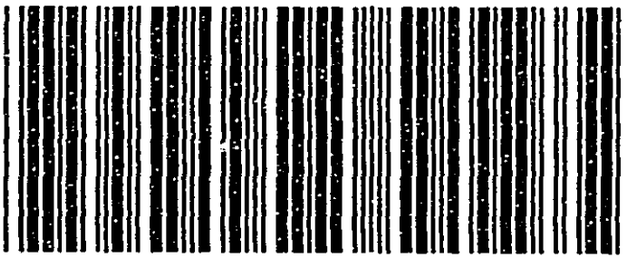
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

6768 Private
Herbert Forrest

49th Battalion



1090309M

49th Battn. A.I.F. FORREST H. 6768.

"Killed 12.10.17".

Forrest was in my gun team and was killed outright at Passchendaele right on the ridge by shell-fire. I saw his dead body there very much knocked about. He was buried in the Shell-hole.
He belonged to England I think.

Informant:- Yates, H.H. 3703.
49 Batt. A. Co.
Hut 10.
WESTHALL.

W.A. Rand.
London.
6.7.18.
H.G.

P.I.

49th Battn. A.Co.
A.I.F.

FORREST.
H. 6768½

"Killed 12-10-17"

About 10th October was killed by shell. He was at the time in dug out near Polygon Wood. Shell fell right on dug out blown to pieces and don't think had a burial. I was told this by Pte.R.Graham. No))) 49th Battn. A.Co. who took Forrest's paybook and who was close to him at the time. I knew Forrest well. Christianname Harry. Came from England. Enlisted from Queensland,

Informant:- Pte.J.Elliott. 6740.
49th Battn. B.Company.
Note:- Written Pte Graham. 12-7-18. ANZAC BUFFET.

A.D.G.
London.
15-7-18.

P I.

49th Battn.
A.I.F.

FORREST
Herbert 6768

"Killed 12-10-17"

Re Pte.H.Forrest 6768 A.Coy. 49th Battn., killed 12-10-17. He was buried in the field where he was killed, and the grave would not be registered. He was about 6' in height, and dark hair, and I should say about 23 years of age. I know he was a native of England, but I forget what part. I do not know what town in Australia he came from. I took the disc of identification off his arm and his pocket book, and gave them to the Sgt. I do not know what he did with them.

Letter from:- Graham. Pte.R.B. 3682
49th Battn.,
O.T.B.,
Sandhill Camp,
WARMINSTER.
21-9-18

London
4-10-18
J.E.A.

P.I.

Final draft. 1-6-19.

Albert Forrest.
51 Higher Lane.
Whitefield
Lancs

(Rev. G. Kerslake.
c/o B.R.C.S.
92 King St.
Manchester

re.

6768 Forrest Herbert. 59th Bn

(

Information obtained locally (if any) or from letters.

1474 June 17 - 1916

Enquiry included in W.S.M. Cable { No. of

Enquiry included in Deferred Cable { No. of

Name and Address of Enquirer { Mrs. Owen,
C/o Mrs. Irving,
Bear St., Chislehurst,
wife

Relation of Enquirer to Enquiree. { Yes

State if Next-of-Kin. On cards

Mr. Henry Secretary.

12.7.18.

Pte R. Graham
a Coy
4th Batn. a.1.7.
abroad

IJ

abt
6.7.18

Pte H. Forrest
a Coy
4th Batn. a.1.7.

K. 12.10.17.

12.2.18
a.1.B.

Please address all communications to the "HON. LOCAL ORGANISER."

TELEPHONE: CITY 2201

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY,
ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT
FOR WOUNDED AND MISSING.

Hon. Local Organiser: RICHARD H. CHAPMAN.

92, KING STREET,
MANCHESTER,

Nov 8th 1917.

Dear Sir, re: 12.11.17

We have received an Enquiry on behalf of Rev A Kershaw for

Reg. No 6768 Surname Forest Christian Name Herbert

Rank Pte. Regiment A.J.F. Batt. No 49th

Company — Plat. — or Battery ..... Bgde. .....

Officially Killed.

Reported ~~Missing on~~ 6th 12th 1917

~~Unofficially~~ ~~Wounded~~

Where France

If unofficially reported give details.

Det D/B.

p. pro.
RICHARD H. CHAPMAN,
Hon. Local Organiser.

Yours truly. RHChapman

July 11th, 1918.

Rev.A.Kershaw,
C/o B.R.C.S.
92, King Street,
Manchester.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry concerning -

6768 Pte. HERBERT FORREST, 49th Battalion, A.I.F.

We beg to inform you that we have received the following unofficial report from 3703 Pte.H.H.Yates, 49th Bttn, Hut 10, Weatham, Weymouth, He states that he was in the same gun team with Pte. Forrest, who was killed instantaneously at Passchendaele Ridge by shellfire. Informant saw his dead body, which was buried in a shellhole at the place of casualty.

We regret that these details are so indefinite, but we are continuing our enquiries and hope to send you further particulars at a later date.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS) K.

SECRETARY.

Rev.A.Kershaw,
c/o B.R.C.S.,
92, King Street,
Manchester.

17th July,1918.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for:-

6768 Pte.H.Forrest, 49th Battn., A.I.F.

Who is officially reported "Killed in Action" on 12-10-17, we regret to forward the following unofficial report we have just received concerning him. Informant, 6740 Pte.J.Elliott states:-

"About 10th Oct. H.Forrest was killed by shell. He was at the time in a dug-out near Polygon Wood. A shell fell right in the dug-out which was blown to pieces. I don't think he had a burial. I was told this by Pte.R.Graham, 49th Battn. A.Coy., who took Forrest's paybook, and who was close to him at the time. I knew Forrest well, christian name Harry. He came from England, enlisted from Queensland".

We have written to Pte.Graham for further information, and will advise you as soon as we receive his reply.

Assuring Pte.Forrest's people of our sympathy in their loss.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) MR

SECRETARY.

Cable 24.9.18

6768

The Secretary
Enquiry Bureau
Australian Red Cross

21/9/18 Herbert Forrest
O.F.B 49 Batn
Sandhill K 12-10-17
Warminster Pl
2

Dear Madam

In answer to your letter inquiring about Pte H. Forrest 6768 A. Coy 49th Btn A.I.F.
Killed on 12/10/17.
He was buried in the field where he was killed and the grave would not be registered. He was about six ft in height and dark hair, and I should say about 23 years of age.
I know he was a native of England but I forget what part; I do not know what town in Australia he came from I took the disc of Identification off his arm and his poket book and gave them to the sergeant I do not know what he done with them that is all I can think of now but will get more information if you should need it; hoping that this will meit your requirements I Remain Yours Faithfully
Pte R B Graham 13182 4 Plt

October 12th, 1918.

Rev. A. Fershaw.
C/o B.R.C.S.
22 King Street.
Manchester.

Dear Sir.

In reference to your enquiry for - 6768 Pte.H. FORREST. 49th Battalion. A.I.F. We have received an unofficial report from - 3182 Pte. R.B. Graham, of the same unit at the Overseas Training Brigade, Sandhill Camp. Warminster, Wilts. He stated that Pte. Forrest was buried in the field where he was killed and so he fears the grave would not have been registered and he disscribes him as being 6' in height, with dark hair, about 28 years of age and an Englishman by birth.

He goes on to add that he took Forrest's identification disc from his arm and his pocket book both of which he gave to the Sergt, but he does not know what happened to them afterwards. As it is now nearly 12 months since Pte. Forrest's casualty happened we regret that we must remove his name from our Searcher's lists, but should we receive any further reports we will at once advise you, and trust that our evidence has been of some consolation to his relatives.

With our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) G.W.

Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS.
WOUNDED & MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS,
36 Grosvenor Place,
S.W.1.
1-10-19.

Dear, Sir

We beg to inform you that this office is now closing down and all our records are being sent to Australia. If you wish for any further information concerning; -

6768 Forest. H. 4th Bn.

we should be glad if you would advise us, as soon as possible, so that we may send your enquiry to our office in Australia. At the same time you will understand that it will take many months before you will receive any further information, as every enquiry will have to be sent to Australia and dealt with from there.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Lilian A. Whybrow.
Hon. Secretary.

Rev: G. Kerslew.
c/o B.R.C.S.
92 King Street
Manchester.

5, St. Ann's Square,
Manchester.