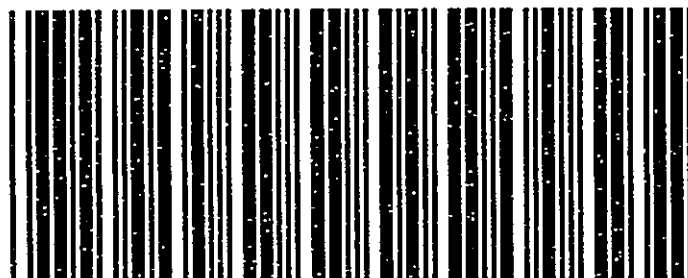


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2848 Sergeant
George William
McRae

55th Battalion



1900402G

3042 Pte. W. Edmondson,
26th Australian Infantry Battalion,
Gefangenenlager Friedrichsfeld bei Wesel,
GERMANY.

24th April, 1918.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry of 1-1-18 for Pte. GEORGE
McGRAE, we very much regret to inform you that there is a 2848 Sgt.
George William McCrae, of the Battalion ^{55th Bn} you mention, who is officially
reported to have been killed in action on 26-9-17 and whom we fear
to be the subject of your enquiry.

This man is unofficially reported in the evidence given
by many men of his unit to have been killed instantaneously on the
evening of 25th Sept, whilst laying tapes for the advance next
day, in the front line of Polygon Woods, and to have been buried
at Hooge Crater and the grave marked.

We are forwarding the report given by Sgt. Allen of the same
Battalion. He states :- "Sgt. McCrae was actually killed on 25-9-17
by a shell fragment. The poor fellow was laying the tapes for our
starting point next day and was killed instantly. He was buried on
the field. He was in my company and I had known him about 10
months. He was a fine big man, very powerfully built, and wore a
fair moustache. - he must have been nearly 6' high with splendid
physique. He was a farmer I think in Australia. He was idolised by
his men and was as brave as God's best."

We much regret having to forward such sad news and would
like to assure you of our sympathy in the loss of your friend.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully
(MISS)

Mrs. Ryan
SECRETARY.