

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

3963 Private  
Albert Meadows  
Whitehead

23rd Battalion



29303070

23rd Australians

Whitehead, Pte: A.M. 3963

( M-March 20, 1917 ).

" I was in the searching party that went out to look for the men we had been compelled to leave behind after the attack on March 20th. We found Whitehead, he had been killed by a shell, we buried him close at hand. "

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description Quite young, about 19, curly hair.

Informant :- L/Cpl. F. Prothero, 1188,  
C Coy. 12th Pltn. 23 Australians,  
Edmonton ( Mary West Ward ) Hospt  
London, E.

Home address :-  
97, St. Andrews,  
Portslade,  
Sussex.

11. 5. 1917.  
M Still.

*Death was instantaneous.*

*He had a brother in same  
Coy. who is with them now, but  
was not at the time of attack.*

23rd A. I. F.

Whitehead, Pte A.M. 3963,

(M. March 20th/17)

"When we were trying to take the village of Vaulx Noreuil (Arras) in March Pte Whitehead (23 C.) was reported missing. Later others took this place and we went back in April salvaging and found his body. I saw them bury him, where they found him. They were being shelled at the time, so had to go back a few days afterwards with a cross they had made. He was a runner."

Eye-witness: He saw the body buried

Description: Medium size, stout build, fair

Informant: L/Cpl Harry Knott, 3856,  
23rd A. I. F., C. Coy, 1st Plat.,  
3rd Southern General Hospital,  
Radcliffe Buildings, Oxford.

Home address:  
15, Arness St.,  
North Carlton,  
Victoria, Australia.

7th May 1917.  
Janet M. Payne.

23rd A.I.F.

Whitehead Pte. A.M. 3963.

(M. Mar. 20th 1917)

"Whitehead was killed at Noreuil. I did not see him but his disc papers and other belongings were brought into the Regiment a short time afterwards. His brother knew all about it".

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Pte. J.G. Robertson 5080,  
23rd A.I.F.,  
War Hospt.,  
Duston,  
Northampton.

May 15th 1917,  
G. McKinnell.

Kia.  
20-3-17

OK all  
62

Havre

17th May, 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

WHITEHEAD, A.M. 3963

M. 20.3.17.

*Noreuil*  
He was in C Co. His body was found by Sergt. W. Wilson of the 23rd battalion, C Co. about the 25th April near Noreuil, 7 or 8 miles from Bapaume. His body had been lying there a week. He was buried where he was found out in the open and a cross was put up. Whitehead's brother in the same company knows about it and said he would write home about it.

Informant: Corpl. P.C. Tothill, 4024  
23rd Australians, C Co.,  
H. S. Warilda.

*Ed.*  
*affch*

*How K in A*

GRB

Havre

16th May. 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

WHITEHEAD, A.M. 3963

M. Mar. 20th. 1917.

He was in C. Company. I know Whitehead well; he was one of two brothers in the same Company. He came from Victoria. He had sandy hair. Sergt. Wilson of C.Co., was in ~~the~~ charge of a fatigue party, of which I was one, at Noreuil. We found this man's body, and the Sergt took the disc. His brother was told about it. He appeared to have been killed outright.

Informant: P.A. Floyd 5947  
23rd Australians, C. Co.  
Ambulance Train, Havre.

*How K in A*

GRB.

Havre

21st May, 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

WHITEHEAD, A.M. 3963

M. 20.3.17.

He was in C Co., Platoon 7. He was missing on the 20th March. I was one of a party sent out about a month later to bury the dead. I saw his body in a field just our side of Leignicourt. We buried him there. A cross was put up later by the company. I knew him well; he was batman to the O.C. of the company. He was 5'3", thickest, very fair, cleanshaven, about 20; single I think.

Informant: Pte R. Ridley, 4475  
23rd Australians, C Co. 12th Pltn.  
H. S. Warilda.

LLH

done 20 17

23rd A. I. F.

Whitehead, Pte. A.M. 3963  
C. Co.

(M. March 20/17)

"I knew Pte. A.M. Whitehead. He was reported missing on March 20th 1917 after a fight at Noureil Village. About 3 weeks or so after the fight I was one of a burial party sent out to bury the dead. I did not actually take part in burying Whitehead but I was told by the others that his body had been found and that he was buried with other Australian soldiers."

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant:- Pte. Bruce, Chas. Walter, 962.  
23rd A.I.F. C. Co.  
1st Southern General Hospital,  
Birmingham

Home address:  
Victoria. Australia.

May 22.  
Geo. Drinkworthy.

Have  
23rd AUSTRALIANS

23rd May, 1917.  
WHITEHEAD, A.M. 3963

M. 20.3.17.

He was in D Co. 3 Platoon? He had a brother in my  
Company. Whitehead, A.M. was missing on the 20th March,  
1917; about a month later, Serjt. Woodland, D Co.,  
6th platoon, found his body at Noreuil, and buried him  
where he found him. His brother (Whitehead) was with  
the battalion when I left it on the 3rd May.

Informant: Corpl. R. Davidson, 381  
23rd Australians, B Co. 8 Pltn.  
H. S. Essequibo

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23rd A. I. F.

Whitehead, A.M. 3963,  
C. Coy

(K. 20.3.17. Dets D & B)

"About the end of March 1917 we had advanced through Bapaume. The Cpl in charge of a burial party came back and told me that he had buried Whitehead between Langencourt and Noreuil. Cpl Cree told me but he was reported missing on May 3rd".

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Cpl Alf Potts, 4238,  
23rd A.I.F., C.Coy, 9 Pltn.  
Southmead Hospital, Ward 9,  
Bristol.

Home address:  
Linderborough,  
Victoria.

13th Oct. 1917.  
Winnington Ingram.



23rd Battn.  
A.I.F.

Whitehead.  
A. M. 3963

"Killed 20.3.17"

I did not see him killed but saw his grave about 200 yards from the Church at Favrieul, there was a cross made by the boys up, a home made cross, by the boys in Battalion. He came over from Aust. with me. We were camped near I and I went over to the grave.

Witness:-  
3919 Rice  
W.33. Harefield.

D.P.Dickson.

London.  
1.11.17.

M.

23rd Btn.

WHITEHEAD, A. M.  
Pte. 3963

Killed in action 20/3/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5ft 5 ins. well built, about 22 years of age, known as "Whifey". He was a 9th Rfets. man of the 23rd Btn. Casualty was advancing at Noreuil and was a runner. I was in the same advance. I did not see Casualty killed but on coming back later on I saw him lying dead between Vaux and Noreuil. He was buried just where he fell and I helped to bury him."

Informant:- D. Greig,  
No. 2153.

Private address:-  
Morris Street,  
Sunshine.

T.C.F.  
3/5/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

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