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

# 2819 Private
# Louis Charles Lauffer

## 51st Battalion



1560113H

A.I.F. 51st Btn

LAUFFER
L.C. 2819

"K/A. 11-10-17"

Killed in action 12-10-17 previously reported K/Action 13-10-17
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 6-2-18.

P.

London
7-2-18

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51st Battn. B.Coy.
A.I.F.

LAUFFER
L.C. 2819

"Killed 12-10-17"

Refer to Lt.H.Haslam, B.Coy., 51st Pltn., who is now in France, he was with him at time of casualty, and can give all details.

Informant. Cleary Pte.T.C. 3028
51st Battn., B.Coy., 7th Pltn.,
3rd A.A.H.,
DARTFORD.

W.Oman
London
5-4-18

P.

Note:-
Written to Lt. Haslam 4-4-18

15th Battn,
A.I.F.

LAUFFER,
L.C. 2819

"Killed in Action 13.10.17."

Re 2819 Pte.L.C.Lauffer. This man was my servant for over 12 months and I know him as a Dear Friend. At 7.30 on night of 12th October. He and I were sitting together when a shell came over wounding us both. He turned to me saying he was dying. I examined his wound which was absolutely fatal and he asked me to hold his hand which I did till he died, 5 minutes after he was hit. He wished me goodbye and asked me to write Mrs Lauffer. which I did. I saw that he was buried before I allowed them to put me on a stretcher, my left leg was broken. He was not buried in a soldiers' cemetery but in the field on the top of Broodseinde Ridge about 5/700 yards from Zonnebeke. Apparently my letter did not reach Mrs Lauffer. I would be very pleased if you would send this one on to her. The wound was in the stomach. He was cut practically right open and his stomach practically fell out. I did not tell Mrs Lauffer this but if you think it best do so by all means.

Letter from:-Lieut. Hector A.Haslam. France 14.4.18

Note to Perth. In case Lt. Haslam's letter has not reached Mrs Lauffer, we shall be pleased to let her have the original of

15th Battn,
A.I.F.

LAUFFER,
L.C. 2819



the one written by him to this office, about the death of her son on the 13th October last.

PPS. H.S.

London.
1.5.18.

P.

51st Battn.
A.I.F.

LAUFFER
L.C. 2819

"Killed 12-10-17"

Lauffer was Lt. Haslem's batman, 51st Battn. B.Coy., and the Lt., who is now in France with the Coy., told me of his death in Ypres sector. He would know particulars.

Informant. Wilson W.F. 2031
51st Battn. B.Coy.,
Hut 11,
WESTHAM.

W.A.Rand
London
6-6-18

P.

Note:- See letter from Lt.Haslam.

51st Battn.
A.I.F.

LAUFFER
L.C. 2819

"Killed 12-10-17"

Lauffer was killed outright by a shell, being hit in the shoulder, near Warneton, and is buried just out of Warneton, in a little Military Cemetery and Cross erected. I was told about the Cross, but I saw him killed. Hagan P.W. 8xxx 51st Battn. B.Coy. could say as to his burial. He was with the Coy. when I left but wounded since.

Informant. Woods T.S. 4040
51st Battn. D.Coy.,
Hut 15,
WESTHAM.

W.A.Rand
London
7-6-18

P.

Note to Perth.

A.I.F. 15th Battn.

Lauffer.
L.C. 2819.

In reply to your letter of the 22nd August 1918, Attached is original of Lieut. Haslam's letter re above. It would probably be advisable to cut off the postscript before letting Mrs. Lauffer see the letter.

London
1/11/18.

P.

PERTH.

The Hon. Secretary,
Australian Branch B.R.C.S.,
Enquiry Bureau,
36 - Grosvenor Place,
LONDON. S.W.1.

Dear Madam,

No. 2819 - Pte. L.C. Lauffer - 51st Battalion.

We are in receipt of your communication of the 1st May, regarding the above named soldier who is officially reported "Killed in action 13th October", and as Mrs. Lauffer has not yet received the letter you mentioned from Lieut. Hector A. Haslam, we shall be glad if you will forward the one received by you.

Yours faithfully,

Perth
22 8 18.

Henry Greig

4/4/18

To

Lt. H. Harlam
B. Coy.
51st. Battn
Aus. Imp. Force
B.E.F.

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Admit
2819. Pte L. C. Lauffer
B. Coy.
51st. Inf. Battn
A.I.F.

Dk. 12/10/17

[illegible]
4/4/18