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

1373 Private George Gouloine Levitt

2nd Pioneer Battalion



1590707T

2nd Pioneers Btn.

LEVITT, G. G.
Pte. 1373/~~1558~~.

Killed in action 22/12/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 7 ins. medium build, dark complexion, about 34 years of age, known as "Darkie". Casualty was working in a sap on the Armentieres front. A shrapnel shell exploded near Casualty killing him almost instantly. I did not see Casualty killed but I saw his body 10 minutes afterwards. He was most severely wounded in the left breast and he was buried at Ploegsteert Cemetery and I saw the grave. A cross was erected with his name, number and unit on it."

Informant:- Sgt. T. Banner,
No. 741, 2nd Pnrs. Btn.

Private address:-
76 Read Street,
Albert Park.

T.C.B.
21/1/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

Havre

27th May 1918.

2nd Aust. Pioneers.

Levitt G.G. D No. 1373.

K. 22nd December 1917. Det D/B.

I know Pte George (Darkie) Levitt of C.Co. X Pltn, he came from Victoria in the 2nd to the 8th reinforcement to Egypt. He was killed and buried along with Ptes Patterson, Parkinson, and Somerville, at Kiwi Trench near Ploegsteert, about four days before Xmas 1917. I did not actually see them killed or buried but was told about it by Cpl Geo. Lewis of the 2nd Pioneers C.Co. X Pltn.

Inf:- Pte L. Smith No. 1794.
Aust. Pioneers. 2. C. X.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

Confirmed by:- Pte H. Andrews No. 4370.
Aust. Pion. 2. C. IX.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

Written Cpl. Lewis 6.6.18 Letter returned marked "Hospital" Not to see H.I

Havre 20th May 1918.

2nd Aust. Pioneers. Levitt C.G. 1373. 66 Late 11th W

E. 22nd December 1917. Det D/B.

The Levitt I knew is G.A. He was in B.Coy, Transport. I knew him pretty well, he was dark, about 5 feet 9, clean shaved, about 23. On the 22nd December we were in billets at Hieppe near Armentieres. We were having our dinner when a shell dropped right in Levitt's billet. I was about 50 yards away. I went up to where this happened and found 7 or 8 men killed and about 12 wounded. Levitt was amongst those killed, they were all recognizable. I saw an ambulance come and take the dead away.

Inf:- L/Cpl W.F.Sankey No. 3619.
Aust. Pion. 2. H.Q.
Havre Hospital.

HPB.

George Gordon Levitt Late 1632 now 1373 2nd A.I.F. Sapper

2nd Aust. Pioneers. Levitt Pt. C.G. 1373

(E. Dec. 22nd 1917. Detc. D/B)

"I saw him killed by a whizz-bang at Houplines(?) Armentieres. He was buried in a small cemetery at Ploegsteert(?) The Padre was there and Pt. Sullivan, 2nd Aust. Pnrs., C Coy. put up a cross. ~~Smith~~ Levitt did not die at once, he was taken to the Dressing Station, but never recovered consciousness as far as I know."

Eye witness: Yes.
Description: Called "Tarky".

Informant: Pte. L.J. Marck 3578, 2nd Aust. Pioneers.,
King George Hospital, Stamford St., S.E.

P.C. Parry
10. 6. 18.

Written Pte. Sullivan 3.6.18.

Hayre. 1st. May. 1918.

2nd. Australian Pioneers. Levitt. G. G. D 1373.

K. December. 22/1917. Dets. D/B.

I know Private. George G. Levitt, C. Company, 10th. Platoon. Private. Sullivan, C. Coy. 10th. Pltn, told me that he was alongside of him when he was killed and buried him in a Military Cemetery near Hieppe.

Inf:- Private. A. E. Penson. 1777.
2nd. Australian Pioneers. D. 13.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

R.M.

Walter Sullivan
24.5.18.

M

2nd Pioneer Batn
1te 8th Batn
A.I.F.

LEVITT
George Gouline late 1632/1373 now

"Wounded Sep-Oct-Nov"

Wounded 18. 10.17. g.s.w. left wrist
Trans 14th Con. Dep. Trouville 26.10.17.
Vert. by A.I.F.HdQtrs 30.11.17.

London.
30.11.17.

2nd Pioneer Battn.
A.I.F.

LEVITT.
George Goulburn 1373.

"Killed in Action" 22-12-17.

Concerning 1383 Pte.Geoge Levitt 2nd Aust Pioneer A.I.F. who was reported killed 22-12-17.

Pte Levitt who was of a dark appearance and was personally known to me, was killed instantaneously by a shell splinter which entered his body somewhere about the region of his heart.

He was given a proper burial in an Australian cemetery which was then close behind the line. Captain Chaplin.Sherris officiated at the burial and a good cross was erected over the grave. The cemetery was a registered one and situated close to a light railway siding between Nieppe and Plcegsteert called Belenelle.

Pte Levitt was very dark in appearance, of a quiet disposition and much esteemed by his comrades who felt his loss greatly.

Letter from:- James Sullivan.Pte. 1774.
10th Pl.C.Co.2nd PionBn,
A.I.F.FRANCE

London.
13-6-18.

M.

A.I.F. 2nd Pioneers.

LEVITT
G. G. 1532

Wounded-July-Aug.

No report.
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 13-9-16.

Admitted 13th Stationary Hosp Boulogne suffering with gun shot wound jaw - 2-8-16.
Cert. by - A.I.F. Headquarters - 29-9-16.

Transferred to Base Details 13-8-16.
Cert. by letter from Boulogne - 5-10-16.

London
9-10-16

M.

2nd Pioneers A.I.F.

Levitt Pte. ~~F~~ G. 1373,

(K. Dec. 22/17 Dets. D/B)

"I knew Levitt. Darkie he was known as. He was killed by a shell while at road work near Zillebeke. I know he was buried I saw his cross. I think it was close near where he was killed".

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: L/Sgt. John E. Gillett 1929,
7th Australia F.A.,
1st City of London Hospt.,

12.5.18,
C. Zeffert.

M

A.I.F. 2nd Pioneers

LEVITT
C. D. 1379

"Killed 28/12/17"

Ploegsteert - he was killed outright by shell hit right through the heart He was buried by Pte. I. Sullivan, 2nd. Pioneers - just near where killed I never saw his grave but I know he is buried there . He was my mate - We called him Darkie.

Informant:- No. 1777 Penson,
W. S, Marefield

D.P. Dickson

London
10/6/18.

M

6.6.18

Cpl. Geo Lewis
2nd Pioneers Battn.
(C Coy X Pltn)
attached
0.1.7

abt
1373 (left 1632)
Pte. G. G. D. Levitt
C Coy X Pltn
2nd Pioneers Battn.
0.1.7
K 22.12.17

10.6.18
0.1.B

27.5.18.

To

Pte Sullivan.

10 Pltn

C. Coy:

2nd Aus Pioneers

G.T.7.

Cabinet.

1373 Pte George Levitt:

10. Pltn

C. Coy.

2nd. Aus. Pioneers

Kl. 22-12-17.

In M.C.

27.5.18

3. 6. 18

Pte. Sullivan
C Coy.
2nd Pioneers Batt.
Abroad 4.7.7.

L.

Art.
137³
Pte G.G. Levitt
2nd Pioneers Batt.
a.7.7.
K. 22.12.17.

4.6.18.
a.7.B.

Ack PC 19/6/18
Fm. H.

1373. (C.D) France
Geoge Goulburn Levitt 2/6/18
2nd Pion Battn
late 8th Battn
K in A. 22.12.17.
M. 3.

The Secretary
W. & M. C.B.

Dear Madam

Your letter to hand re enquiries concerning No 1373 Pte. George Levitt 2nd Aust. Pioneers A.I.F. who was reported killed 22-12-17.

Pte Levitt who was of a dark appearance & was personally known to me was killed instantaneously by a shell-splinta which entered his body somewhere about the region of his heart.

He was given a proper burial in an Australian cemetry which was then close behind the line. Captain Chaplin Morris officiated at the burial & a good cross was erected over the grave.

The cemetry was a registered one & situated close to a light-railway siding between

F

Wiffe & Ploegsteert called
"Delenel" → (Delenelle)
Pte Levitt was very dark in
appearance, of a quiet disposition
& much esteemed by his
comrades who felt his loss
greatly.
Hoping the above few particulars
may be of some service to
your enquirers.

Believe me
Yours faithfully
W. James Sullivan (Pte.)
No 1774
10 Platoon
"G" Company
2nd Pioneer Batt.
A. I. F.

Tel.: VICTORIA {8576 8577 8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO "THE SECRETARY," WOUNDED AND MISSING — ENQUIRY BUREAU — AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

11.6.18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

Cpl. Geo Lewis
2nd Pioneers Battn (P Coy. & Pltn)
abroad
a.1.7.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about a man of your unit,

1373 late 1632 Pte G. G. D. Levitt P Coy. X Pltn.
2nd Pioneers Battn. a.1.7. K. 22.12.17.

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can send us concerning him, but our enquirers wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the field, or in a soldiers' cemetery where the grave would be registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance or any points that might help to prove his identity.

In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number, as without these particulars delay and confusion might be caused in identifying the soldier about whom you have written.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin
A.C.T.B.
Secretary.