked behind and saw Boyle lying dead on the ground. Another chap took Boyle's belongings and gave them to Informant, who in turn handed them to a member of the 2nd Machine Gun Squadron, who afterwards told him that he had sent them on to Boyle's people. They got knocked back that day. When the Regiment passed through Arras in September last they came across Boyle lying where he had fallen. Informant recognised him, both from the spot where he was found and by the wound in the side of his head. He was also present when Boyle was buried. Informant saw a cross put on his grave.

Informant added that he knew Boyle well and that they had dined together for some months. He has his photo.

Informant: Trooper E. James, No. 2342.
D. Troop, 6th Light Horse.

5.3.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.
K/A 28.3.18

We knew him as "Ted". He was short, aged about 21/22. We were both in C. squad - Boyle C. Troop - Witness C.

During an attack made by D. and C. Troops down a hill at Amman witness was about 3/10 yards to the left of Boyle. He had been firing in a lying position and as he got up - possibly to go after a man who had been hit - he fell as the result of machine gun bullet wounds in the head and witness noticed he never moved. Corporal Keene of C. Troop recovered his haversack, discs etc., but we retired soon after. Witness does not know if he was one of those identified and buried during the 2nd Amman engagement in September.

Informant: Trooper T. Tuckwell. 3373.

Home address: Florenceville, Short Street, WOOLLAHRA, SYDNEY.

Major F. de V. Lamb, M.M.T. "BUPITMA", 12.4.19.

6th A.I.F. A.I.F.

"Killed March 22/18"

He was of dark complexion, clean shaved, rather thin, set, very popular, and a great oriental wall about. He set at Amman on Hadda Railway. He was alongside us at the time of death. A machine gun bullet entered the forehead and death was instantaneous. As far as I know his body was not buried. I believe the officer collected his effects.

Informant: Tpr. H. C. Friend, 2631, D Squad, 6th A.I.F.

Searcher: P. T. Praffier, M.R. Haqra, 29/3/19

Adelaide 22/3/19
6th Light Horse Regt.
A.I.F.

"Killed in Action 26-3-16"

As I told you in a previous note, I was taken prisoner at Amond, about 50 miles from Jerusalem. My squadron was dismounted, and had to advance across about 1 mile, over fairly open country, to try and take a Turkish machine position. We were under very heavy fire, and our men kept dropping out wounded as we advanced, and by the time we got to about 30 yds. of the place we were to take, there were very few of us left. We were ordered to fix bayonets and go on. Something struck me in the stomach and I thought my last hour had come. When I came to again I was lying about 30 yds. from the Turks, in a heap of stones. All was quiet as none of our men had reached the objective. There was no chance of getting away while it was light, so as I could be very well hit where I was, I intended to wait till dark and try and crawl away back, but it was not to be. The Turks slipped out on each side of us, and captured me, they also took 11 others of my squadron, 10 wounded, and one, like myself, not very badly damaged. There was also about 25 English infantry taken at another part of the line. One of my mates, 759 Sid. J. Crozier, 6th L.H. Regt., died that night. The others are now in Hq.

Extract letter from:- 3048 Roy Clarke,
6th L.H. Regt.,
British P/W in Turkey,
Syria. 13-4-16.

NOTE:- The 11 men mentioned are we believe already officially reported as P/W. A filing copy of this account of this action is typed for other men in the unit reported missing or killed on same date, NOT SENT ON.