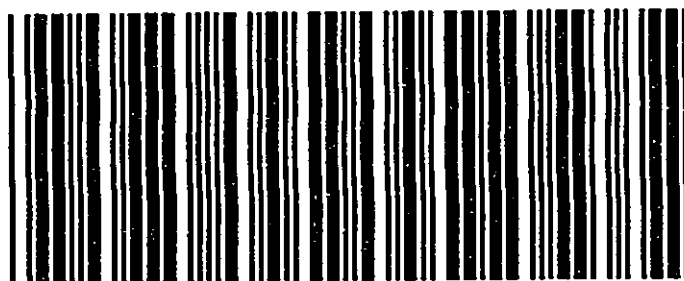


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**1078 Private
Mark Roberts**

41st Battalion



2320203C

A.I.F. 41st Btn

ROBERTS
Mark 1078

"Died 25-5-17"

Died of accidental wounds 25-4-17
Cert. by ⁷/_A I.F. Hqrs 10-8-17.

S

London
11-8-17

41st Batt. A.I.F.

ROBERTS M. 1078.
"A" Coy.

" D. Accid. April 25th '17. Det D & B ".

" Our battalion was at Plug St Wood on April 25th., and in the catacombs. I saw Roberts being carried back to the C.C.S. and later in the day, I called to see how he was progressing. I was told he had died that afternoon. A cemetery is just near the Dressing Station, and he is sure to have been buried there. We left Brisbane together on the Demosthenes, on April 17th '16, and knew each other quite well. "

Description. Hgt 5ft9. Medium complexion. Slight build.

Witness. Pepper J.W. 1075.
41st Batt. "A" Coy.

Taken at Westham Camp,
Weymouth. J.G.W.
September 20th., '17.

S. Whitmee.
No 4 Command Depot.
Codford.

S
Ed
Sgt
H

41st Battn
A.I.F. B Co

Roberts,
M 1078

"Killed by Accident 25.4.17."

I saw him accidentally wounded at Messines. The casualty happened whilst we were receiving instructions on the loading of Lewis M/c Gun and was caused through the insertion of live cartridges instead of dummy ones. The bullets caught him in the legs and body. He was taken to the dressing station about half-a-mile away, where I heard that he died. I do not know place of burial and cannot refer to anyone for further particulars:-

Witness:- Pte. M. Molloy. 418 8/
41st Battn, B. Coy., 8th Pltn.,
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
5.9.17.

S

Havre

31st August.1917.

41st AUSTRALIANS

ROBERTS, M. 1078

D/(Accid:) April 25th.1917. Det. D/B.

I knew Pt. Mark Roberts of B. Co., VIII. Pltn. He was accidentally killed in April 1917 by machine gun fire at the catcombs; he died at Steenwerck and would be buried at the Casualty Clearing Station Cemetery.

Informant: L.Cpl. G.H. Mathews, 475

41st Australians, B.Co., VIII.Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

EDM.

S.

41st Battn.
A. I. F.

Roberts.
M. 1078

"Died of accidental Wounds 25.4.17"

I was his platoon Sgt. at the time of and his death was the result of an accident during a class in instruction in Lewis Guns by the Lewis Gun Corporal. During the working of the gun backwards and forwards a live shot which happened to be in the cartridge went off and shot Roberts in the thigh. The bullet was turned by the bone and penetrated the stomach causing very severe wounds. He was taken to the 56th C. C. Station at Steenwerke but died on the way there. He was buried in a very neat little cemetery immediately to the rear of Ploegsteert Wood and I believe the lads erected a cross over his grave. The cemetery is near the advanced dressing station near Hyde Park Corner. A court of enquiry was held on the accident and the result given as Accidentally Killed. It appeared the charge was amongst the ammunition which had been tested and passed, but the shot went off on the second charge.

Informant:-

Lieut. R. Tredanick

London.

41st Battn. A.I.F.

23.8.17.

London Office 20.8.17.

S.

41st Battn.
A. I. F.

Roberts.
Mark. 1078

"Died 25.5.17"

Pte. Roberts was killed accidentally by our own machine gun.
Buried at the Pont Nieppe Cemetery. A court of inquiry was held on
this case proving it to have been purely accidental and the deci-
sion arrived at exonerated everyone from blame.

Cert: by
A. Mills
Chaplain.
41st Battn.

V.D.

London.
22.8.17.

S.