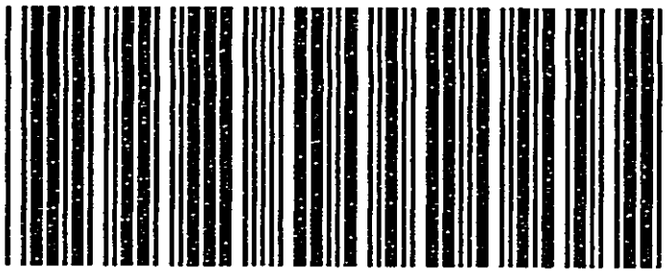
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

Lieutenant
Ivan Noble Gair

31st Battalion



11302029

31st Battn.
A.I.F.

GAIR.
Lieut. I.H.

"Died of Wounds 30-9-18"

I have no trace of this officer in my records.
The ~~above~~ *under* mentioned officer was admitted to this C.C.S.
suffering from G.S.W.Buttock and died 9.30.p.m. 30-9-18.
He was buried in the Military Cemetery at Tinecourt.

Lt. J. Gair 32nd. Bln. 31st Batt See H.Q. notes.

Letter from:- O.C. 53rd C.C.S.
B.E.F. 2-11-18.

London.
14-11-18.

P I.

11th December 1918.

Havre

Australiens. 31.

Capt Lieut J.H.

D/W 30th Septr 1918. Det D/B.

About the 30th Septr we were at Heuvy just past Bellicourt and were advancing in the morning. Soon after the start Mr. Coir was hit by a M.G.Bullet in the stomach. He went away by himself to the D/Station, and died afterwards. Some of our boys buried him near Bellicourt. I saw him hit.

Inf:- Pte J. Totten No. 4779.
A.I.F. 31. B. VIII.
Austra. Conv. Depot.

CWSG.

P.1

PP.

J.H.

GAIR.

31st Battn.
A.I.F.

I.H. Lieut.

There are only 5 soldiers named Gair in Verification Room. None is J. None in 32nd Battalion.

There is no Lieut J.Gare in 32nd Battalion.

Is it possibly a clerical error on the part of 53rd C.C.S?
A.I.W.B. Searcher at Hqrs 14-11-18.

London.
23-12-18.

P I.

30th December 1918.

Havre

Australians. 31.

Capt Lieut J.N.

D/W 30th Septr 1918. Det D/B.

I saw him wounded at Bellecourt. He was taken to the D/Station, and I heard he died at the C.C.S. I can't say if he was buried.

Inf:- Pte T.E.Edwards No.547.
A.I.F. 31. A. I.
Austra. Base.

CRR.

P.1

J.E.A.

PP.

Havre — 1st February 1919.

GAIR
Gain Lieut A.E.

Australians. 31.

D/W 30th Septr 1918. Det D/B.

I saw him wounded retiring from the left fron of Estaires near Bellecourt. He was walking, but he was wounded in the back and right side by shrapnel. He arrived at the R.A.P.32. was treated there, and passed on. He was a man of about 28, ~~short~~ and fair, and was in B.Coy. I don't know what happened to him after that.

Inf:- Signaller R. George No.2006.
A.I.F. 31. A. H.Q.
Austra. Camp.

P1

GHR.

pp.

31st Battn.
A.I.F.

GAIR.
Lieut. I.H.

6

"Died of Wounds 30-9-18"

We were trying to take the sugar mill at Jeneourt on 30th September about 11.a.m. and he was hit by a Machine Gun bullet which entered the top of his leg and lodged in his body. I was close by and saw him hit. He started to walk to the Aid Post about ½ kilo away and I did not see him again. He was a big man, tall, well built, fair, was in charge of 7th Platoon. B.Company. 31st Battalion.

Informant:- Pte Carr.J.W.2897.
7th Platoon. B.Coy. 31st Battn.

H.S.Cowan.
London.
14-3-19.
J.E.A.

P I.

6

31st Battn,
A.I.F.

CAIR.
Lieut. I.N.

"Died of Wounds 30-9-18"

He was of 31st Battalion. B.7. Left 9, fair, 22 years. Came from Rockhampton. Queensland. At Maurcy near the factory on September 29th 1918 at 9.30.a.m. he was leading his platoon in the advance when he fell wounded in the abdomen with Machine Gun Bullet. He remained conscious and was at once carried away by stretcher bearers.

I know nothing o D/B

Informant:- Cpl.D.O'Gorman. 3429.
31st Battn. B.7.

W.M.K.
London.
14-3-19.
J.E.A.

P I.

A.I.F. 31st Battn.

GAIR
Lieut I.N.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 30/9/18"

51.B.7. 5/9, fair, stout, 22 - Came from Rockhampton - At Mauroy, near the Factory on 29/9/18 at 9.30 a.m. he was leading his platoon in the advance when he was hit with a Machine Gun bullet in hip and groin - a bad wound. He was conscious and cheerful and was at once assisted out by the Stretcher Bearers. I know nothing of his Death and Burial.

Informant:- F. C. Clarke 3348,

London
14/3/19
JEA

P.I.

409 & 410, Strand.
London, W.C.2.

25th Oct 1918

Dear Madam,

Thanks for yours of yesterday. The Officer, regarding the circumstances of whose death information is desired, is Lieutenant J. M. Gair, 31st Battalion.

Sir Thomas Robinson will be glad if you are able to obtain particulars of

his death & burial.

Yours faithfully

J. & H. Spillett

The Secretary
Wounded & Missing Bureau
36 Grosvenor Place
S.W.1.

October 24th, 1918.

J.E.H.Spillen, Esq.
Queensland Government Office.
409 Strand. W.C. 2.

Dear Sir.

With reference to your enquiry of 18th inst., for Lieut. J.H. GAIN. 32nd Battalion. A.I.F. who died of wounds on 30-9-18. We beg to inform you that the only officer of that name on A.I.F. Headquarters Lists is Lieut. I.H. Gain, 31st Battalion. A.I.F. who is officially reported to have died of gun shot wounds at 53rd Casualty Clearing Station on 30-9-18.

We would be glad if you would let us know whether you believe him to be the subject of your enquiry. If so- we will do our utmost to obtain particulars of his death and burial.

Awaiting your reply.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

Somerville E W. 7577	1st	"	"
Lisson R W. 5772	5th	"	"
Pearmain L G. 7508	5th	"	"
Collins Lt.H.	6th	"	"
Hammond C.W. 6762	7th	"	"
Harris H.C. 6212	8th	"	P of W
Glennon T. 2456A	10th	"	Sufficient
Folland C.E. 5456	11th	"	"
Mitchell J.A. 8074	11th	"	"
Knowles Cpl F.D.J. 314	12th	"	"
Whitehead H.J. 5752	13th	"	"
Whitemore E.J. 6612	14th	"	"
Menzies W.G. 5064	16th	"	"
Newburn A.J.E. 2013	17th	"	"
Roberts W.A. 2658b	19th	"	"
McIntyre H.M. 59061	23rd	"	"
Ashmean E.R. 2529	24th	"	P of W
Morgan T.F. 02421	24th	"	" " "
McArthur R.W. 6321	25th	"	Sufficient
Treleaven L.F. 6873	25th	"	"
Sloan E.P. 3830	30th	"	"
Smith H S. 5092	30th	"	Bel. K.
Wakeling H. 4876	30th	"	Sufficient
Wilson G.F. 3145	33rd	"	"
Anson T. 5	34th	"	Bel K.
Cush W.F. 1097	35th	"	Sufficient
Scott L/Sgt.R. 3382	35th	"	"
Davies H.T. 2804	40th	"	"
Thacker E. 695	41st	"	"
Scribbings L. 2891	44th	"	"
McCoughtry R.W. 2882	45th	"	"
Alphred W.H. 4430	46th	"	Wd. rem. on duty.
McDonald H.R. 1761	48th	"	Sufficient
Schorer H.C. 5975	51st	"	P of W
Teesdale G.G. 7605	60th	"	Sufficient
Whitby A.E. 2856	5th Bde F.A.		"
Warriner Lt.J.E.	10th " " "		"
Wainwright A.K. 4170	41st Fld.Coy.Engrs.		"
Hamilton C.J. 17199	14th " " "		"
Power L. 2833	12th Fld.Amb.		Enq. satisfied.
SPECIAL ADD.			
(Sewell J.A. 5434)	55th Battalion		K/A 2-3-17. We

would be glad for a special effort to be made to obtain details in this case.

O.C.
63rd C.C.S.
B.E.F

26.10.18

Re. Pte. I. N. Gain 31st. Batt A.I.F.
Dof wds. 30.9.18

O.C.S. draft sent

A.I.F. 5th L.T.M.Bde.

WILSON
George Whitfield
4238

"WHEREABOUTS"

Adm. 3rd Aust. Aux. Hpl. 29/4/18 Impetigo.

Furl 6/5/18 to 30/5/18 and rep; No. 4 Comd. Dep. Hurdcott
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 25/10/18.

London
25/10/18.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8576 8577 8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO "THE SECRETARY, WOUNDED AND MISSING — ENQUIRY BUREAU — AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE.
LONDON S.W.1.

Lieut. I. N. Gaw 31st Battalion 26.10.15
A.I.F. Died of wounds at 53rd C.C.S.

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by the relatives in Australia to obtain the fullest details possible of the wounds, death and burial of the above, who died in your Hospital on 30.9.15 and would greatly appreciate any information that you may send us.

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

With apologies for troubling you,

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin (per MR)

Secretary.

Secretary

Lieut J. H. Lair
31st Bttn

Dist: Red Cross
London

DOW. 30.9.18.
Pl. 2

// I have no trace of this officer in my records please.

The undermentioned officer was admitted to this C.C.S. suffering from G.S.W. Buttock and died 9.30 pm 30/9/18.

He was buried in the military cemetery at Ennevelin.

Lieut J. Lair 32 Batt. A.I.F.

//

53RD CASUALTY CLEARING STATION.
No. 840/97
Plot I K

Lieut
Rank

OC 53 C C S

409 & 410, Strand.
London, W.C.2.

9th Decr 1918

Madam,

I beg to refer to the enquiry made by me in October last, at the instance of Sir Thomas B. Robinson, regarding the circumstances of the death and place of burial of the late Lieut. I.N.Gair, 31st Battalion A.I.F., and to request that you will be so good as to inform me whether you have succeeded in obtaining the desired information.

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society,
36 Grosvenor Place,
S.W.

December 9th, 1918.

J.E.H. Spillon, Esq.,
Queensland Govt. Offices.
409 & 410 Strand. W.C. 2.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for Lieut. I.N.GAIR. 31st Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you of the following report which we have received from the O.C. 53rd Casualty Clearing Station, who states that he has no trace of Lieut. I.N.Gair. 31st Battalion. A.I.F. in his records but that Lieut. I.Gair, 32nd Battalion. A.I.F. was admitted to his hospital suffering from a gun shot wound of the buttock and died at 9.30 p.m. on 30.9.18. He was buried in the Military Cemetery at Tincourt.

We think the O.C. of the Casualty Clearing Station must be mistaken in stating that Lieut. Gair was in the 32nd Battalion, as we have received an official report from A.I.F. Headquarters which gives his unit as the 31st Battalion, and also gives full particulars of his place of burial which is in Tincourt New British Cemetery 4½ miles E of Peronne. - The map reference of his grave being D.G.R.H.L.9.5.2902. We will advise you of any further particulars which may come to hand.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

J.E.H. Spdllen, Esq.,
Queensland Government Offices,
409, Strand. W.C.2.

23rd December 1918.

Dear Sir,

In further reply to your enquiry regarding Lieut. I.N. Gair, 31st Battalion A.I.F., who died of wounds on the 30th September 1918, we beg to inform you of the following unofficial report received from 4779 Pte. Totten of the same Battalion, who states:-

"On the 30th September, we were at Heuvy just past Bellicourt, and were advancing in the morning. Soon after the start Mr. Gair was hit by a machine gun bullet in the stomach. He was carried to the Dressing Station where he died."

We are pursuing our enquiries, and will advise you of any further particulars come to hand.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

March 17th, 1919.

The Secretary.
Queensland Govt. Offices.
409-410 Strand.
W.C. 2.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for Lieut. IVAN HOBLE GAIR. 31st Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have received an unofficial report from 2897 Pte. J.W. Carr of the same Unit who states:- "We were trying to take the sugar mill at Joncourt on 30th Sept. 1918 about 11 a.m. and Lieut. Gair was hit by a machine gun bullet which entered the top of his leg and lodged in his body. I was close by and saw him hit. He started off to walk to the Aid Post about 1 kilo away and I did not see him again. He was a big man, tall, well built, fair, was in charge of 7th Platoon, B.Coy. 31st Btn."

This report is confirmed by 3548 Pte. F.C. Clarke, and 3429 Cpl. D.O'Gorman both 31st Battalion, though these latter report the wound as more serious and say that Lieut.Gair was carried out immediately, to the aid Post by stretcher bearers and when last seen by one of our witnesses, was conscious and quite cheerful.

We will immediately advise you of any further particulars we may be able to obtain.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS) M. Griffiths

SECRETARY.

Gair
Lan Noble

dieut.
31 Bn.

D/w. 30.9.18. at 53 c.c.s. (Hq. List 22.10.19)
Lotrace. It was dieut J. Gair -
32 Bn. who died here 30.9.18.
(O.C. 53 c.c.s. 2.11.19)

No Trace [illegible]
Lan Gair

Griffiths
45.

2664
48 Bath St.
1917

GAIR
Gair
I. N

Lt
31 Bn

There are only 5 Soldiers named Gair in Verification Room — None is J.

None is 32 Bn

There is no Lt J. Gare in 32 Bn.

Is it possibly a clerical error on the part of 53 CCS?

A.M.W.B. Searcher at H.Q.

~~H.Q~~ 14. 11. 18

P. I.
2

A.I.F. 55. STRINGER, A.P. 2836.

K. September 2nd, 1918.

He was a Cpl. in C.Coy. I think he belonged to XV pl. It was the second day of our advance to Peronne. I myself got wounded in the right arm about 11 a.m. I walked back to the embankment on the right of the sugar refinery, to the left of Peronne, where there was an R/A/P; there I saw Stringer leaning up against the embankment with his knees and thighs bandaged up; he was quite dead. I think he had got wounded and had been taken to the R/A/P; had been left there, and while waiting for S/Bs. must have got killed by a shell. His body may have been picked up by a unit belonging to the 2nd. Division as the R/A/P. was run by them; our Div. was the 5th. We took our objective that day and proceeded beyond Peronne. There was no counter-attack and we did not return to that spot until 2 days afterwards. I believe Stringer came from Sidney; had been with the Bn. 3 years. He left Sidney with the 6th.reinf. to the 17th.Bn. and joined the 55th. in Egypt in April 1916. We called him Fred.

Inf:- Pte. W.J.Brown. 5046. B.VI.
5 Gen Hosp.

ET.
Rouen
25.10.18

23.12.18

Lt. J. N. Gaine

32 Bttn

Sea under

Gair

31 Bttn

Queensland Government Offices.

409 & 410. Strand.

London, W.C. 2.

October 18th. 1918

23.10.18

Sir,

I am directed by Sir Thomas Robinson, Agent General for Queensland, to inform you that he has received a cablegram from Queensland asking him to ascertain full particulars of the death of Lieutenant J.N. Gain, 12 32nd Battalion who died of wounds on the 30th. September last.

Sir Thomas Robinson will be much obliged if you can get information regarding the circumstances of Lieut. Gain's death, place of burial etc. to enable him to reply to the deceased's father's enquiry.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

The Secretary,

Australian Red Cross Society,

(Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau)

36, Grosvenor Place, S.W.1