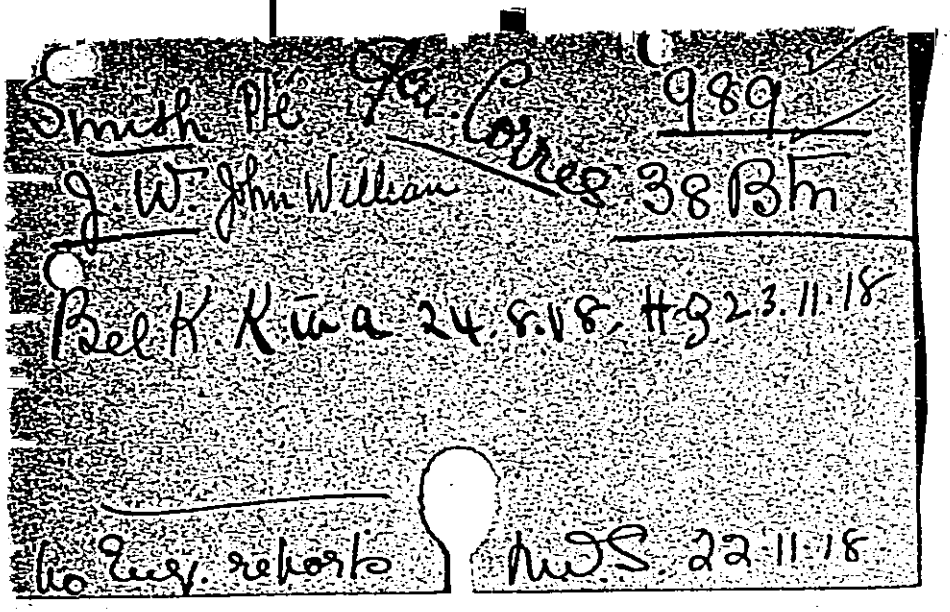
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

989 Private
John William Smith

38th Battalion



2551009M



Smith Pte Fr. Corres 989

J. W. John William 38 Bm

Bel K. K. ma 24.8.18, Hg 23.11.18

No Eng. reports MDS 22.11.18

A.I.F. 30th Battn

SMITH
J.N. 989

KILLED IN ACTION 24/8/18

Buried - Isolated grave 1 mile N of Bray-sur-Somme and 4½ miles S.S.E. of Albert
Cert. by A.I.F. Mgrs List 30/11/18

London
2/12/18

A.I.F. 38th Battn. No Enquiry. SMITH
J.W. 989.

"Killed in Action 24.8.18."

He was in C. Coy, and I saw him killed at Bray when death was instantaneous, he being hit by an aeroplane bomb, which dropped amongst a number of them, when they were in a little cutting on the Sunken Road near Bray about 9 a.m., at which time they were in Action. He was very Badly knocked about on body and head. I knew Him very well, and he came from Lancefield, Victoria. I saw his grave near Bray Chalk Pit, and erected cross on grave, which cross was marked with full details.

Informant:- Cpl. E. Feder, 1832,
C. Coy, 38th Battn.,
3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W.Oman.
London
28.12.18.
H.G. M.

38th Batn.
A.I.F.

SMITH,
J.W. 989. Pte

"Killed 24th August 1918."

"Smith was on outpost duty near Bray when he was killed instantly by on aeroplane bomb. There were 4 or 5 of the men in the outpost and all were killed except one who was wounded. He is buried just outside Bray. The ground was held.

Eye-Witness:- No but saw him just after.
Discription:- He enlisted with me, was my friend.

Home in England, Informant:-Galpen,E.F. 883, Pte.,
None in England. 38th Batn. A.I.F.,
Barry Road Hpl,
Northampton.

Gertrude MacKinnell,
London
15-1-19.
J.E.A.

M.

A.I.F.
38th Btn.

SMITH, J.W.
Pte. 989

K. 24/8/18

I knew Casualty. He was a well built man, about 5'4, fair complexion, about 22 years of age, embarked from Australia with 38th Btn. on s.s."Runic". Casualty was in Support Lines at Bray and was going from there to the Front Line when a Hostile Plane came over and dropped a bomb near him which exploded and killed him instantly. I was about 100 yards away at the time of his death and went over to him but he was beyond all aid. He was buried where he fell.

A Cross with his name, Number and Unit on it was erected over the grave.

Informant:- Pte.H.Waterland, 1929
38th Btn.
Home address:- Lancefield.

N.A.T.
23/5/19

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU–MELBOURNE.