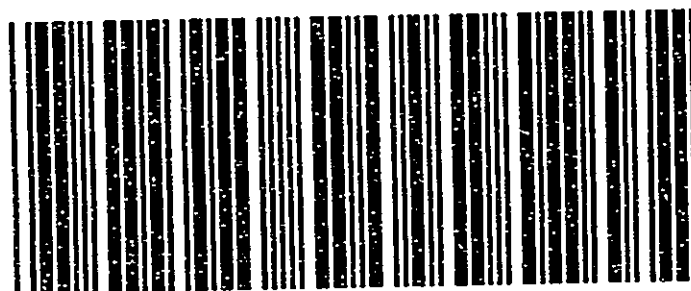


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1721 Private
William Arthur Cramb

7th Field Ambulance



0830204H

France.

Chamrn

GRAND W.A. 1721.

A.A.E.G. 7.F.A.

W.A.M. 26.8.15.

He was detailed in a party to work with the 21st.Bn. A shell caught the party and he was badly shaken up, with wounds in the left arm. He was the only one of the party that reached the place where I was working. He was so badly shaken that I sent him back, after he had rested, with a squad to No.3 Post. When I got back to No.3 Post the next day (27th.Aug.) I found that none of the squad had reached there. They must have been killed in the barrage they had to pass through.

SA.

Reference: Cpl.W.S. White. 3665. C. Sec. 7th.F.A.
Ass. Gen. Base.

B
Staples.
27.11.15
1074 M

France.

A. I. P.

A.A.M.C. 7 Field Ambulance.

GRAND, W. A. 1721.

W. & K/26th. August 1916.

I was the last to see him on Aug. 26th. We were trying to get to the 21st. but only five of us got back. He was wounded in the arm by a shell splint and was also slightly suffering from shell shock, but the R.M.C. did not consider him badly enough wounded to be sent back. I told him to go into a dug-out, but when I had got the man going and went to look for him, he was gone. The dug-out was intact. Nothing has been seen of him since. This was in Corps Avenue, Pozieres.

References: Riley, 3534, G.Sec, formerly A.Sec.,
Australian General Base.

Staples.
13.11.16.
E.H.

B

France.

A. I. F.

Cramm.

A.A.M.C. 7th Field Ambulance.

ORAMB, W.A. 1721.

W. & H/August 26th. 1916.

This should be Cramm (not Oramb). His great friend,
Pte. Weir, at the Australian General Base, Etaples, can
give all information regarding his death.

Reference: Davidson, D.M. 6338, 13 P.A.,
No. 26 General.

Etaples.
5.12.16.
FJB.

ask speaking

Written Pte Weir 18/12/16

copy 1/11

A. A. H. C.

Cramb Pte W.A. 1721,
7th Field Ambulance, A. Section

(W & M 26.8.16)

W.A. Cram was killed by a shell at Pozieres. Cpl J. Garnett
saw him killed and can give full information. He was the last man
that saw Cram of same Regt, and Sect.

Informant: Sergt John Moran, 3984,
A.A.H.C., P. Section,
Norfolk War Hospital,
Thorpe, Norwich.

Home address:
Morish Street,
Braken Hill,
via South Australia.

6th January 1917.
Edgar Rice.

Written Cpl Garnett 15.1.17

B

Evre

Jan. 12th 1917

AUSTRALIAN FIELD AMBULANCE 7

CRANE W.A. 1721

W. & H. Aug. 26/16

I knew him personally. He came from Queensland. He came up to Mouquet Farm with a reinforcement of thirteen and he was slightly wounded in the arm on arriving. After being dressed he was sent back ~~in~~ with a stretcher party of five to an aid post. We heard later they never reached the aid post as they were blown to pieces by shell fire.

Informant W.S. White 3666
7th Field Ambulance (Australian)
H.S. Dunlavy Castle
~~XXXXXX~~ R.B.S.

B

7th Field Ambulance,
A.I.F.,

CRAMB

1721

W.A.

"M & W 26.8.16"

On the day previous to when our comrade was reported missing I met him in the front line of trenches, where you can quite imagine that everybody is in a hurry. I asked him how he was getting on, when he answered not too good, as he having sustained a slight wound in the left arm. Our comrade was carrying on as though nothing had happened. Sometime afterwards Corporal Garnet who was bearing in conjunction with our Ambulance, states that on his return from the trenches, that a shell killed two bearers and he himself was wounded the other member of the squad getting off Scotch free. He (Cpl Garnet) working with bearers unknown to him said that one of the bearers who had been killed at that event was a member of the 7th Field Ambulance. As there was only another comrade of our Ambulance killed on that day, whose death has been identified therefore we came to the conclusion that the victim was our poor comrade, Pte Cramb whose death was very much lamented by all of us.

Cert. by letter from 3964 J.R. Weir,
B.E.F.
France.
2/2/17.

London
19.1.17

B.

7th Field Amb: A. I. F.

Cramb, W. A. 1721.

(W & M. Aug: 25/16.)

Informant states that at the beginning of October 1916 while on parade he heard it read out in routine order that Cramb had been killed. Informant had heard it from a comrade who had seen him, but cannot call to mind his comrade's name.

Informant:-- William, Charles Stokes 3863,
7th Field Amb: Aus: Med. Corps.
1st. London General Hospital,
Camberwell.

Home address:-- Canaga Via Chinchilla,
Queensland.

Feb: 1st.
Grainger.

B

France.

A. I. F. A.A.M.C. 7 Fld. Amb. ORAMB, W.A.1781.

W. & M/August 26th.1916.

He is now listed as killed. Our
Colonel held an enquiry with this result.
His name has appeared in batt. orders as killed.

Reference: Pte.H.L.O'Brien, 9055, B.sect.,
7th.Fld.Amb.,

A.G.B.D.

Staples.
16.2.17.
SA.

Written O.C. 12/3/17

Australian A.M.C.

Cramb W.A. 1721 Pte.
Field Amb. 7.

(W. & M. Aug. 26th 1916)

"I was told that Pte. Cramb (7th Field Amb.) was killed on Aug. 26th this side of Pozieres. He was wounded in the arm quite early in the day, and went up to the doctor of the 21st Batt. to have his wound dressed; a mate of mine went up with him to act as stretcher bearer to the 21st Batt. The doctor dressed his arm and told him to carry on, but on his way back he was killed by a shell. My mate was killed too. The last man who saw him alive was Cpl. Garnet, 5th Field Ambulance, A.I.F. he may give more details.

Eye-witness: No he was with the Ambulance in Beacourt Wood.
Was told by Cpl. Garnet, 5th Field Ambulance
A.I.F.

Description: Fairly thick set, clean-shaven, fair, came from
Brisbane, Queensland.

Informant: Pte. S. Pickering 3530, Australian A.M.C.,
7th Field Ambulance, 3rd Southern Gen. Hospt.
Oxford.

Home address: 93 Canon Cookin St.,
Sunderland,
England.

Written R^{to} Clark 20-2-17

Feb. 13th 1917,
J.H. Payne.

Hayre

Feb. 23rd 1917

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
7th Field Ambulance

ORAMB W.A. 1721

W. & M. Aug. 86/16

Cpl. Garnet with the 5th Field Ambulance told me that Cramp was killed by a shell at Pozieres about August 26th. Garnet rejoined the battn. at the end of December as he was also wounded in the second Pozieres stunt. The 5th, 6th and 7th Field Ambulance work together.

Informant Pte. H. E. Manks 3749

7th Field Ambulance 2nd Div.

Australian Medical Corps.

No. 1 Gen. Strætus

H.M.D.H.

Handwritten: 1st CP Garnet 15.1.17
shall be made

B

A.M.C. 7th. Field Amb.

GRAMB W.A. 1721.

W.A. 26.8.16.

It was read out in Orders at the 7th.F.A. that he was killed outright by a shell while up in the trenches at Pozieres on 26th.Aug. I remember hearing it. Some of the men of the 27th.Bn. found the parts of his body. I knew him very well.

FA.

Reference: Pts.A.A. Drewar. 7959. B. Sect.
7th.F.A.

A.G.B.D.

Staples.
23.2.17.

B.

A. I. F Fld Ambulance. 74
A. Section.

CRAMB
Pte. W.A. 1721

WOUNDED & MISSING 26-8-16

Pte W. A Cramb A. Section 7th Field. Ambulance was among the Stretcher Bearers who were working near Pozieres some time in August. I was stretcher bearer bearing myself in the vicinity but was not a member of his W. A. Cramb's party. As far as I can remember I give you the details as related to me by the other members of his party on their return to our first Aid Post. Together with some others about ten in all I believe. Pte Cramb was detailed to proceed to the front line to bring some wounded and when crossing open country between two trenches the party were caught by a bursting shell and several of them were wounded some killed. Cramb received a slight wound and returned to the Reg. Aid Post and had his wound dressed. He then went along with some infantrymen to pick up the rest of his party who had proceeded to the front line and while on this return trip he is supposed to have been killed by a bursting shell. The authority for this statement of the infantrymen who were with him. I am forwarding your letter on to the Unit and asking them to communicate with you giving you all the particulars they have. There are at least four members of the party that Pte. Cramb set out with on that fateful trip still with the Unit and they no doubt will be able to shed much more light on the matter than I can.

Cert. by letter from Pte Conway Clark 3752
London .20/3/17. Chief Eng: Office 1st Anzac Hdqrs. 11/3/17
late 7 F. Ambree. B.P.I.

A.I.F. 7th. Fd. Amb.

CRAMB
W.A.1721.

**WOUNDED AND MISSING 26.8.16.
NOW KILLED IN ACTION**

I have to inform you that Bte. Cramb has now been officially reported as "Killed in Action 26.8.16."

From careful enquiries made it would appear that the last person to see him was Corporal R.M. Tweddle of this Unit. The following is an extract from the Inquiry held.

Corporal Tweddle states:-

"I was in charge of a party of bearers from the 7th. Australian Field Ambulance acting as regimental bearers for the 21st. Battalion on the afternoon of 26.8.16.

At about 3.30 p.m. Pte. Cramb reported to me for duty but stated that he thought his wounded arm would prevent him carrying.

I noticed that he was wounded in the right forearm. I told him to be the fifth man in a bearer party and have a try at carrying and that if he found that he was unable to carry to go back and report at the Dressing Station.

He left with four other volunteer bearers carrying a patient on a stretcher across the open and going in the direction of the Aid Post of the 21st. Battalion.

I do not know the names of the four bearers who were with him.

I do not know what Battalion they belonged to.

I did not see Cramb again. It was about 4 p.m. when I last saw him.

A.I.F. 7th. Fd. Amb.

GRAMB.
W.A. 1721.

Cert. by letter from. O.C.
7th. Australian Field Ambulance.
In the Field.
March 20th. 1917.

LONDON.
3.4.17.

B.
P.I.

7th Fld. Ambulance.
A. A. M. C.

Cramb.
Pte. W. A. 1721.

"Killed in Action 26.8.16."

As regards the tracing of my brother, 1721 Pte. W.A.Cramb, 7th Fld. Amb. In consideration of the other report, I am enclosing, which came from the O.C. 7th Field Ambulance through Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London. It appears to me that Cpl. Garnaut could definitely clear the matter up by seeing a photo of my brother. He should certainly then, I think, be able to say whether or not the man he saw killed as stated in the underlined parts of his statement was my brother. On receipt of Cpl. Garnaut's statement I at once compared it with previous reports and concluded that he was the last one to see my brother and so wrote to him enclosing a photograph, but so far I have had no reply. Possibly my letter has not reached him. I can't quite understand how the date given by Garnaut is the 6th August. Could I ask you to again take up the case on the enclosed statements and photograph, if possible getting something further from Garnaut?

Letter from:-

John D. Cramb. *Lt*
Egypt. 25.5.17.

London.
26.6.17.

M.
B. & P.I.

7th Fld. Amb.
A. A. M. C.

Cramb.
W. A. 1721.

"Killed in Action 26.8.16."

On the 6th August last at Pozieres, I was wounded through the left shoulder through the bursting of a shrapnel shell. I noticed that the same shell killed a 7th Field Ambulance Private, who answers to the description of Pte. W.A.Cramb. He was the only 7th Field Ambulance bearer with me at the time. I did not search the body for any Pay-Book or sentimental effects, and did not know his name. I left the body lying there. I sent the only unwounded member of my party back to the Dressing Station of the 21st Battalion to report on what had happened. This man who I sent back was a Russian and a member of the 5th Australian Field Ambulance.

(Signed) 1563 J. Garnaut. Cpl.

late A.M.C. Detail 26th Bn. attached 5th
Fld. Amb.

Note On a casualty list dated 5th Jan. 1917 Arthur was officially reported as "Previously reported wounded and missing now reported killed in action 26.8.16."

H.N.K. - note by friend brother *Lt Cramb*

London. 26.6.17.

H.N.K. gives date as 26.8.16

M.
B. & P.I.

7th Aust. Field Ambulance.
A.A. E. O.

Grumb.
Pte. W. A. 1721.

"Killed in action 26.8.16."

Adverting to previous correspondence regarding above soldier reported missing since 6.8.16, I enclose herewith a signed statement from No. 1552 Cpl. J. Gorman, late A.H.C. Detail attached to 26th Australian Infantry Battalion but attached to 5th Australian Field Ambulance during that period. From his statement I think it can be definitely reported that Pte. Grumb, W.A. was killed in action.

Letter for (Signed) J. James Black, Lt-Col.

G.O. 7th Australian Field Ambulance.

London.
25.6.17.

15.8.16. To AIF HQRS.

M.
B. & P.I.

130 Kensington Rd.

Date given by HQRS as 26.8.16

7th Field Ambulance,
A. A. M. C.

Cramb.
W. A. 1721.

"Killed 26.8.16"

As regards 1721 Pte. W. A. Cramb, 7th Fld. Ambulance I am sure this is the photo of the young man who was killed along-side me while stretcher bearing on the 26.8.16. If I had any doubt about it I would say so. I had often seen the young man before, but I did not know his name I wrote to his brother giving him a full account of Pte. Cramb's death.

Letter from:-

Cpl. J. Garnaut.

A.A.M.C. Details R.B.A.A.

Bulford, Salisbury Plain.

London.

24.7.17.

P.I.

M.

B.

A.I.F. 7th Inf. Amb.
A.H.C.

CRANE
Wm. Arthur 1721

"K/A. 26-8-18"

No trace Germany
Sent. by Capt. Mills 10-10-19.

H & B.

London 24-10-19

Dec 13.17

In the Field

2.2.17

The Secretary

Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau
London.

Sir

Your letter of the 21 December to hand. In regards to No 172, Pte W. G. Grant of the 7th Field Ambulance I am only too pleased to give the little information I possess. On the day previous to when our comrade was reported missing, I met him in the front line of trenches, where you can quite imagine that everybody is in a hurry. I asked him how he was getting on, where he answered not too good, as he having sustained a slight wound in the left arm. Our comrade was carrying on as though nothing had happened. Subsequently afterwards Corporal Garnet who was bearing in conjunction with our ambulance, stated that on his return from the trenches, that a shell killed two men & he himself was wounded the other members of the squad getting off

Scotch Free. He (Cpl Garnet) working
with bearers unknown to him, said that
one of the bearers who had been killed at
that event, was a member of the
7th Dist Ambulance. As there was only
another comrade of our ambulance,
killed on that day, whose death has
been identified. Therefore we came to the
conclusion, that the victim was our
poor comrade, Pte Cramb. Whose death
was very much lamented by all of us. There
has already been an enquiry into the
matter & the result has been forwarded to the
Administrative Headquarters. A. I. & London.
I trust this letter reaches you alright.

1421

W.A. Cramb

4 Field Amb

M. & W. 268.16

B3

I remain

Yours faithfully

P. J. Jones. R. W. W.

Reg No 3964



British Red Cross & Order of St. John

GRESHAM BUILDINGS

SHAREH SOLEIMAN PASHA

CAIRO

Telephone No. 3963

Cairo February 19 1917

ENQUIRY.

1721. W.A.Cramb. 7th Field Ambulance. (Australian). W. & M. 26 August 1916

The following information is given by the inquirer, Lieut. J.D. Cramb. (brother)
1st Batt. Imperial Camel Corps. E.E.F. who asks for news as soon as possible.

Previous enquiries show that he (W.A. Cramb. 1721) was slightly wounded in the
right forearm about 2p.m. on the above date. He then went to the 21st Batt.
Aid Post, for which battalion he was stretcher-bearing, to be dressed.

While there, one of his friends, Vivian Sneyd, A.A.M.C. was speaking to him.
Shortly afterwards an officer came to the Aid Post and asked for men to go
back and assist with the wounded, Cramb was one who went. On entering the
firing line again he reported to Corporal Tweddle, of the A.A.M.C. who put
him on to assist with a stretcher carrying a wounded man. This corporal is
the last man we know who saw him; which was when he left the firing line
with this stretcher at about 4p.m. on 26th August. The other men who were as-
sisting on the same stretcher are said to have been Infantry men but their
names are not known.

(Signed.) Lieut. J.D. Cramb. (brother)
1st Batt. I.C. Corps.
Egypt.

1721. W.A. CRAMB

7 F Ambce

21st December.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your Battalion -
No.1721 W. A. CRAMB or CRAMM 7th Field Ambulance A.A.M.C.
A.I.F.

reported "Wounded & Missing on 28-8-16", and have been told that
you may be able to help us by giving us some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you could send
us concerning --- Cramb or Cramm, and would also be glad if you
could add a short description of his personal appearance or any
points that would satisfy his relatives that no error has been
made.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

FD

Pte. Weir,
7th Field Ambulance,
A. A. M. C.,
No.4. A. D. B. Depot,
B. E. F.

SECRETARY

Lh.

16th January 1917.

Cpl. J. Garnett,
A. Section,
7th Field Ambulance,
A.A.M.C.
A.I.F. B.E.F.

No. 1721 - Pte W. A. Cramb, A. Section, 7th Fld. Amb. A.A.M.C.
reported W & M. - 26-8-16, -

- Pte W.A. Cramb, -

J. D.
Hu.

17th January, /7.

Dear Pte. Weir,

Many thanks for your letter of Jan'y. 2nd. in answer to
our enquiry re -

No.1721 ~~W. A. GRANT~~ 7th Field Ambulance A.A.M.C.
though we regret that what you have to say seems to confirm his
death.

His relatives will be comforted to know that his death
would be instantaneous and also to know that he was much lamented
by his comrades.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

J.D.

No.8964.
Pte. J.R. Weir.
7th Field Ambulance.

SECRETARY.

J.R.

Marbh 9th

7.

Lieut. J.D. Cramb,
1st Battalion.
Imperial Camel Corps,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your enquiry through B.R.C.S., Cairo, for your brother No. 1721, Pte W.A. Cramb, 7th Australian Field Amb., who is officially reported wounded and missing since Aug. 26th, 1916, and we regret to say that we have several unofficial reports of a sad and distressing character.

No. 3534 Pte Riley says that he was the last man to see your brother on Aug. 26th. He had been wounded in the arm by a shell splinter, and was suffering ~~slightly~~ from shell shock, but he remained on duty. Pte Riley told him to go into a dug-out, and when he went to find them later your brother was gone and the dug-out was still intact.

No. 3666 Cpl. W.L. White gives a somewhat similar report. He says that Pte Cramb was wounded in the arm, and after he had rested was sent back with a stretcher party of five to No. 3 Aid Post. When Cpl. White got back to that post on the next day, he learned that none of them had reached there, and he fears that they must have been killed in the barrage through which they had to pass.

No. 3530 Pte S. Pickering, No. 3864 Pte J.R. Weir and No. 3749 Pte H.E. Spinks, were all told by Cpl. Garnet, 5th Field Amb. that your brother who had previously been wounded in the arm was killed by a shell on the return journey from the trenches with a stretcher party. Another member of the party was killed and Cpl. Garnet was wounded.

-2-

Pte Pickering described your brother as fair and clean shaven, and rather thick set, and adds that he came from Brisbane.

Other unofficial reports contain the same sad information, and we fear that Pte Grahb was killed on the return journey from the trenches. We have now ceased to make enquiries for him, as most of our evidence, although purely unofficially agrees in all the details.

On October 7th we received a cable from our Bureau in Brisbane, which was probably sent on behalf of your relatives there. Since then a copy of all information we have, has been sent out to Brisbane, and our representatives there will forward it to those who are enquiring for Pte Grahb.

With sincere regrets that we are unable to help you further, and with sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

P.M. for L.A.W.

Secretary.

10
F.M. 15.3.17

In the field
France.

11th March 1917

10

The Secretary
Wounded & Missing Inquiry Bureau
Australian Branch B.R.C.S.

Dear Madam

In answer to yours of 22/2/17
I would say that Private W. A. Cramb - A Section
1st Field Ambulance was among the stretcher
bearers who were working near Pozieres some
time in August. I was stretcher bearing myself
in the vicinity but was not a member of his
W. A. Cramb's - party. As far as I can remember
I give you the details as related to me by the
other members of his party on their return to
our first Aid Post: Together with some
others - about ten in all I believe - Pte. Cramb
was detailed to proceed to the front line to bring
in some wounded, and, when crossing open
country between two trenches the party were
caught by a bursting shell and several of them
were wounded some killed - Cramb received a
slight wound & returned to the Reg^d Aid Post
shad his wound dressed. He then went on -

along with some infantrymen - to pick up the rest of his party who had proceeded to the front line a while on this return trip he is supposed to have been killed by a bursting shell. The authority for this is the statement of the infantrymen who were with him.

I am forwarding your letter on to the unit & asking them to communicate with you giving you all the particulars they have. There are at least four members of the party that Pte. Cramb set out with on that fateful trip still with the unit & they no doubt will be able to shed much more light on the matter than I can.

Yours etc.

Pte. Conway I. Clark 3758
Chief Engineer's Office
1st Arzac Head quarters

1721 W.A. CRAMB

A Section

Field Ambulance

W.M. 26 Feb.

B.P. 11. (ed)

14th March, 1917.

Dear Sir,

We have been requested to make enquiries by our Brisbane Bureau for -

No.1721 W. A. CRAMB 7th Field Ambulance A.A.M.C.
reported "W.& M. on 26-8-16", and have received several un-official reports to the effect that his name has appeared in Battalion orders as killed. Headquarters has as yet no further report for him than Wounded & Missing on 26-8-16, and we should be very glad if you would let us know whether the unit is satisfied that he is now killed in action, as we are anxious to put an end to the suspense of our enquirers.

With apologies for troubling you and thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

The O.C.,
7th Field Ambulance,
A.A.M.C.

SECRETARY.

P.S. We have been informed by various C.O's. and Adjutants that the receipt of notes of thanks only causes them unnecessary inconvenience. Unless you ask us to acknowledge your

- 2 -

reply to the above, we will not do so, and we trust you will understand that we appreciate it none the less.

N.D. Flu

March 17th.1917.

3752.Pte.Conway.I.Clark.
Chief Engineers Office.
1st.Anzac.Headquarters.
A.I.F. B.E.F.

Dear Pte.Clark;

Very many thanks for your letter of March 11th.in
answer to our enquiry for 1721.W.A.Cramb,A.Section 7th.Fld.Amblice.
A.A.M.C.

The clear and detailed information you have sent will
be of much assistance, and we thank you for your thoughtfulness
in sending our enquiry to others of the unit who may be able to
give us the Eye-witness statements that are of such value.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

T.D.
SECRETARY. *She.*

No acknowledgment needed.

Cramb

W. A. 1721

7th Field Ambulance

W + M 26.8.16. working -

In the Field,

20th. March, 1917.

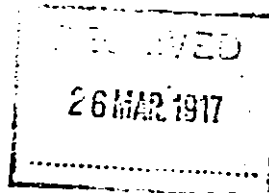
The secretary,

Australian Red Cross Society,

54 Victoria Street,

LONDON,

S. W.



B

P.I.

3

4

In reply to your letter of the 14th. instant relative to No. 1721, Pte. W. A. Cramb, reported "W. and M. on 26-8-16", I have to inform you that Pte. Cramb has now been officially reported as "Killed in Action 26-8-16".

From careful enquiries made it would appear that the last person to see him was Corporal R. M. Tweddle of this Unit. The following is an extract from the Inquiry held.

Corporal Tweddle states :-

"I was in charge of a party of bearers from the 7th. Australian Field Ambulance acting as regimental bearers for the 21st. Battalion on the afternoon of 26-8-16.

At about 3-30 p.m. Pte. Cramb reported to me for duty but stated that he thought his wounded arm would prevent him carrying. I noticed that he was wounded in the right forearm. I told him to be the fifth man in a bearer party and have a try at carrying and that if he found that he was unable to carry to go back and report at the Dressing Station.

He left with four other volunteer bearers carrying a patient on a stretcher across the open and going in the direction of the Aid Post of the 21st. Battalion.

I do not know the names of the four bearers who were with him.

I do not know what Battalion they belonged to.

I did not see Cramb again. It was about 4 p.m. when I last saw him."

7th. Australian Field Ambulance.

27th March 1917.

Lieut. J.D.Cramb,
1st Battalion.
Imperial Camel Corps.
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Dear Sir,

Re your inquiry for your brother No. 1721. Pte. W. A. Cramb
7th Australian Field Ambulance, we beg to forward you an unofficial
report from No. 3158. Pte. Conway Clark who was working with the
stretcher bearers on Aug. 26th 1916.

He writes:-

" Pte. W.A. Cramb A. Section 7th Field Ambulance was among the stretcher bearers who were working near Pozieres some time in Aug. I was stretcher bearing myself in the vicinity but was not a member of his - W.A. Cramb's party. As far as I can remember I give you the details as related to me by the other members of his party on their return to our first Aid Post. Together with some others; about ten in all I believe Pte. Cramb was detailed to proceed to the front line to bring in some wounded and when crossing open country between two trenches the party were caught by a bursting shell and several of them were wounded and one killed. Cramb received a slight wound and returned to the Reg. Aid Post and had his wound dressed. He then went along with some infantrymen to pick up the rest of his party who had proceeded to the front line and while on this return trip he is supposed to have been killed by a bursting shell. The authority for this is the statement of the infantrymen who were with him. I am forwarding your letter on to the Unit and asking them to communicate with you giving you all the particulars they have. There are at least four members of the party that Pte. Cramb set out with on that fateful trip still with the unit and they no doubt will be able to shed much more light on the matter than I can."

Lieut. J.D.Cramb.

-2-

27.3.17.

As soon as we receive a reply from these men who were with your brother we shall advise you.

With sincere sympathy in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

Secretary.
(A.W.)

W. J. B. Cramb

1st Battalion

Field Coy
10/4/17.

Imperial Camel Corps

Egyptian Expeditionary
Force.

Dear Sir.

We have received a report
from the Officer Commanding the 7th Australian
Field Ambulance ~~that~~ which we
now prove beyond doubt the death of
your brother No 1721 Pte W. A Cramb
of that unit.

He writes that your brother is now reported
as killed in action on 26-8-16. and that as
far as can be ascertained Corporal Tweedle
of the same unit was the last to
see him. At a batallion inquiry he gave the
following evidence:- I was in charge of
a party of bearers from the 7th Aust.

A.I.F. 37.

E. 2. Dec. 1910

He was killed by a Minomawer at Hupliana on Dec 7th. 1910. I saw his dead body being carried on a stretcher. The man who carried him told me it was Dingo's body. He was a mate of mine. He belonged to XV Platoon, D Coy. and came from Robinson, near Wanganella. I knew nothing as to the burial of his body.

Reference: Pts. D. P. Dodd, 1171. D.
No. 8. A.B. 1171.

Steples
23. March 1917

Field Ambulance acting as a general
bearer for the 21st Bde. in the afternoon
of 26.8.16. At about 3.30 P.M. Pte Craub
reported one for duty, but stated that he
thought his wounded arm & wound prevent
him carrying. I noticed that he was
wounded in the right forearm. I told him
to be the 5th man in a bear party, & as a
bearer carrying that if he found that he
was unable to carry to go back & report
at the Dressing Station.

He left with 4 other Volunteer Bearers
carrying a patient on a stretcher
across the open & going in the direction
of the Aid Post of the 21st Bde.

I do not know the names of the four
bearers who were with him. I do
not know what Bde. they belonged to.
I did not see Craub again. It was
about 4 P.M. when I last saw him.

URANE.
W.A. 1721.

Cert. by letter from. O.H.

7th. Australian Field Ambulance.
In the Field.
March 30th. 1917.

LONDON
3.4.17.

B.
P.I.

My dear Mr. ...
in your honor ...

Yours truly

to giff.
25th May, 1917.

The Secretary,

Australian Red Cross Society,

London.

1421. W. A. Croucher

KA 262-16

4 FA

(C)

Dear Madam,

I have to thank you for the assistance you
have given me as regards the tracing of my brother,
1751 Pte W. A. Croucher, 7th Field Ambulance, in your
several letters.

The report contained in your last letter dated
10th April is the first one we received and had already come
through from several ^{other} sources. It, however, does
not seem to be in any way conclusive in consideration
of the other report I am enclosing which came from
the O.C., 7th Field Ambulance through Administrative
Headquarters, A.I.F., London. It appears to me that
because I have not could definitely determine whether
my brother was a photo of my brother. It is absolutely
certain that he was to have been killed or not. He was
seen killed or stated in the unbroken photo of his
death was my brother. On receipt of the above
statement I at once compared it with previous reports and
concluded that it was the first and to me my brother as
no more to have been a photo of my brother but so far
I have had no reply. Presumably my brother as it seemed

2.
But I can't quite understand how the date given is leg.

Is August is the 10th, August.

Could I ask you to again take up the case on the enclosed statements and photographs, if possible, getting something further from Barnard?

I do not doubt the report of "killed in action," which is only a matter of course, after the expiration of 3 months from the date of his reported missing.

Although I do not entertain a hope, though there is a possibility until the truth is proved, I would be very thankful for any favor to make to get the definite truth and thereby end the otherwise inevitable suspense.

It is kind of you again for the trouble you have already taken in this matter and in anticipation that you may succeed in obtaining the further information.

Yours sincerely,

John P. Barnard.

P.S. Would you kindly let me have the enclosed again, J.P.B.

23rd June 1917.

Lieut J.D. Cramb,
1st Btn,
Imperial Camel Corps,
E.E.F

Dear Sir,

We have to-day written Cpl - 1563 - John Garnant,
5th Field Amb. (after having verified his unit at A.I.F.
Headquarters) enclosing the photograph of your brother - 1721
Pte W.A. Cramb, 5th Fld. Amb. and asking him to write us fully
in the matter and tell us if he could recognise in this the
Pte of the 7th F.A. whom he saw killed on 26-8-16. We shall
hope to hear from him shortly and will immediately send on to
you his answer. We now return the enclosures and trust
they will reach you safely.

Please accept our sincere sympathy in your anxiety,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

V.D.
Jlu

June 25th. 1917

1563
Corporal John Garnaut.
5th Field Ambulance,
A.A.M.C.,
B. E. F.

Dear Corporal Garnaut,

on behalf of

We have been making enquiries ~~for~~ Lieut
J. D. Cramb concerning his brother :-

1721 W.A. CRAMB, 7th. Fld. Ambulance, A.A.M.C.
previously reported Missing & Wounded 26.8.16. and now reported
Killed in Action 26.8.16. and have lately received the signed
report given by you on 14.12.16. when you stated that the same
shell that wounded you killed a 7th. F.A. Pte. who answers to the
description of Pte. W.A. Cramb. We had written you in January
last but not having received any answer from you think possi-
bly our letter may have gone astray .

We note you say you did not search the
body for any effects and that you did not know his name. Lieut.
Cramb has lately written us enclosing a photograph of his brother
and asking if we would send on this to you and enquire if you
could recognise this as the Pte. of the 7th. F. A. who you saw
killed.

-2-

We should be very grateful if you would write us after inspecting this photograph and tell us if you think it to be the same soldier and if possible add any details of personal description or of your knowledge of this Pte. such as, if an original man or a Reinforcement, occupation in civil life previous to enlistment, home town in Australia etc., as we are very anxious to definitely establish his identity in order to put an end to the anxiety of the enquirers.

Trusting to hear from you shortly.

Yours faithfully,

V.D

Secretary.

Shu.

26.6.17.

We regret extremely that in posting our letter to you of yesterday's date we omitted to enclose the photograph of 1721 W.A. Cramb, of F. Ambrose A.A.M.C. - who: his brother, Lt Cramb, asked us to forward for identification - if possible - as the Private of the F. Ambrose whom you saw killed 26.8.16: + now enclose this photo

We trust this reaches you safely + will be pleased to hear from you in reply.

Yours for V.D
Shu

A.A.M.C. Details R.B.A.A.

Bulford, Salisbury
Wiltshire

The Secretary Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

Dear Sir

As regards To 1721, Pte. W. A. Cramb 7th, Fld
Ambulance I am sure this is the photo of the young man
who was killed along side me while sketching bearing
on the 26.8.16 if I had any doubt about it I would say
so I had often seen the young man before but I did not
know his name I wrote to his brother giving him a
full account of Pte Cramb's death. I remain yours

Faithfully

J. Garnant - Cpl

1721 W. A. CRAMB

K. 26.8.16

J. F. Ambrose A.A.M.C.

(C)

P.I.

M 12 6

Egypt.

18th July. 1917

1st Battalion, F. C. I.

E. C. I.

~~~~~

Secretary,

Anti-Slavery Society,

London.

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated 23rd June advising me that you had communicated with the British Consul at Alexandria, and that you had received a reply from him, is very welcome. By the same mail I also received a letter from the British Consul at Alexandria, which informs me that my brother was killed on the night of the 1st of July by a sniper's bullet through the brain. I am glad to hear that he died without pain, death being instantaneous. Although it is somewhat distressing to hear that the last few days of his life were very painful, I am very thankful to have this information because it will relieve the mind of those who are dear to him, of any doubts as to his death.

I wish to thank you for your kind attention and trouble in investigating the matter in which it has been so difficult to find the person who could give me the information.

Thanking you again,

Yours very sincerely,  
J. H. [Name]