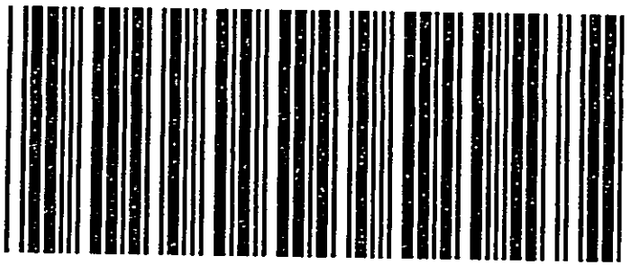
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1910 Private
Joseph Horace Cross

18th Battalion



0840805P

18th Australian Infantry

Cross, Pte W. 1910,
A. Coy

(K. Aug. 5/16. Det: D & B-

"At Pozieres on 5.8.16 we were holding the line the morning after the charge on the 4th. A shell came over killing Pte Cross, who at the time was sitting at the bottom of the trench. He was hit in the head, and death was instantaneous. We were relieved about 8 that night by another Australian Battalion, so that I do not know where he was buried. Pte Cross belonged to IV Plat."

Eye-witness: Of seeing Pte Cross lying dead

Description: Hair rather red, medium height, about 22, known as "Bluey"

Informant: Pte Athol Self, 1474,
18th A.I. A.Coy, 11 Plat.
5th Southern General Hospital,
Milton, Portsmouth.

Home address:
Laidlaw St,
Baggabry, N.S. Wales.

2nd April 1917.
Elsie C. Hughes.

A.I.F.
16th Btn

CROSS
JOSEPH 1910

Killed in Action 5.8.16.

No trace in Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.1919

London,
16.10.19.

F.I.

12th April 1917.

Mrs Cross,
60 Walds Rd.
College Park.
Willesden. N.W.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your son No. 1910. Pte. J. Cross, 18th Battn. A.I.F. who is reported officially as "Killed in Action" on August 5th 1916.

We regret to advise you of the receipt of unofficial information which throws light on the circumstances of his death.

No. 1474. Pte. Athol Self of the same unit who on April 2nd was in the 5th Southern General Hospital, Portsmouth, says that while they were holding the line after the charge on Aug. 4th.1916 Pte. Cross who was sitting in the trench was killed by a shell which hit him in the head, death being instantaneous. Informant saw his dead body, but knows nothing as to his burial as they were relieved that night.

His description will help you to judge the accuracy of his report and its reference to your son: Pte. Cross according to Pte. Self was of medium height and about 22 yrs of age with ~~hair~~ reddish hair his nickname among his friends being "Bluey".

Hoping that it will be of some comfort to know that your son's death was instantaneous and therefore painless and assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

V.O.
Secretary.
A.A.N.

Pte J. Cross - 1910. 10/9/16.
18th Batt. 5. - Bde. Infantry.

Said to be Killed 5. August.
Let letters returned 28. Aug.
with "wounded" written on him

Notes address - Mrs Cross.
50, Walls Road - College Park.
Willesden - N. W.

1.10.19.

Final Draft To.

Tho. Cross
50 Walds Rd.
College Pk.
Willesden

about
1910 J. Cross
18th Bn.

locally (if any) or from letters.	
Enquiry included in W.S.M. Cable	No. 156 of July 2 - 1918
Enquiry included in Deferred Cable	No. of
Name and Address of Enquirer	Mrs Barriah, 421 William St - Perth
Relation of Enquirer to Enquiree.	Mother in law
State if Next-of-Kin.	—

On card Mc Henry Greig Secretary.

50 Waldo Road.
College Park.
London.
N.W.10

9.10.19

Miss Whybrow. 9/10/19.

I beg to thank you for your notice of the 1st inst. I have had no further news of my son. 1910 Pte. J. Cross. 18th Batt. A.I.F. so if you could find out the address from which he enlisted in Australia, and let me know, I should be much indebted to you.

I am
Yours faithfully
Mrs. W. Cross.

Further details required

Name.	Unit.	Casualty.	Cause of Casualty.

Mrs.H.Cross,
50, Waldo Road,
College Park. N.W.10.

October 9th, 1919.

Dear Madam,

In reply to your letter of 3rd inst, concerning 1910 Pte.J.CROSS, 18th Battalion, A.I.F. We regret we are unable to supply the information you require but would advise you to apply to

A.I.F. Headquarters.
130, Horseferry Road.
S.W.1.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) MR

Secretary.