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

3395 Private
Colin Maclean Walker

36th Battalion



2830509R

36th Battn.
A.I.F.

WALKER
C.M. 3395

"DIED 4-4-18"

I was told by his mate, Pte.Fred Kinnings, of C.Coy. 36th Battn., that he was alongside him at Villers-Bretteneux at 5 p.m. on about April 3rd, when he was killed outright by a bullet through the back of the neck. Walker's initials were C.M. He came with the 8th Rft., small, young, about 18, with fat face. No other Walker in Coy., as far as I know. He was in C.Coy.

Informant. Parsons. Pte.C.T. 3365
36th Battn. C.Coy. 14th Pltn.,
HAREFIELD.

Note:-
Written Kinnings 21-6-18

A.G.Campbell
London
22-6-18

S.

36th Battn.
A.I.F.

WALKER.
C.M. 3395.

"Died " 4-4-18.

At Villiers Bretteneux in the advance was killed by a bullet back of neck. I saw him killed. Knew him well, same Company as me but did not see him buried.

Informant:- C.J.Parsons.3365.
W.30. HAREFIELD.

D.F.Dickson.
London.
21-6-18.

S.

Havre 19th June 1918.

A.I.F. 36. Walker C.M. No. 3395.

D/ 4th April 1918. Det B/B.

This man was in the attack at Villers Bretonneux on the 4th April. His friend F.J.Kummings of B.Coy. who is now away wounded tol me that Walker was first shot in the arm and almost immediately in the back of the head, which proved fatal. The ground is still held. Walker came from Sydney with me in the 8th reinforcement on the 2nd August 1916.

Inf:- Pte L.C.Waterhouse No. 3388,
No.1. Gen. Hos. (Etretat).

Kummings Wounded to
21.6.18
N.W.

WHB.

5

13

36th Battn. B.Coy.
7th Pltn. A.I.F.

WALKER
Pte.C.H. 3395

"Died 4-4-18"

Between Cachy and Villers-Bretonneux, in April, between 5 and 6 o'clock in afternoon. We were counter attacking, I was about 100 yds. away when he was wounded in back. He was raising himself to take his equipment off when shot by sniper through the head. When we dug in that night his body was lying in front of my bay. Body recovered and buried on ground, do not know if any mark put over grave, as we advanced again next day. Christian name Colin, came from Sydney. Papers and effects taken by Pte.F.J. Kinnings, 36th Battn., B.Coy. 6th Pltn., number unknown.

Informant. Thompson, Pte.Norman 3386
36th Battn. B.Coy.,
WEYMOUTH.

A.D.G.
London
21-6-18

S.

Note:- Already written Pte.Kinnings.

36th Battn. B.Coy. 7th Pltn.
A.I.F.

WALKER
C.M. 3395

"DIED 4-4-18"

Additional evidence - I am certain he was killed, date 4th April, 4-30 in afternoon. We came in same Rfts. Mother lives at Ashfield, Sydney.

Informant. Thompson. Pte.N. 3386
36th Battn. B.Coy.,
WEYMOUTH.

A.D.G.
London
21-6-18

S.

36th Batt:

Walker, C.H. 3395.

D. 4/4/18.

He had been wounded at Villers Bretonneux as we were counter attacking. I saw him just about to go to the D/S when he was hit on the head by a M.G. bullet killing him outright.

36th Batt:

Cook, R.J. Sgt. 3290.

13 A. Dartford. 25/6/18.

R.D.B.

S

F.A.

86th Battn.
A.I.F.

WALKER.
C.H. 3395.

"Died 4.6.18."

At Villers Bretteneux Walker was killed. I had a letter from Pte. Kennings 5850 saying he was holding Walker up after he had been hit by a bullet and was almost to say something when a second bullet came and killed him, the three of us were mates I have written his Mother but Kennings can tell more he was with him.

Informant:- nigr Hodgeton? Langton. 3358
W.24. Harefield.

D.P.Dickson,
London.
2.7.18.
E.W.

NOTE.
Kennings written to 2.6.18.

S.

36th A.I.F.

Walker. C.H. 3395.

(D.Apr. 4/18.)
Dets. D/B.

"The Bde. took part in a counter attack on April 4th at Villers Brettoneux, and Walker was killed by a machine gun bullet which went straight through his forehead, killing him instantly. He was about 20 yards on my right flank and I saw him drop. I knew him at home and we were schoolmates together at Petersham, Sydney. He lived at Dulwich Hill, near Sydney."

Eyewitness: Yes. and Pte. Fred Kinnings of 36th A.I.F. can give further information.

Description: About 5'5½" height, dark, slight build.

Informant: Pte. N. Kent. 3429.
35th A.I.F. A Coy. 1 Pl.
Bath War Hpspital. Y.2 Tent.

Home address:
37 Kingston St,
Haberfield, Sydney. N.S.W.

5.7.18.
F.H. Kingsley.

36th Battn.
A.I.F.

WALKER
C.M. 3395

"Died 4-4-18"

Walker was wounded in the arm by a bullet just in front of Villers-Bretonneux while we were attacking, and lay where he was. I saw him wounded and subsequently lying there dead, evidently killed by another bullet. I can't say where he was buried, but he was buried that night. He came from Sydney in Miltiades A 28 leaving on 2-8-17.

Informant. Lee.J.K. 3335
36th Battn. 6.Coy.,
WESTHAM.

W.A.Rand
London
16-7-18
M.I.S.

S.

36th Battn.
A.I.F.

WALKER
Colin McLean 3395

"Died of Wounds 4-4-18"

Re my late friend 3395 Pte.C.M.Walker, 36th Battn. He was killed in action on the 4-4-18 while attempting to crawl to the dressing station, being wounded in the arm, when a sniper's bullet struck him in the head, killing him instantly, and from information I can gather he is buried together with the other 36th Battn. boys who were killed on that date, in a Cemetery just outside the small village of Cachy. He was of small build, being about 5'3" in height, and 19 or 20 years of age, and had no other personal points which would help you to prove his identity. I sent all his personal effects home to his people.

Letter from:- Kinnings, Pte.Fred J.
3330
D.Coy. 34th Battn.,
FRANCE. 20-8-18

London
4-9-18
H.T.

S.

36th Battalion.

WALKER, C.McL.
Private No.3395.

"Died of Wounds.4.4.18".

Informant states that Private Walker was wounded in April 1918 at Villers Bretonneux by a bullet which struck him. Informant was told that he died about a quarter of an hour afterwards. Walker was in Informants Platoon. The Company was advancing at the time, and Informant was 4th in the line from Walker. Informant saw Walker fall; about 6 hours after he fell, Informant and 4 other men carried back Walker's dead body to near the Village. Informant then went back and helped to carry back other bodies to the Village. Walker was medium height, dark hair, clean-shaven.

Informant:- Private C.T.Parsons, 3365,
36th Battalion, C.Company

Private Address:- Broughton Hall,
Leichhardt.

C.E.W.
No.4, Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.
8.11.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F. 36th BATTALION.

WALKER, Private.
No. [illegible] - 1395.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 4/4/18."

Informant described Walker as about 5ft. 5 or 6 high, medium build, fair complexion, aged about 19. Thought to have come from Petersham. Left Australia with Informant per "Miltiades" on 2/8/17.

Informant states that they both belonged to "B" Company. On 4/4/18 the Battalion was checking the advance of the Germans just outside Villers Bretonneux. They had hopped over a bank 4 or 5 in the afternoon and about an hour later when Walker was just behind Informant he was wounded in the leg. Informant told him to crawl away and not to stand, as if he did so he might get hit again. Unfortunately despite this warning Walker half stood up and had no sooner done so than he was shot through the head and killed outright. Informant saw him fall as the result of the second shot. One of his pals got his pay and pocket books. He was buried near where he was killed.

Informant added that Walker was a good lad and well liked.

INFORMANT - Sergeant L.W. Barber - 3275,
B Company, 36th Battalion.
Home Address - "Linden," Good Street, GRANVILLE.

W.E.G.
No.4 Australian General Hospital.
RANDWICK. 13/12/18.

SEARCHERS NOTE. Informant said that if Sergeant R.J. Cook 237 Stanmore Road, Petersham, who has received his discharge, is written to he will probably be able to corroborate the above.

NOTE - Written to Sergeant Cook.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

36th BATTALION.

WALKER, Private,
Colin McLean - 3395.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 4/4/18."

Re your enquiry of 3395, Private C.M. Walker, 36th Battalion. Sorry I cannot give you any information about Private Walker only from what one of his mates told me. It was at Villers Bretonneux on the 4/4/18, we were counter attacking under very heavy machine gun fire. We reached our objective and Walker was alright then, but the Company Commander called for a Noncommissioned Officer to volunteer to take a message back to Battalion Headquarters so I volunteered. When I returned I noticed Con Walker lying on the ground dead, I made enquiries as to how he was killed and I was told the following.

He was hit in the arm by a machine gun bullet; one of the boys told him to crawl out but he raised himself up on to his knees, he had hardly done so when another bullet struck him in the head killing him instantly. The lad that gave me the information has since been killed (3330, Private F.J. Kinnings). I cannot tell you where Walker was buried.

LETTER FROM - Sergeant R.J. Cook.

Home Address - 237 Stanmore Road,
P E T E R S H A M.

21/12/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Kinnings
Fred James
A R 3330 no Number
C Coy. 36 Batn

Present address branded
To Aus base dep P.C.16. Wpr camp
but as a general rule they only stay there 48
Fifty under hours. He is not likely back with unit now
#.g 29.7.18.

3394
C.in Walker
36 Batn

Repts Dept 27.7.18

21. 6. 18.

Pte. Fred Kinnings

C Coy.

36th Battn. A.I.F.

Abroad

abt.

3395

Pte. C. M. Walker

36th Battn. A.I.F.

D. 4. 4. 18.

21. 6. 18

A.I.F.

Aus-10.3.19-

10/3/19

To Australian Red Cross

Sir.

Just a line to know if you could give an information of how I would get a Photo of the grave of 3377 Pte. W.H. Holding of the 36th Battalion who was killed in action at Villers Bretonaux during March or April 1918

respectfully yours

(Staff) 3377. Pte. W.H. Holding
33rd Battalion
Australian Corps School
Rue
France

3395
Colin McL... Walker
36 Battn
D of W 4.4.18

France
20/4/18

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society

Dear Miss Deakin,

Your letter and enclosure of the 10th inst. to hand regarding the late Colin McLaren Walker 35th Batt. and I am sorry to have to inform you that he was killed in action on the 4/4/18 while attempting to crawl to the dressing station, being wounded in the arm - when a shell burst close to him and killed him instantly, and I am unable to gather he was buried together with the other 36th Batt boys who were killed on that date) in a cemetery just outside the small village of Cachy. He was a small build being about 5'3" in height and 19 or 20 years of age, and had no other personal effects which would help you to prove his identity. I send all his personal effects home to his people. I would only be too pleased to send you more information of the 36th Batt boys, who had the great sacrifice on that date - should you need the information.

Yours faithfully
Fred. J. Kimmins

No 3330
Pte Fred. J. Kimmins
D Company
34th Battalion
Aust. Imp. Forces
France

March 11th, 1919.

(Staff) 3377 Pte. W.E. Spalding.
33rd Bttn. Aust. Corps School.
Rue. France.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for 3395 Pte. COLIN McLEAN. WALKER. 35th Battalion. A.I.F. Killed in Action 4.4.18. we beg to inform you that as yet we have no official registration of his grave. We advise you to write direct to the Graves Dept, A.I.F. Headquarters. 130 Horseferry Road. London. S.W.1. asking them to forward a photograph to you as soon as the grave is recorded and giving them your permanent address in England or Australia as some time may elapse before the copy is available. Our searchers abroad are making every effort to locate the graves of Australian soldiers and A.I.F. Headquarters are now dealing with all matters concerning them.

With all good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) L. Griffiths

SECRETARY.