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

10580 Driver Albert Joseph Smith

1st Field Artillery Brigade



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D/W Aug 28th 1917. Dets.

A.J. Smith was in my battery (3) and died from wounds from a bomb dropped in the wagon lines at the end of August. I was in the lines at the time and nearly got a bit myself. He was put on a stretcher and taken away, and I saw nothing more of him after he had left the lines, but I understood he did not live long. We were all standing with the horses while the machines went over. Smith was a terrible big fellow with the thickest legs I've ever seen. He was groom to Major Kingsmill of the battery.

Inf: Shoeing Smith J.A.R.Thomas. 5412.

Ho. 54 Gen Hosp. 1/3.Bty

BOULOGNE. 13.12.17.

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SMITH, A.J. 10580.

D/W Aug 28th 1917. Dets.

He was adriver in my battery and came from NSW He came to us in a draft during Feb 1916 in Egypt. I saw him badly wounded by a bomb, his left arm nearly off and the left leg and thigh badly wut near the Wagon lines at Dickebusch at 12.30 in the daytime. 8 Gothas dropped bombs on us and we had a lot of casualties. He was taken away on a motor ambulance to the Can. Hosp. at Poperinghe. The date of this was about Aug 15th and I was told that he died at No. 31 or 32 Gen Hosp. at Calais about a fortnight later. I spoke to him before he left and he was perfectly conscious although in great pain.

Inf: Embr H.H.Hrading 9919. 1/3 Bty No. 1 C.C.

BOULOGNE. 11.1.18. FD

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215t January 1918.

1st Aust. F.A.

Smith A.J. No. 10580.

D/W 28th August 1917. Det D/B.

His names were Albert John. He was a driver, about 5 ft 8 rather stockily built. He had very thick legs.

I saw him badly wounded about the 11th August by a bomb at Dickebusch in the waggon lines. I put him on a stretcher. He had a great many wounds. I saw in the official reports sent to the Battery that he d/wounds at either the 31st or 32nd General Hospital. Uslais.

Inf:- Bombdr H.a. Harding Ho. 9919.

1st Aust. F.A. 3rd Batty.

Australian Gamp.

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1st Fld. Art. Bugade
A.F.E.
"Died o

Smith. Dvr.A.J. 10580

"Died of Wounds"

The late 10580 Driver A.J. Smith was wounded on Aug. 15th 1917 and admitted from his Unit (3rd Battery) to No.55 Field Ambulance the same day. He was then transferred to No.17 C.C.S. and sent down to No.35 General Hospital by Ambulance Train on the 20th Aug. He was suffering from shell wounds of the left shoulder, legs and buttocks and on arrival at No.35 Gen. Hospital his condition was serious. Hiscondition became very grave on the 27th Aug. and steadily became worse. Death occurred at 1.10.a.m. on the 28th Aug. 1918. The late Dvr. A.J. Smith was buried in Plot. D British Section, Southern Cemetery Calais on Sept. 1st 1917.

Letter from: The O.C. No.35 Gen.Hpl.

Calais 18.2.18.

London. 22.2.18.

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A.F.A. 1 Bde. 3 Patty.

Smith. Dri. A.J. 10580. D/W. Aug. 28/17. Det. D/E.

"We were playing cards out in the open, and the enemy planes came over and dropped several bombs. We attempted to take cover. Dvr. Smith was struck before he could take cover. He was struck in the back, both legs, and through the left shoulder and was taken to the dressing station and reached Calais where he died of wounds. The enclosed were found in his haversack."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description: Enclosed photo of Dvr. Emith given by Informant

Informant: Dyr. A. Coming. 5461.
A.F.A. 1. Ede. 3 Batty
Edmonton Hospital.

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Home address:
69 Balleigh St.,
Windsor, Victoria, Australia.

22/1/18

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14-2-18 1.0 35 # General Lospetal B. E. L M. 10580. Dor. A. J. Smith 1st Keld axtillery Brugade A. T. T. CD. of W: 28-8-14

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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).

d artiller Brigade

We have been asked by the relatives in Australia to obtain the fullest possible details of the Wounds, Death and Burial of the above who died in your Hospital on 28-8and would greatly appreciate any information that you may send us.

With apologies for troubling you.

I remain,

Yours faithfully.

Vina Grakin

SECPEZARY

We have been informed by various C O 's and Adjutants NOTE that the receipt of notes of thanks only cases them unnecessary inconvenzance. Unless you well us to acknowledge your reply to the above We will not so so, and trust that you will understand that we appreciate

it none the lese.

Dear Sir

The O.C.

35th General Hospital

B. E.X.

The Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society.

The late No.10580 Driver A.J.Smith, Australian Field Artillery, was wounded on August 15th 1917 and admitted from his Unit (3rd Battery) to No.55 Field Ambulance the same day. He was then transferred to No.17 Casualty Clearing Station and sent down to No.35 General Hospital by Ambulance Train on the 20th August.

He was suffering from Shell Wounds of the left shoulder, Legs and Buttocks, and on arrival at No.35 General Hospital his condition was serious. His condition became very grave on the 27th August and steadily became worse. Death occurred at 1.10 g.m. on the 28th August 1918.

The late Dyr.A.J.Smith was buried in Plot.N, British Section, Southern Cemetery, Calais, on September 1st 1917.

Calais. 18-2-18. for O.C. No.35 General Hospital.

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