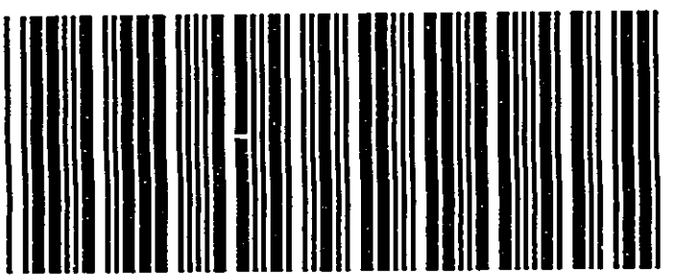
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2702 Private
Ernest Rothwell
Rothery

7th Battalion



2361006I

7th Battn.
A.I.F.

Rothery.
Pte.E.R. 2702.

"Died of Wounds"

This soldier was brought in here on Oct.28th suffering from wounds in the head, back and foot. He suffered from severe haemorrhage, could not be operated on, did not recover consciousness, and died at just after midnight(12.15.a.m.) Oct.29th. He was buried at Nine Elms Cemetery.

Letter from:-
The Chaplain.
3rd A.A.C.S.
11.12.17.

London.
28.12.17.

P.I.
S.

E.R

A.I.F. 7. ROTHERY M. 2702.

D/W Oct 29th 1917. Dets.

I saw Rothery wounded at Westhoek Ridge. He was badly -wounded in the back and I helped to bandage him up This would be towards the end of October, after the 2nd Menin Road affair. He was very cheerful considering the wound he had. S/Bs said he died at the Main D/S He was a late Reinf., a young fellow of about 22.

Inf: Cpl. G.Decasse. 6249. D.XIV.
No. 54 Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 4.1.18. JT

S

P.1

7th Battn
AIF Diary

ROTHERY
M. 2702

"Died of wounds 29.10.17."

I saw him w unded on Westhoek Ridge on a Sunday morning about 6.30. on the 28.10.17. He was hit about the back, and hear with shell fragments and was taken away on a horse ambulance to the Canadian Dressing station. He was quite conscious. I was wounded also and came along in the ambulance with him, and he was chattering to me most of the way, and kept on telling me to cheer up. I cannot give any further details of hime and cannot refer to anyone.

Witness:- Cpl. F.G. Millington 2402
7th Battn D.Coy., 14th Pltn.
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford

W.Oman
London.
9.1.18.

S & P.I.

E.R.

A.I.F. 7. ROTHERY, N. 2702.

D/W. Oct. 29th 1917. Bets.

Rothery was my pal. We called him 'Snowy' In October we had just gone into supports at Zonneboke Ridge There was a barrage on and a shell got the dugout and killed two and wounded 'Snowy' somewhere in the back. I was moving up to a strong post and saw him being carried away by S/Bs. He said he was off to Blighty all right. This was in the day time. do not know what became of him afterwards, I wrote to his mother, getting th address (Surrey Hills N.S.W.) from Nobby Hart, of D Coy. batman to Lt. Wright, who said he was going to write too. Rothery was a very nice fellow always full of fun, and we missed him very much in the Company. He had very light hair and complexion, and came with Reinforcements (6th I think) for the 37th Battalion

Inf. Pte J.G.Jack. 2088. D.XIV.(late XIII)
54 Gen. Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 15.I.18.

JT.

William Hart
25.1.18

Gratitude

308 Ashfield Rd
Rochdale
Q.C.
Jan 27/18.

To
Miss Vera Deakin
Secretary
Australian Red Cross.

I am presuming that your title is Miss Deakin but I feel I must just write and thank you for your great kindness in sending the particulars of circumstances surrounding the death of our dear relative 2703 Pte. E. R. Rothey 1st Batt. A & F.

War is very cruel and such an agency as yours is invaluable in affording relief to hearts that are sad and full of sorrow and anxiety concerning the fate of those loved ones who have to make the "supreme sacrifice". If gratitude is any reward to you in your arduous task, then dear Miss Deakin I wish to tell you that I am very grateful to you for

your letters and sympathy

Yours sincerely

Annie Collinge.

a.d.c. 18. Marlborough St.

Oldham. Jany 22/19.

The Secretary

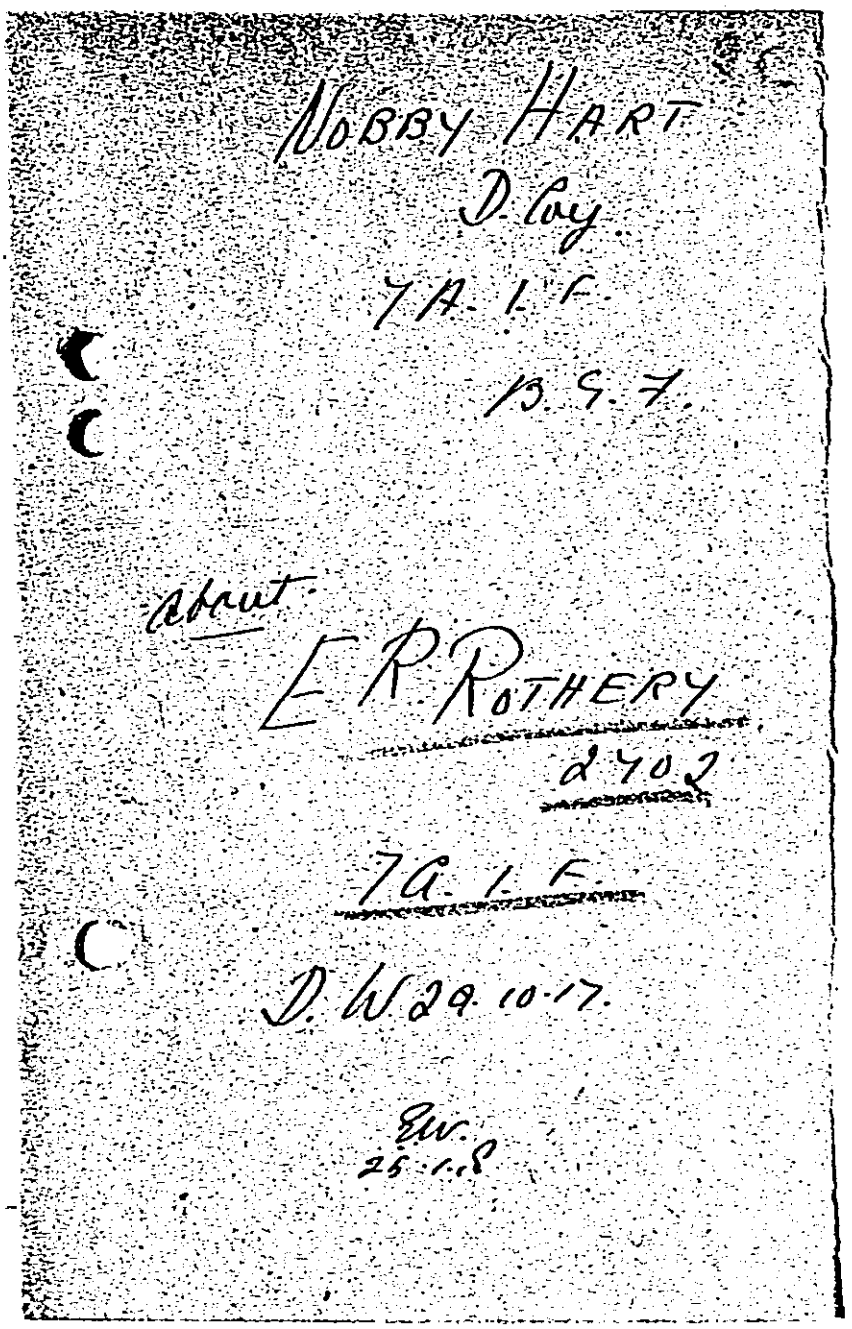
Australian Red Cross Society

Dear Madam

Yours of the 7th Inst. 21st inst. in respect to Pte. A. R. Rotherey for which we are extremely thankful I am at a loss how to express our appreciation for your kindness in gathering this information, & it is a consolation to know these things. I enclose P.O. for 7/6 to be placed to whatever fund you may think most needed at this.

acknowledgement for the kind
services you have tendered us.
I shall do my utmost to get
into touch with Lt. F. G. Skellington
for I am sure we cannot do
too much for these brave
Colonials that have come so far
to defend the Motherland
Again thanking you for services
tendered.

I am Yours respectfully
Walter Bentley


Bobby Hart
D. Coy
7A. 1. F.
B. G. T.

about
E. R. Rothery
2402
7A. 1. F.
D. W 29. 10. 17.

Pte.
25. 1. 18

RECEIVED 24 NOV. 1917
ELTON HOUSE TERRACE.

Qu 308 Ashfield Rd
Rochdale.
Nov. 23rd/17.

h.e. 29.11.17.

To the British Red Cross.
Order of St John.

I am sorry to cause any trouble but am very desirous of getting any news as to the whereabouts of a dear relative, an Australian soldier.

2702. Pte. Ernest Rothwell Rothery.
7th Battalion.
A I F.
France

was the address to which we have been directing

the letters etc latterly. Before that the address was. 7th Batt.
1st A D B. D.
A.G.7.
A letter sent to France on Oct 24th from here was returned with "Present location uncertain". and in indelible pencil was written "Wounded". 31-10-17 so we cannot say whether he was wounded on that date or not. His last letter written from France to me was dated Oct 14th. so it must be that he was wounded between Oct 14th and Oct. 31st

I am afraid it is a serious wound because he would certainly have written to tell me if possible.
If you could give me any news of his whereabouts — if in hospital — and where I should be most grateful.
Thanking you in anticipation and again hoping that you will forgive my troubling you — but anxiety and suspense — are so hard to bear.

Yours sincerely
A Collingé.

308 Oldfield Rd
Rochdale
Dec. 8th/17

Australian Red Cross.
Enquiry Dept.

We are very anxious concerning the fate of our nephew.

2702. Pte Ernest Rothwell Rothery
7th Battalion
Aus. Imp Forces.

We have had no letter or P.S. card from him since Oct. 24th when we received a letter dated

Oct 14.

Our last letter has been returned with the word "Wounded" written across it. We are sure had Ernest been able to write or ask for some one else to write he would have done so — and consequently we are very anxious. Can you help us? Any information will be gratefully received

Yours faithfully
A Collinge.

3 A.C.C.S.
A.I.F.
11/12/17

Rec Lucas Beach.

Evacuated ce
ROTHERY RGE E.R 4th Bde.
Rocky

20.2

Gunshot.

This soldier was brought in here about 28 suffering from wounds in the head, back and foot. He suffered from severe haemorrhage, could not be operated on, did not recover consciousness, and died just after midnight (12.15 a.m.) Oct 29.

He was buried at
Pinetree Cemetery.
With kind regards,
Yours truly,
Felix Newcomb

Australian ... Branch.
... Red Cross Society.
4 DEC 1917
Ans[d]

18 Marlborough St.
Oldham.
Nov 30th 1917.

The Commissioner
Australian Red Cross.

W.S. 10.12.17

Dear Sir.

I should be greatly pleased if you could inform me if you have any record of an Australian soldier, Private Ernest R.Rothery No2702 attached to the 7th Battalion A.I.F. having passed through your hands.

From a letter returned to me, endorsed Wounded Oct 31 st 1917 Not having received any further communication, as a relative I am very anxious to know his whereabouts, trusting you may be able to help me in this matter.

Thanking you in anticipation

I Remain Yours Truly

Walter Bentley

4. 12. 17.

C C's Draft.

The Chaplain
3rd Aust: Cav: Cl: Ch:
B. E. F.

About 2 o'clock
Pte Emrick Rockwell Cathcart
4 Batt. A. M. F.

Died 29. 10. 17.

ROSE 2845	42nd Battalion.	Wounded July.
TAYLOR 10589	13th F.A.B. late 1st D.A.C.	Wounded Aug.Sept.
TRETHEWAY 6809	4th F.A.B.	Wounded Aug.Sept.
TRETHEWAY 6806	4th F. A. B. ?	Wounded Aug.Sept.

RECEIVED
1 - DEC 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

Ans 5.4.12.17

108 Ronald St
Clarkesfield
Eldram
Lancs
Sunday Nov. 25. 1917

Dear Sir

Could you please give me particulars as to where my nephew Pte. E. R. Rothery # 2702.
7th Battalion
Australian. Imperial, Forces
France
is. and how he is wounded, we have had a letter returned and on it was written. wounded 31/10/17. we have had no word from him, which makes us so very anxious. I shall be greatly obliged if you can supply me with the above particulars. I am enclosing stamped addressed envelope for reply.

Yours Sincerely

M. A. Ainley

December 5th, 1917.

Mrs. Ainley,
106, Ronald Street,
Charkesfield, Oldham,
Dancs.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your enquiry for

2702 Pte.F.R.ROTHERY,
7th Battalion,
A.I.F.

we very much regret to inform you that he is officially reported as having died of wounds at 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 29.Lo.17. We are doing out utmost to obtain particulars of his death and burial and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Regretting that we should have to forward such sad news and assuring you of our sympathy.

Your letter of 25th ulto, has been forwarded us from Carlton House Terrace as we are the only organisation that makes inquiries for members of the Australian Umperial Force.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

December 11th, 1917.

Mr. Walter Bentley,
18, Marlborough St,
Cleham, Lancs.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your inquiry for

No 2702 Pte.F.R.ROTHERY,
7th Battalion,
A.I.F.

we much regret to inform you that he is officially reported as having died of wounds at 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 29.10.17.

We are doing our utmost to obtain particulars of his death and burial and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Regretting that we should have to forward such sad news and assuring you of our sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

MR.

SECRETARY.

December 13th, 1917.

Mrs. A.Collinge,
308, Ashfield Rd,
Rockdale.

Dear Madam,

We have received your letter of December 6th, with regard to

No 2702 Pte.E.R,ROTHERY, 7th Battalion, A.I.F.

and deeply regret to tell you he is officially reported to have died of his wounds 29.10.17, at 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station. We have written to the O.C., of this hospital, for all details and will at once advise you as to his reply.

We send you our very sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

C.B. for B.M.C.

January 21st, 1918.

Mr. Walter Bentley
18, Marlborough St,
Oldham, Lancs.

Dear Sir,

We have received the following details of the death of

2702 Pte.E.R.ROTHERY, 7th Battalion, A.I.F.

from the Chaplain at 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station, who says that Rothery was brought there on Oct.28th, with wounds in the head, back and foot. He suffered from such severe haemorrhage, that he could not be operated on and died at 1.15 am on Oct.29th without regaining consciousness. They buried him at the Nine Elms Cemetery.

8402 Pte.F.G.Millington, 7th Btln, 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, says he saw Rothery wounded on Westhoek Ridge, about 6.30.a.m on Sunday morning Oct. 28th He was hit in the back and head with shell fragments. Millington was wounded and was taken with Rothery in a horse ambulance to a Canadian Dressing Station, Rothery was quite conscious and kept chattering all they way telling him to cheer up. We are continuing our enquiries and will endeavour to get more details.

Yours faithfully,

January 21st, 1918.

Mrs. M.A.Ainley,
108, Ronald St, Clarkesfield,
Oldham, Lancs.

Dear Madam,

We have received the following details of the death if your nephew

2702 Pte.E.R.ROTHERY, 7th Battalion, A.I.F.

from the Chaplain at the 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station, who says that your nephew was brought there on Oct.28th, with wounds in the head, back and foot. He suffered from such severe haemorrhage that he could not be operated on and died at 12.15 am on Oct.29th, without regaining consciousness, They buried him in the Nine Elms Cemetery.

2402 Pte.F.C.Millington, 7th Bttn, 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford says he saw your nephew wounded on Westhoek Ridge, about 6.30 a.m.on Sunday morning Oct 28th, He was hit in the back and head with shell fragments. Millington was also wounded and went with Pte. Rothery in a horse ambulance to a Canadian Dressing Station. Your nephew was quite conscious and chattered all the way. telling Millington to cheer up.

We are continuing our enquiries and will endeavour to get more details.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

January 21st, 1918.

Mrs. A. Collinge,
308, Ashfield Rd,
Rochdale.

Dear Madam,

We have received the following details of the death of No 2708 Pte.E.R.ROTHERY, 7th Battalion, A.I.F. from the Chaplain of the 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station, who says that Pte.Rothery was brought there on Oct 28th, with wounds in the head, back and foot. He suffered from such severe haemorrhage, that he could not be operated on, and died at 12.15.am on Oct 29th, without regaining consciousness. They buried him in the Nine Elms Cemetery.

2.08 Pte.F.G.MILLINGTON, 7th Bttn, in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, says he saw Rothery wounded on Westhoek Ridge about 6.30.am. on Sunday morning Oct 28th, he was hit in the back and head with shell fragments. Millington was also wounded and went with Rothery in a horse ambulance to a Canadian Dressing Station. He was quite conscious and chattered all the way, telling Millington to cheer up.

We are continuing our enquiries and will endeavour to get more details.

Yours faithfully,
SECRETARY

Mr. Walter Bentley.
18, Marlborough St,
Oldham, Lancs.

January 25th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of Jan. 22nd, about

No 2702 Pte.F.R.ROTHERY, 7th Battalion, A.I.F.

and the enclosed postal note for 2/6.

Will you kindly accept our sincere thanks for the same.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

L.A.W.