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

2439 Private
Victor Searle

20th Battalion



2450207K

A.I.F.
20th. Battalion.

SEARLE. 2439.
Victor.

"Killed in Action 26.7.16".

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
16.10.19.

S.P.I.

A.I.F. 20th Battn
C.Coy

SERIE
Victor 2439

"Missing 27th July 1916"

Missing 27th July 1916
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters List 10-9-16

Reported - Missing France 26-7-16
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters 21-9-16

Missing 26-7-16
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters List 15-1-17

Now Killed in Action 26-7-16 I.B.
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters, 20-3-17.

London
23-1-17

S & P.I.

A.I.F. 20. SEARLE, B. V. 2439

M. July 26th. 1916.

I heard from Lce. Cpl. Newman, 20th Battn A. Coy. L. M.G. Section that Searle was killed on July 26th.

Informant: A. .Fisher. 2357
No. 2 Aust. Hospital.
BOULOGNE. 12.2.1917.

JDP

S
p. 1.

write Written Lcpl Newman 19.2.17

Havre Jan. 12th 1917

AUSTRALIAN 20 CARLS V. 2439

K.July 26/16

He was in C Co. IX pltn.
He was killed by machine gun bullet early in the morning at 2 a.m. on the 26th July at Pozieres. We did not hold the ground that day but we retook it on 4th Aug. Some bodies were then found and buried. I was not an eye-witness of his death but I was close to him at the start of the attack and when I reached the German lines there were only about 30 of us left and I missed him. He was 5ft.6, about 23, clean shaven born in England.

Informant H.R.Holmkvist 2700
20th A.I.F. C Co. IX pltn.
No.2 Gen.Hosp.(Aust)
G.R.B.

Final Draft

To Mrs James Beale
5 Common Hill
Saffron Walden
Essex

re 2439 J. Beale
20th Bln

The Australian Red Cross Society
(B.R.C.S.)
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No. 6685

Date April 29 - 1918

Regimental Details of Soldier enquired about. No. 2092
Pte. James Freed,
44th Battalion.

Details of Casualty. Wounded

Information wanted. Present Location

Information obtained locally

Dear Sir

I beg to thank you for your very kind communication dated 22nd concerning my Lr No 2439 Pte Victor Searle i am very much distresed at the unoffical information contained therin and can only hope some better news may come of him i am very grateful to note that you will be kind enough to continue your inquire concerning my son & I should be most thankful to receive any other information you can obtain again thanking you for the trouble you have taken yours

Respectfully

L Searle

20nd February -7.

Lance Corporal Newman.
A. Co.,
L.H.C.Section.
20th Battalion A.I.F.
B.E.F.

No. 2486.

V. Searle. 20th Battalion A.I.F.

Rep. Missing 26.7.16.

V. Searle.

2.

26th March 1917.

Mrs James Searle.
5 Common Hill.
Saffron Walden.
Essex.

Madam, No. 2459. Pte. Victor Searle, 20th Battalion
Prev. Rep. Missing 27th July 1916.

Now Killed in action on that date.
~~xxxxxx~~"

Draft 2

RECEIVED
15 SEP 1916
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

Mrs James Searle
5 Common Hill
Saffron Walden
Essex

Ack

Sep. 12th

Dear Sir

Seeing your letter in the daily mail last week referring to tracing wounded soldiers my son has been missing since 1st of July & I would be very grateful indeed to get any news of him this name is Pte Victor Searle 2439. C. Company 20th Battalion 5th Brigade Australian Imperial ~~Force~~ Force - Fran Thanking you Sir for your Kin

Your respectfully
S Searle

22nd January -7.

Mrs James Searle.
5 Common Hill.
Saffron Walden.
Essex.

Dear Madam,

We are very sorry to inform you that the following unofficial report has been received about your son No. 2439. Pte. Victor Searle, 20th Battn. A.I.F.

Informant-No. 2700. Pte. N. R. Hoenkirst, 20th Battn. who on Jan.12th, when he gave the report was in No. 2. General Hospital, B. E. F.-says that Pte. Searle was killed by a Machine Gun bullet early in the morning at 2 a.m. on July 26th, at Pozieres.

They lost that trench but retook it on August 4th. Some bodies were then found and buried. Informant was not an eye witness of your son's death but he was close to him at the start of the attack and only about 30 men reached the German lines. Your son was not among them. He describes your son as 5 ft. 6 ins. in height and about 23 years of age and clean shaven and adds that he was born in England. You will be best able to judge if this description fits him.

We must emphasise the purely unofficial nature of this report. We send it to you just as it is given to us by the informant and we cannot answer for its truth. We regret that we have no further information to send you and are continuing our inquiries in the hope of hearing further particulars.

With sincere sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

V.D

Secretary.

I.A.N