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

6817 Sergeant
Colin Edward Hunt

21st Battalion



13906050

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY,
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau,
36, GROSVENOR PLACE,
Telephone—8577 Victoria. VICTORIA, S.W. 1.

ENQUIRY.

Name & Initials Hunt

No. 6817 A Rank Sgt. C.E.

Unit 21 A. I. F.

Casualty K. 9. 18

If Official... 14.12.18

Next-of-Kin (if possible)

Mrs J. J. Hunt

"Wynne"

Remarks— The Avenue
Surrey Hills
Victoria
asks for photo
of grave

21st Battn. HUNT

Sgt. C. E. 6817

K. 1/9/18

Buried Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, 1.13E

Extracted from Capt. Spedding's List of 16/10/19

Melbourne

16/12/19

A.I.F. 21. HUNT, C.E. 6817.

K. Sept.1st 12th 1918.

Sgt.Hunt was in B.VIIX. I think he had worked in Poets Cray Post Office. He was young, clean shaven and a very good sort. He was killed by a shell near Mont St Quentin on Sept.1st 1918. He was buried in a quarry to the left of Peronne with ten others. I saw a cross at our HQ at Cappy, Mont St Quentin while we were out of the line there, with all the ten names on it. Amongst them I remember the names of Cpl.Blackmore and Pte.Walker, Both B.VII. as well as Hunt.

Inf: W.F.McGowan. 6859. B.VI
No. 2 Aust Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 19.10.18.

M.

WO

21st Battn.
A.I.F.

HU 1
Sgt. C.E. 6817

"KILLED 1-9-18"

On the afternoon of Sept. 1st C.E.Hunt was killed in action at Mont St. Quentin. I saw his body as it lay in the trench. I heard he was buried in the vicinity of Mont St. Quentin with others who were killed in action the same afternoon; and that a Cross on which the names of all were inscribed was made at Cappy andplaced to mark the spot. I was not an eye-witness but was told by Lieut. Qurk of 21st Battn. - Sgt. Hunt's Coy. Commander.

Colin Hunt was about 5"7' in height - rather stout figure - fair hair. The ground was held.

Informant - Downing.Pte.R.C. 706
(Carefully & clearly given).
21st Battn.B.Coy.6th Pltn.
Sec.5 War Hosp.
EXETER.

Home Address:-
128 Albert Street
Red Melbourne
Victoria.

E.H.Stokes
31-10-18
London
15-11-18
J.E.A.

Note:- Written Lieut. Quirk 8-11-18.

H.

21st Battn. A.I.F.

Hunt,
C.E. 6817.

Killed in Action 1.~~10~~.9.18.

He was in "B" Coy., and in No.7 Platoon of that Coy., being a Sgt. I saw him killed at Mount St.Quentin, when death was instantaneous, he being hit by a bullet in the head about 2.30.p.m. on Sept. 1st 1918. during the hop-over. I knew him well and he came from Victoria. I was wounded the same day, so cannot give any details of burial, Refer to Sgt.McMahon J. "B" Coy., 21st Battn. who is now in France, for I think he will know of burial.

Informant:- Pte.Urpeth F.H. 6145.
B.Coy., 21st Battn.,
3rd A.A.H. Dartford.

W.Oman,
18.10.18.
London,
5.11.18. Note:- Written Sgt.McMahon 23.10.18. M.I.
H.G.

21st Bttn.
A.I.F.

HUNT.
C.E. 6817.

"Killed in Action 1-9-18."

re 6817a Sgt. C.E. Hunt, of the 21st Bttn. B.Coy. I am in a position to state of his sad death in which he met on the morning of the 1st Sept. As I must say we all felt sad on learning his fate as he was my best and only friend. As he was platoon Sgt and I second Sgt of a platoon I was only a few yards away from him when he was killed in the attack on the 1st Sept in which he along with others were killed with the same shell which was one of our own. He is buried along with the remainder of those that met their fate on the same day. As they have all got a battalion cross over the graves also they are registered as I visited his grave a month since he met his fate, he is buried on the left of Mt.St.Quentin, this is the map reference - I 9 a 94. Sheet 62c 1/4000. He always spoke to me about his people and this is his father's address:- J.J.Hunt, The Avenue, Surrey Hills, Victoria.

Informant:- No 21/450 Sgt.J.C.McMahon,
24th Battalion.C.Coy.
A.I.F. France 29-10-18.

J.E.A.
14-11-18.
London.

M.

21st Batn.,
A.I.F.

HUNT,
C.E., 6817.

"Killed in action - 1-9-18."

"On 1st September at Mont St. Quentin was killed outright by Machine Gun Bullet hit in body. I did not see it happen. Our Battalion was alongside the 21st Battalion and I saw his body shortly after he was killed. He was lying in a trench, that had been dug by the enemy. I searched him for his papers, but these had been taken by Stretcher Bearers. Removed a ring from his finger and gave it to Sgt.Major of 21st Battalion. Know nothing of burial.

I knew him very well, came over in same reinforcements, 20th of 21st Battalion. Was Sgt. Christian name Colin. Came from Victoria, (I think Surrey Hills).

Informant:- L/Cpl. W. P. Williams, 6915a.,
24th Batn., A. Coy., A.I.F.
Anzac Buffet.

A.D.G.
London,
14-11-18.
J.E.A.

M.

21st Battn
A.I.F.

HUNT.
C.E. 6817.

"Killed in Action 1-9-18"

I knew Sergeant Hunt. He was killed at Mont St Quentin, by a piece of shell on September 1st 1918. We were doing a stunt there and held the ground gained. Sergeant Hunt was buried by men of the 21st A.I.F. at Mont St Quentin.

Eye-Witness:- I saw him lying dead.
Description:-
Home address:-
Narrawong.
Portland.
Victoria. Aust:

Informant:- Sandeman, Fred Charles. 6440. Pte.
(very sure of the facts)
Formerly 21st Battn. A.I.F.
now trans: to 24th Battn. A.I.F.
Townhall Red Cross Hpl.
TORQUAY.

A. Norman.
London.
24-12-18.
H.G.

M.

A.I.F. 21st Battn. HUNT
C.E. 6617 Sgt.

"Killed 1.9.18."

I knew Sergt. Hunt. He was killed at Mont St. Quentin by a piece of shell on September 1st 1918. We were doing a stunt there and held the ground gained. Sergt. Hunt was buried by men of the 21st A.I.F. at Mont St. Quentin. Death was instantaneous.

Informant:- 6440 Pte. F. Charles Sandeman,
formerly 21st battn now
transf. to 24th Battn.
Townhall Red Cross Hpl.
Torquay.

Home address:-
Narrawong,
Portland, (Very sure of these facts.)
Victoria. Aust.

A. Forman.
London
1.1.19.
H.G.

H.

21st Battn.
A I.F.

HUNT.
Sgt Colin. E. 6817A.

"Killed in Action 1-9-18"

Killed by high explosive shell, just after we had captured Mont St Quentin. As far as I know he was buried to the left of the Village in a little cemetery there. Most of our chaps were buried there. It was a little cemetery made by the Military. Time he was killed - between 1.45.and 2.15. He was acting as Platoon Commander. He certainly did his work very well up to the time he was killed in that particular action. He was killed absolutely instantaneously. His grave could most likely be identified. The Village is called Mont St Quentin near Peronne. There was a picture of the attack on this particular place in one of the Anzac Bulletin's frontispiece.

Informant:- H.E.J.Quirte.
21st Battn.A.I.F.

A.M.W.B.
London.
7-1-19.

M & P I

~~6th~~
21s$ Battn.

E HUNT,
C. Sgt.,6817A

K. 1/9/18

I knew casualty, he was a man of medium build, 5'4" in height, medium complexion, about 25 years of age. Casualty was in the advance at Mont St. Quentin. We had just reached our objective and were going up Communication Trench when a high explosive shell landed in the trench killing casualty instantly. I was alongside him at the time and saw him killed. I took his papers and handed same to Stretcher Bearer. He was carried out a couple of days later, but I do not know where he was buried.

GODDARD, W.J.
3520
Private Address:-
39 Wallock Street,
ASCOT VALE.

H.A.T.,
4/7/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

14.12.18

Mrs M. Hunt
Wynne
The Avenue
Surrey Hills
Victoria

Re 6819 Pte C. E. Hunt 21st Batt A.I.F.

Killed 1.9.18

Australian Draft sent

ack 1.1.19.

P.C. 23.12.18

France
Dec 13th 1918

Dear Miss Deakin,

A couple of days ago, I received a letter from friends of mine in Australia in it they stated that their son — "Sgt. C. E. Hunt (6817A) B. Coy. 21st Battn. had been reported as killed in action on Sept 1st & his parents wish me to try & get any information re his death & especially as to his place of burial. Therefore, I am appearing to you to see if you could obtain any information for me.

Thanking you in anticipation, I am,

Yours sincerely
Donald Patten

Miss Deakin
A.R.C.S.
London.

ack. p.c. 4.11.18
9.2.D

C 6817
C.E. Hunt
21st Batt.
K.A. 1.9.18
M2

France

29-10-18

Sir

In your enquire to me about the partial aid of the undermentioned comarade of mine 6817A Sgt C.E. Hunt of the 21st Battalion B. Comp. I am in a position to state of his sade death in which he met on the morning of the 1 Sep. As I must say we all felt sad in hearing his fate as he was my best and only friend as he was platoon Sgt and I second Sgt of a platoon I was only a few yards away from him when he was killed in the attack on the 1 Sep in which he along with others were killed with the same shell in which it was one of our own. He has buried along with the remainder of those that met their fate on the same day as they are all

got 2 battalion Cross over the grave
also they are registered as I
visited his grave a month
since he met his fate he
his buried on the left of
Mt St Quentin this is map reference
Ch 494 Sheet 62c 1/4000 he always
spoke to me about his people &
this is his fathers address

J. Hunt
The Avenue
Surrey Wilts
Vic

Yours Faithfully
Sgt. J. McMahon
No 21/450 24 Batt
C Comp

21st Batt abolished transferred
to 24

January 2nd, 1919.

L/Cpl. D. Patience,
10th Australian Field Ambulance,
B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for 6817 Sgt. C.E. HUNT. 21st Battalion.A.I.F. We beg to inform you of several unofficial reports of his death which we have received from men in his unit.

21450 Sgt. J.C. McMahon stated that he was a great friend of Sgt. Hunt and was close to him when he was killed by a shell in the attack on Sept. 1st, He was buried with others on the left of Mont St. Quentin and a battalion cross was erected over the grave, the map reference of which is 1 9 a 9 4 Sheet 62 C. 1/4000. Our informant added that they "all felt sad on learning his fate and he was my best and only friend."

6145 Pte. F.H.Urpeth stated that in an attack on Sept. 1st At Mt.St.Quentin he saw him killed instantly by a bullet which wounded him in the head. Pte. Urpeth was wounded himself on the same day, so could not give any further details. These reports of his instantaneous death are confirmed by 6440 Pte. F.C. Sandeman, 6915a L/Cpl. W.P. Williams, and 706 Pte. R.C. Downing.

We trust the above reports may be of some value to you and would at the same time point out that we have already received an enquiry for Sgt. Hunt through our Melbourne Office, to which all the information we have had of him has been sent.

With good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

January 21st, 1919.

L/Cpl. Donald Patience,
10th Field Ambulance.,
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your enquiry for 6817a Sgt. COLIN E. HUNT. ~~21st Battalion.~~ A.I.F. We beg to inform you that we have received an unofficial report from Lieut. H.F.J. QUIRKE of the Unit. He stated that Sgt. Hunt was killed between 1-45 and 2.15 on 1.9.18. just after they had captured Mont St Quentin-death being instantaneous and from a high explosive shell. Lieut. Quirke believes he was buried with the other men of the Battalion in a small military cemetery near Mt. St. Quentin near Peronne. Should we receive further particulars we will advise you.

With sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin (per V.D.)

Secretary.