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

2760 Private Herbert Ronald Holdsworth

46th Battalion



1350914N

Havre. 3rd January 1918.

46th A.I.F. 11-4-17 Holdsworth H.H. No. 2760.

K. April 1917. Det D/B.

He was Battn Signaller. I knew him well. I think he came from Northcote, Melbourne. . His number would be between 2600 and 2800, he came in the 6th reinforcement which left Australia on the 20th October 1916 . We were attacking at the Sunken Road near Bullecourt on the 11th April in the early morning I saw Holdsworth wounded through the left arm during the attack. He went down to the D/Station and had his wound dressed and then rejoined. I saw him again about 4 a.m. the next morning, he was on guard over Battn packs. I saw a shell land alongside him and blow him to pieces with about 9 others. They were about 30 yards from me. A detail was sent along to try and find anything - nothing was found of any of the men. I spoke to Holdsworth shortly before this as I went past him. He said his arm was getting on all right.

P.1

Inf:- Pte J.Robertson No.2810.
46th Battn C.Co. X Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

2nd Class Air Mechanic.
Earle Gate. 3156
Aust. Flying Corps Depot.
Halton Camp East.
Wendover -
Bucks.

Jan 23rd

Dear Sir

We have at last ~~succeeded~~ obtained an unofficial report of the death of Pte H. R Holdsworth 2760 - 46 Bn.

Pte J. Robertson 2810 - 46 Bn knew him well at Ypres he came from Northcote - Melbourne - he left Australia a Oct 20 - /16. During the attack at the Sunken Road at Bullecourt on 11 - 4 - 17 in the early morning Pte Holdsworth was wounded through the left arm. But after having it dressed at the D/ Station he rejoined - Pte Robertson saw him about 4 a.m the next morning - he was on guard over the Bn - packs - when a shell landed beside him killing him & 9 others. His death was quite instantaneous + ~~[illegible]~~ no trace could be found of him any of them afterwards.

We are enclosing the enquiries, & assure you of our deep sympathy in the loss of your friend

Yours faithfully
per A. R.
Secretary

THIS REGISTRY [illegible]

INQUIRY BUREAU, 39 BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

Cross Index No. C7888

NAME Stewart D. *No.* 877 *Rank* L/Cpl.
(Surname first)

Regiment 36 A.I.F. *Coy.* C *Plat.*

Hospital Leckhampton Court *Ward* 6

Arrived 21.10.17. *At Front from* 10.16. *To* 10.17.

Home Address Wingham, Malling River, N.S.W.

Depot

GIVES INFORMATION REGARDING:—

Missing man Carey F. *Casualty?* K 21.1.17. Det D/B

Regiment A.I.F *Battln.* 36 *Coy.* C *No.* 719

Red Cross List dated 1.10.17. *page* 39A

Carey was killed by a shell in the trench. I was close to him and saw his dead body, which was very badly smashed up, but his head was not touched. It was in the trenches before Armentieres, near Houphai. He was buried in the Military Cemetery at Armentieres. His grave is properly marked. I knew him well. He was of medium ~~ht~~ height, dark and about 20. He was a friend of mine.

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Any Nickname? *Christian Name?* Fred

Any Tattoo Marks? *Scars?*

When last seen, and where? See above *Date* 21.1.17.

Was it light or dark at the time? Broad Daylight

If killed, was body buried, and where? Yes, see above

Engagement or Circumstance? See above *Place?*

Was the ground held or not? Yes

Were you an eye-witness? Yes

If not, who told you, and when? Give man's No. and Rank, if possible

Any other man of same name in Battln.? No

Searcher's opinion of Informant Very Intelligent

Searcher's Name North C. Davidson

Dated 27.10.17.

RECEIVED
27 OCT 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERR