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

405 Sergeant
Kenneth Harris Hobbs

32nd Battalion



1350101B

32bd A. I. F.

Hobbs, Sergt. K. 405,

(D/W Sept. 16th/16.
Det: D & B)

Informant states that Sergt Hobbs was in a support dug-out about 3 p.m. when a shell burst, and as there were no sandbags in front, Sergt Hobbs was hit in the chest. He was bandaged but died before he could be got out of the trenches. He was buried in a cemetery south of Armentieres but Informant could not remember the name.

Informant: Pte Murcott, 2077,
32nd A.I.F.,
Parkhurst Military Hospital,
Isle of Wight.

Home address:
Penfold Road,
Hugill,
S. Australia.

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3rd Jan/17.
C. Hall.

A.I.F. 32nd Battn
"B.Coy."

HOBBS
Sgt. Kenneth 405

Wounded

Died of Wounds 16-9-16.
Cert. by letter dated 5-8-16.

Died of Wounds 16-9-16
Cert. by. letter from 3rd Echelon 16-11-16.

London
6-12-16.

P.I.

32bd A. I. F.

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3rd Jan/17.
G. Hall.

32nd Australian Imperial Force. Hobbs, Sgt. K., 405,

D/W Sept. 16th. 1916. Det.

Informant states that on Sept. 16th. 1916 to the left of Fleurbaix he was sitting with Q.M.S. Lodge in a shell proof dug out when a shrapnel shell burst just behind the trench. German shrapnel gas always throws forward, but by some inexplicable mischance some drove backwards into the dug out, wounding both men. Sgt. Hobbs in the stomach. He was taken to the dressing station and died after leaving the same. No knowledge of burial.

Informant:-- Lieut. A.C. Sinclair,
32nd Australian Imperial Force,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth Common, S.W.

Home address:-- 162, Carr Street,
Leederville,
W. Australia.

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~~32nd A. I. F.~~ Sergt. K. HOBBS, 405

D/W. 16.9.16. Details D & B.

Informant was told by Q-M-S. Lodge that he was in the same dug-out as Sergt.Hobbs when the latter died of wounds. Q-M-S. Lodge could no doubt give particulars and place of burial.

Reference: Pte.W.R.Eglinton, 2023

N°5 General, Rouen, 11.1.17.

EMM.

32nd A. I. F.

Hobbs, Sergt K. 405,

(D/W Sept. 16th/16. Det: D & B)

"Hobbs was sitting in his dug-out writing letters and a shrapnel burst in front of the door and he got a piece of the back blast. It struck him on the left side and he died while going down to rear dressing station. He was buried in a cemetery in Rue S.David. Dug-out mentioned above was at Fleurbaix."

Informant: Capt. John Hutchens,
32nd A. I. F.,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Home address:
Pirre Street,
Adelaide.

11th January, 1917.
W.P. Manning.

32nd A.I.F.

Hobbs, Sergt. K. 405

(D/W Sept. 16th 1916 Dets. D/B.)

Informant states that On Sept. 16th 1916 at Fleurbaix Sergt. Hobbs was killed by a shell as he was writing a letter in a dug-out. A shell splinter had knocked a hole in the paper and he had put a ring round it, and written "a shell has just done this", when a shell came over and killed him. He was buried at Stella Farm Fleurbaix.

Informant: Pte. Wiltshire 271, A.I.F.,
2nd Birmingham War Hospital, Hollymoor.

Home address: Millicent,
South Australia.

10.1.17.
R. Clegg.

FRANCE

32 BATT. A.I.F. HOBBS. Sgt K. 405.

D/W Sept 16th.1916. Det D/B

A young fellow of about 20 whose people were very well to do and came from the fruit district of Adelaide. He was in B.Coy. It was at Fleurbaix; he was asleep in his dug-out after a hard day's work when a shell.came through and wounded him and he died of his wounds. I should have said that it was a little before Sept 16th.

JHA

Ref ---Pte Blott. 1683. A.Coy.
No 2 Can. Gen. Hospital.
Le Treport. Jan 2nd. 1917.

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32nd Australian Infantry. Hobbs, Sgt. K. 405.

(D/W Sep: 16/16. Det D & B.)

Informant states that Sgt. Hobbs was killed on Sept/ 15th or 16th 1916 on the Fromelles front. He was in a dug out, and a German shell came over and wounded him, and he very soon died of wounds, before he could be moved to the dressing station. He thinks he would be buried behind the lines near Fromelles. He was acting Sgt. Major at the time.

Informant:— Cpl. Leyden Mackie, 132,
32nd Australians. A Coy.
E. Suffolk & Ipswich Hospital,
Bartlet Ward.

Home address:— Wirrabarra,
S. Australia.

Dec: 22nd
Steward.

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