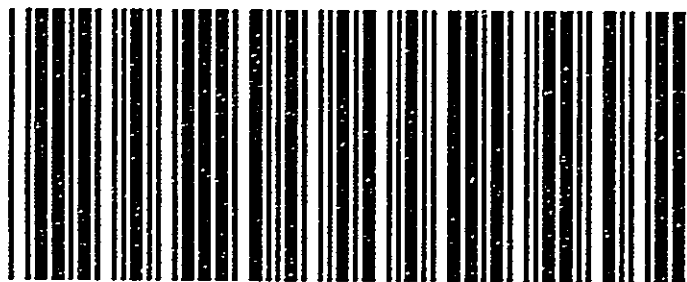


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**6565 Private
Vincent Charles
Mellington**

8th Battalion



1751201H

8th Btn.
A.I.F.

WELLINGTON
Vincent Charles. 6565

"Killed in Action 20.9.17."

No trace Germany

Cert. by Capt. Hills. 10.10.19.

London.
14.10.19.

H.

8th. Battalion. A.I.F.

Hellington. V.C. No. 6365.

K. Sept. 25 / 17. Det. D/E.

I saw him killed by a shell in front of Polygon Wood., and helped to bury him where he fell. No mark was put on his grave at ~~the~~ the time. I knew him well in the company and he came from Rickwood near Ballarat. Victoria.

Description. Height. 5-10. Comp. Fair. medium build.

Witness. Hearn. L. No. 275. "C" Coy 8th. Battalion.

Taken at
No. 4. C.D.
Hurdcott
25-1-18.
S.W.

S. Whitnes,
No. 1. C.D.
Hurdcott.

8th Battn.
A.I.F.

MELLINGTON, V.C. 6565
~~Wellington, V.C. 6565~~
Goodingham. G.S. 3777
Smith C.P. 6347

"Killed 20.9.17"

A shell burst on Menin Road near Polygon Wood which killed outright L/Cpl. Williams, L/Cpl. Cooper, V.C. Wellington, C.P. Smith & N. Johansen and 2 others, wounding Goodingham and L/Cpl. Hope, the latter is still alive and was at Hurdcott 2 days ago. All those killed outright were buried where they fell. I saw the shell burst. Goodingham was taken back, I heard he died but do not know where nor whether he was buried but pretty certain to be buried.

Informant:- J.H. Bartrop 5651
8th Battn. C. Coy.
Hut 18 Westham.

W.A. Read

London.
13.2.18.

H.

Walter Hope
25.2.18

8th. A.I.F.

Mellington. Pte. V.C. 6565

K. Sept. 20/17.

"I was in front of Zonnebeke Farm on Sept. 20/17. in a trench at 10-11 a.m. I saw Mellington lying in a shell hole in front 3-4 yds off and 4 other men. A shell exploded and killed him outright and 3 others too. We buried them that night in the same hole. The graves were marked with a rifle and the names written on paper attached to the rifle."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description: Ginger haired, ruddy, single, abt.22.
known him since Mar.1917.

Informant: L/C. J.M. Ryan. 1047. (M.M.)
8th A.I.F. C Coy. 1X Pltn.
The Princess Christian Military Hos:
Englefield Green.

Home address:
C/o. Mr. & Mrs. J & E. Brain.,
24 Camerton Rd.,
Greenbach Rd., Bristol.

8th Battn.
A.I.F.

MELLINGTON,
V.C. 6565

"Killed 20.9.17."

I saw him blown to pieces by a shell in a post, during the Menin Road stunt, near Polygon Wood, half a dozen others were killed by the same shell. We buried his remains on the spot. Came from Ballarat District, Victoria. Big and young with red hair. A real good sort.

Informant:- J.Hall, 6530
8th Battn C.Coy,

Aldwych

W.Alison.
London.
6.3.18.

M.

8th Battn.
A.I.F.

Mellington.V.C.6565
Goodingham.C.F.3777
Smith.C.P. 6347

"Killed in Action 20.9.17"

Concerning these three men, I have also made enquiries with men belonging to the same unit, no one knows them.

Letter from:- 1849 Cpl.A.V.Hope
8th Battn.
12 Camp 4th Command Depot.
Hurdcott.
6.3.18.

London.
5.4.18.

M.

8th Battn.
A.I.F.

Wellington.
V.C. 6565

"Killed in Action 20.9.17"

NOTE TO MELBOURNE

We regret that a report on above man given by 5651 J.H. Bartrop
8th Battn. at Westham on 13.2.18 was wrongly headed Wellington
V.C. 6565 and sent to you under that name.

London Office
5.4.18. 36 Grosvenor Place.

8th Btn.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.
Pte. No. 6565

Killed in action 20.9.17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5' 8", well built, red hair about 23 years of age, known as Vic. Casualty was advancing at Zillehake. He was laying in a shell hole waiting for the charge to leave when an H.E. shell exploded in the shell hole killing Casualty instantly and 8 other men. I was 10 yards away at the time the shell exploded, and I saw Casualty's body immediately afterwards. He was most severely wounded all over. He was buried in a shell hole near where he fell."

Informant:- J.C. Gasker
No. 6033

Private address
35 Alexander Avenue,
Geelong East.

T.C.F.
4.4.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.