

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

**3302 Private
Richard Morris
Richards**

48th Battalion



2290108M

48th Batt,
A.I.F.

Richards,
R.M. 3302.

"Missing 11.4.17"

Reported died 9.4.17 - Personal effects forwarded

Cert, by German Nachlass List dated 20.8.17

London 15.9.17

P.I.& A.

Mayre

12th June, 1917

48th AUSTRALIANS

RICHARDS, R.M. 3302
Tickle, L/Cpl. A.S.4347

M. 11.4.17

L/Cpl. Tickle, 48th battalion, B Co., 5th Pltn. came from Western Australia and had a Military Medal. Pte. R.M. Richards 48th battalion, A Co., came from Port Pirie, South Australia. He told me that he saw Tickle lying in the German 2nd line trench on April 11th, 1917 with his leg blown off. Richards also had his leg blown off when he told me about Tickle on the 11th April, 1917. We retired shortly after, and left our dead and wounded behind. I am afraid that both Tickle and Richards are dead.

04/66

Informant: Pte J.W. Boucher, 2296
48th Australians, D Co., 14th Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

RDM

RDM

48th Battalion. A.I.F.

RICHARDS. Pte R.M. No. 3302

48th Btt.

Missing April 11/17.

"Richards was wounded in an advanced post about 400 yards to the right of the village of Bullecourt on the 11th April about 10 a.m. his left leg was blown off by a German bomb. We had to leave him in the post when we retired. He was quite conscious when I last saw him and I think that he must have been taken prisoner. He was a great mate of mine. He originally came from Pt Maddock, Wales, but left Australia with the 11th Rein. to the 48th Batt."

Description. Age about 28, height 5'9", dark complexion.

Witness. Sergt Sando, No. 3304, 48th Batt.

Taken at No. 12 T.B.,
Codford, 2-8-17.

No. 4 Command Depot
Codford, 3-8-17.
S.W.

No trace as P/W to
date 8.8.17 -

all
P.1

A.I.F. 48.

RICHARDS. R.M. 3302.

M. April 11th 1917.

I believe Richards was killed but Pte J. Cullen (Known as Mäck) of C. Coy who was acting a S/B may be able to give definite information as I have heard that he knows what became of Richards.

Inf: Pte J.W. Liptrot. 2025.
No. 8 Stationary
BOULOGNE. 28.8.17.

PREL

Written for Cullen 9.9.17

P.I.
G.H.

48th Batt;
A.I.F.

Richards,
Richard, Morris, 3302

"Missing 11.4.17"

Death)

Cert, by Recording Officer on German ^{death} list dated 4.9.17

London 9.10.17

A & P.I.

A.I.F. 48th Battn.

RICHARDS
Richard Morris
3302

"PRISONER OF WAR"

Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Berlin. - Card exists -
Buried at Bullecourt. Enquiries are being made from Army Corps
concerned as to cause and date of death, also grave location.
Left Property Office reports - left 1 Bible, 1 notebook, 1 brooch
in case, photographs. Handed in with list 28/2600 on 19.9.17 for
despatch to England.

Cert. by Information from Capt. Mills 22.3.19

London
26.3.19

A
P.I.

A.I.F. 40th Battn.

RICHARDS
Pte R.M. 3302

"Any news of effects"

With reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo enquiring regarding the personal effects of the above named deceased soldier which were forwarded to England from Germany on the 19th September 1918 - a parcel of his effects received at this Store from the Secretary War Office Imperial Institute, South Kensington, under reference No. 38/2600 not 28/2600, was found to contain 1 new testament wallet, brooch in case and photos. These articles were despatched on the 3rd inst., to Mrs E. Richards, 12 Church Street Tremadoc, Carnarvonshire, North Wales, the mother of the deceased, who is the legatee appointed in her late son's will.

Letter from:- J.H.M. Henry
A.I.F., Kit Stores,
110 Greyhound Rd.,
Hammersmith,
London W.6

London
17/4/19

P.I.
A.

A.I.F. 48th Battrn.

RICHARDS
Pte. R.M. No 3302
(Richard Morris)

Translation of German Death Voucher received from Mr. Wilson
and passed on to A.I.F. Hqrs Nov.1.1919.

Transcribed Extract from
H.N. 585

Intelligence Officer,
at Chief Army Command 6,
To the Roy. Pruss. War Office, Medical Section,
Central Office for Left Property,
Berlin.

A.H.Q. 6.5.17

The Austr. Pte Richards R.M. No 3302, 48th Btn., fell on 9.4.17
near Bullecourt.

Captain & Intelligence Officer,
Undersigned
Attested Berlin 22.10.19
(Signed) JACOBI

Stamp of Roy. Pruss.
War Office,
Med. Section.

London
6.11.19

6-9-17
Rte J CULLEN, C. Co
Skarew
48 Balda IF
BEF
for
330.2 R. M. RICHARDS
48 Balda IF
M. 11. 4. 17
R.
6-9-17
T

RECEIVED
26 JUN 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

Answered
29-6-17

32 Mador St.
Portmadoc
June 25th 1917

C/M

Sir or Madam.

Can you give me any information concerning Pte. Richard Morris Richards. No 3302 A. Coy. 48th Batt; 12th Inf. Brigade Australian Imperial Forces who is reported missing since April 11th 1917. Was last seen in the German front line wounded in the leg during the great Arras battle. I should be very glad if you could give me any further particulars.

and oblige

Yours truly
L. Jones

32 Mador St
Portmadoc

June 30th. 1917.

Mr. L. Jones,
32, Madoc Street
PORTHADOC.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your enquiry for :-

3302 Pte R.H. RICHARDS, 48th. Battn., A.I.F.
who is officially reported Missing as from 11.4.17. and regret
to state that so far we have only been able to obtain one un-
official report which is unfortunately very distressing. The
informant 2296 Pte. J.W. Boucher said that Pte. Richards had his
leg badly shattered on 11th April. He spoke to Pte Richards
who told him that he saw another man L/Cpl. Tickler lying badly
wounded in a German trench. Shortly after his conversation with the
informant the battalion retired and had to leave their dead and wound
ed behind. Pte. Boucher adds that he feared L/Cpl. Tickler and Pte.
Richards must have succumbed.

We regret that this news is so sad and would like to
point out that evidence given by a man's comrades is, of course
purely unofficial. Pte. Richards' name has not come through on
any of the lists of Prisoners of War up to the present, and we hardly
expect it to do so in the face of the evidence given by Pte. Boucher.
However, as soon as any other information comes to hand we shall
immediately advise you. Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in
your anxiety.

Yours faithfully

Wm. Craig

September 20th, 1917.

L. Jones, Esq.,
35, Madoc St.,
Port Madoc.

Dear Sir,

We are very sorry to tell you that

No 3302 Pte. R. M. Richards,
48th Battalion,
C.I.F.

is reported by the German Authorities to have died
on 9.4.17, this information only confirming the fears
we had already entertained as to his fate.

The Germans are in possession of his personal effects
which they are forwarding, presumably to A.I.F. Head Quarters,
through the Recognised Channels and when we receive further
information about him we shall let you know.

He is still reported officially as Missing on 11.4.17
and you will note that in the German Death list the date of
his death and is given as 9.4.17. This must be regarded
as an error which has occurred perhaps in typing of the German
list and we fear that there can be very little hope that he is
alive for all the unofficial evidence already sent you forces

us to the conclusion that he died of wounds.

We are deeply sorry to have to forward this sad news and you may rest assured that as soon as further information is received we shall advise you.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

V.D

L.M.W

Ans.
16-1-18

32 Madoc St
Poitmadoc
Jan. 10th 1918

Dear Madam.

We have been informed by the
war office of the death of Pte. R. M. Richards ^{48B} 3302
A. I. F. as you stated in your last letter.

Can you tell me if anything has come through
as regards to his personal effects and to where
are they likely to come.

I should also be glad if you could get to know
for me the number of his grave. I was told there
was a place somewhere in London where we could
get to know but my friend was not in receipt of
the address. I am sorry to trouble but thought
you could know about the place.

Yours truly
Laura Jones

Miss L Jones,
32, Madoc Street,
Portsmouth.

18th, January, 1918.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry of the 10th. inst. for :-

3302 Pte. R. H. Richards. 48th. Battalion. A.I.F.

who is now reported killed on 9. 17. we fear there is very little ^{hope} of his grave having been registered.

The news of his death was received from the German Death List dated 1. 9. 17. and from this we assume his body to have been buried by the enemy.

In this case it would be impossible for the grave to be located by the Graves Registration Bureau, at the present time.

Concerning your enquiry for Pte. Richards personal effects we would advise you to apply for information concerning them to :-

A.I.F. Kit Stores,
110, Greyhound Road,
FULHAM.

Assuring you of our sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

P. D.

SECRETARY.


Miss Ryan

The O.C.
A.I.F. Kit Stores.
110 Greyhound Road.
Fulham. S.W.

March 31st, 1919.

Dear Sir.

We have received a report that the Kit of 3302
Pte. RICHARD MORRIS RICHARDS. 48th Battalion. A.I.F.
~~who was reported missing 11.4.17.~~ who died whilst
a prisoner of War in German hands, was despatched to
England on 19.9.18 from the Left Property Office, Germany.

The list number 28/2600 stated that the parcel
contained - 1 Bible, 1 Note book, 1 brooch in case & 
photographs.

We would be glad to know if you have any particulars
as to its arrival and if so to whom it was forwarded ~~to~~ you.
With apologies for troubling you and thanking you
in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.

G. W. J.

WAO/MB. 4a.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"AIFKITS," LONDON.



744
TELEPHONES:
HAMMERSMITH 1900. 1901.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE KIT STORE,

110, GREYHOUND ROAD, HAMMERSMITH, LONDON, W. 6.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

Qk. 447/7/4.

15th April, 1919.

Dear Madam,

Very sorry to hear
3302 Private R.H. RICHARDS, 48th Battalion, A.I.F.-
DECEASED.

With reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo enquiring regarding the personal effects of the above-named deceased soldier which were forwarded to England from Germany on the 19th September 1918 - a parcel of effects received at this Store from the Secretary, War Office, Imperial Institute, South Kensington, under reference No. 38/2600 not 26/2600, was found to contain 1 new testament, wallet, brooch in case and photos.

These articles were despatched on the 3rd instant to Mrs. E. Richards, 12, Church Street, Tremadoc, Carnarvonshire, North Wales, the mother of the deceased, who is the legatee appointed in her late son's will.

Yours faithfully,

John Henry
Lieutenant.
O.C., A.I.F. Kit Store.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
36, Grosvenor Place,
London, S.W.1.

April.24th,1919.

Miss Laura Jones.
32, Madoc Street
Port Madoc.

Dear Madam,

With further reference to your enquiry for 3302, Pte.

Richard Morris Richards, 48th Battalion, A.I.F., we beg to inform you that our searcher in Germany has now reported that he was buried at Bullcourt, and he is endeavouring to find out the exact location of the grave.

His Personal effects consisting of 1, New Testament, note book, brooch in case and photographs, were sent back from Germany, and have been forwarded to his mother by the C.C. of the A.I.F. Kit Stores.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary.

48th Batn
A.I.F.

RICHARDS
R. L/Cpl. 3302

"Missing 11.4.17."

Re 3302 L/Cpl. R. Richards. From what I can gather from comrades
He was killed on April 11th 1917. His height was about 5'10" and his
age about 30. His younger brother was a Cpl. and was wounded on
April 11th also.

Letter from:-

Pte. J. Cullen.

48th Batn

France. 12.9.17.

London 26.9.17.

A. J.P.I.

Not written to P.I.

3302 Pte. RICHARDS R.M. 48th Bn.

Croix-Rouge, Geneva.

Same information acc. to list 20. 8. 17.

P.O.W. Information Bureau, Berlin.

Card exists.

Buried at Bullécourt.

Enquiries are made from Army Corps concerned as to cause and date of death, also grave location.

Left Property Office reports: left 1 Bible; 1 notebook;
1 brooch in case; photographs. Handed in with list
28/2600 on 19.9.17. for dispatch to England.

Capt. Mills' Report.

of 16. 3. 19.

Recd. 22. 3. 19.



Australian Red Cross Society.
Prisoner of War Mission.
BERLIN W. 8.
Wilhelmsirasse, 70.

Postal Address:
A.P.O. S40.
COLOGNE.
(British Army on Rhine).

3302. Pte. RICHARDS, Richard Morris, 48th Bn.

- 15.4.19. Berlin Information Buro ~~xxx~~ Nachlass card says,
Buried at Bullicourt Akt Z. 1761.5.17.Z.N.
Disc handed in by N.O. of A.O.K. 6 by S.I. Z.N.
without any further particulars 10.7.17.
- 26.5.19. Z.N. reports that the N.O. of A.O.K. 6 of 6.5.17
B.N. No. 9723 handed the left property except paybook
by Berlin Foreign Office to be sent to London.
Paybook was handed over to Nachweise Buro.
- 14.7.19. A.O.K.6. and H.K.B. Munich report:- Nothing known.

'C' list.

Progress Report No. 9.