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

3152 Private John Graham Parry Horsman

47th Battalion



1370511I

47th Battn.
A.I.F.

Horsman.
J.G.P. 3152

"Missing 13.10.17"

I saw him bogged and pulled him out about ½ mile back from the line on 12th Oct. He was in a very weak condition then. I saw nothing of him afterwards.

Statement made by 4485 A.McA Falconer
47th Battn.
Escaped Prisoner of War

London.
14.12.17.

B.
P.I.

47th Battn.
A.I.F.

HORSMAN,
J.G.P. 3152

"Missing "

Killed in Action 12.10.17. Previously reported Missing 13.10.17.
Cert. by Hors 2.4.18.

London.
5.4.18.

B.
P.I.

A.I.F. 47.

HORSMAN J.G. P 3152.

M. 13.10.17.

Horsman was in B.Co. He had travelled a good deal, been in the Malay States. I think he was in some profession, like a bank manager. He was a man of a good age, 46 - 48. He had been about 4 months in the Bn. Pte.A. Mayell of B.Co. VII Pl. told me he saw Horsman during the attack at Passchendaele; he was wandering round in a sort of demented condition, at one time was sitting in a shell hole, wet through and suffering greatly from exposure. Other men saw him and it was concluded in the Co. that he died of exposure although I never heard anyone say that his body had been found. I was not in the attack but heard that it was unsuccessful and they had to retire. Horsman was a friend of mine and being such an elderly man we all wondered how he got on.

EMR.

Reference: Pte.J.K.I. Walker. 3898. B.VII.
7 Can.Gen.Hpl.

Staples.
24.1.18.

P1
B 'Bord

47th A. I. F. Horsman, J.G.P., 3152,

(M. 13.10.17)

"The Battalion advanced and Horsman had a big piece of his jaw knocked off, a private stopped with him and bound him up. The enemy drove us back and got the ground, so no one knows what became of the wounded, but Horsman was seen on the ground. He was unconscious and the bandage was off. I knew him well, as I came over on the same ship."

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Pte H.A. Patterson, 3192,
47th A.I.F., H.Q. Coy, S/B,
St. John's Hospital,
Cheltenham.

Home address:
Springsure P.O.,
Central Queensland.

B
P.1
Boul

4th Feb. 1918.
E.E. Holt Evans.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON 2226/1/38

COPY

Statement made by No.3192 Pte Patterson H.A. 47th Btn.

re No.3152 Pte Horsman J.G.P. 47th Btn.
Missing 13.10.17.

K-A 12-10-17

I was informed by comrades in my Battalion, whose names I cannot remember that No.3152 Private Horsman J.G.P. was struck by a piece of shell in an advance at Whyschaete, I do not know the date. I was told that he had a big piece of his jaw knocked off! A private stopped with him and bound him up. The ground was lost and no one knew what became of the wounded, but Private Horsman was seen on the ground unconscious, with the bandage off. Presumably this took place in daylight.

B
P.1
Bowl

Not sent on

Dated at Cheltenham this 22nd day of March 1918.

(SGD) H.A. Patterson.

Statement made and signed before me

(SGD) H. Best.
Red Cross Q.M.

A.I.F. 47th Battn.,
A Coy.

HORSMAN
J.G.P. 3152.

Killed in Action 12/10/17

I saw him fall in a shell hole at Passchendaele, when I was about 10 yards away from him. He had been hit by a bullet. We were in action and retiring at the time he was hit after, which I did not see him. This happened in the evening about 6 o'clock. He was very short-sighted and wore glasses. I knew him well and we came away from Australia together on 25th December 1916 but do not remember the name of the boat. He was English born. We lost the ground on that occasion and I cannot refer to anyone to give you any further particulars.

Witness:- 3252 Cpl. McDonald M.,
Hdqrts, 47th Battn.,
No. 5 A.A.H. Dartford.

W. Oman

London
4/6/18

P.I.
B
Bllogmd.

A.I.F.
47th Btn.

HORSMAN, J.G.P.
3152

K. in act. 12/10/17

"I have been told that Horsman who was known to me was killed in the Passchendale Stunt on 12th Oct. 1917. I was wounded on the same day. I did not see him killed. Cpl. McLeod of 47th Btn. (taken Prisoner in 1918) who returned home on the Port Denison could verify this statement. I do not know McLeod's Home address.

Inf:- 3104 Sergt. Anderson, E.A.
49th Btn. late 47th Btn.
Home address:- Hampton Avenue, Waterleigh, Sydney

E.J. Tilley
S.S. KAROA

12/5/19

Filing Copy

B
P.1

A.I.F.
47th Bttn.
A.Co. Plth 2.

HORSMAN. Pte.
J.C.F. 3152.

N/A prev. rep. Missing 12.10.17.

5'8", dark, age 33 yrs. From Queensland.
Pte. D.S.M. Ross No - a mate of Horsmans told me in 1917 that he saw Horsman walking out of the attmt at Passchendaele on 13.10.17. to the Dressing Station apparently shell shock. Have not heard anything else about him. Do not know where Ross is.

Informant:- Pte. Theodore. 3818.
Address:-
Lintonville.
Nagoorin.
Q'land.

47th Bttn. A.Co. Plth 3.
Ward 18. 3rd A.A.Hpl,
21.5.17.

O.S.W.
London.
6.6.19.
J.R.A.

NOTE:- written Ross
2.6.19.

B'LOOM & P.I. B

A.I.F. HORSMAN.
47th Bttn. Pte. J.G.P. 3152.

K/A 12.10.17.

re: Pte J.G.P. Horsman, 3152 47th Battalion A. Coy. A.I.F. reported killed in action Oct.12th 1917. I have made enquiries among several of my mates, who have supplied me with the following particulars:-. On. the morning of the Passchendaele stunt he was seen coming out wounded, on his way to the R.A.P. he was last seen passing across the sunken road behind the front line, which was close to the Dressing Post. There was a heavy barrage on the sunken road and Railway line.

From that on, we have no further particulars. I heard after the "Hop Over", that he was killed that morning, but as to where he was buried, neither I or my mates have any idea.

Description of Pte Horsman. 5ft. 6 or 7ins in height, between 9½ or 10 stone, fair hair, fair moustache,(shaved it off occasionally), fair complexion, good education, well spoken. I am very sorry I cannot supply you with any more particulars, and trust the above soldier is tha same as your description.

Letter from:- 3201. D.T.H. Ross
40 Quota. No.11 Camp.
HURDCOTT.

B. P.I.

London.
21.6.19.

47th Battn.
A.I.F.

HORSHAM
J.G.P. 3152

Missing 13.10.17.

Your advice from Pte. Falconer coincides with other information I have gathered. A nursing sister - F.J.Wallace (a niece) - wrote to me on 17th ult. from 2 A.G.H. at Boulogne. "A man in Hospital just come down from the lines out of 47 Btn. 8th Platoon same Coy. as Graham Horsman. He was killed 11th Octr. - elderly, nicknamed "Dad" much liked. They had managed to keep him out of the front line until the 9th - mud was frightful. Horsman was pulled out of it several times. but in the end he was killed."

A nephew of mine who is Brigadier-Gnl. commanding 2 A.A. tells me on 30th Dec. he has written to enquire to the Brigade Command. He is a long way off, so could see no one in that Division. "Judging from the date you give me and knowing the place they were in at the time, a very bad one, I should say he was killed and his body hadn't been recovered which I am afraid happens to a great number of the Infantry. I don't think that Division lost many prisoners on that occasion. I will let you know at once should I hear but don't expect to get anything definite" I interviewed a patient in Southall Hospital 3151 Pte. Eglington 4th Pltn knew Horsman well but was wounded in the same action - knew nothing of his fate, but if he was reported missing was probably killed."

I must conclude, I think that we shall never get more definite information and I will have to tell my sister what I have been able to ascertain of her son's probable fate .

47th Battn.
A.I.F.

HORSHAM
J.G.P. 3152

The Anzac Section 3rd Echelon 9 H.Q. B.E.F. tell me beyond "Missing 13.10.17 - no further report has been received."

Letter from P.I. (Uncle) - J.Phillips
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford.
4.1.18.

London.
15.1.18

P.
P.I.
8th copies

4.7.19

3152.
Pte J. S. P. Norman.
47th Bn

See under

3201
D. T. H. Rose

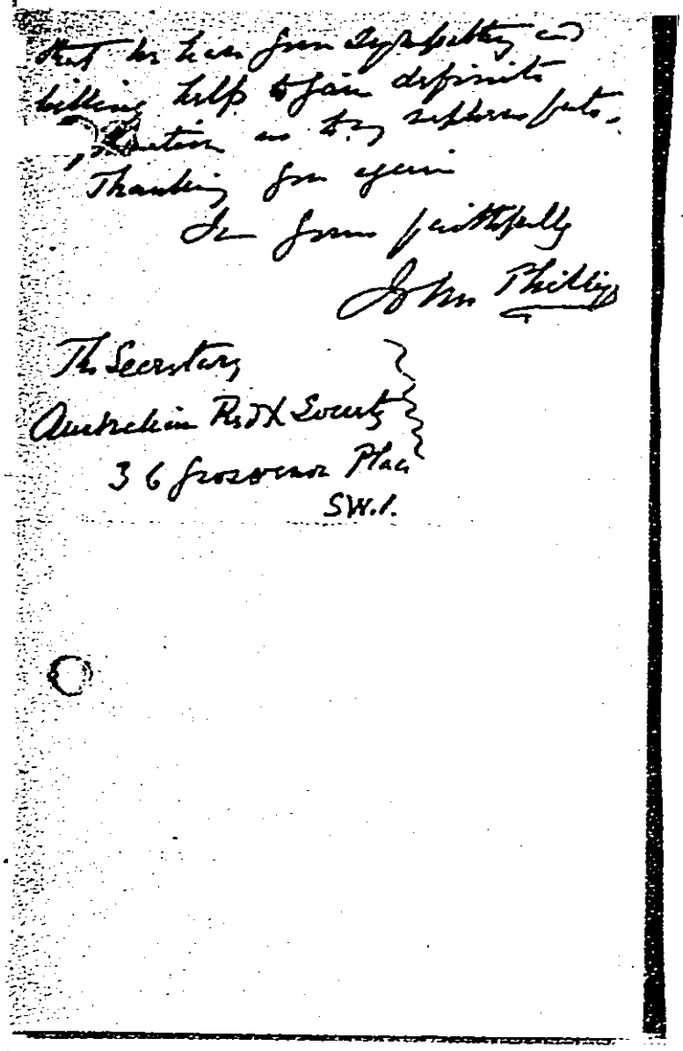
March 6th 1918

GREENFORD LODGE,
GREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

Dear Madam

I thank you for your kind letter of the 4th instant which gives me further and somewhat definite news regarding the probable fate of my nephew, Pte A.G.P. Horsman of the 47th Battalion A.I.F., which your friend have ascertained from Pte H A Patterson now at St Johns Hospital Cheltenham —

I have written to Pte Patterson and asked him if he can put me in the way of getting further information from Horsman's friends in the Battalion which I could send out to comfort his mother and sisters in their sorrow but I feel that you with your organization can do far more than I could and I know



that he has given sympathy and
billing help to gain definite
[illegible] as to my [illegible] [illegible].
Thanking you again
I am yours faithfully
John Phillips

The Secretary
Australian Red X Society
36 Grosvenor Place
S.W.1.

3152 (Cd)
J. G. P. Horsman
47 Bttn Hurdcott
K/A 12.10.17 14th June 1919.
~~B/Opr~~ B. P. 1.
3.

The Secretary
Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau
Australian Red Cross.

Dear Madam.

In reply to your letter of the 2nd inst., re 3152 Pte J. G. P. Horsman, 47th Battalion. A. Coy. A.I.F. reported killed in action 12th October 1917.

I have made enquiries among several of my mates, who have supplied me with the following particulars; On the morning of the Passchendaele stunt he was seen coming out wounded, on his way to the R. A. P., he was last seen passing across the sunken road behind the front line, which was close to the Dressing Post. There was a heavy barrage on the Sunken Road and Railway line. From that on we have no particulars

I heard after the "Hop Over", that he was killed that morning; but as to where he was buried, neither I or my mates have any idea.

Description of Pte Horsman; Height about 5 feet 6" or 7"; weight between 9½ stone and 10 stone; fair hair, fair moustache (shaved it off occasionally) fair complexion, good education, well spoken.

I am very sorry I cannot supply you with any more particulars, and trust the above soldier is the same as your description.

Yours faithfully
3201. D. T. H. Ross
40 Quota. No 11 Camp
Hurdcott.

4th March, 1918.

J. Phillips, Esq,
Greenford Lodge, Greenford,
Middlesex.

Dear Sir,

In answer to our enquiries about your nephew -

3152 Pte.J.G.P.HORSMAN, 47th Battalion, A.I.F.

We deeply regret to inform you that we have received an unofficial report which gives a very sad account, 3192 Pte.H.A.Patterson, 47th Battalion, H/Q Coy, stretcher bearer now at St.John's Hospital, Cheltenham, reports seeing your brother nephew severely wounded in the jaw, and unconscious, as the battalion were driven back. There is no suggestion of his being a prisoner, and we fear that there is little or no hope of his being alive. We are making more enquiries however, and will at once advise you of any information we may obtain.

Assuring you of our sincerest sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

F. St. George
SECRETARY.

February 21st, 1918.

J. Phillips, Esq,
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford, Mddx.

Dear Sir,

As a result of our application to 4485 Pte.A.McA.Falconer, 47th Battalion, A.I.F., for further information concerning your nephew - 3152 Pte.H.G.P.HORSMAN, 47th Battalion, A.I.F. - He now assures us he did not know Pte.Horsman and cannot say what happened to him. He certainly was responsible for the original information which we have already advised you, but since the information was so very slight we think it wise not to urge the matter any further for the informant evidently has no further recollection of your nephew and probably can no longer identify his from many other similar cases. Nevertheless we very much regret having to disappoint you, and trust we may yet succeed in obtaining further particulars.

Yours faithfully,

Miss McConnell

SECRETARY.

Jan. 2nd. 1918.

J. Phillips, Esq.,
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford,
Middlesex.

Dear Sir,

We are sending you an unofficial report which we have received concerning your nephew, 3152, Pte. J. G. P. Horsmon, 47th. Battn. A.I.F. from a man in his unit, 4485, Pte. A. McA. Falconer, an escaped prisoner of war, who certifies he saw your nephew in difficulties and gave him some assistance, about ½ mile back from the line on 12th. October. He was in a very weak condition and informant did not see him again.

This is a very distressing report to send you and we fear bears little enough reasons for hope, but much as it is we send it to you and trust we may shortly have further unofficial information.

With our deepest sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

February 16th 1915.

John Phillips Esq.,
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford.
Middlesex.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter concerning,

No 3152, PteJ C P HORSMAN, 47th Battalion, A.I.F.

we have now ascertained the whereabouts of three informants and their addresses are as follows., No 4334, Pte Arthur Wilson Mayell, is at present with his unit and if you address him,

C/o The 47th Battalion
Australian Imperial Force,
Abroad.

the letter should reach him.

No 3898, Pte I.K.I.Walker, 47th Battalion A.I.F. was reported to be at No 7 Canadian General Hospital, B.E.F., on 24-1-16 and we would advise that you address him there and it would also be advisable to write C/o his Unit.

No 4485 Pte A.McA Falconer, 47th Battalion ,A.I.F., who is an escaprd Prisoner of War is at present at,
No 14 Camp,
No 4 Command Depot,
Dodford, Wilts,
and we would advise you to write to him there.

February 16th 1918.

Hoping you will be successful in obtaining further news of Pte Horsman,

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

9th April, 1918.

J. Phillips, Esq,
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford, Middx.

Re 3152 J.G.P.HORSMAN, 47th Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

We deeply regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported Missing is now reported Killed in Action 12-10-17.

We are making further enquiries in the hope of learning ~~further~~ details of his death and will forward to you any information that we receive.

Regretting the distressing character of this news.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

J.Phillips, Esq,
Greenford Lodge,
Greenford, Middx.

June 7th, 1918.

Dear Sir.

With reference to your enquiry concerning -

3152 Pte.J.C.P. HORSMAN, 47th Battalion. A.I.F.

We regret to inform you that we have now received the following unofficial report from 3252 Cpl.M.McDonald, 47th Battalion, 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, he states that he knew Pte. Horsman well, as they came from Australia in the same boat, and he adds that your nephew was "English born and very short sighted" About 6 o'Clock in the evening of 12-10-17 he saw Pte. Horsman fall into a shell hole at Passchendaele wounded by a bullet. Informant was about 10 yards away, but the Battalion was heavily engaged and retiring at the time and he says that he did not see your nephew after he was hit.*

We regret that we have never been able to secure any definite details as to Pte. Horsman's ultimate fate, but we are continuing our enquiries and hope to send you still further particulars at a later date.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

Mrs Graves

July. 1st.1919.

J. Phillips. Esq.
Greenford Lodge
Greenford. Middlesex.

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your enquiry for 3152 Pte J.G.P. Horsman, 47th Battalion A.I.F. , we beg to inform you that we have received the following report from 3201 D.T.H. Ross, who states that:- "Pte.J.G.P. Horsman 3152, 47th Bttn A. Coy, was reported killed in action on Oct.12th.1917. I have made enquiries among several of my mates, who have supplied me with the following particulars: On the morning of the Passchendaele stunt he was seen coming out wounded, on his way to the Regimental Aid Post. He was last seen passing across the sunken road behind the front line, which was close to the dressing post. There was a heavy barrage on the sunken road and railway line. From that on we have no further particulars I heard after the "Hop Over", that he was killed that morning, but as to where he was buried neither I or my mates have any idea. Description of Pte Horsman, 5ft 6 or 7 ins in height, between 9½ or 10 stone, fair hair, fair moustache,(shaved it off occasionally),fair complexion, good education, well spoken. I am very sorry I cannot supply you with any more particulars."

We deeply regret that there is no further information available, and fear that it most unlikely we shall obtain any fresh news. Should we do so,However, we will again advise you.

With sincere sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

2/17

Mr. J. Phillips Uncle to Mrs. CREENFORD LODGE,
Grateful for any information JP. CREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

Casualty

Private No 3152. J. G. P. Horsman
47. Battalion Infantry
A I F

Reported
"Missing in France. 13th October 1917."

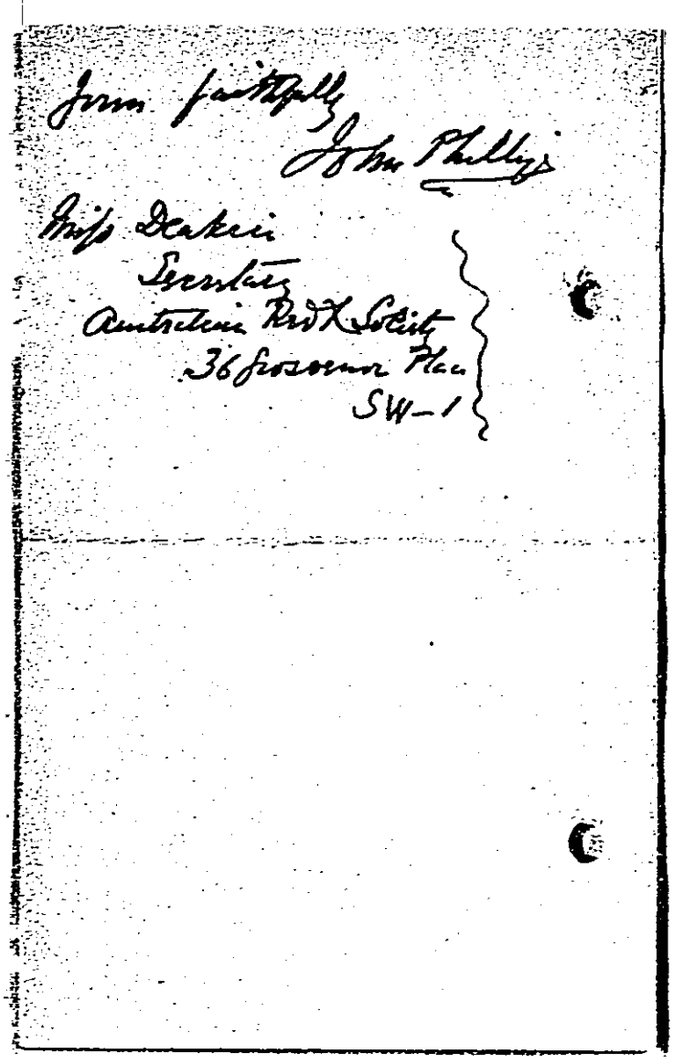
June 8th 1918

GREENFORD LODGE,
GREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

Dear Madam 3152 - 47 Bltn

I am very much obliged to you for the information you give me in your letter of yesterday regarding the further report which has rendered you by Corporal M. McDonald as to the wounding of my nephew Pte J.G.P. Horsman and his probable fate in the shell hole before Passchendaele on the 12th October last -

I will pass this on to my sister Mrs Horsman next week and she will be glad to get the further information - She is now accepting the official report that her son was "Killed in action 12-10-17" but will of course be glad to hear anything more that may reach you regarding her son. I am - Dear Madam


Yours faithfully
John Phillips

Miss Deakin
Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
36 Grosvenor Place
SW-1

3152

J. G. P. HORSMAN

GREENFORD LODGE,
GREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

January 4th 1917

M.18.10 17 Pte B. P.I. Bord: 4

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
36 Grosvenor Place
SW-1.

Dear Madam

I am very much obliged to you for the trouble you have taken to ascertain the particulars of 3152 Pte J. G. P. Horsman and I am upon to check them to forward this claim in the usual manner of action brought by Pte Pendlebury on 4th Oct. letter.

Your advice from Pte Halcrow coincides with other information that I received. Pte Halcrow writes a nice letter & mentions Pte Horsman in the following paragraph — "A man in Hospital just come down from the line out of 47th Battalion 8th Platoon same company as Private Horsman — He says Nicholls No 11 Corporal — Nicholls & Dudley — Richards & Dudley — Richards & Dudley — Richards

3152 February 19th 1918

47 Bltn

GREENFORD LODGE,
GREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

Dear Madam

I write a line to thank you for your letter of the 16th instant giving me present address of the men who have been so good as to say what they could to acquaint me with what is supposed to be the fate of my nephew Private J. G. P. Horsman and I fear there is little chance of my hearing anything more definite.

I thank you very much for all the trouble you and your correspondents have taken to help me

Yours truly John Phillips

POST CARD



The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society
Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau
36 Grosvenor Place
London SW-1

February 8th 1918

GREENFORD LODGE,
GREENFORD,
MIDDLESEX.

Acknowledged
15-2-18

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
86. Grosvenor Place
SW1.

Dear Madam

"Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau"

I am much obliged to you for your letter of yesterday giving me further reports about the fate of my nephew "No 3152 Privet J.G.P. Horsman 47th ~~Battalion~~ A.I.F." the reports being unofficial. I fear your conclusion that "he was killed in action" or that Pte Mayell's statement of "the General Chief that he died from exposure" gives about the last we may hear about the man as it seems unlikely that his body will now be recovered or that he escaped death. I have told my sister what has come to light and the opinion we have formed but of course there may yet be a chance of his reappearance and I will be glad to

Dear Sir any further report that you may require in reply to the further inquiries you are making.

If you can ascertain the dates from Letter or all of your informants shall be glad to hear from them. My thanks for what you have told us

No 4485. Pte A. & A. Falconer 47th (information from letter C 12)
" 3898 - " J. K. Schwalker - 7th Canadian Infy (" " " "