

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

**4133 Private
Raymond Robert
Hemphill**

21st Battalion



1310704G

A. I. P. 21.

³
WINDHILL, R.R. 4132.

P/W. December 30th, 1918.

We were back in supports at Blighty trench at Ginchy when Humphill was killed by a biggish shell which also wounded 4 or 5 more. He was very badly hit in the chest. He did not live very long. He died before they could take him away. He was a 10th reinf. man. He was tall and thin. He came over with me. This was about the end of December after Christmas any way. Cpl. Scullion in A. Coy. also saw it.

Reference:- McKee, J. 4178. 21.A.
Reinf. Camp.

NO.

Written Cpl Scullion 22.5.17

Staples
12.6.17. *M*

A. I. F.
21st Battn.

Hemphill.
R.R. 4133.

"Died of Wounds 30.12.16."

I helped to carry him to Dressing Station near Needle trench
at back of Delville Wood. He died on the way, He had been badly
wounded by shell in reserves. I was a S.B.

Witness:-

F. S. Porter 4505.
21st Battn.
Dartford.

L. P. J.

London.
15.5.17.

M.

21st A.I.F.

Hemphill Pte. R.R. 4132.

(D/W Dec. 30/16 Det. D/B)

"I knew Hemphill he was blown to pieces at Needle trench and buried near".

Eye-witness: No, told by the R.A.M.C. who buried him.

Description:

Informant: Pte. James Wilson 5106,
21st A.I.F.,
1st London General Hospt.,
Camberwell.

Home address:
Donald, Victoria.

June 1917,
M. Everard.

*Sub
M. Ed.*

21st A.I.F.

R. R. HEMPHILL. 4132.

D/W. 30.12.16. Det. D & B.

Cpl. Stirling of C Co. No.9 Plat. was with Pte. Hemphill when he died and I am sure that he could give all particulars as to his death and burial. They were great friends.

Reference: Sgt. F. Arblaster, 4658. C Co. 10 Pl.

No.5 General, Rouen. 14.6.17.

EMM.

Allegedly written

M

21st Battn.
A. I. F.

Hemphill.
R. R. 4133.

"Died of Wounds 30.12.16."

Your letter of enquiry re 4133 R. R. Hemphill of our Battn., which you sent to Cpl. Soullion. He has handed it to me to answer. The soldier (Hemphill) was killed on 30th or 31st December last. He was hit with a 77" shell and was buried by me just at the back of a trench which was called Blighty Trench, a rough cross was put up to mark the spot. I cannot describe him, but there can be no doubt that it was Hemphill who was killed instantly.

Letter from:-

Sgt. H.S.Clifford 12.
21st Battn.

London.
2.7.17.

A. I. F.
France. 12.6.17. M.

21st Australians

4133.
Hemphill, Pte. R.R. 4233

(D/W Dec. 30, 1916 Dets D & B)

" I was told by Corporal Stirling of the 21st Battalion
C Coy. 10th Pltn. that he was along with Hemphill when a shell
struck him (Hemphill), and blew one of his arms off besides in-
juring other parts of his body. He died in a few minutes. This
was at Ginchy, where he was probably buried. "

Eye Witness -

Description

Informant :- L/Cpl. James Wight, 4247,
C Coy. 10th Pltn. 21st Australians
Tooting Milit. Hospt.
London, S. W.

Home address :-
Greenwood,
Yenan,
Victoria.

7. 5. 17.
J. Inglis-Jones.

Written Cpl F. Stirling 18.5.17

On

21st Batt.

C.Coy.,

A.I.F.,

R.
R.

HEMPHILL 4133
4133

"Died of Wounds Dec. 30/16"

Re the death of this man I have a letter (produced) from Cpl Frank Stirling C.Coy. 21st Batt. dated April 2nd 1917. He says that Hemphill was killed instantly by a shell in the trench on the Somme on Dec. 30/16. He was literally blown to pieces, and no burial was possible. Cpl Stirling was with him when he was killed. This ground was held, after many reverses.

Reference:- A. Quiggin 4201
C.Co. 21st Batt. A.I.F.,
Perham Downs Camp,
20 4.17.

London

26.4.17.

R. McPhee

M.

2. 6. 17

4133

R. R. HEMPHILL

DW. 3. 12. 16 21 Batt AIF

M 2 12/6/17

The Secretary Red Cross Society

Re your letter of enquiry about 4133
R. R. Hemphill of our Batt, which
you sent to Corp. Scullion. He has
handed it to me to answer.

The soldier (Hemphill) was killed
on 30th or 31st Dec last. He was hit
with a 77 shell & was buried by me
just at the back of a trench which
was called "Brighty Trench" a rough
one was put up to mark the spot.
I cannot describe him but there can be
no doubt that it was Hemphill, who
was killed instantly. Hoping this will
help you out. I remain

12. Surgt. H. S. Clifford
21st Batt A.I.F.