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

3724 Corporal
John Tregenza Dixon

46th Battalion



0921112G

A.I.F. 46th Battn.
Inst 31 Bde
orig 14 Bde 12 Rifs

Cpl DIXON
J.J. 3724
J.T.

Wounded-July-Aug-Sept.

Admitted 1st Southern Gen. Hosp - 8-9-16
Cert. by Hospital Index.

Suffering from shrapnel wound right shoulder, now doing v. well
Cert. by letter from O.C. - 6-10-16.

K/A 17.7.17 Buried Underhill Farm Cem about 1 mile N of Ploegsteert 1 3/4 miles S.W. of Messines.
HQ List for Capt Spedding.

London
6-10-16.

M.

24th Australian Machine Gun Co.
4th Aust. Machine Gun Batton.
A. I. F. France.
6/10/1918.

The Secretary, Australian Branch.
British Red Cross Society
London.

3724 Cpl J. T. Dixon
46 Bln Lett 14 Bln 12 Rpts

Dear Sir.

I have just had enquiries from my sister in Australia, re procuring a photograph of the grave of the Late Corp. J. T. Dixon of A. I. Forces who was buried at Piccadilly Corner, Hill. 63. in the latter part of last year. These particulars are very vague, I know, so have written home for his Reg. No. Battalion & date he died.

(2).

Even so you might be able to oblige with these few particulars & you will be doing my sister a great favour if you are successful as he was her fiéancee.

Her address is.
Miss Saide Down.
4. Electra Street
Williamstown
Victoria
Australia.

I am Yours Faithfully
G. C. Down.
No. 415. The.

24th Inst. M. G. Coy.

ENQUIRY.

Name & Initials DIXON, J. T.

No. 3724 Rank CORPORAL.

Unit 12th Rfts to 14th Batn transferred to 46th Battalion

Casualty KILLED IN ACTION.

If Official YES.

Next-of-Kin (if possible) His Mother

Mrs D. Dixon 19 Bradshaw St.

Ballarat East Victoria australia

Remarks— Enlisted in Ballarat, Victoria left australia 23rd November 1915.

Killed in France on 17th July 1917

Card from
Miss Saide Dawn
A Electra et
Williamstown
Vic

THE SECRETARY,

Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau,

Australian Red Cross Society,

36, Grosvenor Place,

Victoria, S.W. 1.

London

3724 Pte J. T. Dixon

4 Electra St
Williamstown
Victoria
Australia

Ans
23.2.19.

Dear Miss Breakin,

Re-enquiries made by my mother, Pte. G. E. Lown, in regard to a photo of the grave of 3724 Pte. J. T. Dixon of Ballarat Victoria Australia, I enclosed Enquiry Card filled in.

Trusting this may help in the search and thanking you in anticipation,

I am
Yours faithfully
(Miss) Gaible Lown.

April 24th, 1919.

Miss ~~Sarah~~ Saide Down.
4 Electra Street.
Williamstown.
VICTORIA.

Dear Madam.

With reference to your enquiry for a photograph of the grave of 3724 Pte. G. DIXON. 46th Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you we have applied on your behalf to the Graves Dept. A.I.F. Headquarters, 130 Horseferry Road. London. S.W. and a copy will be forwarded to his Mother as soon as available after the grave has been registered.

Yours faithfully.

(Miss)

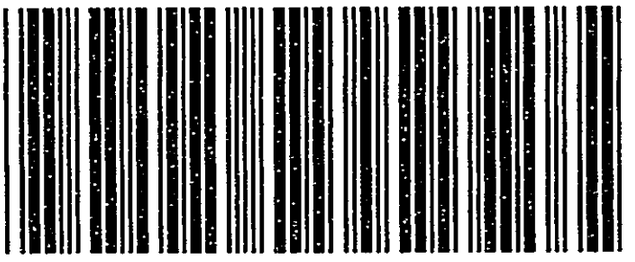
SECRETARY.

G. D.

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

Lieutenant
Norman Edward Dixon

37th Battalion



0930101E

Hebre. 8th. July. 1918.

37th. Australians. Dixon, Lieut. H. S.

M. February. 10/1918.

I saw this Officer in 'No Man's Land' about 10.30. on the night of the raid at ~~xxxx~~ Warneton. He was not wounded. We were returning from the raid.

Inf:- Private. R. Bradley. 1802.
H. S. 'St. Patrick'.

WHB.

Havre

22nd June 1918.

A.I.F. 37.

Dixon Lieut. N.E.
Crowe Lieut. W.G.H.

M. 10th February 1918.

Mr. Crowe was my officer. On the 10th February we were near Warneton and at 10 p.m. we went on a raid. We got to Fritz second line where the trenches branch. There was a number of our wounded there and Mr. Crowe took one man to guard the corner wheil we got the wounded away. When we got back Mr. Crowe was not there but the man we had left with him was lying badly wounded. Undoubtedly Mr. Crowe is a prisoner. On the way back we met Mr. Dixon and his party. He asked us if we had got all the wounded away. I told ~~as~~ him 'Yes! all but Mr Crowe and I thought that Fritz had got him'. He said he would go on and we told him if he did the Germans would get him. He went on by himself and we did not see him again.

Inf:- C 1 R.J.Jordan No. 1214.
A.I.F. 37. D. XVI.
Austra. Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

OWSG.

Havre

12th June 1918.

A.I.F. 37.

Dixon Lieut N.E.

M. 10th February 1918.

A night raid at Warneton under Lieut Dixon was overwhelmed by the Germans. Mr Dixon gave the order to retire and he was then firing his revolver. This was about 3 a.m. The second officer in command of the party was wounded, I saw him hit about the leg somewhere he couldn't walk. Both the officers are together. This is the last I saw of both officers. I left with wounded.

Inf:- Pte W.A.Powell No. 2130.
E.S.No.1. Gen. Hos. (Etretat).

WHB.

37th Battn.
A.I.F.

DIXON Lt.N.G.
Crowe Lt.W.G.H.

"Missing 10-2-18"

Lts. Dixon and Crowe were in a night raid at La Bassee. Mr.Crowe had further objective, and Mr.Dixon after reaching his objective went after Mr.Crowe's party. One of them, I'm not sure which, but think Mr.Crowe, was reported killed afterwards. Our barrage was very heavy at the time, but Fritz's was not. I was with Mr.Dixon for a while but I was not sent back wounded. Lt.W.Hunter, 37th Battn. C.Coy. who got M.C. in the same raid, might be able to give good information. He was a particular friend of Mr.Dixon.

Informant. Gates. Pte.J. 3070
37th Battn. C.Coy.,
SUTTON VENY.

H.E.H.
London
3-7-18
M.I.S.

No record of either Officer as P/W.
N.W
Written Lt Hunter 8.7.18

Off.M.
P.I.
6. 2 extra

A. I. F. 37.

DIXON, Lt. N.E.
Crowe, Lt. W.O.H.

M. February 10th, 1918.

I was with Mr. Crowe on February 10th in a night raid at Warneton. The raid was on from 10 to 10.30. In my lot there were only 5 left and, as going round a corner, towards a German pill box we found 2 of our wounded men and stopped to dress them. I thought Mr. Crowe was waiting for us where I last saw him a few yards ahead of us in a communication trench. We didnot stop more than a minute or so and when we started on found no trace of Mr. Crowe. German pill box was about 20 yards off round corner. Fritz was bombing from this pill box. We could not get near to the box. Then we met Mr. Dixon who said he was going to look for Mr. Crowe. I told him he had no chance of getting down there as Fritz was following us. He went forward, however, and we never saw him again. We got back to our lines which were about 1/4 mile away.

PHE.

Reference:- Cpl. R.J.Jordan. 1214. D.XVI.
22 Gen. Hp.

Etaples
25.5.18.

Havre. 27th. May. 1918.

37th. Australians. Dixon, Lieut. N. E.

M. February. 10/1918.

He was in A. Coy; 2nd. Fltn. On the 10th. February we were holding the line near Warneton; during the night we made a raid. Mr. Dixon was on the raid. I was told by Corporal Allen, 37th. Battalion, A. 2. (who I last saw with the Battalion a week ago) told me he was with Mr. Dixon all the time during the raid. There is a doubt about what happened to Mr. Dixon but Corporal Allen knows more about it than anyone.

Inf:- Private. H. J. Buttfield. 2039.
37th. Australians. A. 2.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

Written Cpl. Allen 5.6.18

Havre

1st June 1918.

A.I.F. 37,

Dixon Lieut. N. E.
Crowe Lieut. [illegible]

M. 10th February 1918.

On the 10th February we were at Catacombs, by Ploegsteert. At 10 p.m. the 2nd Lieuts. went with about [illegible] on a raid in front of La Bassee. There were about 16 casualties. The last seen of Lieut. Dixon was that he was bringing in a prisoner who tried to escape and the Lieut. bayonetted him. The last seen of Lieut Crowe was going to a pill box and it is thought that a sniper got him. The probability is that both are killed.

Inf:- Pte W.D.Perks No. 12627.
A.I.F. 37. C. H.Q.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

CWSG.

37th Battn. A.I.F. — Copy sent War Record 4-7-19 — DIXON. Lieut. H.E. / Crowe, Lieut. W.G.H.

"Killed in Action 10-2-18"

No 6 Party - ~~unit~~ MINE - under L/Cpl Billson. had to go out to the right to the second German line a storming and blocking party. We were very close to the River Lys. We had got to our objective and were returning. Our party had just got to the junction of the communication trench - with the German second line (above at point marked X on map.) When we saw a party of unarmed Germans - about ~~to~~ 10 coming down the 2nd line trench, probably from the pill box marked H. The man in front of me, Cpl Billson, stopped them and they started to run back again. Just then, we heard Lieut Crowe's voice, "One of you chaps come up here. I have used all my revolver ammunition". He was holding his torch at the Germans. He was quite by himself almost at the point where the communition trench joined the German 2nd line trench. I went round to his assistance. (I was holding Cp. Billson's rifle against a German and so went to Lieut Crowe's assistance with it, not having one myself.) A couple of the Germans turned to run back. Crowe and I were very close together and a bomb dropped in between us(probably from the pill box) I was wounded in the legs and he was wounded in the legs and stomach and said "I'm done for". I found I could stand up and Crowe told me to go and tell Lieut Hunter in the front line that "he was done for". I tried to go over and collapsed. The Germans afterwards found me

lying there and carried me to the Dressing Station in a bit of a village - a dug out ~~made of~~ under building - all fitted out with beds. where I saw Lieut Crowe. He was conscious lying on a stretcher and he asked me how I had got on. We were talking for a time and then a German who could speak English came and asked us our Battalion. (we were dressed in Tommies clothes with no identification discs bearing names. We had one each bearing a special number) Crowe said that we need tell no more than our names and number and he refused to tell more. I did too. I stopped there about four hours and Crowe was carried away on a stretcher. He was very badly wounded. They said they were taking him to Hospital. He again mentioned while there, that he was done for. It was just day break when they carried me away, and I went into Hospital, at Houbain, 11th. with Pte Powell, (who had been wounded just inside the Bosche barbed wire and picked up after the men had gone back) He had gone into one of the pill boxes with Crowe earlier in the raid and had missed him afterwards) While there a couple of days later, a German came round and told me that Crowe had died in Hospital. (he did not say where) and that Lieut Dixon had been taken prisoner. He gave me his name, asking me did I know him. He did not know if he had been wounded and I did not ask further questions. To my knowledge there is none to whom I can refer you for further information of Crowe after leaving the Dressing Station. I was the only one there with him. Powell was not with him anywhere after being wounded. I never heard of Lieut

Dixon again.

The German volunteered Lieut Dixon's name. I did not mention him first. Like Lieut Crowe and myself, Lieut Dixon had no identification disc bearing a name - only one with a number. It is possible that the Germans to whom he gave only his name would not know how to report him as a prisoner. They took away Mr Crowe's stars soon after he was captured. We were all wearing ordinary Tommy tunics so if they took Mr Dixon's stars too, he would have no proof that he was an Officer.

Informant:- 31138.W.G.Bruce.
37th Battalion.
Repat: P/W.

L.A.W.
London.
11-1-19.

LONDON OFFICE. 9-1-19.

Off.H. & P I.

Havre
A.I.F. 37.

29th June 1918.
Dixon Lieut H.H.
Crowe Lieut W.G.H.
Watt D.W. No. 684.

M. 10th February 1918.

On the evening of the 10th February 1918, about 10 p.m. dark, a party of 100 men from the 37th Battn (a mixed lot of volunteers in charge of Lieut Hunter) amongst whom were Lieuts Crowe and Dixon, and Ptes Watt, Morris and myself, also 100 men from the 38th Battn who were on our left. Capt. Fairweather (M.C) was in charge of them, and O.C. of the raid. We reached the German 2nd Line at Warneton under heavy fire from bombs, and we had a lot of casualties. Mr.Crowe disappeared near a pillbox in the German 2nd Line. We had to retire about 10.30 p.m. the enemy were then between us and our line. We took a number of them P/W and brought them back with us. I saw Mr.Dixon in Fritz communication trench, and spoke to him. He asked me how many casualties I had in my lot. I told him I had got them all out except Mr. Crowe and that I had searched for him but could not find him. He said he would go back and look for Mr. Crowe. He would not let me go - that was the last I saw of him. The Germans were in the communication trench at the time. I was told that Watt was badly wounded and left in the German lines. I saw Pte Alec Morris No.2608. D.Coy.badly wounded hit in the side by shell. He was brought out into No Man's Land and left there while the S/Bs went for a stretcher. He was bleeding badly. The S/Bs came back but could find no trace of him.

Inf:- Cpl R.J.Jordan 1214. A.I.F. 37. D. XVI.
Australian Camp. Rouelles. RMC.

A.I.F. 37th Battn. DIXON

A Coy Lieut. H.E.

"Missing 10/2/18"

It was read out in orders that information has been received at the Battalion through German prisoners captured, that a Lieutenant and a Private had been taken prisoners in a raid on 10th February 1918 at Le Sassèville Lieut. Dixon refused to give any information, but the Private said they were storm troops. That is all the information the German prisoners could give concerning Lieut Dixon and Private referred to I should refer you to O.C. 37th Battalion.

Witness:- Pte. Barber R.A. 7092,
A Coy., 37th Battn.,
No 3 A.A.H.Dartford,

W. Owen

London
7/6/18.

Copyright War Records 29.7.19

P.I.
OFF.M.

Copyright War Records 1919

A. I. F. 37.

DIXON, Lieut. N.E.
Crowe, Lieut. W.G.R.

M. February 10th, 1918.

We went out on a raid on this night at Warneton. I was of the party and these two officers were in charge. We were reconnoitring the German positions. We reached the German 2nd.line and it was then time to come back. The Germans were in the trenches. When we got back, one of our Sgts. (I forget his name, although I know it well) said that he had seen Mr. Crowe wounded on the raid. We took some German prisoners in a later raid and on one of them we found some documents referring to the raid of February 10th. These papers said that they(the Germans) had taken prisoner one of our officers from this raid andthat they had questioned the officer as to our positions &c. but that he had refused to tell anything. This was read out to us on parade. As we had two officers missing in the raid we could not tell to whom this reported referred.

Reference:- Cpl. Stimson. 2646.
Medical Base Depot.

Etaples.20.4.18.

37th Battn.A.I.F. DIXON.N.E.Lt.,

"Missing 10.2.18."

Re your letter of 5th inst. enquiring re Lieuts. Crowe and Dixon reported Missing on 10.~~4~~.1918. Nothing has been heard about either of these officers since the raid.

German prisoners captured shortly after the raid stated that an Australian Officer had been taken prisoner on 10th Feb. but there is nothing beyond the date to connect this with either of these officers.

Neither of the bodies of these officers was recovered.

I regret exceedingly that no furhter information is available. We have been making enquiries and should any information be obtained will notify you immediately.

Letter from. O.C. E. Wood A/Adjt.
37th Australian Battn.
Battn. Headquarters.

London.
15.7.18.

Copyright War Records.

P.I.
OFF.M.

37th Battn.
A.I.F.

DIXON Lt.N.E.
Crowe Lt.W.G.H.
Watt D.W. 684

"MISSING 10-2-18"

On the evening of the 10th Feb.1918, about 10 p.m. dark, a party of 100 men from the 37th Battn. (a mixed lot of volunteers in charge of Lt.Hunter) amongst whom were Lts. Crowe and Dixon, and Ptes. Watt, Norris and myself, also 100 men from the 38th Battn., who were on our left. Capt.Fairweather M.C., was in charge of them, and O.C. of the raid. We reached the German 2nd line at Warneton under heavy fire from bombs, and we had a lot of casualties. Mr.Crowe disappeared near a pill-box in the German 2nd line. We had to retire about 10-30 p.m., the enemy were then between us and our line. We took a number of them P/W and brought them back with us. I saw Mr.Dixon in Fritz communication trench, and spoke to him. He asked me how many casualties I had in my lot. I told him I had got them all out except Mr.Crowe, and that I had searched for him but could not find him. He said he would go back and look for Mr.Crowe. He would not let me go. That was the last I saw of him. The Germans were in the communication trench at the time. I was told that Watt was badly wounded and left in the German lines. I saw Pte.Alec Morris 2608 D.Coy. badly wounded, hit in the side by a shell. He was brought out into "No Man's Land" and left there while the S/Bs went for a stretcher. He was bleeding badly. The S/Bs came back but could find no trace of him.

London
23-7-18

Informant. J.Nordan. Cpl.R.J. 1214
37th Battn. D.Coy. 16th Pltn.
Aust. Camp, ROUELLES.

P.I. & OFF.M.

P.I.
OFF.M.

A.I.F. 37th Battn.

DIXON
Norman Edward Lieut.
Lieut.

"KILLED IN ACTION"

Killed in Action 10/2/18 previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 27/8/18.

London
4/9/18.

OFPM
P.I.

PCF.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

1961/6/8.

COPY.

Statement received from.No.7092.Pte. Barber.R.A.37th Bn.

Re- Lieut. DIXON. H.E. 37th Battalion.
Missing. 10.2.18.

With reference to the above mentioned Officer, to my knowledge, the last I know was that on the night of the 10.2.18. he, with a raiding party went over at La Basseville, but never returned with them. I was not in the raiding party therefore, cannot give any particulars concerning him.

Cpl.Allen and Pte K.Allison were members of the raiding party and returned.

Lieut.Crowe was also in the party, and I do now think that he returned. I understood that one of the Officers went back to help a Private in distress.

It was the opinion of the party that Lieut.Dixon was taken prisoner.

Dated at. Litherlemoor.

Signed. R.A.Barber.

Statement made and signed before me.

Signed. A.Corin. 3rd Pioneer Bn.

CL/NRE. 1961/6/8

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

C O P Y.

Statement made by. No. 2130, Pte. POWELL W.A. 37th Bn. A.I.F.
re No. --- Lt. DIXON N.E. 37th Bn. A.I.F.
Missing 10.2.18.

The last time I saw Lt. Dixon, 37th Bn. A.I.F. was during the raid on 10.2.18 and he was then in the German lines, alive and unwounded.

Dated at Frenshaw Hill Military Hospital.

(Sgd) W.A. POWELL.

Statement made and signed by

(Sgd) E.S. JADDILL.
Major R.A.M.C.

37th Battn.
A.I.F.

DIXON. N.E.Lieut.
Crowe.W.G.H. Lieut.

"Killed in Action 10-8-18"

Nothing is known here of the whereabouts of Lieuts Crowe and Dixon, and our investigations have proved fruitless. Pte Ha rry Powell was repatriated to England on 19-8-18.

Letter from:- Berlin Red Cross.
censored "Limburg"
received London 9-1-19.
dated 5-7-18.
Sent in answer to our letter to 2891 Pte Harry Powell. 37th Battn.

London.
11-1-19.

2891 Pte H. A. Powell
Returned Australia
20.11.18

Off.M. & P I.

Written Pte Powell C.
23.1.19

Capt Adjt

37th Battn.
A.I.F.

DIXON Lt.N.E.
Crowe Lt.W.G.H.
Cox C. 554

"MISSING 10-8-18"

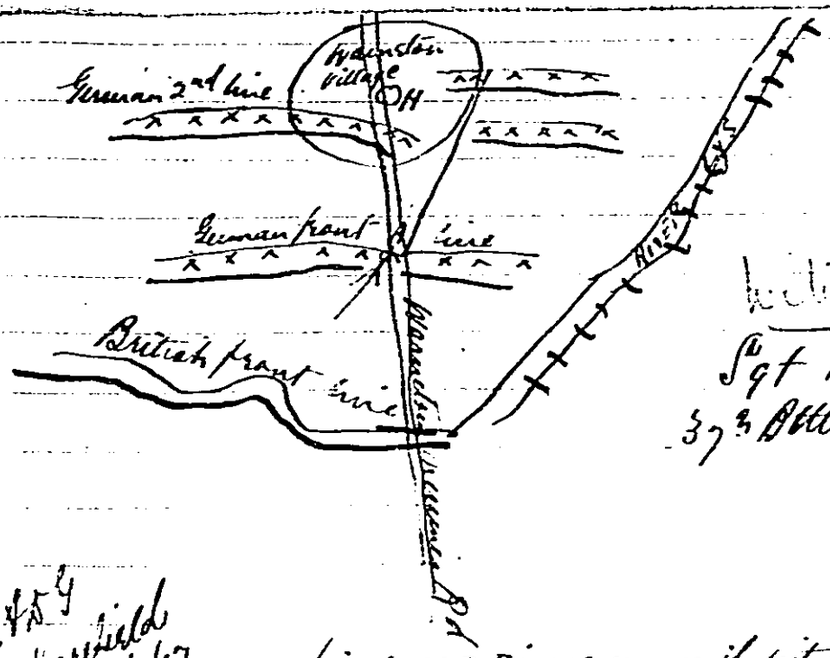
Cox was in B.Coy. Lt.Crowe in C.Coy. Cox was runner to Lt.Crowe. On night of 10th Feb. 10 o'clock Lt.Crowe and 5 men went ahead through the enemy's front line to raid a pill-box in the enemy's second line, which was in Warneton Village. We had in meantime mopped up their front line. Crowe and Cox were last seen going into the pill-box marked H., nothing more seen of them. Lt.Crowe was a personal friend of mine. The night was lit up with star shells, rockets and shrapnel bursts.

Informant. Stockdale. Sgt.R. 682
37th Battn. B.Coy.,
HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.
London
26-7-18

Note:- Lt.N.E.Dixon was with Informant at point marked A. getting prisoners back through their own trench line. He was last seen there, don't know what became of him.

P.I. & OFF.M.



Witness
Sgt R Stockdale 682
37th Battn B Company

A.D.G.
Harefield
3/7/17

Lieut N.E. DIXON was with witness at point marked A getting prisoners back thro' their own trench line - he was last seen there, dont know what became of him.

A I F. 37

~~Exch~~
Dixon,Lt.N E.
Crowe,Lt.W G H.

M Feb.10/18

160 of us,including these Officers and myself,went over that night on a raid at La Basseville,in front of Warneton. We captured 40 prisoners,5 MGs,two pine-apple guns and a lot of small stuff and ammunition. These two Officers did not get back. Mr Dixon started but he was wounded already and no one knows whether he was hit again and killed or went back to find Mr Crowe and then got taken prisoner. One of our Officers told me that it is certain now that one of these is a prisoner and the other killed but the Germans will not tell which they have got.

P.1

Inf:- Hulgrave, 1857. A
A T 'Prss.Elizabeth'
Calais. 3 4 18. GGP

19.3.18

H. F. Johnson Esq
Manager
Borax Consolidated Ltd
16 Eastcheap
E.C.

Re Lieut Norman E. Dixon 3yth Batt

Missing 10.2.18

Missing Draft sent.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON 1961/6/8

COPY For Rel 4

Statement made by No 1857 Pte Hulgrave A. 37th Battalion

re Lieut Dixon H.E. 37th Battalion Missing 10-2-18

On about 20th of January 1918 I was in a raid on the German lines at La Basee. Lieutenant Dixon and myself were in the German front line he was wounded slightly in the back and he gave the party orders to withdraw and himself went to see if Lieutenant Crow was back from the German second line. Whilst coming back to our own lines we were chased by many Germans I had to retire quickly. Nothing further was seen by any of us of Mr Dixon or Mr Crow.

Lieut Dixon. PI MM

Dated at Alexandra Hopp Oosham this 16th day of April 1918

Statement made and signed before me

(SGD)H.A.Hulgrave

(SGD) H.S.Rawlence
Capt R.A.M.C.

37th Battn
A?I.F.

DIXON,
Lieut. N.E.

"Missing 10.2.18."

He went over to Fritz' line with a raiding party at Warneton, this side of Ploegsteert, and when coming back he found that Lieut. W.G.H.Crowe, who was also one of the raiding party was not with them. Mr Dixon told the boys to get back to our lines, and he promptly went back to Fritz's line to look for Mr Crowe, and he did not return, and he has not been seen since. It is the general opinion that he is a prisoner i.e. if still alive. "He was one of the best."

Informant:- J.L.Theobald, 2478,
(31) 27th Battn,
Harefield.

W.G.J.

P.I.
Off.M.

London.
17.5.18. Note. No trace P/W to date

BORAX CONSOLIDATED LIMITED

MINERS OF BORATES

16, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.

REFINERS OF BORAX BORIC ACID etc

TELEGRAMS "COLEMANITE, BILGATE, LONDON"
TELEPHONE: AVENUE 5763 (2 LINES), CENTRAL 13717

HFJ/WA

CABLE: A1, ABC (4TH & 5TH ED.), WESTERN UNION CODES: BENTLEY'S COMPLETE PHRASE CODE &c

15th March, 1918.

The Secretary,
The British Red Cross Society,
18 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

Our friends in Melbourne, Australia, have cabled us asking us to try and ascertain particulars of NORMAN DIXON. This appears to refer to Lieut. Norman Edward Dixon of the 37th Australian Battalion, who was reported missing in France on the 10th February last.

If any information should reach you regarding this gentleman, we should be greatly obliged if you would inform us in order that we can cable out.

Thanking you in anticipation,

We are,

Yours faithfully,

H. F. Johnson

H.F.Johnson, Esq,
Manager,
Boxax Consolidated Ltd,
16, Eastcheap, E.C.

11th April, 1918.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry concerning :-

Lieut. NORMAN EDWARD DIXON, 37th Battn, A.I.F.

who is officially reported Missing on 10-2-18, we have received the following unofficial report from 1857 Pte.A.Hulgrave of the same unit.

He states that on the night of 10-2-18 a party of 160 men including Lieuts.Dixon and Crowe went over on a raid at La Basseville in front of Warneton. They captured 40 prisoners 5 machine guns, and a considerable amount of other war material but these officers did not return to our lines. Mr.Dixon started to come back but he was wounded already and no one knows whether he was hit again and killed, or whether he went back to find Mr. Crowe and was then taken prisoners.

We regret that we are unable to supply you with more definite details at present, but we are continuing our enquiries and hope to send you further particulars at a later date

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Craven

SECRETARY.

BORAX CONSOLIDATED LIMITED

MINERS OF BORATES

16, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.

REFINERS OF BORAX BORIC ACID, etc

TELEGRAMS "COLEMANITE, BILGATE, LONDON" TELEPHONE AVENUE 5763 (2 LINES) CENTRAL 13717 HFJ/WA

CABLE A1, ABC (4TH & 5TH ED.) WESTERN UNION CODES BENTLEYS COMPLETE PHRASE CODE &c

13th April, 1918.

The Secretary,
The Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 11th inst. and I am much obliged for your courtesy in passing on to me the unofficial report made by 1857 Pte. A. Hulgrave. I am sending this to Melbourne but unfortunately it is not of a very definite character. It is now over two months since Lieut. Dixon was missing but I suppose there is still some hope that he is alive and in German hands.

Yours faithfully,

H.F. Johnson, Esq,
Manager, Borax Consolidated Ltd,
16, Eastcheap, E.C.

8th May, 1918.

Dear Sir,

The following unofficial report concerning - Lieut.H.F. DIXON, 37th Battalion, M.F.F. gives very similar evidence to a previous report and refers as you see in this case also to Lieut.H.C.H.DIXON, as well.

We regret exceedingly that it in no way relieves the uncertainity as to your friend's fate.

Our informant - 2048 Cpl.Gibson, who was in a Medical Base Depot, certified as follows:- "We went out on a raid on this night at Warneton. I was of the party and these two officers were in charge. We were reconnoitring the German positions. As I asked the German 2nd line and it was then time to come back. The Germans were in the trenches. Then we got back one of our lights. (I forget his name, although I know it well) said that he had seen Mr. Crowe wounded on the raid. We took some German prisoners in a later raid and on one of them we found some documents referring to the raid of February 10th. These papers said that they (the Germans) had taken prisoner one of the officers from this raid and that they had questioned the officer as to our positions &c., but that he had refused to tell anything. This was read out to us on parade. As we had two officers missing in the raid we could not tell to whom this report referred."

We are pursuing our enquiries and shall at once advise you of anything further. There is still some hope that these two officers' names may appear on the German prisoners list although at the same time we believe that we should have had word from them themselves by now were they prisoners. With our sincere sympathy in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,
(MISS) [illegible] SECRETARY.

Miss McConnell

BORAX CONSOLIDATED LIMITED

MINERS OF BORATES

16, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.

REFINERS OF BORAX BORIC ACID, etc

TELEGRAMS: "COLEMANITE, BILGATE, LONDON"
TELEPHONE: AVENUE 5763 (2 LINES) CENTRAL 13717

HFJ/WA

CABLE: A1, ABC (4TH & 5TH ED.), WESTERN UNION CODES: BENTLEYS COMPLETE PHRASE CODE, &c

11th May, 1918.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.
Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau.

Dear Madam,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your kind favour of the 8th inst. and again thank you for your courtesy in keeping me advised of the results of your enquiries regarding LIEUT. N.E. DIXON. 3-Aus. By this mail we are writing to Lieut. Dixon's Australian relatives.

Yours faithfully,

E.F. Johnson, Esq,
Manager, The Borax Consolidated Ltd,
16, FastcheAp, E.C.

May 23rd, 1918.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your enquiry for -

Lieut. N.P. DIXON, 37th Battalion, A.I.F.

We beg to inform you of another unofficial report about him which we have received.

3478 Pte.J.L.Theobald, of the same unit, who describes Lt. Dixon as "One of the best" stated that at Warneton this side of Ploegsteert he went over to the enemy's lines with a raiding party and when returning found that Lt. Crowe was not of the party - he sent his men back to our lines and returned himself to the enemy's lines to look for Lt. ~~Dixon~~ Crowe and unfortunately was not seen again.

As we have already told you there is still the possibility of his being a prisoner and we are continuing our enquiries and will advise you immediately if any further reports reach us but as so many months have elapsed since the casualty was reported and his name has not appeared on any German lists we fear there is very little hope of its doing so now.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

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REFINERS OF BORAX BORIC ACID. etc.

TELEGRAMS "COLEMANITE, BILGATE, LONDON"
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CABLE: A1, A.B.C. (4TH & 5TH ED.) WESTERN UNION
CODES: BENTLEYS COMPLETE PHRASE CODE &c

WA.

24th May, 1916.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place,
S.W.1.

Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau.

Dear Madam, 37/6th

I am much obliged for the further unofficial report which you send us regarding Lt. N.E.Dixon, of the 37th Battalion. Unofrtunately this confirms previous reports but we are sending it on to his friends in Melbourne.

Again thanking you for your kind enquiries,

Yours faithfully,

H.F. Johnson, Esq,
Manager, Borax Consolidated Ltd,
16, Pastenoap. E.C.

June 5th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your enquiry for -

Lieut. H.F. Dixon, 57th Battalion, A.I.F.

We regret to inform you of another unofficial report which we have received about him which unfortunately only confirms those previously sent you.

1214 Cpl. K.J. Jordan of the same unit when interviewed recently in hospital in France stated that on Feb 10th, he was in a night raid at Warneton with Lt. Crowe. The raid lasted from 10 to 10.30 p.m. and only 5 men in the party were left when proceeding to-wards a German pillbox. Our informant stopped to dress the wounds of two of their men and a few moments later went on expecting to find Lt.Crowe a few yards ahead in a communication trench, where he was last seen but unfortunately they found no trace of him and the enemy was bombing from the pillbox which was about 20 yards away. At that moment Cpl. Jordan met Lt. Dixon who said he was going to look for Lt. Crowe. he was told that he had no chance of going forward as the enemy was following but he insisted in attempting and was unfortunately not seen again.

We fear from the nature of the evidence and the length of time that has elapsed since the casualty was reported that there is very little hope of either Lt. Crowe or Lt. Dixon being alive.

We are however continuing our enquiries and will communicate with you at once if any further information reaches us.

Yours faithfully,

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7th June, 1918.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place,
S.W.1.
Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau.

Dear Madam,

Lieut.N.E. Dixon. 37th Battalion.

I am much obliged for the further report which you send me and much regret that this confirms the previous evidence. There certainly does not seem any hope of his being reported a prisoner but note that you are continuing your enquiries.

Again thanking you for the interest you have taken in this matter, which I am sure will be much appreciated by Lieut. Dixon's relatives,

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

WA.

H.W. Johnson, Esq.,
Manager,
Borax Consolidated Ltd,
Ld, Eastcheap, E.C.

[illegible], 1918.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your enquiry for -

Lieut. N.H. DIXON, 37th Battalion, A.I.F.

We regret to inform you of 3 more unofficial reports about him,

7092 Pte. R.A. Barber, when interviewed recently at the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford said:- "It was read out in orders that information had been received at the Battalion through German prisoners captured - that a Lieut. and a Private had been taken prisoners in a raid on 10th February 1918 at La Bassevilla. Lt. Dixon refused to give any information, but the Private said they were storm troops That is all the information the German prisoners could give concerning Lt. Dixon and Pte. referred to."

12627 Pte. W.D. Parks, when interviewed in France stated that they were at Catacombs by Ploegsteert on Feb. 10th and at 10 p.m. Lt. Dixon and Lt. Crowe with about 200 men took part in a raid in front of LaBassee. There were about 16 casualties. Lt. Dixon was last seen bringing in a prisoner, who tried to escape. It was thought that Lt. Crowe was killed by a sniper and that Lt. Dixon was killed also.

2059 Pte. H.J. Buttfield interviewed recently in Hospital in France stated that on Feb. 10th they were holding the line near Warneton. During the night a raid was organized in which Lt. Dixon took part. Our informant was told by Cpl. Allen, also of the same unit, that he was with Lt. Dixon all the time, during the raid and adds that though there is a doubt about his fate.

Cpl. Allen but we more about him than anyone.

We have therefore written to Cpl. Allen and trust that his reply may prove of a more definite nature than those we have obtained up to the present. We will advise you as soon as any further information reaches us.

We must emphasise the purely unofficial nature of all this evidence and regret that from it we have obtained no positive information of L.S. Dixon's fate.

We are continuing our enquiries although we fear that there is little hope of his being a prisoner - for he would surely have availed himself of the opportunity afforded every prisoner on being captured of writing to us or to some one in England.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

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CABLE: A1, ABC (4TH & 5TH ED.) WESTERN UNION CODES: BENTLEYS COMPLETE PHRASE CODE &c

17th June, 1918.

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau.

The Secretary,
Australian & Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place,
S.W.1.

Dear Madam,

We are much obliged for the further reports which you send us regarding Lieut. N.E.Dixon, of the 37th Battalion, A.I.F. Although there does not seem any hope of his being alive, it is some satisfaction to know exactly what happened on the night of the raid, and we feel sure his relatives in Australia appreciate the trouble you have taken to collect information.

Again thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

BORAX CONSOLIDATED LTD.

H.F. Johnson, Esq,
Manager, Borax Consolidated, Ltd,
16, Eastcheap, E.C.

July 3rd, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you that we have received another unofficial report respecting -

Lieut. NORMAN P. DIXON. 57th Battalion, A.I.F.

which agrees with those already sent you, but which we regret throws no further light on his fate.

2130 Pte. A.W. Powell, recently at the 1st General Hospital, B.E.F. stated that on Feb. 19th Lt Dixon was in command of a night raid at Warneton, which was overwhelmed by the Germans. He gave the order to retire about 3 a.m. and was then seen firing his revolver. The second officer in Command of the party was wounded and could not walk. Pte. Powell saw him wounded in the leg. He had to go on with the wounded and did not see the two officers again.

We are continuing enquiries, as in hopes of obtaining some definite information, which we will at once forward to you.

With much regret at the anxiety and suspense Lt. Dixon's friends must be suffering.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS)

SECRETARY.

7. July.

September 30th, 1918.

E.H. Johnson, Esq.
Manager.
Borax Consolidated Ltd.
16 Eastcheap. E.C.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for - Lieut. F.E. DIXON. 37th Battalion. A.I.F. ... much regret to inform you that, as we fear, he is now officially reported Killed in Action on 10-2-18, having previously been reported Missing on that date.

We forward an extract received in a letter from the Adjutant of the 37th Battalion. "Nothing has been heard of Lt. Dixon since the raid of 10-2-18. German prisoners captured shortly after stated that an Australian officer had been taken prisoner on 10th Feb. but there is nothing beyond the date to connect this with either Mr. Dixon and Lt Crowe neither of the bodies of these officers was recovered."

We also enclose an unofficial report made by 1814 Cpl.R.J Jordan with the map of the Warneton area. Informant states:- "On the evening of the 10th Feb. a raid was made by a party of 100 men from 37th Battalion. amongst hom were Lts. Crowe and Dixon. We reached the German second line at Warneton under heavy fire from bombs and we had a lot of casualties, Mr Crowe disappeared near a pill box in the German 2nd line (H) We had to retire about 10-30 p.m. and the enemy was then between us and our line. We took a number of them prisoners and brought them back with us. I saw Mr. Dixon in the Fritz communication trench (A) and spoke to him. I told him I had got all the casualties in my lot except Lt Crowe and that I had searched for him but could not find him. He said he would go back and look for Mr.Crowe. He would not let me go. That was the last I saw of him. The Germans were in the communication trench at the ~~same~~time."

We have now closed our enquiries for Lt. Dixon as we fear there is very little hope of obtaining any definite news of

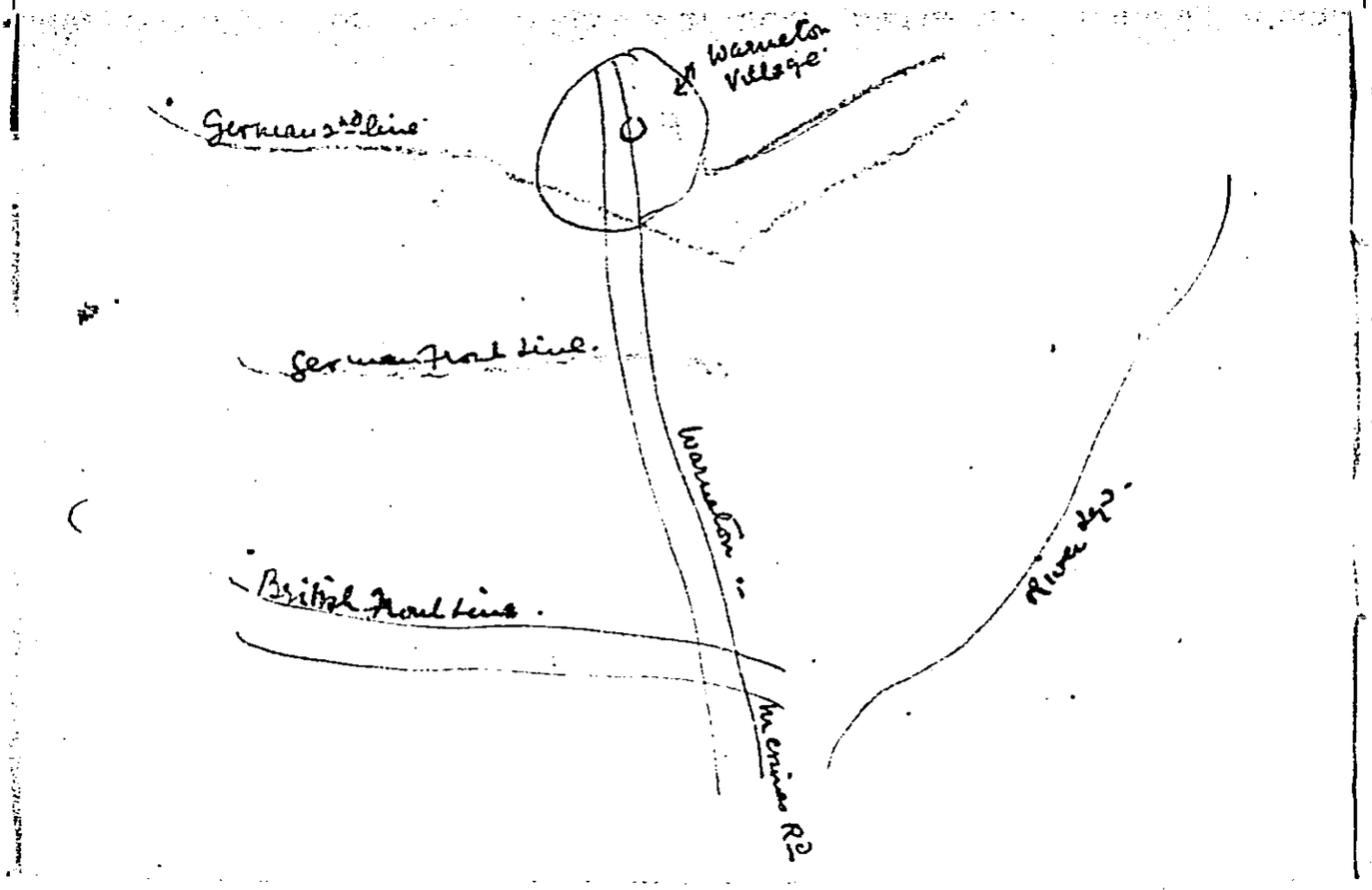
his fate.

Assuring his people of our sincere sympathy in their loss.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS)

SECRETARY.


Warneton Village
German 2nd line
German Front Line.
Warneton
British Front Line.
Merrimac Rd
River Lys.

5.7.18

Lt. A. E. Dixon

See under:

Lt. H. G. H. Crowe

15-7.18

Lt. W. E. Dixon
37 Bttn

See under

Lt. W. G. H. Crowe
37 Bttn

K

9.1.19

Lt. H. E. Dixon
37 Batty
See under

Lt. H. G. H. Crowe
37 Batty

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16, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3,

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HFJ/WA

3rd October, 1918.

The Secretary,
Wounded and Missing Enquiry
Bureau,
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY,
36 Grosvenor Place, S.W.1.

Dear Madam,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 30th ult. and greatly appreciate your courtesy in sending me the further information which you have obtained in regard to Lieut. DIXON. 3/10/18 It is of great interest, but unfortunately confirms that this Officer was killed on the 10th February last.

Yours faithfully,

H. F. Julian

Stewart Dixon Surrey Villa
Bald Hills
N Coast Line
Queensland

rec'd about 1. 8. 19

20934

Red Cross Information Bureau

I have just received the Aussie Paper by post from some unknown friend and in the Post Card Columns some one is inquiring for information of the death & Burial of Sergt N E Dixon

Knowing my brother Sergt N E Dixon had many friends in England & France I am sending the details.

Killed in Action at Villers Bretonneux on the 6th of August and interred at Austral Cemetery. Amiens = France

Yours &c

Stewart Dixon
Late A I F