

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

7020 Private
Stanley Oliver Harris

14th Battalion



1280302G

14th A.I.F.

Harris S.O. 7020,

(K. Sept. 27th 1917)

"Harris was hit in the face and got all his teeth blown out and his chin. I saw him when he was hit but never saw him afterwards. It was near Ypres".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant : Pte. J. Cherry 7218,
14th A.I.F.,
No. V War Hospt.,
Reading.

Home address:
Victoria.

Jan. 18/18,
E. Matthews.

A.I.F. 14.

HARRIS S.O. 7020.

K. 27.9.17.

I saw his dead body lying in No Man's Land as we went across in the action on 27th. Sept. at Polygon Wood. I passed close to the body and am sure he was dead. I know nothing as to burial as we had to carry on in the action and I did not see the body again. I knew him well in the Bn. He came over with the 23rd. Rft. to the 14th. Bn. and used to live somewhere about Melbourne.

SA.

Reference: Pte. P.H. McDonnell. 754A. B.Co.
26 Gen. Hpl.

Staples.
25.2.18.

M

Havre

27th March 1918.

14th A.I.F.

Harris S.O. No. 7020.

K. 27th Sept 1917. Det D/3.

I knew Harris for 5 months; he was medium height, nuggety, fair, about 27, came from near Melbourne, Victoria, and was a very good sort. On the 27th Sept the Batta was on the Ypres front, and in action. The objective was the 2nd German line, which we took and held. About halfway over I saw Harris hit by a piece of shell on the head. Death was instantaneous. We had to go on. I didn't see Harris again, and did not hear of burial.

Inf:- Pte P.H. McDonald No. 754.
14th A.I.F. B.Co. 5 Pltn.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

EM.

M

Havre

8th April 1918.

14th A.I.F.

Harris S.O. 7020.
Gallagher W. No. 7012.

E. 27th Sept 1917. Det D/B.

I know Harris and Gallagher very well, we came across together in the 23rd reinforcement to the 14th Battn. We left Melbourne on the 16th December 1916. We were attacking at Passchendaele, we went over in the morning of about the 25th. I heard that Harris and Gallagher were killed. L/Cpl H. Evans of the 14th Battn A.Co (who was with the Battn when I left on the 12th March) told me he saw them killed.

Inf:- Pte O.J. Donoghue No. 6998.
14th A.I.F. B.Co. VII Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HFG.

M
written Evans
16-4-18

14th Battn.
A.I.F.

HARRIS
S.O. 7020

⁹
"Killed 27-12-17"

I saw Harris on the morning of 27th Sep. lying dead at Polygon Wood, apparently having been killed by concussion the day previously. I got his pay-book and handed it in, but was knocked just after seeing him, and I can't say if he was buried.

Informant. Harvey J. 7021
14th Battn. B.Coy.,
Hut 12,
WESTHAM.

W.A.Rand
London
1-5-18

M.

A.I.F. 14th Battn.

HARRIS
S.O. 7020

KILLED in ACTION 27/9/17.

Re Pte S.O.Harris 14th Battn., A.I.F., No. 7020. The above is quite correct also the date on which he was killed. He was killed on the 27/9/17 with the result of concussion. He was buried in the field and not in a registered grave. He was 5 ft 7 in., and complexion rather fair. I was not with him when he was killed but received particulars from one of his ^{readers} comrades.

Letter from I/Cpl. M.L.Evans. 7036, A Coy., 14th Battn.,
France. 26/1/18.

London
7.5.18.

II

14th Btn.

HARRIS¹ S. O.
Pte. 7020.

Kld. in act. 27/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was about 5 ft. 8 ins., well built, fair complexion, known as "Stan". He was a 27th Pte. and embarked on the "Heddo". Casualty was killed in advance at Polygon Wood. I was alongside of him when a shell landed a piece entering Casualty's body killing him instantly. I saw his body lying in the open as I passed on in the advance. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Private P. H. McDonald,
No. 7540, 14th Btn.

Private address:-
Euston P.O.
N.S.W.

S.V.P.
22/8/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

14th. Btn.

HARRIS. S.O.
7020. Pte.

K/A. 27.9.17.

I knew Casualty, he was fair, medium build, 5'5" in height, 26 years of age, known as "Sid". He came over with the 23rd. Reinforcements on the "Medic". Casualty was holding the line at Polygon Wood, Ypres, when a shell landed killing him instantly. I was about 200 yards away at the time, and went over and saw his body lying in an out-post. He was carried out and buried, but I do not know where.

Informant:- W. Ingham,
7031,

Private address:-
19 Allen Street,
Auburn.

S.V.P.
24.10.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

7020

Y/boy Lt J. S. O'Harris, Garrison
1473
26/9/18
7020 14 with 279.17
17 boy 14 Batt of M
3

To the Secretary of Inquiry Bureau.

I answer to your inquiry
of Pt. Lt. O'Harris 14 A 27 No 7020.

The above is just correct about
the date on which he was killed.

He was killed on the 27/9/17
with the result of concussion.

He was buried in the field &
not in a Regt grave.

He was 5 ft 7 in & complexion
rather fair.

I was not near him when he
was killed but received patients
from one of his comrades.

Hoping that this will
meet with your satisfaction.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. O'Harris