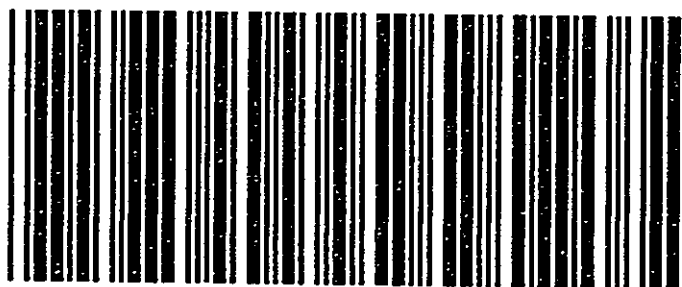


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

Lieutenant
Edward Spencer
Holgate

60th Battalion



1351004E

60th Batt:

Holgate, 2nd Lt. E.S.

K. 27/4/18.

I was present when he and Lt. Bowen were buried alongside a main road at the back of a trench at the left front of Villers Bretonneux.

60th Batt:

Nelson, J.P. Pte. 335.

16 A. Dartford. 19/6/18.

R.D.B.

p.1

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

HOLGATE
2/Lt. E.S.

"Killed 27-4-18"

He was the only Officer of his name in the 60th Battn. A.I.F.
His great pal, Lt. Max Gordon, of C.Coy. 60th Battn., who is now
in France, has all the details of his death, etc.

Informant. Ashman. 2/Lt.,
60th Battn., C.Coy. 12th Pltn.
3rd London Gen.Hpl.,
WANDSWORTH.

A.G. Campbell
London
23-7-18
H.G.

P.I.

L.A.

*Written for Mr. Gordon
1.8.18*

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

HOLGATE.
E.S. Lieut.

"Killed 27-4-18"

He was of C.Company. At Villers Bretonneux during our attack
on morning of 27th April. I was company runner - was close to Lieut
Holgate when he fell - I went up to him and saw that he was killed
instantly. A piece of shell had gone through his throat. I did not
see him buried, but men of his platoon buried him on the ground. This
was on the ridge to left of Village. Pioneers of Battalion had cross
ready for erecting. Came from Bellaret.

Informant:- Pte.C.L.Culson. 1642.
60th Battn. C.Cc. H.Q.Runner
HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.
London.
25-7-18.
J.E.A.

P I.

60th A.I.F.

Holgate, 2nd.Lt.E.S.

K Apr.27/18. Det. D/B.

" I saw Pte Mr. Holgate instantly killed by a machine gun bullet through the neck after leaving the trench at Villers Brettoneux & I helped to bury him about 100 yds from the trench."

Eyewitness:- Yes.

Description:-

Informant:- Pte.S.Walker, 1991.

60th. A.I.F. B Coy., (H.Q.(13.?)

Queen's Hosp., Birmingham.

Home address:- Post Office, North Melbourne.

21/6/18.
F. Jervis.

Given P.I.

2 P.I.

J.A.

60th. Battn. A. I. F.

Holgate, 2nd. Lieut. E. S.

C. Company.

Killed. April 27th. 1918. Det. D/B.

I saw him killed instantly by a shell during the hop over at Villers-Brettonneux. I could not say if he was buried. L/Cpl. Bugg took his pay book and belongings and gave them to Lieut. Gribblecf C. Company. I could not say where he came from. I knew him well in the company.

Description. Age. 27. Height. 5-7. Complexion. Fair. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. Field, R. No. 273. C. Company. 60th. Battalion.

Taken at.
No. 4. C. D. Hurdcott.
16. 7. 18.
S. W.

S. Whitmee.
No. 4. Command Depot.
Hurdcott.

60th Batta.
A.I.F.

HOLGATE.
E.S. 2/Lieut.

"Killed 27-4-18"

At Villers Bretonneux. I saw him dead in shell hole
-shot through head by machine gun bullet. It was about 100 yards
in rear of front line - he was a very fine chap. Well liked by all
his his men. A very good sport.

Informant:- Rees, 1964.
W.24.HAREFIELD.

D.P.Dickson.
London.
11-7-18.

P I.

Harry-

12th- July 1918-

60th- Australians,

Holgate, 2/Mount- H- 3-

K- April 27/1918-

Mr. Holgate was killed on the left of Villiers Bretonneux, by a shell. I was S/Bearer and saw him dead. One of the other corps stopped and examined him. He was short of stature and stout. I knew him well and there is no mistake, it was he I saw dead.

Inf:- Private Jack Anderson, 3347;
60th- Australians, C- 22.
H-S- 'Galliford Castle'

SJ.

J.A.

P.1

RRB.

A. I. F. 60th Bn.

HOLGATE, 2/Lieut. E. S.

Killed April 27/18. Det.D/E.

Mr. Holgate was killed while I was out sick. Corpl. Walsh, D.Coy. XV Pl. could give details of his death and burial. He has been with the Batta. all the time, not having been sick or wounded; he told me that Lieut. Holgate had been killed.

Reference: Pte. C. Palmer, 4292, D.Coy.

No. 12 General, Bataan, 8.7.18.

JWA.

2 P.1

J.S.A.

Given P.1.

Written
Corpl. Walsh 1.8.18

Havre.

21st. June 1918.

Anstr. 60.

Holgate, 2/Lt. E.S.

K. 27th. April 1918. Det. D/B.

I knew him well.

On the 27th. April we were attacking at Villers Brettoneux. We took our objective and held it. I was close to Mr. Holgate. I saw him on the ground dead. I went up to him he had no wound on him. He appeared to be killed by concussion. I don't know what became of his body. I was wounded and went down the line shortly after.

Inf: - Pte. T.H. Steele, No. 2896,
Anstr. 60. B. Vill.
Harfleur Camp.

HPG.

P. 1

H. J.

A.I.F.
60th. Bn.

HOLGATE, 2/Lient.
Edward Spencer.

"Killed in Action 27.4.18".

Not trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
22.10.19.

P.I.

AUSTRALIAN



RED CROSS.

1720 ~~W. R. B. MORHAM~~

60 B. Melin

No 4 Company

Hist 65.

Monte Video Camp

Weymouth.

Dear Sir

I would like you to
find out for me, if you can, if
anything about Lat. F. A. Holgate
is being killed in action on
the 26 April. If I could get
a photo of his grave as I have
just had letters from Australia
asking me to do what I could in
this line for them. He was a personal
friend of mine in London - left also
in Military Nursing you will be able
to do something for me.
Yours truly
W. R. B. Morham

? 2/Lieut S. S. Holgate

60 B.T.

K 27.4.18.

Aug:

Mr. Wauliss

A.R.C.S.

27.5.18

Harve

20th Aug 1918.

A.I.F. 57.

Burgess E.H. No. 2775.

E. 15th Octr 1917. Det D/B.

He was A.I.F. 8/B. I knew him slightly. He was an original
57th man. He was about 5 feet 6, dark, clean shaven, medium build,
about 30-35. I saw his grave behind our support lines at Westhoek
in the open. I was told that he was killed near the place where he
was buried. There was a rifle stuck in the ground with a label with
his name on it. There would be no chance of finding the grave now.

Inf:- Pte R.J. McDermott No. 2297.

A.I.F. 57. C. I. L.G.

Harve Hospital.

RFC.

1720 Cpl. R.B. Morham,
60th Bttn, 4th Coy,
Hut 65, Monte Video Camp,
Weymouth.

July 15th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your enquiry for details of the death on
26/4/18 of a Lieut. F.A. Holgate, we find there is only a Lieut.
F.S. Holgate, 60th Battalion, A.I.F. who was killed on 27-4-18,
and we think this must be the man you mean, we have received
several unofficial reports of his death.

1642 Pte. C.L. Coulson, 60th Bttn, said he was killed on
27-4-18 on the ridge to the left of the village of Villers Brettonneux
- Coulson was company runner at the time and was close to Lt. Holgate
when he was struck by a piece of shell in the throat, death was
instantaneous. He did not see him buried but men of his platoon
buried him on the ground and the Pioneers of the Battalion had a
cross ready for erecting.

1991 Pte. S. Walker, 60th Bttn, confirmed this except that he
said - It was a machine gun bullet that killed Lt. Holgate. He helped to
bury him about 100 yards from the trench.

335 Pte. J.P. Nelson was present when Lt. Holgate and Lt.
Brown were buried alongside a main road at the back of a trench on
the left front of Villers Bretonneux.

1964 Pte. Rees confirms Pte. Coulson and Pte. Walkins' reports and adds that it happened about 100 yards behind the front line and "He was a very fine chap - well liked by all his men - a very good sport."

If there is sufficient evidence to locate the grave we will
apply for a photograph of it but it is necessary that we should have

the next of kin's address. Would you send us this and then we will ask the Graves Registration Depot to send them the photograph direct.

We are making further enquiries and hope we will get more definite news for you.

Assuring you of our sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

(MISS)

W. J.
SECRETARY.

1720

Cpl. R.B. Morhan,
60th Battalion, A.I.F.,
4 Coy, Hut 65, Monte Video Camp,
WYMOUTH.

July 22nd, 1918.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 19-7-18, asking for a
photograph of the grave of

2/Lieut. F.S. HOLMAN, 60th Battalion, A.I.F.
for his fiancée - Miss H. Hare,
Main Street,
Ballarat East,
Victoria.

We beg to inform you that we shall apply to the Graves
Registration Bureau, however we cannot promise that it will
be available for the grave may not be officially registered
and as we have not yet received information regarding his place
of burial. However, we assure you that we will do our utmost
to get the photograph in question and forward it to Miss Hare.

With good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

R. Blum

July 30th, 1918.

1720 Cpl. R.E. Morham,
60th Battalion, A.I.F.,
4th Coy, Hut 65.
Monte Video Camp.
Weymouth.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you that we have received the following unofficial evidence from men of his unit about -

Lt. H.S. HOLGATE, 60th Battalion, A.I.F.

whose name we have now removed from our enquiry lists.

From these reports we learn that Lt. Holgate was killed instantly by a machine gun bullet which wounded him in the throat when they were at Villers Bretonneux on April 27th, and he was buried where he fell on the right to the left of the village. One man says that the Battalion pioneers had a cross ready for erection on his grave.

We have applied on behalf of his fiancée for a photograph of his grave and trust that it will be obtainable and should we obtain further information we shall immediately advise you.

Trusting that these reports have been of some assistance to you.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

acknowledged.
20/7/18

19/7/18

1720 Lt R B Monham
60 Battalion A.I.F.
Hut 65 No 4 Transport
Monte Kedes Camp
Weymouth

Dear Secretary

Your letter to hand of the 15/7/18
Thank many thanks for your enquiries concerning
Lt F. S. Holgate of the 60 Bn.

I also asked you for
a photo of his grave if possible to get one that you
say that it would be necessary to have his
next of ~~his~~ kin's address. Well I do not know his
address now; but it was for my cousin that
I wanted the photo for, as Lt F. S. Holgate was
engaged to her & she asked me to do what I could
regards to getting her the photo. so if anything
could be done in regard to it I will gladly give
you her address in Australia & the photo could be
sent on to her direct.

Hoping this will not inconvenience
you & thanking you in anticipation.

I am yours truly
R B Monham

Miss M. Hare
Main Street
Ballarat East
Victoria
Australia