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

178 Lance Sergeant Robert Eagles Stone

33rd Battalion



2640702L

A.I.F. 33rd Battn.

STONE
Robert Eagles
L/Sgt. H.Q. '18

"MISSING 7/5/18"

Killed in Action 7/5/18.

Previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 29/7/18.

London
31/7/18.

S

Stone L/Sgt. R.~~S.~~ E 178

33 A.I.F.

(M. May 7th 1918.)

"L/Sgt. Stone with Lt. Reid and others was taken prisoner by the Germans on 7th May 1918 close to Villers Brettoneux. This was known officially in the Battalion. They were cut off; we tried to get at them next day but failed."

Eye witness: No.

Description: Stout and fair

Informant: L/Cpl. A.P. Forbes 409, 33rd A.I.F., St. Mark's Brighton.

Home address: Smith Street, Summer Hill, New South Wales.

22.6.18.
O. Clapton Gosling.

Lt. GCW Reid
33 Bn
M. 7.5.18 to P/W.

S

H.W.S.

Havre

A.I.F. 33.

28nd June 1918.

STONE L/Sgt. R.E. 178
~~Hann L.F. No. 1833. & 9 others.~~

M. 7th May 1918.

All these boys were either killed or P/W. The circumstances are that about midnight on the 7th May 1918 at Morlincourt, the whole of C.Coy. 34th Battn and II and III Pltns of A.Coy. participated in an attack on a German strong point. The men of 34th Battn leading I was with II Pltn, and got to within 20 yards of the objective. (most of the others being/in advance of me) when the enemy opened on us with his M.Guns. One other man, whose name I do not remember, got back with me to our lines about 12.30 a.m. as far as I know most of the others were killed or taken P/W. I did hear that the Jurd of A.Coy. III Pltn, got back wounded and that he is in Hospital in England.

Inf:- Pte J. Dunker No. 3287.
A.I.F. 33. A. H.
Austra. Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

RDM.

S.

~~Bryans C.R. 3271.~~
~~Blackie C.J. (Cancelled)~~
~~Gallman Sergt "~~
~~Davies L/Cpl "~~
~~Sergt "~~
~~McGarry A.P. "~~
~~Swilks J.F. "~~
~~Stone L/Sergt R.E. 178.~~ S
HANN. L.F.

F.10.

FRANCE.

33rd BATT. A.I.F. STOKE. L/Sgt 8.B. 178.

M.May 7th.1918.

He was in A.Coy and was taken prisoner in front of Corbie. It is only recently that his brother who is in the same Battalion and company, heard from him from Germany. The brother went down the line wounded, racently.

WSI.

Ref ---3/Bearer S.G.Jacobs. 2854.
No 16 Gen. Hospital.
Le Treport. July 27th.1918

No trace at HQs of Mother in Same battalion
No trace as P/W See Gen corres.
Not Sent On.
Now rep. Kia A.

J.H.S.
1.8.17

CL/NRE 2684/4/38.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

C O P Y.

Statement made by No. 409, L/Cpl. FORBES A.P. 33rd Bn. A.I.F.
re No 178 L/Sgt STONE R.E. 33rd Bn. A.I.F.
Missing 7.5.18.

K-A

L/Sgt. STONE R.E. taken prisoner on the East of Villeux Brettoneaux onn 7th or 8th of May, 1918 with several other men who were sent off from us by advancing too far we being unable to retake them at the time. The ground was retaken by us.

Dated at French Convalescent Home.
Auxiliary Hospital, BRIGHTON.

(Sgd) A.P. FORBES.
Statement made and signed before me
(Sgd) L. VINTRAS. Lt. i/c.

NRE
ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON. 4ARC/2684/4/38.

C O P Y.

Statement made by No. 3325 Pte JURD M.H. 33rd Btn.

re No. 178 L/Sgt. STONE R.E. 33rd Btn.
Missing 7.5.18.

K-A

No. 178 L/Sgt Stone R.E. 33rd Btn. was Sgt. of my platoon. He went over with the platoon on the night of the fight, but I know nothing as to his fate.

Dated at Monte Video Camp

(Sgd) M.H. JURD.
Statement made and signed before me
(Sgd) R. Carson. Lieut.

Havre

14th August 1918.

Australians 33.

Stone L/Sergt R.E. 178.

M. 8th May 1918.

He was my Platoon Sergeant. I heard it read out in orders at Sailly le Sec about 3 weeks ago that he was found behind the German lines shot through the heart.

Inf:-Opl Murray [illegible]483.
A.I.F. 33. A. III.
Australian Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

CWSG.

PP.

A.I.F. 83 K

STONE. L/Sgt. R.E. 178.

M. May 7/18.

L/Sgt. Stone was reported missing when we were at Melincourt on May 27. Early in July I was told that the dead body of Stone had been found. R. Phelan of A Co. can give information. Stone was a pale, fair, slim man of medium height.

Reference: R. Nathan, A Co. 2368.
No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 17.8.18.

JWA.

F. A.

C

33rd Battn. A.Coy.
A.I.F.

STONE
L/Sgt.R.E. 178

"Killed in Action 7-5-18"

I have just met Sgt.Woolnough, 9th Training Battn. Fovant, who told me that Sgt.Stone's remains had been recovered, and that he had seen body, and could give particulars.

Informant. Howie. Sgt.J.W. 3074
33rd Battn., A.Coy.,
No. 1 Command Depot,
SUTTON VENY.

Note:-
Written Sgt.Woolnough 19-8-18

E.T.Carter
London
19-8-18

S.

A.I.F. 33 STONE, L/Sgt, R.E. 178.

H.May 7/18.

Sgt. Stone was a thim, fair, quiet man of medium height and a good sport. I heard it given out at the Bn. H.Q. that his body had been found in No Man's Land. Full details can be obtained at the Bn.H.Q.

Reference: F.McGrath, 118. A Co.
No.11 Con.Camp Buchy Nr.Rouen. 31.8.18.

JWA.

33rd Battn.
A.I.F

STONE.
L/Sgt. R.E. 178.

"Killed 7-5-18"

He was of A.Company. III Platoon. At Villers Bretonneux on 7th May, he was in a raiding party. He was killed in No Man's Land, his body was found about 8 days later, another raiding party came across Stone and 7 other men killed all together. His Label number and pay book have been sent into Company Hqrs. Our Company consisting of one Platoon of 33rd Battn and 3 platoons of 34th Bn were in the raid - they were cut up badly and good many taken prisoners. I was not there at the time myself, Sgt Woolnough now in O.T.C. 9th Training Battn Devant, gave me the information. Christian name Bob, came from Tenterfield, N.S.W. Don't know if his body was buried.

Informant:- Pte.E.B.Mc Killop. 2366
33rd Battn. A.Coy. 1st Pl.
WAR CHEST.

A.D.G.
London.
2-9-18.
J.E.A.
Note:- Report Sgt Woolnough.

S.

33rd Battn.
A.I.F.

STONE
R.E. 178

"Killed in Action 7-5-18"

Re Sgt.R.E.Stone. I am sorry to say I cannot make any definite statement. I know he disappeared on the 7-5-18. We heard no more until about the last week in July, when a Battn. of the 5th Div. reported to 33rd Battn. Hqts. that they had found the bodies of 8 of the 33rd Battn. men, and Sgt.Stone was one of them. If you write to the Adjutant, 33rd Battn. A.I.F. you will probably get full particulars.

Letter from:- Woolnough. H.A.
A.Coy. 33rd Battn.,
DEVONPORT. 22-8-18

London
3-9-18
J.E.A.

Note:-
Written Adjutant 2-9-18

S.

33rd Battn.
A.I.F.

STONE.
Robert Eagles. 178.

"Killed in Action 7-5-18"

Re 178. Sgt.R.E.Stone. During an operation on 7-5-18 this Sgt with others, went past their objective in the dark and were cut off. Severe fighting took place when some were killed and the remainder one Officer, 14 of ranks became prisoners. About 2 months later we captured the ground where the above fighting tookplace, and found Sgt Stone's body. He had evidently decided to fight to the end for we found him in holts with a German Officer. Both being of ocurse, dead. He was buried about 1 mile south of Morlancourt.

Letter from:- E.A. Clarence E.Alelsuna. Lieut.Adgt.
A.I.F.

London.
18-9-18.
N.T.

S.

33rd BATTALION, A.I.F.
(late 43rd Battn).

STONE.
L/Sergeant R.E. 178.

"KILLED IN ACTION, 7.5.18."

Stone was killed at Morlancourt. He was found in "No Man's Land" by, I think, the 53rd Battalion, and they would bury him.

I am going to see his people at Alexandria, Sydney. I have his rosary to give to them.

He was 29 to 30 years of age, and about 5'11" in height. He was in "A" Company.

INFORMANT: Sergeant R.J. Phelan, 2659,
"A" Coy, 33rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address: Lands Department, SYDNEY.

G.S.A.
nzac Buffet, SYDNEY.
[illegible]19

SYDNEY BUREAU.

To
Sergt Woolnough
33rd. Battn
9th Training Battn
Tovant
Wilts

About 178 L/Sergt R. E. Stone
A-Co
33rd Battn
A.I.F

Kin A 7.5.18

Written 19.8.18
MGF

To
The Adjutant
33rd Battle
A.I.F.

About
178 Sgt R. E. Stone or Pt
33 Battle
A.I.F.

Kin A. 7.5.18

Written 2.9.18

MRS

Stone L/Sgt. (1) 178

Robert Eagles. 33rd Bn.

K/A. 7. 5. 18. Prin rep M. 7. 5. 18.

Enlisted Armidale.

N/K Father. A. E. Stone.

11 Gerbert Street

Alexandria. Sydney.

N.S.W.

Brother Stone. 520

Horace Sohl 41st

Enlisted Lismore N.S.W. (Lone Tenterfield N.S.W.)

[illegible] Garvin

N/K Mother Katherine Stone.

11 Gerbert St Alexandria N.S.W.

Sydney.

[illegible] 2.5.18

[illegible] A.E.

HQ 11.9.18

Re. Stone (2)

Robt Eagles

~~F. Stone 3 M G Batt 642 [illegible]~~

~~J. Stone 53 Batt 1596. K/A~~ 78 57

~~R " 34 " 2137. X~~

Stone 520

Horace John 41st Bte

Mother K. Stone 11 Garden St. Alexandria

N.S.W.

Stone 3244

Joseph Lawrence. 4th Bte.

23.4.16 N/A Mother N/A above address.

Stone ? 53804

[illegible] 36th [illegible]

N/A Wife Ivorie J. Stone 22 Andrews St.

could not be brother as he was with 33rd Bte on 27.7.18. [illegible] N.S.W.

[illegible] 28.8.18

[illegible] | [illegible] | HQ 11.9.18

5/4/18

To C/pl Coy.

Z/5/A. M. T. M. Batty

A. S. F.

B. E. F.

About pte R. E. Stone

30954

5th Aus. M. T. M. Battery

A. S. F.

B. E. F.

Killed 10/11/17

[illegible]
5/4/18

178
R.E. Stone
33 Battn
Kin A 7-5-18 S2

Ack P.C 28-8-18
N.J.

Devonport.

22 Aug. 1918.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society

Dear Madam.

Your letter of the 19th Aug. reached me today.
With regard to your enquiries about Sgt R.E. Stone, I sorry to say I cannot make any definate statement. I know he disappeared on the 7/5/18. We heard no more until about the last week in July, when a Battalion of the 5th Division reported to 33rd Battalion Head Qrs that they had found the bodies of eight of the 33rd men. & Sgt Stone was one of them. If you write to The Adjutant 33rd Battalion A.I.F. you will probably get full particulars.

Yours faithfully.
H.A. Woolmough
Note A Coy 33rd Battalion,
Written Adjt. 33rd Battn 2.9.18 France.

178
Robert Eagles Stone
33 Batt
Km A 7.5.18
S
2 (ea)

The Secretary
Red Cross Sey
London

Re 178 Sgt R.E. Stone

During an operation on 7/5/18 this Sgt with others went past their objective in the dark & were cut off. Severe fighting took place when some were killed and the remainder 1 Off 14 ORs became prisoners.
About 2 Months later we captured the ground where the above fighting took place & found Sgt. Stone's body. He had evidently decided to fight to the last for we found him on holts with a German Officer. Both being of course dead. He was buried about 1 Mile south of MORLENCOURT.

Yours faithfully
E Helarena Lt
Adjt.

NT