

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

4895 Private
William Rudd

57th Battalion



23709120

57th Aus. Imperial Force

Rudd, Pte. W. 4895.
G Coy.

(K. Feb. 2, 1917. Dets D & B).

" I knew Rudd quite well, he was killed on the sap in front of Beaulincourt, all that was left of him, for he was blown to pieces and was buried there. We were being relieved, and coming out of the trench, a shell landed on top of us. It was about 3 a.m. early morning. "

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description - " Bill "

Informant :- Pte. Ralph Chasseman, 5074,
G Coy. 57th Aus. Imp Force
No. 3 London General Hospt,
Wandsworth, S. E.

Home address :-
Beaufort,

4. 5. 1917. Victoria.
O. R. Beach.

S

M

57th A. I. P. C Co.

W. RUDD, 4895.

Killed 2.2.17. Details D & B.

Rudd was killed at Stormal Alley going into Messoon
Trench to the right of Flern on the date mentioned. He
was blown up by a shell and killed instantly.

Reference: Pte. P. Cook, 1883.

No. 5 General, Rouen, 7.5.17.

R.M.H.

S
M

A. I. F.

5 Div. Salvage Coy. C.

HUDD, W. 4895.

R. February 2nd, 1917.

It is not correct to describe him as of the Salvage Coy. He was only with them one day and was then told to report back to his unit the 57th battn. He was killed by a shell in Eternal Alley within 10 yards of me. I saw him lying there practically blown to pieces. Five or six of our chaps went back and buried him up on the top of the bank on the left hand side. He was in XV plat. and was one of the originals. He came from Egypt with us and joined the battn. at Perry Post.

Reference:- Sgt. Dow. 3118.D. 57 A.I.F.
No. 4 Gen. Hosp.

HBA.

Staples
12.5.17.

S

M

57th A. I. F. C Co.

W. RUDD, 4895.

Killed 2.2.17. Details D & B.

Rudd was in D Co. He was killed in Eternal Alley coming out from Monsoon Sap. He was blown up by a shell and killed instantly. I was close to him when it happened and witnessed the casualty. He was a middle aged man and an Englishman though he joined up in Australia.

Reference: Pte. H. H. Dunn, 4476.

No.5 General, Rouen. 15.5.17.

XIII

S
M

A. I. F. 57.C.

5th.Div.Salvage Co.

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RUDD, W. 4895.

K. February 2nd, 1917.

He belonged to XIII pl. D.Coy. (not C.Coy.) and was killed in Eternal Alley, Lark Hill, to the right of Flors on February 2nd. I was told this by Pte. W. White, I.T.M. 15 Bgde, attached to 57th battn. White said he was going across near Eternal Alley sometime in February when he saw Rudd's grave with a couple of shell cases on it and a cross bearing his name. Rudd was an Englishman who had settled in Victoria. I believe he went into the Salvage Corps.

Reference:- Pte. M.L. Fitzgerald. 2645. D.Coy.
No. 5 A.D.B.D.

SA.

Etaples
18.5.17.

57th A.I.F.

Rudd, Pte. W. 4895
D. Co.

(K. Feb. 2/17)

"On Feb. 2/17 Pte. W. Rudd was up Le Transloy and was killed by an high explosive shell while coming through a communication trench to the rear. Two other men were killed by the same shell death in each case being instantaneous. My Sgt. Major arranged for an immediate burial of the three men on the spot and I conducted a brief service. A cross was erected on the grass."

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: Medium height and build, elderly, grey hair.

Informant:- Capt. W.P. Trainer,
57th A.I.F.
Kitchenor's Hospital,
Brighton. Sussex.

Home address:

Iona, Drysdale,
May 16 St. Malvern. Victoria.
H. Hargreaves

57/ A.I.F., 5th.Div.Salvage Co.

Rudd, Pte.W. 4895.
C Co.

K. Feb.2/17. Det.D/B.

" The 15th.A.I.F. went over on our left at Le Transloy, on or about Feb.2nd, at 4.30 A.M. Our Coy."D", was at that time being relieved & Rudd was just entering a sap, "Energy Sap", when a shell literally blew him to pieces. Pte.H.Andrews, 4850, D Co., 57/A.I.F. and Sgt.T.Mann, 68, D Co., 57/ A.I.F. arranged with the relieving Coy.of 58/ A.I.F. for the burial of Rudd and another (Pte.Quigg of 57/ A.I.F.) who was killed at the same time.

Rudd has sisters living at Southampton or Portsmouth. It was a direct hit on the sap and when I speak of burial I mean that Mann & Andrews did all that could be done with the help of the relieving Coy.of 58/ A.I.F."

Eyewitness:-

Description:-

*Written Sgt Mann
& Pte Andrews } 28.5.17*

Informant:- L/cpl.Leslie John Falconer, 4482.
57th.A.I.F., D Co., 15 Plat.
Brondesbury Park Mil.Hosp.

Home address:- 32, Martin St., Albert Park, Victoria, Australia.

22/5/17.

H.Constable.

57th Australians

Rudd, W., 4895, ✓
D. Company,

K. Feb. 2nd 1917. Det: D & B.

"We were coming out of trenches, Rudd was about 50 yards away from me in single fire, when a shell exploded and killed Rudd. I heard the explosion but did not see Rudd. Directly we reassembled Rudd's death was remarked upon. The body was not found and I think he was blown to pieces. Rudd was a dark man, about 40 to 50, seafaring."

Eye Witness: No.

Description:

Informant:-- Pte. P. Halpen, 3344,
57th Australians, D.Coy., 13 Pltn.,
2nd Southern General Hosp:
Southmead, Bristol.

Home address:-- Head Quarters, Horseferry Rd.,
London.

21.5.17.

J. B. Allen

S
M
pd
1 more

57th Battn.
C Coy.
A. I. F.

Rudd.
W. 4895.

"Killed 2.2.17."

Re this man's death. Sgt. Mann, D Coy, 57th Battn. informed me that he saw Rudd killed instantly on Feb. 2nd 1917 at Le Transloy Front. Mann had charge of a party of which Rudd was one. They were coming out of front line, during a heavy barrage. Just as they were going over at 11.p.m. a high explosive shell caught them in "Eternal" sap, killing two and wounding two. Rudd was blown to pieces. Ground was held. No burial was then possible. He was about 40, about 5 feet 8", medium build, grey hair. Had been a sailor. Enlisted in Victoria. Was in Egypt and joined Battn. in France about end of April 1916 or early in may same year.

Witness:-

Cpl. R. J. Hunter. 4520.
D Coy. 57th Battn.

A. R. McPhee.

Perham Downs Camp.

London.
31.5.17.

Note Written Sgt. Mann. 28.5.17.

S.
M.

A. I. F. 5th Div. Salvage Coy.
late 57th Btn C. Coy.
late 7 & 29th Btns

RUDD
Wm 4895

"Off. Rep. K. in A 2-2-17"

Trans - Div. Salvage Coy. 27-1-17
Cert. by A. I. F. Headquarters 21-4-17

Killed in Action 2-2-17
Cert. by A. I. F. Headquarters 26-4-17.

London
26-4-17

S & M

57th Battalion. "C" Company
(late 7th Battalion Late 29th Battn.)

RUDD, W.
Private No. 4895

"Killed 2/2/1917".

Informant described Rudd as about 5ft.7" high, slight build, dark, aged about 40.

On 2/2/1917 the Battalion was in Morrison Trenches in front of Le Transloy, River Somme. They were being relieved and just after they were starting to come out Rudd was killed outright by a shell. Informant never saw Rudd hit, but being one of the last to come out Informant saw Rudd after he was hit, and, together with one of his mates, tried to lift Rudd out of the trench and succeeded in doing so. Rudd was left there for the time being and Informant was told by Corporal Vigar that Rudd was afterwards picked up and buried.

Informant;- No. 1987, Private E.J. Wightwood,
57th Battalion.

Private address;- Blackheath, N.S.Wales.

W.E.G.

Anzac Buffet,

Sydney. 6/8/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

68

Sgt T. MANN / D Co

~~57~~ Balt AIF
57 BEF

~~4650~~ Pte H. ANDREWS / D. Co

57 Balt AIF
BEF

for

~~4895~~ Pte W. RUDD
C. Co

57 Balt AIF
5 Div: Salvage Co.

K 2.2.17

F-M

6.6.17

~~28.5.17~~

Chuba
FRONT
Lance

E.D.S. - F. 1294

BY	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Pla- toon	Casualty.
BY	17 A.D. 7.	A.	1	D/W. March 2/17. Det 2/B
INFORMANT	Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Pla- toon	Home Address.
	17 A.D. 7.	A.	1.	19 Bathurst St. Woolahra. Sydney.

first person).
 e retreating. L/ep. Lencham
 up another batt. He got hit in the back
 of Chum, Pte. de Luce of our Co. A. 2 pltn.
 and in back; size of G. Lencham
 had been hit: but there was absolutely
 the rear of the party. The party went
 to the dress. Station on his own. The
 took him to the dress station, where
 buried right behind the Butte de
 2 cross the lads tended his grave

R THE FOLLOWING :-

give name, number, etc., |
 the man who told him. |

man a man was killed, |
 death instantaneous, and was |
 duly buried, and if so where? |

5

ere any other man of same |
 in Co. or Battalion? |

Signature of Searcher } Kate G. Hamilton.
 Date of Report } 23rd May. '17.