

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

Lieutenant
Forbes Tynan Gold
Smith

3rd Battalion



2540908S

3rd Battn
AIF 20 Rpts

GOLD- SMITH
2nd Lieut. Forbes Tynan Gold

"Died of wounds 2.10.17"

Cabled as 1892 Smith 3rd Battn 20.1 O.E.
Written as 1892 2nd Lieut. Forbes Tynan Goldsmith Smith 23.10.17
Apt. 2nd Lieut. 6.6.1916.
Sailed per Euripides from Sydney 9.9.16.
Taken on strength of 3rd Battn 2.5.17.
detached for duty with 1st Aust Divisional Laundry 10.9.17.
Div Apt. Lieut. 29.9.17.
W/A whilst on detachment 2.10.17
Died at 1st Anzac Central Bureau shellwounds 2.10.17
after passing through the 5th Aust. Fld. Amb.
Buried the Huts Hill. Cemetery 3 miles S.W. of Ypres.
Grave reference 25953 G.
It should be noted in regard to this case that it was cabled as 1892
Smith 3rd Battn the commissioned rank being unfortunately lost in
transmission and this led to AIF Hdqtrs giving a report 19.11.17
that the only Smith of that No who seemed in any way ~~2214~~ to fit the
enquiry which was cabled 22.11.17. Subsequent enquiries were made
by our searchers to find the right soldier or to explain how 1892
Smith 34th Battn had come to be cabled to Defences as Died of wounds
and a report was made 14.1.18 it was felt that it was not an

1 more

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3rd Battn
AIF

SMITH
2nd Lieut. Forbes Tynan Gold

answer to the enquiry and the matter was again submitted to the
verification section 17.1.18 with the reply the 1892 Smith Oliver
Ernest 34th Battn and 182 Smith Geo Thomas 3rd Battn were the only
possible soldiers and neither had died of wounds.
The confusion arose through the No sent being that which this
officer held before attaining commissioned rank which he did
before leaving Australia and under those circumstances no record
of that No. appears on an officers papers as held here it is there
fore better withheld, though if he attained commissioned rank after
sailing from Australia the original No is found in his records.
rt. by AIF Hdqtrs 19.1.18

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London.
21.1.18

Havre

8th February 1918.

3rd A.I.F.

Smith Lieut. F.T.G.

D/W 2nd October 1917. Det D/B.

I knew Lieut. ^{? Smith} since May 1917; he had charge of the 16th Platoon, and was medium height, medium build, dark, about 25, came from Sydney, N.S.Wales, and was known as 'Darky Smith'.

On the 2nd October we were at Baths and Laundry, Poperinghe, of which Lieut Smith had charge. Early in the morning, about 12.30 a.m., an aerial bomb fell. Our sleeping place was next to Lieut Smith's room, and after the bomb dropped we went to look for him. We found him dead. Death had been instantaneous. There were very bad head and body wounds. He was buried at the Canadian C.C.S. at Poperinghe, where there is a large military cemetery. I saw the grave marked by a Battn cross.

Inf:- Pte R. Stuart No.141.
3rd Battn D.Co. 15th Pltn.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

PK.

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3rd Battalion A.I.F.
20th Reinforcements.

2nd Lieut SMITH F.T.G.
(late 1892)

Died of Wounds 2.10.17.

I knew Smith, his name was Forbes, and he joined up in France as an officer-- a 2nd Lieutenant -- and I cannot understand what this book means by "late 1892". Smith was Officer in Command, away from the Brigade, of a Corps Laundry at Reninghelst in the Ypres Sector. He was killed at the laundry by a bomb dropped from an aeroplane. He was the only officer there at the time. I heard of this whilst in the 3rd London General Hospital in November last, from 2nd Lieutenant Smith, known as "Darkie" also in 3rd Battalion, who though related to Forbes, was a great mate. They left Australia together. "Darkie" Smith seemed certain of what he told me about Forbes Smith. Lieutenant Elliott also of 3rd Battalion, confirmed what "Darkie" Smith told me, and could, I think, give even fuller particulars than "Darkie" Smith. Forbes Smith would be buried at Reninghelst probably in the cemetery there.

Informant:-- Lieutenant R.B. Allport,
3rd Battalion, C. Company
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Home address:-- Medbury, Middle Head Road, MOSMAN.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

H.S.O.
12.2.18.

S. Ed. Sept

3rd A.I.F.

Smith. Lt. F.T.G.

D/W. Oct. 2/17

"Smith was killed while asleep ten miles behind the lines by an aerial bomb at Mettran."

Eyewitness:

Description:

Informant: Lt. Whitworth.
3rd A.I.F.
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth.

Home address:

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14/2/18
C.W.N.Lowe.

3rd Battalion,
A.I.F.

2nd-Lt. F.T.G. (late No. 1892)

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"Died of Wounds 2.10.17."

I knew a 2nd-Lieut. Smith who was known as 'Darkie', and came over from England as an officer before Bullecourt. He was rather tall, very dark, medium build, very slow walk, and was, I believe, the only 2nd-Lieut. Smith in the Battalion in October 1917. There was another Mr. Smith who was a 1st Lieut. 2nd-Lieut. Darkie Smith was wounded in the foot on 4.10.17 at Broodseinde Ridge and I met him afterwards at the Casualty Clearing Station near Poperinghe. I spoke to him and he seemed pretty right and I never heard that this Mr. Smith had died.

Informant: Lance-Corporal H.V. Duckworth, No. 3043.
3rd Battalion, "A" Company, 1st Platoon.

Home address: No. 7 Avenue, Balmain East.

H.S.O.
5.4.18.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

S a
B a
SYDNEY BUREAU.