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

6490 Private George William Leaper Davie

15th Battalion



0880707U

A. I. F. 15. DAVIS, G.R.L. 6490.

D/S. July 9th, 1917.

Davis was out on fatigue up in front line at Warneton and Frits put up a barrage and several were wounded but Davis was the only one who died in a stretcher on his way down to the D/S. HQ S/B J.H.Shearer told me this.

BH.

References:- C.M.Johnston. 6994,
No. 7 Aus. Gen. Hosp.

P.1 B

Staples
28.9.17.

Written SB Shearer 12.10.17

15th A.I.F.

Davie Pte. C.F.L. 6490.

(D/W July 9/17)

"Davie was on fatigue. He was hit by a high explosive shell and wounded in the head. It was at Ploegsteert at night time. I saw him soon after. He seemed conscious. He was just being put on a stretcher and he died on his way to the Dressing Station. I looked at his disc to see if it was a pal of mine".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte. H.J. Brazil 4737,
15th A.I.F.,
Horton Hospt.,
Epsom.

Home address:
South Pine Rd.,
Aldrey,
Brisbane.

Oct. 15/17,
P.A. Flood.

B P1

15th Australian Inf:

Davie L.

~~Dane.~~ Pte. G.W. 6490.

(D/W. ~~Aug. 9/17~~ 9.4.17.)

Det D/B.

"I was only about 10 yards off Dane when he was struck by a whizz-bang (about 1 a.m.)when in a support trench at Ploegsteert. He died on his way to the Dressing Station. I cannot say for certain where he was buried but probably near the "Equator" by Ploegsteert. He was in A Coy: Platoon III. About 5ft 8. dark; thick-set and about 23 years of age."

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Cpl: Frank Shepherd. 6849.
15th Australians. B Co: V Pl:
Tooting Hospital.

Home address: Juvrell.
Cavendish Rd.
Cooperoo.
S.Brisbane. Queensland.

9.11.17.
W.Inglis-Jones.

15th Battn.
A.I.F.

Davie.
G.W. L. 6490

"Died of Wounds 9.7.17"

re 6490 G.W.L.Davie. There has evidently been a mistake in the name as Davie was the surname of the soldier bearing the above initials. and number. He was mortally wounded on Messines on the night of 9th of July last and died before we had reached the dressing station. He was buried in the Eastern-cemetery (military) on the Eastern slope of Hill 63. I enclose a photo of the deceased private whos home was at Cooroy N.Coast line Queensland and would esteem it a favour if you would kindly address the photo to Miss Putnam, 244 High St., Watford, Herts, England after perusal.

Letter from:-
7047 J.H.Shearer
H.Q.S.B.
15th Battn.
France. 25.10.17.

London.
15.11.17.

Note Photo sent as requested to Miss Putnam.

B.
P.I.

15th Battn.
A.Coy.
A.I.F.

Davie.
G.W.L. 6490

"Died of Wounds 9.7.17"

I saw him wounded at Warneton. He was caught about the body with shell fragments, and was being taken to the dressing station but died before reaching there. He was suffering intense pain when taken away. I knew him very well, he was a Coy. machine gunner and was the only man of that name in the Coy. I did not see his grave but he was buried the next day alongside our communication trench opposite Warneton. I cannot refer to anyone for exact details.

Witness:-
Pte.T.C.Henzell 6982
15th Battn.A.Coy.2nd Pltn.
3rd Aust.Aux.Hospital.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.
15.11.17.

B.
P.I.

15th Batt:

Davie G.W.L. 8490.

D/W. 9/7/17.

I saw him hit by 3 lumps of high explosive on the back. He was in very great pain and lived for about an hour, he was quite conscious all the time. He was buried near Warneton, Messines Ridge.

15th Batt:

Stuart Russell, A.B. L/O.6571

B. 32. Dartford. 29/11/17.

B R.D.B.
P.1

F.M. 9.11.17

6490 G.W.L. DAVIE
DW. 9.7.17. 15 Batt B
France P.14
25th Oct, 1917.

The Sec
W & Mining Enquiry Bureau
A.B.B.R.C.S

Dear Miss Decon

I am taking the first opportunity of replying to your letter of inquiry concerning Priv 6490 C.W.L. Davis. There has evidently been a mistake in the name, as DAVIE was the surname of the soldier bearing the above initial and number. He was mortally wounded on Messines on the night of the 9th of July last and died before we had reached the dressing station. He was buried in the military cemetery on the Eastern slope of Hill 63. I enclose a photo of the deceased private whose home was

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at Cooroy N. Coast line Queensland and would esteem it a favour if you would kindly address the photo on to Miss Putnam 244 High St Watford Herts England after perusal.

Trusting the information herewith will be of service

Yours sincerely
7047 J.H. Shearer
H.Q. S.B
15th Battalion
A.I.F
France

Note Photo sent as requested to Miss Putnam 9.11.17

P.C. ret. 20.9.17 by J. B.

RC. 15/9/17.

20 Holyhead Road
Oakengates
Salop Sept 9/17

Miss Deakin

Dr Friend your of 31/8/17 to hand & thank you very much for same
Am Pleased to enclose P.C. received from my Nephew, since yours, & no doubt you will be glad to see

I should be glad if you could give me a little information of the undermentioned as I have not heard from him for sometime now & fear to think of result.

With Best wishes I remain Yours respectfully
G W Southwell

No 6490
Pte G. W. L. Davie
A Comp A.F.A.
5 Battalion
~~4th Inf Bdg~~
A I F

PS Kindly forward the 2 letters enclosed & oblige

A.I.C.

Return to [illegible]

A.I.C.

October 22nd, 1917.

G.W.Southwell, Esq,
20, Holyhead Rd,
Callengate, Salop.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your inquiry for

No 6490 Pte.G.W.L.Davie,
15th Battalion,
A.I.F.

we deeply regret to inform you of an unofficial report which has been received from a man of his unit in the 7th Canadian General Hospital, B.E.F.

Informant - No 6994 Pte.C.M.Johnston, stated that Pte. Davie was out on fatigue duty in front of Warneton on July 9th, when the Germans put up a barrage and he was severely wounded, his death taking place when he was being carried down on a stretcher to the dressing station.

We have written to one of the stretcher bearers for further details and as soon as we received his reply we shall advise you.

Trusting that it will be some consolation to know that his death followed almost immediately after he was wounded and assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully, K.O
Law.

20 Holyhead Road
Oakengates

6490 Pte G. W. L. Davis A. Coy Salop Nov 4th 17
Dr Miss Deakin 15 Btty A.F.A.

In reply to your letter of Oct 22nd
re No 6490 I thank you for your Sympathy, & it is
a relief to know that Death took Place so soon
after being wounded
At the same time it seems hard for the Poor lads
& also there Parents being so far away from Home
& the grief it must cause
But do trust if its Gods will it may soon be over
& save other Cushion lives
Thanking you again for your kind letter
I am yours sincerely
J. W. Southwell

P.S. trust you are well after the Raid

7047 Pte.J.H.Shearer
Hqrs S.Bearer,
15th Battn.A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Nov.9th, 1917.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you very much for your letter in answer to our enquiry concerning -

6490 C.W.L.DAVIS 15th Battn.A.I.F.

The information you have sent will be of much assistance to us and of value to our enquirers. We shall forward the photo enclosed to Miss Putnam and ~~shall~~ inform her that we do this at your request.

With all good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

F.M.

Miss Putnam,
244 High St.,
Watford, Herts.

Nov.9th, 1917.

Dear Madam,

We have been making enquiries at the request of our Brisbane Bureau concerning - 6490 C.W. DAVIE - 15th Battn.A.I.F. reported Died of Wounds 9.7.17. - and have received a letter from a comrade in the same unit to whom we had written for details. Pte.Shearer sent the photograph we now enclose with the request that we should send it on to you.

We trust it will reach you safely as we feel sure you will prize it as a memento.

Please accept our sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary. F.M.

Mr. C.W.Southwell,
20, Holyhead Road,
Callengate, Salop.

January 1st, 1918.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for

No 6490 Pte.C.W.L.DAVIE, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.

We beg to forward the following unofficial reports that have come to hand.

6982 Pte. T.C.Honnell, stated that he saw Davie wounded at Warneton. He was hit in the body with shell fragments and died while being taken to the dressing station. Informant knew him well, he was a coy machine gunner and was the only one of that name in the coy. Although informant did not see his grave , he says that Davie was buried the next day near the communication trench, opposite Warneton.

7047 Pte.J.H.Shearer, said that Davie was mortally wounded at Messines on the night of 9th July, last and he died before reaching the dressing station. He was buried in the Military Cemetery on the East gun slope of Hill 63.

6571 L/Cpl. A.E.Stuart Russell, gives a similar report and says that Davie was hit by high explosive shell in the back and only lived for about an hour.

If any further particulars should come to hand we shall advise you.

Yours faithfully,
Miss Craig.
SECRETARY.

G.W.Southwell, Esq,
20, Holyhead Rd,
Oallengate, Sal p.

November 10th, 1917.

Dear Sir,

We deeply regret to inform you of another unofficial report about No 6490 Pte.G.W.L.DAVIE, 15th Battalion, A.I.F., and trust that it will be some consolation to know that he ~~could~~ have lived for a very short time after being wounded.

No 4737 Pte.H.H.Brazil, when in the Horton County of London War Hospital, Epsom, reported that Pte.Davie was wounded in the head by a high explosive shell when on fatigue duty at Ploegsteert on July 9th, and when he saw him soon after he was being put on a stretcher to be taken to the Dressing station but he died on the way down."

We are continuing the inquiry as we realise how anxiously you must await a detailed account of his casualty and as soon as further news is received you shall be advised.

Yours faithfully,

LAW

SECRETARY.