

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

**101 Lance Corporal
Benjamin Hemmings**

16th Battalion



1310701D

16 A.I.F.
C Coy.

Hemmings,
Lance-Corpl. B.101

Benjamin

M. 2/5/15:

Witness says that Hemmings was in his platoon and went out in the charge on 2/5/15 and did not return. Hemmings was witness's only chum in the 16th Battalion and came from England originally, but latterly was settled towards Bunbury in West Australia. Witness says that he sent a letter to Hemming's parents in England and that Pte. T. Tayler (now witness thinks at Gezireh) lay out beside Hemmings for two days. Witness began bandaging Tayler and Hemmings continued it, as witness was shot in the shoulder while so employed. Hemmings died of exposure.

Ref.:~ Sergt. J. Matthews, 445.
16 A.I.F. C. Coy.

Moascar Camp, Ismalia.

J.I.
23/1/16

L.

16 A.I.F.
not C. Coy.
B. Coy.

Unoff.M. 2/5/15:

Hemmings,
L/C B. No. 101
Benjamin

This man was in C.Coy. and not B.Coy. as stated in the list. Witness says that he saw Hemmings wounded on 2/5/15 in front of Pope's Hill about 10 p.m. He was badly wounded, witness thinks, in the stomach, and was lying in a shallow trench. Witness spoke to him but he did not reply. Witness says that they evacuated the ground next day. They never saw him again. One man (Pte. Tichford) was brought down and one (Pte. Lindell) crawled down four days later. Lindell afterwards died on the hospital ship "Gloucester Castle" after his leg had been amputated, so witness thinks. Hemmings came from England, but had been in France and spoke French.

Witness - Pte. H. D. Noon, No. 586, 16th Battln. C Coy.
Tel-el-Kebir

L.

W.J.I.
7/3/16

16 A.I.F.
1st C. Coy.
B. "

Unoff. M. 2/5/15 :

Hemmings,
L/C B. No. 101
Benjamin

Witness states that Sergt. Howard, who has since been killed, wrote Hemmings' people in England about his death and witness says he read the letter.

Witness - Sorenson, Corpl. P. No. 581, 16th Battln.
C. Coy.
Tel-el-Kebir

W.J.I.
7/3/16

L.

16 A.I.F.
1st C. Coy.
B. "

Unoff. M. 2/5/15

Hemmings,
L/C B. 101
Benjamin

On the night of the 2nd to 3rd May, 1915, about 2.30 a.m. witness was coming down from Dead Man's Ridge and found Hemmings in a dug-out right against the Turks' trench, which they had taken but eventually had to evacuate. Hemmings was in the dug-out with another man and they had both been shot through the shoulder. Witness tried to get them to come down with him, but they would not try because the fire was so hot. Neither of them had had his wound dressed, and they were both bleeding rather badly. Witness thinks they must have died from exposure because neither the Turks nor our men could get possession of that place for several days. Witness says it would have been alright if they had come on, but he supposes they thought they would remain in a safe spot.

Witness - Bradley, Corpl. G.S. 601, 16th A.I.F.
C. Coy.
Tel-el-Kebir

W.J.I.
7/3/16

L.

Cancelled

A.I.F.B.Coy.16th Btn

HEMINGS
L/Cpl.Benjamin 101

"H. 2-5-15"

Previously reported missing now killed in action 265-15 no burial
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqs 26-8-19.

London
18-10-19

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