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

645 Sergeant Alexander Moffat Rae

19th Battalion



2230401C

A.I.F. 19th Battn

RAE
Sgt A.M. 645

"Missing Novr"

Missing 14-11-16
Certy by A.I.F. Headquarters list 22-12-16

Now Killed in Action
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters list 22-2-17 I.B. 164

London
27-2-17

S & P.I.

A.I.F. B.Coy. 19th Bth.

RAE
Sgt. Alexander Moffatt
645

"M" 14-11-16"

No trace in Germany
Cert. by Capt. Hills 10-10-19.

London
16-10-19

S

19th A. I. F. Rae, Sergt. A. M. 645.

(Missing)

Informant states that on Nov: 25th Near Flers in an attack Rae had both legs broken by a shell and died in a few hours. They couldn't get Rae out of the trench. At the time they were in a German trench, which was held for two days.

Eye witness:-- No. Was told by Lieut. F. Jones, 19th A. I. F. B. E. F.

Informant:-- Cpl. A. E. Hind 572, 19th A.I.F. Alexandra Hospital, Cosham, Hants.

Home address:-- Australian H.Q. Horseferry Road, London, S.W.

Jan: 16th
Webb.

Written Lt. Jones 25.1.17

A.I.F. 19. Rae Sgt.A.M. 645.

M. 14.11.16.

At a Court of Enquiry held in Dec. it was found that he had been killed in action at Flers on 14th.Nov. I was at the Court and heard the finding. Lt. Jones, D.Co. could supply the details.

SA.

References: Pte.F. Cox. 517. B.Co.
2 A.D.B.D.

Staples.
26.2.17.

19th Batt.
A.I.F.,

Sgt. A.M. RAE 645

"Missing Nov.14/16"

He joined up with me at Liverpool N.S.W. on Feb.9th 1915, was an original Batt. man. Had dark complexion. medium build. about 24 or 25 years of age. He was hit by shell, and had both his legs blown off. and died instantly. It happened during charge of Nov.14th It was impossible to bury him then. I saw him hit, but not afterwards.

Reference:- 684 R.J.Tideswell,
19th Batt. A.I.F.,
Dartford,
5.11.17

London
8.2.17
W.G.J.

P.S.T.

A.I.F. 19. RAE Sgt.A.M. 645.

M. 14.11.16.

Mem Km A (4.2.)

He had both legs broken in the charge at Flers on 14th.Nov. He was brought into our front line trench 24 hours later. I saw him lying there. He died soon after he was brought in. I saw his dead body. I know nothing as to the burial of his body. He belonged to B. VI. "A.

Reference: Pte.D. McEwan. 4487. A.Co.
2 A.D.B.D.

Etaples.
24.2.17.

19th Australian I.F.

Rae, Sgt. A.M. 645

(M. Nov. ~~15~~ 14th 1916)

Informant states "I was told by Bandmaster Rae of the 18th A.I.F. (5th Brigade) that his father Sgt. Rae 645 was alive and now in France with the 16th of the 18th A.I.F.
The Informant was then at Forest Camp, Salisbury."

Eye witness: No. vide above.

Description:

Informant: Pte. G.H. Ratcliffe, 5954
19th Australian, I.F. C. Coy.
Boscombe Hospital, Hants.

10.3.17.
J. Burns.

No 1 Command Depot
Sutton Veny AUSTRALIAN April 27th/18.

RED CROSS.

The Secretary
Missing & Wounded Enquiry Bureau

Information about the following is requested -

Serg: Alex Rae 19th Battn:
K Nov:/16 probably on Somme.
Det: D/B to
Miss E. Green
Canberra
Melody Street
Coogee N.S.W.

A.D. 30.4.18.

Slip

Pte Thomas Laskie No 2798
Machine Gunner B Coy 46th Battn
Mrs T. Laskie, Aronda, Newbury Avenue
Chelsea - Victoria -
Last heard of early in Feb/18
No information procurable at Horseferry Road.

A.D. 30.4.18

I do not know what is done in these cases, or in what form you like the enquiries.

B. J. Germans

Kindly supply six copies of new list when issued + six copies of following Supplement

B.J.G.

Sergeant
Evans
46/1/17.

No 465.
19/10/16.

Sgt. A. M. Reed.
M — 14.11.16.

(Mrs) A. L. Reed
Room 34
A.1.7 HQs

Australian Draft. 30.4.15

Miss E. Green.
Canberra
Melody Sts
Coogee N.S.W.

about.

645 Sgt. A. M. Rae
19 Batt. A.I.F

L.B.

A.I.F. 2nd Btn.

BROADHURST
Ref. Frank 4142

"WOUNDED"

Adm. 14th Gen.Hpl 24-3-18
Cert. by Hpl Index

Trans: 1st Con: Dep: 28-3-18 - [illegible]

Trans: 10th Con: Dep: 29-3-18

29th January -7.

Lieut P. Jones,
19th Australian Infantry Battn.
British Expeditionary Force.

Dear Sir,

We have been requested by our Sydney Bureau to make enquiries for a man of your Battalion:-

645. Sgt. A. H. Rae, 19th Battalion. A.I.F.
Rep. H. Novr. 1916.

and have been told that if we applied to you we should be able to obtain definite information of his death and perhaps of his burial.

We should be very grateful for any details you could send us concerning Sgt. Rae, also if you could add a short personal description or any points that would enable us to satisfy his relatives that no error had been made.

With apologies for troubling you and thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

HP

Secretary. HH

14th February - 7.

Mrs H.T. Heaton,
Room 37.
A.I.F. Head Quarters.
130, Horseferry Rd.
S.W.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your inquiry for No. 645. Sgt. A.H. Rae, 19th Battn. A.I.F. we regret to inform you that an unofficial report has been received from a man of his battalion No. 684. Pte. R. J. Tidesvell.

Informant - who was in No. 3. Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, states that Sgt. Rae joined up with him at Liverpool, New South Wales, on Febr. 9th. 1915. He describes Sgt. Rae as 24-25. years of age, of medium build and dark complexion. During a charge on Nov. 14th. 1916. he saw Sgt. Rae hit by a shell and killed instantly. It was impossible to bury his body then.

We are still continuing the inquiry and hope soon to have further information of a less distressing character to send you. We must emphasise its purely unofficial character

Yours faithfully,

PM for A.A.W.

Secretary.

March 2nd /7.

Mrs. H.T. Heaton,
Room 37 A.I.F. - Head Qrs.
130, Horseferry Road,
S.W.

Dear Madam,

545 Sgt. A.M.Rae - 19th Batth.A.I.F.

Referring to my previous letter intimating that Sgt. Rae was officially reported Missing, I regret extremely that I have to convey to you the news that Sgt.Rae is now officially reported to have been Killed in Action, on Nov. 14th, 1916.

At present we have no details of his death, but we are making enquiries and shall immediately communicate to you any information which we may be successful in obtaining.

Yours faithfully,

Hon Secretary

SECRETARY.

March 8th /7.

Mrs. H. T. Heaton,
Room 37,
A.I.F. Head Quarters,
130, Horseferry Road, S.W.

Dear Madam,

Referring to your enquiry for No. 645 Sgt. A.M.Rae, 19th Battalion, A.I.F., who is now officially reported killed in action on Nov. 14th, we regret to inform you that the following unofficial reports have been received.

No. 4487 Pte D.McEwan who was in No. 2 Aust. Divisional Base Details, B.E.F., says that Sgt.Rae was very badly wounded during the charge at Flers on Nov.14th. He was brought into our front line trench some time later and died very shortly afterwards.

No. 517 Pte F.Cox says that at a Court of Enquiry held in December, it was found that Sgt.Rae had been killed in action at Flers on Nov. 14th, 1916.

Should any further reports be received about him, we shall immediately advise you.

Yours faithfully, Secretary.
P.M.for C.A.W.

29th March 1917.

Mrs E. L. Heaton.
Room 37.
A.I.F. Head Quarters.
150. Horseferry Road.
S.W. 1.

Dear Madam,

On March 2nd we wrote to you to the above address enclosing you that No. 661. Sgt. A.L. Rae, 19th. Battn. A.I.F. was officially reported Killed in Action. This letter has just been returned to us by Lieut. F.C. Rae from B. Company, Wareham, to whom it had been forwarded, evidently in error, as he knows nothing about Sgt. Rae.

We have your name registered as an inquirer for Sgt. Rae and would be greatly obliged if you will let us know whether you still wish us to send you any further information.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

V.B.

Secretary.
(A.A.V.)

AUSTRALIAN BRANCH, BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8858.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
"THE SECRETARY."
WOUNDED AND MISSING
— INQUIRY BUREAU —
AUSTRALIAN BRANCH B.R.C.S.

54. VICTORIA STREET.
LONDON. S.W.

March 2nd 1917.

Mrs. H.T. Heaton,
Room 37 A.I.F. - Head Qrs.
130, Horseferry Road,
S.W.

Dear Madam,

6845 Sgt. A.M.Rae - 19th Battn.A.I.F.

Referring to my previous letter intimating that Sgt. Rae was officially reported Missing, I regret extremely that I have to convey to you the news that Sgt.Rae is now officially reported to have been Killed in Action, on Nov. 14th, 1916.

At present we have no details of his death, but we are making enquiries and shall immediately communicate to you any information which we may be successful in obtaining.

Yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin

SECRETARY.
(WOMEN)

"D" Camp
Wareham

27. 3. 17.

Re 645 Sgt. A.M. Rae
19th Bn.

Dear Madam,

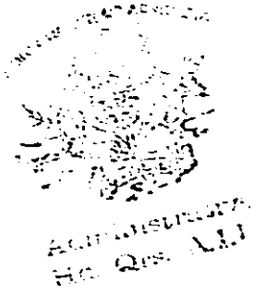
The attached letter has evidently been directed to me in error and I am accordingly returning it to you.

I have no knowledge of the Sgt Rae referred to.

Yours faithfully

H. Rae Lt.

O. H. M. S.



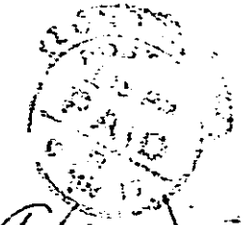
Lieutenant R.G.Rae,

~~4 Group. L Lines~~,

Not at Codford ~~Codford~~,

~~WILTSHIRE.~~

Australian Administrative Headquarters.
Hq. Qrs. L.L.





Australian Administrative Hqrs.
130 Horseferry Road,
London
S.W.

AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS,
130, HORSEFERRY ROAD,
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.