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

5747 Private
Wilfred Sydney Morey

40th Battalion



1820203G

40th A.I.F. Morey Pte. W.S. 5747.

(K. June 7/17 Dct. D/B)

"I knew W.S. Morey well, by sight. Pte. Roberts of D. Coy (the only Roberts in D. Coy. there was another in B. Coy.) informed me he was killed instantly at Messines. Also Pte. H.J. Smith D. Coy., 40th A.I.F. was with Morey when he was killed".

Eye-witness: No, Told by H.J. Smith, D. Coy., 40th A.I.F.

Description:

Informant: Pte. T.A. Shearing 927,
40th A.I.F.,
Bethnal Green Hospt.

Home address:
Bagdad,
Tasmania.

Written P.C. Smith 24.8.17

Aug. 14/17,
G.L. Ashworth.

40th Batt. A.I.F. Morey, H.S. Pte. No.5747.
D.Coy.

Killed June 7th 1917. Bat. D.B.

I saw him killed instantly by a shell, we were in the front lines at Hey Messines at the time. He was buried by the Pioneers, I could not say where. I knew him in the batt. He came from Egypt and joined up the batt in Lark Hill. He came from the East Coast, Tasmania.

Description. Age. 38. Height. 5-8. Complexion. Fair. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. Exeter. G.J. No.823. D.Coy. 40th Batt.

Taken at
No.4.C.D.Codford.
4-10-17.
F.C.H.

S.Whitmee.
No.4.Command Depot.
Codford.

40th A.I.F.

Morey W.S. 5747

(K. 7.6.17. Det D/B)

"I saw Morey killed by a shell on the morning of June 8th whilst resting in a shell hole after having gained our objective at Messines on June 7th. He died instantly and was buried by 2 or 3 of his friends close to where he fell. He was on the cooking staff but volunteered for the advance and went with with D. Coy."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Sgt. Arnold. L.G. 2518. ~~W.S. Morey 5747,~~ D Coy.
40th A.I.F.,
Beaufort War Hospt.,
Bristol.

Home address:
Hobart, Tasmnaia.

H

20.10.17,

F. Gardiner.

40th Battn.
A. I. F.

Morey.
W. S. 5747

"Killed 7.6.17"

Killed at Messines by shell out in No Man's Land right over by our 4th objective. I saw him killed I knew him quite well, was in same Company as I was. Big square built man just getting grey. We held the ground where he was killed.

Witness:-
Jenkins 861.
W.37. Harefield.

D.F.Dickson.

London.
24.8.17.

H.

D
45th Ba tn
D. Coy.
A.I.F.

Morey.
W.S. 5747

" Killed 7.6.17."

rRefer t o Cpl. R.S. McKenzie 884 D. Coy. 45th Batn who is still in France and who can give all particulars. I saw his grave at Bugstreet Cemetery and it was marked by a cross bearing his number, name, and Unit.

Witness:-
Pte. C. Berryman. 782
40th Battn D. Coy. 16th Pltn.
3rd A.A. Hospital
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
3.9.17.

H

Note written Cpl. McKenzie.
1.9.17.

40th A.I.F.

Morey Pte. W.S. 5747.

(K. June 7/17 Det D/B)

"Morey was killed besides me at Messines. It was on the 8th not the 7th. A shell burst close to us and he was killed by the concussion instantly. We took his pay book, disc etc. but had to go on and he would be buried later by the burying party".

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte. S.J. Beech 2535,
40th A.I.F.,
Northants War Hospt.,
Duston.

3.11.17,
G. McKinnell.

40th Batn
A.I.F.

MOREY Wilfred Sydney
W.S. 5747

"Killed in Action 7.6.17."

Re 5747 W.S. Morey of 40th Batn A.I.F. Killed 7.6.17. reached me on the .8.9.17. I find after making enquiries there has been an error in the 2nd initial "S" his right initial is W.L. Morey.
Details:- 5747 W.L. Morey was killed after the advance of the 7.6.17. on the morning of the 8.6.17. about 7.30.a.m. He was buried on the field whether the grave is registered of not I do not know but would be more liklier than not have a cross at the head with the name inscribed.
Description:- Height about 6'1" Build Big. Features:- prominent, Hair:- dark inclined to be grey and slightly bald from forehead to top of head. Eyes:- grey.
Before enlisting he lived at Triabunna, east Coast, Tasmania
Letter from:- H.J. Knst. 1118
France. 10.9.17.

London.
18.10.17.

H

A.I.F. 40. MOREY, W.S. 5747.

K. June 7th 1917. Dets D/B.

I knew him. He was in B.Coy. I can only tell you that he was killed by a shell in Bethelem Farm at Messines. He was buried there.

Inf: Pte H.A.H.Smith. 930.
No. 1 C.C.
BOULOGNE. 26.10.17.

RAOI

H

Havre 29th October.1917.

40th AUSTRALIANS MOREY, W.S. 5747

K. June 7th.1917. Det. D/B.

I know Pt. Morey; Lyd was his nick name - of D.Co., XVI.Pltn. He came from Tasmania, and was a bridge builder, and labourer. He came with me from Hobart on May 10th.1916, in the 18th to 12th reinforcement in the Transport A49. I saw him grave being dug in the open at Messines to the right of the ridge. I do not know the names of the men on the Burial Party. I was with him when he was killed.

Informant: L.Cpl. R. Riddle, 5736
40th Australians, D.Co., XV.Pltn.
Australian Camp, Mouelles.

RDR.

H

40th A.I.F. Morey Pte. W.S. 5747.

(K. June 7/17 Det D/B)

I saw Morey killed at Messines on June 7/17 by a shell, while in a shell hole. He was buried in the same place.

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Short, thick set, fairly old.

Informant: Pte. E.W. Bassett 996,
40th A.I.F.,
1st London General Hospt.,
Camberwell.

Home address:
Tasmania

H
Cd.
Suff

Nov. 1917,
W. Everard.

C.C. 30.8.17

884

Cpl R. S. McKENZIE
D.Co
40 Batt AIF
BEF

for

5747 W. S. MOREY
D.Co
40 Batt AIF

K. 7.6.17

B.H. 5.9.17.

23.8.17

Pte H. J. SMITH / D.G

40 Battn AIF

B.E.F

for

5747 W. S. MOREY

40 Battn AIF

K. 7. 6. 17

L.B.H.
5-9-17

ack'd
P.C.9-10-17

5747 W.S. MOREY
40 Battn.

R/A 7-6-17
#3

France
10·9·17.

Miss. Deakin.
Dear Madam.

Your enquiry re 5747. W.S. Morey. of. 40th Battn. A.I.F, K.7.6.17. reached me on the 8·9·17. I find after making enquiries their has been an error in the 2nd initial "S," his right initial is W.L. Morey.

Details, 5747. W.L. Morey, was killed after the advance of the 7·6·17., on the morning of the 8·6·17. about 7·30, A.M. He was buried on the field, wether the grave is registered or not I do not know, but would more liklier than not have a cross at the head with the name inscribed.

Description,

Height, about 6'·1" (six feet one inch),
Build, big,
Features, prominent,
Hair, dark inclined to be grey & slightly bald from forehead to top of head,
Eyes, grey,

Before enlisting he lived at Triabunna. East Coast. Tasmania.

This is all the detail & description I can give you re 5747. W.L. Morey. & I hope you will find it of some value.

Yours Faithfully
1118. H.J. Smith.

[signature]