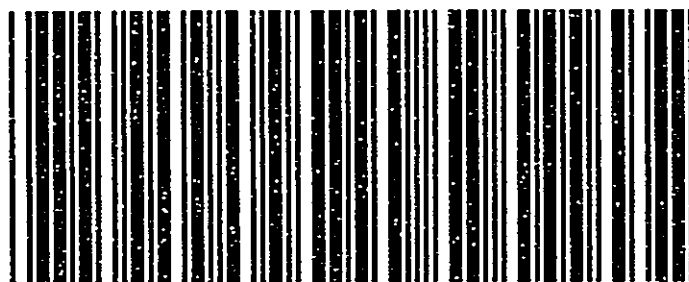


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**3858 Private  
Donald Gunn McKay**

**49th Battalion**



1920504L

49th A.I.F.

McKay, D.G. 3858  
B.Coy.

( 11 Sept. 5th, 1916)

Informant states that, "On Sunday afternoon, 3rd Sept, 1916 near Mouquet Farm, Thiepval, we were coming back over No Man's Land when I saw a man named McKay lying dead with both legs blown off. I think it probable it was D.G. McKay. The man I saw dead was in our Coy.

Reference; Pts. B.L. Williams, 3250  
49th A.I.F. B.Coy.  
Edmonton Hospital  
London, E.

Home address; Riviera,  
H. Quay,  
Brisbane  
Queensland.

2nd Nov. 1916  
J. Burnett.

MM

49th Aus. Imp. Force.

McKay, D.G. 3858

11. Sept 5th 1916.

Informant states that on Sept. 5th 1916 at Mouquet Farm, we made an attack at 6 a.m., it was successful, but we had a hard time. The Germans bombarded so heavily, any of our wounded left out must have been killed; it was too hot for the stretcher-bearers to go out to the wounded, but as soon as possible they made a complete search of the ground; but found all killed. In many places the bombardment had been so heavy they were blown to pieces and buried in. It was not possible for McKay to have been taken prisoner.

Reference; Lieut. W.M. Divine,  
49 Aus: Imp. Forces,  
1 Morston Gardens, S.W.

21.11.16.  
N. Burford Hancock.

Home address: C/o The Cemetery Lodge,  
Toowoomba,  
Qland,  
Australia.

MM

Havre

21st Nov. 1916

49th AUSTRALIANS

McKAY, D.G. 3886

N. 5.9.16.

Pte J. Kelly of the 49th battalion, still with his unit will be able to give full particulars. McKay was killed at Menquet Farm by a shell which blew him to bits in our trenches. His name appeared on our orders as killed.

Informant: Pte R. MacGregor, 3409  
49th Australians,

No. 2 Gen.Hos. (Quasi) Havre

Written Reels 5-12-16  
OJ M

RES

49th Battn.  
A.I.F.,

Mackay  
Pte. D.G. 3858

"Missing 5-9-16"

Your letter of 5th inst. to hand addressed to J. Kelly, 49th Battalion, As this man has disclaimed the letter, on the ground, that it is'nt meant for him, and myself having been a personal friend of No. 3858 Private D.G. Mackay, I am taking the liberty of answering your enquiry. Mackay as you mention has been reported "Missing since Sept. 5th 1916" was last seen in a charge on that day and beyond that nothing more is known.

Cert. by letter from Pte. Jas. Y. Mackenzie, 3862  
49th Battn, B.Coy.  
France.  
14-12-16.

London  
27-12-16.

Off. M.

49th Batta  
A.I.F.

D.C. McKay  
3858

"Missing 5.9.16."

Killed in Action 5.9.16, previously reported Missing believed  
Killed (Court of Enquiry).  
Cert. by A.I.F. HdQtrs. 16.8.17.

B.

London.  
25.8.17.

ack ✓ M.

France  
14/12/16.

M 59.16. 49<sup>th</sup> B.L.

Dear Madam,

Your letter of 6<sup>th</sup> inst. to hand addressed to Kelly 49<sup>th</sup> B.L. As this man has disclaimed the letter on the ground that it isn't meant for him & myself having been a personal friend of No 3858 Pte D. J. Mackay I am taking the liberty of answering your enquiry. Mackay as you mention has been reported "missing" since Sept 5<sup>th</sup> 1916 was last seen in a charge on that day & beyond that nothing more is known. I am sorry I cannot give or even procure any further information but if I do get any more news I will let you know.

I am  
yours faithfully

No 3862 Pte Jas. Mackay  
B. Coy 149<sup>th</sup> B.L.

M.

December 5th.

PTE J. KELLY,

49th. Battn

A. I. F.

B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

We are endeavouring to obtain all possible information as to the fate of:-

3858 PTE. D. G. Mc. KAY, 49th. Batt. A. I. F.

who has been reported "Missing September 5th. 1916" at Headquarter

We have received an unofficial report which lead us to fear that he was killed about that date and we have been told that you might be able to give us some information concerning the above. The slightest details regarding a man's last hours, or the action in which he made the supreme sacrifice for his country are of such comfort to the bereaved relatives. We realise how much we are asking, but trust that you will forgive us.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

K. D.

Secretary

m2d