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

1017 Private Cecil Carrington Wamsley

20th Battalion



2850903R

20th Batt,
C.Coy,
A.I.F.

Wamsley,
C.C. 1017.

"Missing"

Killed in Action 26.7.16 - - Previously reported Missing

Cert, by A.I.F.Headquarters dated 22.9.17

London 25.9.17

S.

A.I.F. 20th Battn

WAMSLEY
C.C. 1017

Missing 26-7-16

Still reported Missing in France 26-7-16
Cert. by A.I.F.Headquarters 6-1-17.

S.

London
15-1-17.

20th Battn.
A.I.F.,

Wamsley
C.C. 1017

"Missing 1916"

Witness saw Wamsley on 25th July 1916. Knew him well - went to school with him. Spoke to him on that date. Witness states that they went in on 26th July and went over same day, Wamsley was in same charge. Witness's Company (5th M.G.Coy) supported 20th Battalion. Did not hear of Wamsley again, nor seen him.

Reference;- W.J.Crane, 1661
5th Machine Gun Coy.

London
19-12-16.

S.

20th A.I.F. Wamsley C.C. No.1017.

E. 1916.

He is now back with the Battalion in C.Co.
Informant:- Pte L.J.Hallett No.876.
H.S "Newhaven".
Calais. 19.12.16. EMR.

H.Q.

Asking Hqrs to verify 6.1.17.

Havre

24th January.1915.

Wamsley

20th Australian

WAMSLEY C.C. 1017

M. 26th July1916.

I knew Wamsley well. He came from Gosford, near Sydney. He was in my Company D. Company. Sgt. Butler, D. Company still with Unit, told me that Wamsley was killed by a shell at Pozieres. Sgt. Butler knew that Wamsley and I were friends. I heard also of Wamsley's death from Pte. Hammond, who is still with the Company. I know that Hammond wrote to Wamsley's Mother and he had an answer from her about her son's death.

Informant : Driver J. Humphries
No. 695.
20th Batt.
D. Company.
Double Rest Camp
Havre.

MEDH.

Written Pte Hammond 31.1.17
Sgt Butler "

Havre

Feb. 1st 1917

WAMSLEY

AUSTRALIANS 20

WAMSLEY C.C. 1017

M.July 26/16

I was told by Robinson H.C. 20th A.I.F. that Walmsley was killed by a shell at Pozieres just after leaving the transport and joining up with the infantry. Robinson is still with his unit and can give more details. I knew Walmsley personally.

Informant W.Evans 2237
20th A.I.F. C Co.
No.2 Gen.Hosp.(Aust)
R.B.S.

Written Pte Robinson 7.2.17

20th Australian Imperial Force Wamsley, C. C. 1017.

(M. July 26/16).

" I think I was told by Cpl. Charles Shuttlewood (20. C. X) that he saw Pte. Wamsley (20. C.11or12 and Tom Tuohy (20. C.11 or 12) both wounded out in No Mans Land near the German barbed wire, when he was coming back after an unsuccessful attack. I was not there myself, so I cannot give the date, I think it was near Pozieres, ~~one~~ or Maquot Farm. "

Eye Witness - No. Cpl. Charles Shuttlrwood (20. C X). told him.

Description - Tall, dark, young, well built.

Informant :- Pte. Robert Carnegie. 838,
20th Aus, Imp Force C Coy. 11 Pltn.
3rd Southern General Hospt.
The Base, Oxford.

Home address :-
Radnor,
Carrington Road,
Bardwick, Sydney.

17/2/17.
H.H.Rickard-
Cambridge.

S

Written Cpl Shuttlewood 24.2.17

M. 26-30.7.16.

20th Batt. A.I.F.,	C.X.	ALEXANDER W.H.	2329	BENNIS W.	2338	C.X.
	C.XI	BERRY H W	2332	DOWNIE R.P.	1506	"
	C.X.	KELLY L	906	KELSEY A	907	"
	"	LAVERS G	916	QUAINTON H	2208	"
	C.XI	ROBERTSON. Cpl. A	980	SPINKS F.K.J.	2473	IX
	C.XI	WAMSLEY C.C.	1017	WOOLLETT E.E.	2246	X

These men all went over in the charge at Pozieres on 26th July with me. We got across into the German 1st line at about 3 a.m. on the morning of 27th July. About ½ hour later we had to retire on account of want of supports and lack of bombs. At mid-day we had roll-call and they were all missing. They must either be killed or prisoners and there is little hope of their being prisoners. The majority of the casualties were caused on the way across by M.G. fire since we had to go about 150 yards

under intense M.G. fire in a dawning light. I know them all well. They were in platoons as marked. I saw most of them on the way across. Berry was a signaller. Quainton was a L/C. Robertson was a Sgt. Woollett should be Willett.

Reference:- Pte A.M.Roberts 979 C.X.8
2 A.D.B.D.
Etaples
10.3.17. SA.

One slip sent to G for grant
14-3-17

20th Battalion A.I.F. WAMSLEY C.C. Pte. 1017
C. Company

M 26-7-16

I knew Wamsley in Egypt and Gallipoli. He transferred in Egypt into the 20th Transport Service and rejoined my Company about a week before 26th July, 1916.

He was about 30 - 32 years, of medium build, dark curly hair, and was about 5 ft. 10 ins. He was known as "Curly". I believe he came from the country.

In July, 1916, he came back into my Company out of Transport. I was with him for a week after the attack at Pozieres. We charged together about 2 a.m. on 26/7/16. I was wounded early in the charge in the 1st line of German trenches. At the finish of the charge, about 7 - 8 a.m. I was returning to our lines to be attended to, when I met Walmsley, who was wounded in the chest or arm. I stopped in a shell hole and he went on. I moved on later and took shelter in a shell hole where I found Walmsley. He had been badly wounded by a machine gun. He had about 8 bullet wounds. I cut off his trousers and bound him up, but whilst doing so, he died in my arms. He could not speak when I met him the second time. He was semi-conscious. I laid him down dead, and made my way back to our lines.

S

I was taken to the hospital, but I understand the Battalion went over the same ground several nights afterwards.

I never heard anything more of him. Walmsley had a slight moustache. I believe Walmsley left Sydney in the "Berrima" in June, 1915. He was well known in the Battalion as "Curly Walmsley".

Reference:-- WALSH H.J. Pte. 1782,
20th Battalion, C. Company.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Note:-- An excellent witness.

C.H.R.M.
15/2/17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

7th February, /7.

No.1017, C. C. WAMSLEY 20th Battalion A.I.F.
reported "Missing on 26-7-16,

--- Wamsley,

P.M for 7.M.

Pte. Hammond,
C. Company,
20th Aust. Inf. Bn.

7th February -7

Sergeant Butler,
C. Company.
20th Australian Infantry Battalion.
B. E. F.

No. 1017

C. C. Wamsley. 20th Battalion A. I. F.
reported missing 26.7.16.

C. C. Wamsley

P.M for 7.17

7th February - 7

Private Robinson,
Head Quarters,
20th Australian Infantry Battalion.
B. E. F,

No. 1017. C. C. Wamsley. 20th Battn. A.I.F.
Rep. L. 26.7.16.

C. C. Wamsley.

P.M for 7.M.

February 26th 7

Corporal Chas. Shuttleworth,
C. Coy
20th Batt , A.I.F.,
B.E.F.

1017 C.C. Wamsley, 20th Batt, A.I.F. reported missing - 26.7.16

C.C. Wamsley

P.M for F.M.