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

3773 Private
Phillip Henry Higgins

59th Battalion



1330403E

:h Battn. A.I.F. HIGGINS. P. 3773.

"Killed 16.10.17."

He was of A. Coy. IV Platoon. On 16th Oct. he was at a bombing post at Tokio Ridge in front of Passchendaele. Enemy was shelling heavily all the time we were up in the lines. He was about 40 yds. out from trench. Shell landed right on post, killing him outright. Was buried at the spot he was killed, by Pte. J. Thomson, 11th A. Coy. and other men. They may have erected cross, but I dont think so. Enemy now occupy the ground. I was wounded night of day he was buried. Pte. J. Thomson took his private effects. Christian name PHil, came from Victoria.

Inf. L/Cpl. J. Atkinson. 5327.
59th Battn. A. Coy. IV Platoon.
HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.
London.
17.7.18.
HG.

NOTE.
Written Pte. Thomson, 17.7.18. H.

59th Battn. late 7th Battn.
A.I.F.

HIGGINS.
Phillip 3773.

"Killed in Action 16.10.17."

Re Pte. Higgens. I was in charge of an outpost which contained three men and myself Pte. Gregor, Pte. Frawley Pte. P. Higgins and myself.

It was early in the morning when the enemy opened a heavy bombardment, and about 5.30. a.m. on the 16.10.17. Pte. P. Higgins was killed by a shell instantly. A little while after the remainder of us had to retire to the main trench. The same afternoon Pte. Frawley and myself crawled out to the old post where Higgins laid. I got his private belongings and pay book. We then buried him in the end of the trench where he was killed, and put a cross on the grave with his particulars.

I gave his belongings to Padre Nye of the 15th Bde. The place where Higgins was buried was not a registered cemetery. The name of the place was Tokio Ridge. I enquiried at my Coy. this morning. No. 4th Plth. A. Coy. 59th Battn. Higgins had a strong dark brown moustache. His hair was very grey.

Letter from:-

London,
3.8.18.
J.E.A.

Pte. J. Thomson,
No1133 A. Coy.
59th Battn.
France.

H.

Y.M.C.A.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

France

24/7/18

3773

Phillip Higgins

59 Bath Cate 7th Bale

Secretary Wounded & Missing Kim A 16-10-17

Enquiry Bureau

Dear Miss

In regards to the letter I received 17/7/18 I can supply the following information, of Pvt. P. Higgins 3773.

I was in charge of an outpost which contained three men & myself. Pvt. Gregor, Pvt. Frawley Pvt. P. Higgins, & myself.

It was early in the morning when the enemy opened a heavy bombardment, & about 5.20 am on the 16/10/17 Pvt. P. Higgins was killed by a shell instantly. A little while after the remainder of us had to retire to the main trench.

The same afternoon Pat Frawley
& myself crawled out to the
old post where Higgins said
had his private belongings
& Jay Cook. We then buried
him on the [redacted] end of
the trench where he was killed,
& put a cross on the grave
with his particulars.
I gave his belongings to Padre
Nye of the 15 Bde
The place where Higgins was
buried was not a registered
cemetery. The name of the
place was, Tobin Ridge.
I enquired at my Coy this morning
about Higgins & his No 3773
No 4 Platoon A Coy 39 BATT
Higgins had a strong dark
brown, Moustache. His hair
was very gray. That is about
all I can give you about Pte
P. Higgins.

P T O



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

I hope this will be
sufficient identification
of the person.

I Remain
yours Sincirely
Pvt. J. Thomson
No 1133 A Coy
59 BATT
France

R.T.O.