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

655 Corporal
Leslie Raymond Jack

21st Battalion



1410807L

A.I.F. 21st Btn

JACK
L. 655

"M, 9-10-17"

Killed in action 9-10-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 15-2-18.

OFF.M.

London
19-2-18

Havre. 3rd January 1918.

21st A.I.F. Jack L. No.655.

M. 9th October 1917.

Jack was a pal of mine - his Father was head teacher at Malvern State School, Melbourne, and Jack was on the Victorian Railways.

On the 9th October we attacked Daisy Wood near Broodsheine Ridge. We failed to get up to our objective and dug ourselves in near the objective and held the position.

I had a letter from Private S.A.Ryan of 21st Battn C.Company IX Pltn about the 15th October from a Hospital near Boulogne (I think he went afterwards to Blighty) he said he was close to Jack and saw him killed by a piece of a shell. Another piece of the same shell wounded Ryan.

Inf:- Sergt. C.J.Pleydell No.719.
21st Battn C.Co. IX Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

William Ryan
14.1.18

A.I.F. 21. JACK, L. 655.

M. Oct 9th 1917.

He was in my company and I was told by George Cross of the same company, that he saw Les Jack killed by MG fire during the attack at Passchendaele on this day., and he said to me I have got his paybook, which he showed me. About five minutes later Cross was killed instantly by a MG bullet at my side and I picked him up, but the top of his head had been blown off. I carried on and we took our objective and I never heard what became of their bodies. We were all three friends and Jack and I came across from Australia together in May 1915, and Cross came to us just before Pozieres and I knew him when in the Light Horse in Australia.

Inf: D.J.O'Callaghan. 708. C.IX
Ho. 1 C.C.
BOULOGNE. 19.2.18.

ED

21st Battn.
A.I.F.

JACK,
L. 655

"Missing 9.10.17."

Re No. 655, C.l. Les. Jack, 21st Battn A.I.F. I am sorry to report he was killed on Oct 9th at about 6.30 a.m. in the Sector the 21st Battn, C.Coy, hopped the top at Ypres, he was killed while talking to me in a shell hole, by a piece of shell striking him on the left side of head near temple, making ahole about 2 ins long, death was instantaneous. I have known him for 17 months. He is about 5ft 7 or 8, thick set, dark and about 23 or 24 years old.

Letter from:- S.A.Ryan, 5902,
21st Battn, C.Coy, A.I.F.
Hurdcott, 8.2.18.

London.
282.18.

Off.M

21st Btn.

JACK, L.
Pte. 655.

K. in act. 9/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was well built, 5 ft. 8 ins., dark complexion, 28 years of age, known as "Les". He was an original of the 21st Btn. and embarked on the "Ulysses". Casualty was advancing at Broodseinde, Ypres, when an H.E. shell landed near him wounding him all over and killing him instantly. I was about 3 yds. away at the time and I saw his body as I passed lying out in the open. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Pte. R. White,
No. 1136, 21st Btn.

Private address:-
514 High Street,
Richmond.

S.V.P.
8/8/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

21st Btn.
A.I.F.

~~CORP~~
~~Jack.~~

JACK.
Cpl. L. 655

"Killed" 9-10-17

Killed under Anzac House. went out on advance early to Passchendeale Ridge 7 killed by shell Jack personal friend of informant, came from Australia by Same boat "Ullysus" May 5th 1915. did not witness death. Impossible to send burial party as this part of the line was under heavy fire. From Victoria. Build about 5'10" Dark well built.

Informant. Sgt. J. Sherringham.
C/o. G R.O.
Melbourne
Victoria.

H.M.A.T. "Eurepedes.
At Sea. 15.9.19.
London
29.10.19.

21st Battn.

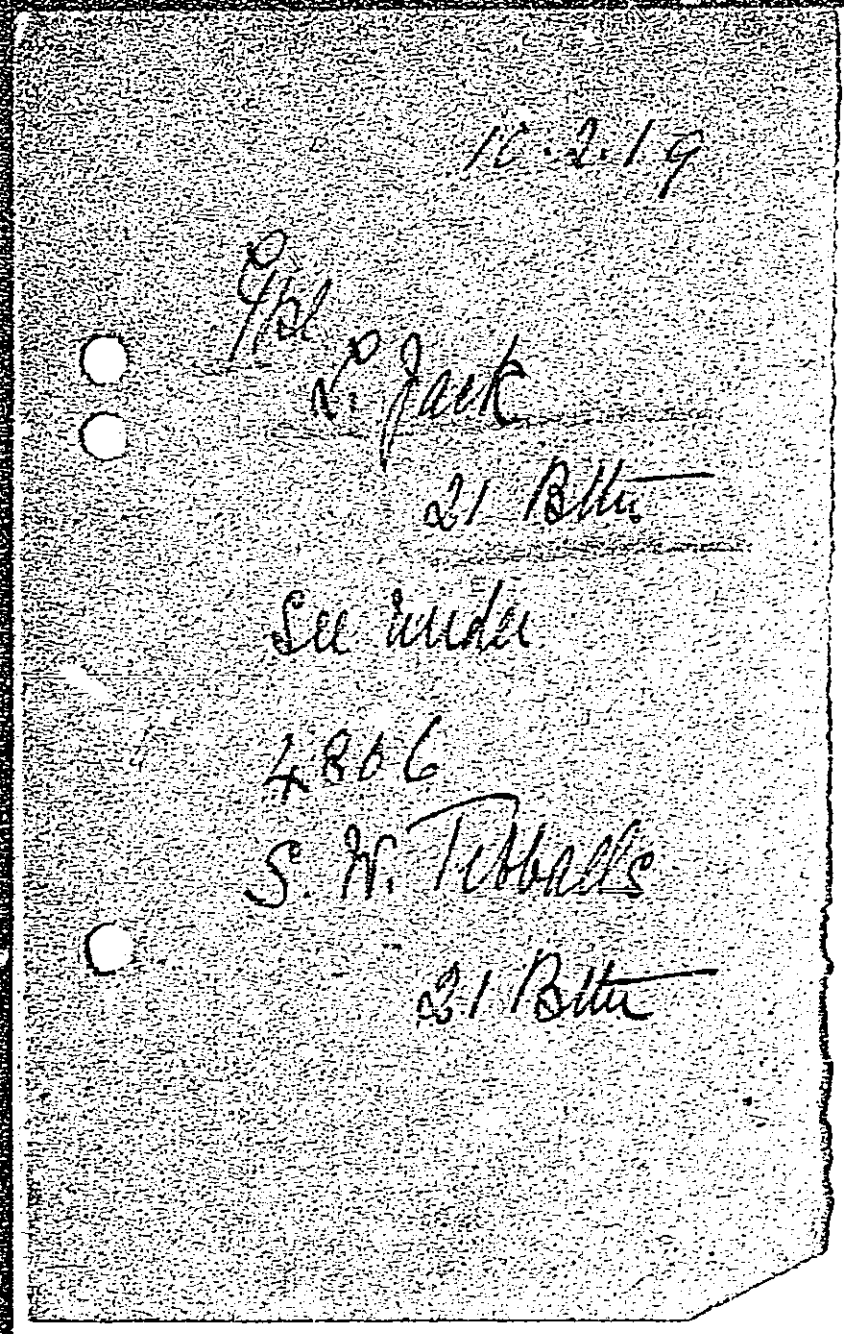
JACK
Cpl. L. 655

Killed 9/10/17

Killed under Anzac House - went out on advance party to Passchendaele Ridge and killed by shell. Jack personal friend of informant, came from Australia by same boat "Ulysses" May 5th 1915. Did not witness death. Impossible to send burial party as this part of the line was under heavy fire. From Victoria. Build about 5'10", dark, well built.

Informant:- Sgt. J. Sheringham
C/o G.P.O.
Melbourne.

E.L.Piper
H.M.A.T."Euripides"
20/10/19.



10.2.19

G/Bl
L. Jack
21 Bttn

See under
4806
S. W. Tibballs
21 Bttn

Ack
G.P.C.
13-2-18

655 L. JACK
21 Batt
pr. 9-10-18
No 4

No 4 Command Depot
"C" Coy
Hurdcott
Wilts
8/2/18

Secretary W. & M. Enquiry Bureau

Dear Madam

Your Enquiry of the 14/1/18 to hand re No 655 Cpl Les Jack 21st Batt A.I.F. I am sorry to report he was killed on Oct 9th at about 6.30 am, in the Sector the 21st Batt "C" Coy hopped the top at Ypres, he was killed while talking to me in a shell hole, by a piece of shell striking him on the left side of head near temple making a hole about 2 inc long, death was instantaneous I had know him for 17 months

he is about 5-7 or 8 thick
Set, Dark + about 23 or 24
years old. If I can be
of any further Service to
you re Leg Jack or any-
thing else you want to
know. Write me again
I am
Yours Truly
(59.02) Sa Ryan
21st Batn
"C" Coy
A.I.F