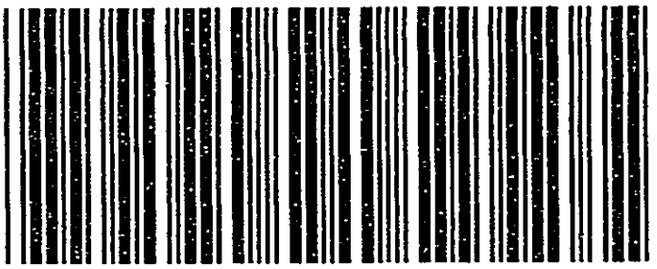
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

393 Sergeant Norman William Hamilton

22nd Battalion



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FRANCE.

A.I.F. 22.

HAMILTON, E. 393.

Hawkins, A. 394.

M. Aug.5.1916.

Killed Pozieres

Both of these men were killed at Pozieres on August 5th. Men in their Company told me of this. Sgt. Carter, (VI Pl.?)B.Co, could, I think, give full details about them. Hamilton was a Sgt. and belonged to VIII Pl, B.Co. Hawkins belonged to V Pl,B.Co. I knew them both quite well.

Reference: Pte. H.W.Isaard, 404, B.Co.
No.2. A.D.B.P. Staples.
21 Oct. 1916. SA.

M

Written 30.10.16 words

22nd Australians.

Hamilton N.W393.
Sgt.
(M. Aug. 5th 1916)

Informant states that on Aug. 5th at Pozieres, Hamilton was killed in the charge. Informant was told by Sgt. of the Regt., who has since been to see him in Hospital.

Reference: Thomas Dyball 369,
22nd Australians, Headquarters Machine Gun,
St. Mary's Hospt.,
Paddington.

to Wandsworth 14.11.16

Sgt referred to is Sgt MacCleay. who was written to on 24.11.16.

Oct. 10th 1916,
E.F. Pumphrey.

22nd Australian I. Force

Hamilton, N. W 393.
B. Company.

(Missing Aug. 5th 1916).

Informant states that " he knew a H. Hamilton in his Company but did not know his Christian name. About beginning of Aug. 1916, Hamilton (with four other men) was killed at Armentiers with a bomb in a trench. Informant and three other men went up into the trench and took their places. It happened at night time. He was blown to pieces. Informant did not see the body. Comrades informed Informant what had happened."

Reference :- Cpl. H. Sargeant, 2024,
22 Bat Australian I.F.B. Coy,
1st Southern Dudley Road Hosp,
Birmingham.

Home address;-
Lewisham Road,
Windsor,
Victoria.

25th Nov. 1916.
T.J.Curne.

France.

A.I.F. 22.

HAMILTON. N. 393.

M.Aug.5th.1916.

Hamilton - initial N. was a Sergt. in B.Coy. and was reported missing after the Pozieres fighting in Aug. The Canadians afterwards sent word that his body was found, and they sent up his pay book etc. It was in Sept. at Ypres tha we got the news.

Inf: Sergt.J.B. Hickey. 4130.
14, Gen.Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 19.12.16. JT.

22nd Batt.
A.I.F.,

HAMILTON
393 Sgt.N.W.

"Missing 5.8.16"

393 Sgt.Norman Hamilton was one of my best pals in the A.I.F. We were in camp in Broadmeadows together, left Melbourne 8.5.15 together and went right through our 4 months on Gallipoli and through France together until Pozieres. There were many others of our brave chaps I personally believe he fell. He is reported as Missing 4.8.16. He cannot be reported as killed in action because there was nothing definite to show that he was killed. There is still the possibility (very small I fear) that he may be a prisoner of War. Were that so he should appear on that list which up to the present is not so. He was one of the best liked Sgts in the Battalion and always did his job. It should comfort his people to know that he always played the game and if he is gone, well one could not choose a better death.

Cert. by letter from Sgt. Macleay,
22nd Batt. A.I.F.
France,
23.12.16.

London
18.1.17

M.

22nd Batt.
A.I.F.,

HAMILTON
393
Sgt.N.W..

"Missing 5.8.16"

I am pretty near sure Hamilton was killed he was the only H in the Battalion. Sgt.Muntz and Sgt.Hamilton went out together about 29.7.16 and Muntz's pay book was taken by the Canadians from his body but nothing was seen of Hamilton. I do not think anybody saw him killed.

Reference:- Sgt.Carter,
22nd Batt. A.I.F.
B.E.F.

London
19.1.17

M.

22nd Australian Imperial Force. Hamilton, N.W 393,

M. 5th Aug. 1916.

"There were two men in my B. Coy. named Hamilton. The one was a Sgt. who was killed at Pozieres 6th Aug. 1916. The other Hamilton was killed at Armentieres the end of July 1916. He was one of a party of 4 bombers. I do not know their Xtain names, or initials to distinguish them, but they are both dead."

Informant:-- Cpl. Harry Sargeant, 2224,
22nd Australian Imperial Force, B.Coy. Vl Pl:
Harborne Hall V.A.D. Hospital,
Birmingham.

Home address:-- 75, Lewisham Rd.,
Windsor, Victoria.

10th Feb:
Geo: Bullock.

M

A.I.F.,
22nd. Battn.

HAMILTON.
Sgt.N.W. 393.

Missing 5.8.16.

In December last I wrote you in reply to an enquiry re above-named and promised to advise you should any further information come to hand concerning him.
He is now reported Killed in Action 4/8/16 information having been received concerning his burial. I have written to Mrs. Hamilton by this mail informing her of this fact.

Cert by letter from Sgt. Mackay,
B.E.F., 26/4/17.

London.
4.5.17.

M.

A.I.F. 22nd Btn

HAMILTON
Sgt H.W. 393

"M. 5-8-16"

Killed in Action 5-8-16 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 8-5-17.

London
10-5-17

M.

November 16th.

Mr. W. D. Hamilton,
Hawkesbury,
7 Barrabourg Terrace,
Melbourne,
Victoria, AUSTRALIA.

Dear Sir,

We have just received your letter of September 27th. 1916 enclosing post card to be forwarded to 393, Sergeant N. W. Hamilton A.I.F. if we receive his address as Prisoner of War. His name has never come through on our lists of Prisoners of War but we shall keep the card to be forwarded him as soon as we receive a definite address, though we are afraid to give you much hope that it will, and shall also cable the information to our Melbourne Bureau, Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau, A.R.C.S., Colonial Mutual Chambers, 60 Market Street, Melbourne , where you should write, giving your address, sothat they may send you news immediately they receive the cable .

All future enquiries for information as to Prisoners of War should be made to the Melbourne Bureau where we forward all the information we receive - and they will be able to advise you

earlier than we could from the London Bureau.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

pp

Secretary.

Thu.

Nov: 25th

Sgt. Mac. Cleay,
22 Battalion,
A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

R.S.M. Porter, 22 Battalion now in hospital at Wandsworth tells us that you may be able to give us some information about 393 Sgt. N. W. Hamilton, who is missing. His people are anxiously enquiring for him, and we should be very gratful to you if you would write and tell us all you know about him. If you think he is alive, where you believe him to be; and if dead, particulars as to his death and burial.

We are glad to be able to tell you that R.S.M. Porter is doing very well.

Yours faithfully,

Special Inquiries
for news of burial
or as Prisoner of War -
of.

393 Sgt Norman Hamilton
22 Batt^n AIF

Sgt. G. Macleay
22 Batt^n AIF
BEF

Dec. List P. 66 A.

FRONT West.

K.D.S.—V. 12924.

ION AS TO

ank	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Casualty.
	58 A.I.F.			M. July 19/16

I BY

ank.	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Home Address.
A.	58 A.I.F.			

F INFORMANT

in first person).

Armentieres, I saw Hutchison drop. He said he
n was in the Grenade Section attached to D. Coy."

5

RECEIVED
4 JAN. 1916
CARLTON HOUSE

ER THE FOLLOWING :—

, give name, number, etc., he man who told him.

rmant says a man was killed, leath instantaneous, and was ody buried, and if so where?

ere any other man of same in or Battalion? The only Pte. Hutchison I knew in the Grenade Section.

fair. He came from Coleraine, Victoria

Signature of Searcher Norman W. Hich

Date of Report Dec. 28. 16

Rec. Thu. 15.7.17

In the line,
France.
23/12/16.

Dear Miss Deakin,

Your letter dated 25th ult. received. I must apologise for not replying sooner but we have been continually moving in and out of the line and I have scarcely had a minute for writing.

No. 393 Sgt. Norman Hamilton was one of my best lads in the A.I.F. We were in camp in Broadmeadows together, left Melbourne 8/5/15 together went right through over 4 months on Gallipoli & through France together until POZIERES. There with many others of our brave chaps, I personally believe he fell. He is reported as missing 4/8/16. He could not be reported as Killed in Action because there was nothing definite to

2)
show that he was killed.
There is still the possibility
(very small I fear) that he
may be a prisoner of war.
Were that so he should appear
on that list which up to the
present is not so. //
No one wishes more than I
that some good news concerning
him may come to light but—
I mention to you a fact
which doubtless you already
know that if he was killed
on that date, it is not
certain that he received a
decent burial. All that
it is possible to do is done
but in a case like this, one
never knows.
I might add I have just
received a letter from his
mater & when writing her
will not of course mention
what I have just referred
to re burials.
It will do no harm for her
to believe (if the news finally
comes out of his death) that
he was decently buried, because
it is possible that he was

3/

and again it would do no good to tell her otherwise.

He was one of the best liked Sergt. in the Battalion & always did his job.

It should comfort his people to know that he always played the Game, and if he is gone, well one could not choose a better death.

He was one of the many boys who have raised the opinion of the people of Australia, of manliness, gameness & fighting qualities generally of the Australian Imperial Force, of which I am proud to be a member.

It is needless for me to add the high opinion we all have of Australian Branch Red Cross Society, of the great work they have done and are doing for our boys in this ever regrettable war.

Yours sincerely,

Sgt Maclean
22 Battn

Maclean
Sergt.

393 Sgt. N. W. Hamilton 22 Batt

M. 5.8.16 M. 3

Ack
Lu 1.5.17

France,
26/4/17.

Dear Miss Deakin,

No. 393 Sgt N.W.
Hamilton 22nd Batt. A.I.F.

In December last I wrote you in reply to an enquiry re above-named, and promised to advise you should any further information come to hand concerning him.
He is now reported Killed in Action 4/8/16 information having been received concerning his burial. I have written to Mrs. Hamilton by this mail informing her of this fact.
Wishing you every success in your good work,

Yours sincerely,

Macleay Sgt

393/ Sgt N.W. HAMILTON
~~22 Bd AIF~~
M 5.8.16
~~KA 4.8.16~~

M.2

1st May 1917.

Sgt G.Macleay,
22nd Aust: Infy Btn:
B.E.F.

Dear Sgt Macleay,

Very many thanks for your letter of April 26th advising us that - 393 Sgt N.W. Hamilton, 22nd Battn, is now reported Killed in Action 4-8-16. We had sometime ago been obliged to come to this conclusing, that he was killed, as all the evidence pointed that way, but are glad to learn that definite information had now been received concerning his burial

If you could give us the map location of the grave, we should be pleased to write to the Graves Registration for a photograph to be sent to Mrs. Hamilton, as we think possibly in Australia they may not understand how to apply for these photograph of the burial places.

We are very pleased to learn that you had written Mrs. Hamilton, giving her all the information you possessed, it will mean a great deal to her to hear from her boy's friend.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully, SECRETARY V. D.