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

3914 Sergeant Joseph Rees

21st Battalion



2260305I

21st Batn
D. Coy.,
A.I.F.

REES.
Sgt. J. 3914

"Killed 3.5.17."

I sawhim killed at Bullecourt He was shot through the head by a sniper and killed instantly. We held the ground but I do not know place of burial. Refer to Pte. A.T. Corner 2613 D. Coy., 21st Batn who is in France and who saw him killed and may be able to give particulars of burial I knew him very well he was the only man in the Coy of that name .

Witness:- Pte. P.J. Hughes 878
21st Batn D. Coy., 16th Pltn.
3rd A.A. Hospital
Dartford

W. Oman
London.
25.10.17.

M

Note- written Pte. Corner 28.10.17.

21st Btn.

REES, I.
Sgt. No. 3914

Killed in action 3/5/17.

"I saw Casualty killed on the 3rd May at Bullecourt. We were going over the parapet when he was killed by machine gun bullet. Casualty was buried in No Man's Land."

Informant:- J. Sweeney,
No. 2048 21st Btn.

Private address
Bannockburn,
via Geelong.

H.A.B.
13/11/17.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

Havre 17th November.1917.

21st AUSTRALIANS REES, Sergt. J. 3914

K. May 3rd.1917. Det. D/B.

He came over in the 19th to 21st reinforcement. He was slight built, fair, and about 25 or 26 years of age. He was in D.Co., XVI.Pltn. I saw him killed on a bombing post by a sniper at Bullecourt on May 3rd. He was shot in the side of the head and died at once. He did not speak. We had to leave him there when we were relieved. Sergt. Reilly of the 21st Batt., D.Co., had the papers that were taken off his body.

Informant: A.E. Corner, 2613
21st Australians, D.Co., XVI.Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

GLT.

M

Lieut Reilly

A.I.F. 21st Battn. Sgt. J. REES
3916

Wounded-July-Aug-Sept.

Wounded 28-9-16

Discharged from 2nd Convl. Depot to Base Details Etaples

Cert. by letter from Rouen 13-10-16.

London
13-10-16.

21st Batn
A.I.F.

REES
Sgt. J. 3914

"Killed in Action 3.5.17."

Re Sgt. J. Rees of my Unit. As I am a stretcher bearer and was beside Sgt. J. Rees shortly after he was killed he was shot through the head by a rifle shot.

He was not buried while my Unit was in the line we were relieved the same night, if relieving Unit buried him it would be in the front line.

He was medium build, between 5'8" and 5'9" in height was of fairest complexion. There was a few of his personal belongings taken out of his pocket which I believe were posted home to his ~~epee~~ people by a Sgt. Reilly of his own Company.

Letter from:-
Pte. A. J. Comer. 2613
D. Coy.,
21st Batn

London. 22.11.17.

M

Note written Sgt. Reilly 16.11.17.

16.11.17

Sgt Reilly

~~10 Loy~~

21st Battn. a.1.7.

B.5.7.

Advt.

3914 Sgt. J. Rees

2/1st Battn a.1.7.

K/A. 3-5-17.

16.11.17
a.2.B.

X-Z

(23-10-17)

2613

PTE A.T. CORNER

D Coy. 21st Battn

A.I.F.

B.E.F.

Absent

3914 Sgt. J. REES.

21 Battn A.I.F.

1X 3-5-17

24.10.17

G.1.B.

cable
pc. 4-11-17

2613

Pte A. J. Conner
D Coy 21st Batt

2914 Sgt J. REES
21st Batt

K/A 3-5-17
M
3.

To the Secretary

Wounded & Missing Dept

In answer to your enquiries for Sgt J. Rees of my unit.

On 3rd inst I was a Stretcher-bearer & was beside Sgt J Rees shortly after he was killed, he was shot through the head by a rifle shot.

He was not buried while any unit was in the line we were relieved the same night & relieving unit buried him it would be in the front line.

He was medium build, between 5'8½ & 5'9½ in height, was of a fair complexion.

There were a few of his personal belongings taken out of his pocket, which I believe were posted home to his people, by a Sgt Reilly of his own company.

Hoping this deals with yours & your enquirers satisfaction

Pte A. J. Conner

Note
Written Sgt. Reilly 16.11.17.