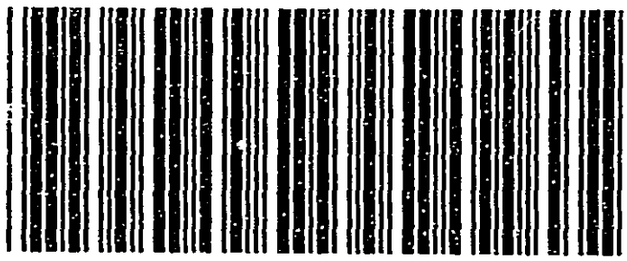
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

# 862 Private
# Thomas James Ford

## 25th Battalion



1090109K

25th Australian Imperial Force.

F
Ford, T.J., 862,

M. Nov. 14th. 1916.

"I fear that there is no doubt whatever that Ford was killed on Nov. 14th. 1916 in the attack we made in Gord Trench to the left of Flers. We went over at 7 a.m., it was unsuccessful and we withdrew. We never got near enough to the enemy to have any prisoners taken; any man not accounted for that day must have been killed. He must lie in No Mans Land."

Description

Informant:-- Lieut. A.I. Everett,
26th Australian Imperial Force,
Hospital,
1, Moreton Gardens, S.W.

Home address:-- 97, Gordon Rd.,
Fareham, Hants.

17th Jan.
N.Busford-Harcock.

25th A. I. F. T. J. FORD, 862

Missing 14.11.16

There was a "Tommy" Ford in D.Coy. I do not remember his No. but he was an original man, thick set and about 5 ft.8 or 9 ins. He was killed at Flers on the 14th Nov. in the charge. I was not near him. His mate, Coggins, told me about him. Ford went over with only one boot on. We did not get into the German trench. I do not know whether he was buried.

Reference: Pte.C.Hulme, 4145, D.Coy.

No.6 General, Rouen, 20.3.17

Written Pte Coggins 28.3.17 RAK.

A.I.F. 25th Btn

FORD
~~J.G.~~ 862
T.J

"M. 14-11-16"

Killed in action 14-11-16 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 2-8-17.

OFF.M. & P.I.

London
8-8-17

Havre 26th Oct. 1917.

25th AUSTRALIANS FORD, T.J. 862

K. 14.11.16. Det. D/B.

He came over in the 12th to the 25th Reinforcements. He was thick-set, and dark. I saw his grave in front of Flers after we advanced there. He is buried in the field near where he was killed. There is a rough cross with a small piece of tin with his name &c. stamped on it. There is a group of 150 or more graves close together.

Informant: Pte. G. Tosh, 4776
25th Australians, B Co.,
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

GIF

Off Ab
P.1
Genie Cd

4th April 1917.

Sister T. Aloysius,
St. Mary's Convent.
Hornecastle Rd.
Boston. Lincs.

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you that we have received an unofficial report about No. 862. Pte. T.J. Ford, 25th Battn.A.I.F. which leads us to fear that he was killed in action on Nov. 14th. 1916.

Informant, No. 4145. Pte. C. Hulme, who was in hospital in France, says that there was a "Tommy" Ford in D. Coy. an original battalion man who was killed at Flers during the charge on Nov. 14th. His mate Pte. Coggins gave Pte. Hulme this information and the latter describes him as about 5ft.8"or 9" in height and thick set in build.

We have written to Pte. Coggins for evidence in support of this statement and hope very shortly to receive his reply which we shall immediately forward to you.

Yours faithfully,

V.B.
Secretary.
A.A.N.

ack

St Mary's Convent
Lancaster Rd
Preston
Lancs

RECEIVED
15 FEB. 1917

14. 2. 17.

Dear Madam—

I am exceedingly grateful to you for all your kindness & now I am going to ask you if you could find out anything about his brother Pte J. J. Ford 862. 25 Battalion. His letters were returned to me this morning saying he is reported Missing since 20/11/16. He arrived in France just a month after his brother 365. was missing I am awfully grieved for his poor Mother as her husband was killed when they were quite young

Again thanking you

I remain

Yours gratefully

[illegible]

16th February -1.

T.
Sister Aloysius,
St Mary's Convent.
Hornecastle Road.
Boston.
Lincs.

Dear Madam,

We have received your inquiry for No. 862. Pte. T.J. Ford, 25th Battn. A.I.F. and we regret to inform you that we have received the following unofficial report about him from Lieut. A.I. Everett, 26th Battalion.

Informant - who on January 17th. when he gave this evidence was in No. 6. Australian Auxiliary Hospital, 1 Moreton Gardens S.W.- states that he fears there is no doubt that Pte. Ford was killed on Nov. 14th. in the Attack on Gord Trench to the left of Flers, at 7 a.m. It was unsuccessful and they had to retire. He says that they did not get close enough to the enemy to have any prisoners taken and any man unaccounted for on that day must have been killed in No Man's Land.

We are continuing our inquiries and hope soon to have further information to send you. Pte. Ford is officially reported as Missing since Nov. 14th. 1916.

Yours faithfully,
Secretary.

Pte Coggins
25th Batt.
A.I.F. B.E.F

for
862 T.J. Ford
25 - Batt
A.I.F

M. 14-11.16

7.4.
3. 4-17

1026.
, S. V. 4998.
Crowley. D. P. 4997.
Cunningham, G. L. 75.
Daunton, F. J. 842.
Davidson, P. 1662.
C. Davies, A. T. 4110.
Dawe, S. F. 615.
D. Dixon, L.-Cpl. E. C. 84
Dobson, J. F. T. 3496.
**Denisch, Capt. W. F.**
Dwyer, W. 352.
Elford, J. J. 1666.
Enright, M. 2263.
Firth, F. A. 1532.
Fisher, A. 3510.
B. Ford, Cpl. H. F. 365.
Ford, T. J. 862.
Fox, A. G. 3515.
Fraser, W. 3687.
Fuller, R. B. 4702.
Galloway, C. B. 368.
Gamlin, V. J. T. 3808.
Gardiner, M. W. 5018.
Gentle, E. 101.
Geran, J. G. 3811.
Gibson, J. 1089.
Girling, N. A. 3523.
Goodrich, F. 4122.
Gough, C. H. 3526.
Grant, J. 2152.
**Grant, Lieut. R. W.**
Gregory, E. G. 3305.
Griffiths, F. E. 4128.
Grime, J. 872.
Hall, T. 381.
Hamilton, A. 115.
H. Hammond, W. C. 1930.
Handy, J. 4130.
Hankin, F. B. 4131.
Hanscomb, J. B. 4132.
Harley, J. 1688A.
Harold, T. F. 1934.
Harris, A. C. 4476.
Harris, D. R. 4715.
Henny, M. C. 1944.
B. Higgins, B. 393.
Hill, B. J. 4718.
*Hocklu, 2nd Lieut. J. T.
Holmes, T. A. 4135.

St. Mary's Convent,
Horncastle Road,
Boston,
Lincolnshire.

Re J. J. Ford 867 25 Bd

4. 17.

Dear Madam

How can I thank you for all your trouble in trying to find out any bit of information you think would be useful to me

Their poor mother is broken hearted but very resigned to God's Holy Will

Although the three brothers were fighting in France they never met

Yours gratefully
Sr. G. Aloysius

August 15th, 1917.

TO:-
Sister T.Aloysius,
St.Mary's Convent,
Horncastle Rd,
Boston, Lincs.

Dear Madam,

Re T.J.Ford, 862, 25th Battn, A.I.F.

We regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported "Missing" is now reported "Killed in Action on 14.11.16".

We are making further inquiries in the hope of learning details of his death and will send you any information that we receive.

Regretting the distressing character of this news.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Mason

Secretary.

Sister T. Aloysius,
St. Mary's Convent,
Horncastle Road,
Boston, Lincs.

Nov. 12th, 1917.

Dear Madam,

In further answer to your enquiry concerning

862 Pte.T.J. Ford - 25th Battn. A.I.F. -

we beg to forward the following unofficial report that has been received.

4776 Pte. G. Tosh stated that Ford came over in 12th. to 25th reinforcements, was thick-set and dark in appearance. Informant saw his grave in front of Fleurs after they advanced there. He is buried in the field near where the casualty occurred. There is a rough cross with a small piece of tin with his name and particulars stamped on it. There is a group of some 150 graves all close together.

We trust these few details may be of some help to you.

Yours faithfully,

V.D. per

Secretary.