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

3361 Private Bernard Agrippa Laverick

31st Battalion



1560309O

A.I.F. 31st Btn

LAVERICK
B. 3361

"Wded & Missing"

Killed in action 26--27-9-17 - previously reported Wded & Missing 26-9-17 by C. of Enquiry.
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 25-10-18.

OFF.M. &
P.I.

London
28-10-18

Special Enquiry. List

8th January 1919.

Havre

Australians. 31.

Laverick B. 3361.

September 26-27th 1917.

I know Pte Bert Laverick of C. XII, about 36, medium height, slim, fair, clean shaven an Englishman with relatives in England. I was alongside him when he was hit in the stomach while advancing at Polygon Wood on the 26/27th Septr 1917. We had to go on, and he was left lying where he fell. We took our objective, and held it. I did not see or hear of him again.

Inf:- Pte B. Laws No. 3358.
A.I.F. 31. C. XII
Austra. Conv. Depot.

RDH.

J.C.A.

PP.

31st A.I.F. Laverick Pte. B. 3361.

(W. & M. Sept. 26/17)

B. Laverick was leaving the trenches at Messines with a friend to go on leave, when he was caught by a shell and killed.

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Pte. Jack Clausen 4998,
31st A.I.F.,
Katesgrove No 5 Hospt.,
Reading.

Nov. 29/17,
A. Valpy.

A.I.F. 31. LAVERICK B. 3361.

W.& M. 26.9.17.

He belonged to C.Co. and was the only man of the name I knew. He had been a long while in the Bn. I saw him wounded on 26th.Sept. about 8.30 p.m. This was during our attack at Polygon Wood. When I saw him he was lying on the ground and just said he had got a Blighty. I think he had been hit in the legs. In about 2 hours we retired but we recovered the ground later on in the day. I heard of no one having seen him afterwards.

MH.

Reference: Cpl. Mortenson. 3062. C.Co.
L.G. School.

Etaples.
22.8.18.

Mrs. Alice Laurick. Oct. 30.

Stern House.

Petersfield. Hants.

Dear Madam.

In further reply to your enquiry re 3361. Pte B. Laurick. 31st. Bn. A.I.F. ~~to~~ deeply regret who was reported as wounded missing since 26.9.17 we deeply regret to have to inform you that he is now reported as killed in action on that date. We are pursuing our enquiries for further particulars will advise you of any ~~further~~ details that may come to hand assuring you of our very deep sympathy in your great loss.

A.I.A.

Ack 2.5.18.

April 29th

Flower House
Petersfield
Hants

Dear Sir

I am writing to ask you if you can kindly give me any information of my brother Bernard Laverick Private 3361. 31st Batt. 5th Australian Division. who went to France October 1916 and was reported wounded and missing in September 1917. I have not heard any news of him since I am enclosing postal order for 5/- and shall be glad to hear any news concerning him.

Yours Respectfully
Agnes Laverick

30 APR 1918

Miss Agnes Laverick,
Stoner House,
Petersfield, Hants.

3rd May, 1918.

Dear Madam,

In answer to your enquiry, passed on from Carlton House Terrace-for 3361 Pte. B. LAVERICK, 31st Battalion, A.I.F. - who was officially reported wounded and Missing 26-9-17. We regret we have only received one unofficial report from a man in his Battalion who however was not an eyewitness to the incident.

4995 Pte. JACK Clausen while an inmate of Intesgrove No 5 Hospital, Reading when interviewed stated that he heard that Pte. B. Laverick was leaving the trenches at Messines with a friend to go on leave when he was wounded by a shell and killed instantly.

While emphasising this report as purely unofficial we fear there can be little hope of his being alive but are continuing our enquiries and should we obtain further details will forward them to you as we realise how anxious you must be.

Thanking you of your contribution to our Society for which we enclose a receipt and assuring you of our deepest sympathy with you in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

L.B.

Sept. 18th, 1918.

Miss Agnes Laverick.
Stoney House.
Petersfield. Hants.

Dear Madam.

In further answer to your enquiry for 3361 Pte.B.LAVERICK. 31st Battalion. A.I.F. We beg to inform you we have just received some unofficial information from 3064 Cpl.Mortenson, who was interviewed in the Lewis Gun School in France. He stated that - Pte. Laverick belonged to C.Coy. and was the only man of the name that he knew and he had been a long while in the Battalion. He saw him wounded about 2.30 p.m. on 26-9-17, during an attack at Polygon Wood and he was lying on the ground wounded in the legs and just said that he had got a Blighty. In about 2 hours the Coy retired but although they recovered the ground later on in the day informant never heard of anyone having seen him afterwards. We can only conclude that as Pte. Laverick did not report at a hospital that he must have suffered some further casualty while lying out wounded and have been buried under shellfire.

In view of the length of time which has elasped since Pte. Laverick was reported Missing we fear that there can be no hope of his being alive and we deeply regret that we are forced to remove his name from our enquiry lists as we feel that it would be impossible to obtain definite information from men who have been in action so many times since.

Should we receive further details however we shall immediately advise you and assure you of our sincere sympath in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) M Baker

Secretary.

Sept: 21st

Ilsher House
Petersfield
Hampshire

Dear Madam.

I am writing to thank you for your letters and for making enquiries about my brother Pte. 336 Percival B. Laverick 31 Bn. I begin to fear that he has made the supreme sacrifice of his life for his country, but should you hear anything definate about him I shall be most grateful to you if you will kindly let me know, again thanking you for all your trouble.

Yours Respectfully
(Miss) Agnes Laverick

Miss Agnes Laverick,
Stone House,
Petersfield,
Hants.

21st January 1919.

Dear Madam,

We have continued our enquiries in the case of your brother 3361, Pte. B. Laverick, 31st Battalion, A.I.F., and have received another unofficial report, which although of a distressing nature, we feel may be of some value to you.

3356 Pte. E. Laws, C. Coy, XII Platoon, 31st Battalion A.I.F., at present at the Australian Convalescent Depot, has been interviewed by one of our Searchers and states:-

"I knew Pte. Bert Laverick of C. XII., about 36, medium height, slim, fair, clean shaven and Englishman with relatives in England. I was alongside him when he was hit in the stomach while advancing at Polygon Wood on the 26/27th September 1917. We had to go on, and he was left lying where he fell. We took our objective, and held it. I did not see or hear of him again."

We regret that these particulars only serve to confirm a previous report sent to you, and hope that further details of your Brother's end may reach us, in which case, we shall advise you at once.

Assuring you of our deepest sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Miss Dougherty

Secretary.