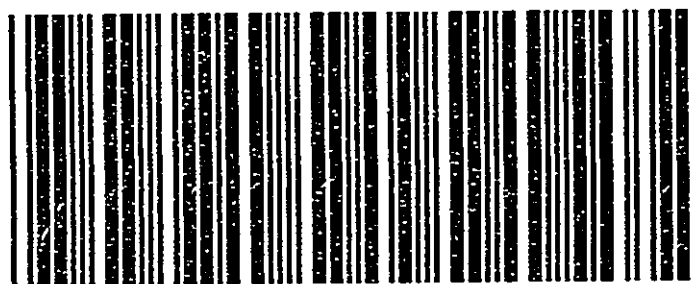


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**42 Sergeant
Alfred Gibson Colbey**

27th Battalion



0760906S

A.I.F. 27.

COILEY Sgt.A.G. 42.

X. 5.11.16.

I saw his dead body lying just over our parapet at Piers on 6th. Nov. He had been shot through the head. I was acting as a S/S. when I saw the body. The body had to be left there. I know nothing as to burial. He belonged to A.Co. I knew him very well. We had been long in the Bn. together.

Sa.

Reference: Sgt.G.B. Underwood. 1010. A.Co.
2 A.D.B.D. (Now B.Co.)

Etoples.
3.3.17.

A. I. P. 27.

COLBEY, Sergt. A. G. 42.

K. Nov. 5th 1916.
Det. D. and B.

Sergt. Colby - name Alf. - was in A. Coy. and was killed very early on Nov. 5th. We were going up a communication trench and getting over the top into shell holes to get into position before charging. As soon as Sergt. Colby got out he was hit - shot through the chest and killed instantly. He never moved. I was about five yards off. This was at Flers just as it was getting light. We buried him about a chain away from where he fell - in a shell hole as best we could, and we made a temporary cross out of a bit of ladder and put his name on.

Informant:- Sergt. F. B. H. Williams, 1016, B. Co.
32 Stationary Hospital,
BOULOGNE. 8.3.17.

JT.

27th A. I. F.

Colbey, Sergt A.G. 42,
B. Company

(K. Nov. 5/16. Det: D & B)

Informant states that on November 5th in No Man's Land at
Flers in going over the trench in the first wave, Sergt Colbey was
hit through the stomach by a bullet, death instantaneous, about 9.15am

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Short, dark, nickname Col.

Informant: Cpl Tigan, 60,
27th A.I.F., A. Coy,
Coombe Lodge Hospital,
Great Warley, Essex.

Home address:
Adelaide,
South Australia.

14th March 1917.
E. Wontner.

27th Australian Imperial Force

Colberty, Sgt. A. G. 42

(K. Nov. 5/16. Dets D & B)

" I remember Sergeant Colberty. He was killed while moving out through a sap (It was a sap out from our own front line to a secret trench). He got out on the top of the bank to allow the men to move through into the trench, and he was shot right through the heart by a sniper. I can't say whether he was buried. It was on the left of Piers, just before an attack. "

Eye Witness - Of death, but knows nothing of burial.

Description -

Informant :- Pte. William Anderson, 7
27th Aus. I. F.
Military Hospital,
Woking.

Home address :-
Buxton Street,
Foots Cray West,
Victoria, Australia.

21. 3. 17.

O. M. Wigan.

Sub A

A.I.P. 27.

CORSEY, Sgt. A.G. 42.

K. E. Nov. 1917.

The Sgt. was killed outright by M.G. bullets or a bullet just as he got over the top. I saw him lying out dead whilst we were waiting in shell holes to attack. We went out before we attacked into shell holes.

He was Sgt. of A. Coy. We called him Coby.
This was to the left of Flers on Nov. 5th. 1918.

NC.

Reference: Pte. M.A. Johnson, 842, Batt. Bomber
No. 20. Gen.

Etaples

23. March 1917

27th BATTN.
1.1.15.

COBBY.
Sgt. J. O. 42.

"Killed 6.11.15"

Sgt. Colby is my cousin. I found his grave with a small cross on it, and I got a big cross and put it up, with properly spelt name. The small cross had Private C. Colby. The grave is at Flers and number G.H.U. 6.

I should like a photo sent to next of kin. Padre called promised to send a photo, but Bush has not reached her. (Mother is next of kin.)

Informant:- Gay. B. O. 6084.
27th BATTN.
C. Coy.

Note:- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

Bat. 20.
Westham.

A.

W. A. Rand.
London.
20.2.15.