

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

**2794B Private
Charles Harold Smelt**

10th Battalion



2530209L

10th Btn.
A.I.F.

~~SMITH~~
Charles Harold. 2794.

~~Killed in Action 19/25.8.16~~

No trace Germany Cert. by Opt. Hills, 10.10.19.

London.
15.10.19.

QUIP

Chapman
A.

Cause of Concoct

YANKEE LIST

CONCOCT

A.I.F. 10th Btn

C.H.

SMELT
2794

"M. 19-8-16"

Killed in Action 19-23-8-16 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 16-7-17.

A.

London
16-7-17

A.I.F. 10th Batta

SHEET
C.H. 2794B

Missing 19/25-8-16

Still reported Missing 19-23-8-16
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 14-3-17.

London
15-3-17

FRANCIS.

A.I.F. 10.

SMEIT, C.H. 2794.B.

H. Aug. 19-23. 1916.

We knew him as Charlie. He came over with me in the 6th. Reinf. to the 27th. Batt. and we both joined the 10th. Batt. He is in England now in hospital. Pte. Hentzenroder, 27th. Batt. told me he had heard from ~~Smeit~~ to this effect. I do not know which hospital he is in.

Reference: Pte. S.J. McKenzie, 2742. C. Co.
26 Gen. Staples. 19.10.1916.

SA.

*write
25.10.16*

A.I.P. 10.

SMELT C.H. 2794B.

M. 19/23.8.16.

His name has appeared in Bn. Orders as a P/W. in Germany. He was taken at Posieres in Aug. I am certain as to his identity. He belonged to D.XIV.

SA.

Reference: Pte.H.A. Shepherd. 2785. D.Co.
1 A.D.B.D.

*Asking H. Storer 7347
not on any lists of P.W.s
not seen*

HP
A
Staples.
18.2.17.

10th A.I.F.

Smelt Pte. C.H. 2794,
D. Company.

(M. 19-23/8/'16)

"I saw Smelt killed during an attack beyond Pozieres on the afternoon of August 19th. He was killed by a bullet in the back. I examined him to see if he was dead. He was left in No Man's Land when we retired. He came from Port Adelaide, was Church of England. He had lost a finger or thumb before he joined up."

Eye Witness: Yes.

Description:

Informant:-- Pte. John Tatley, 28201B,
10th A. I. F., C. Coy., 1X Pl:
2nd Southern General Hosp:
Southmead, Bristol.

Home address:-- 79, Daisy Street,
Bolton, Lancs.

14.3.17.
F.W.Ward.

A.I.F. 10.

SMILT C.H. 2794B.

E. 19/25.8.16.

McDonnell P. 2740B.
Buckanara L.A. 2601.

We went over into a charge at Pozieres on 23rd. Aug. about 6.0 in the evening. We got across into a trench some Germans were digging. They were dressed as we were, with our helmets and jackets. We had a "go" with them. Some of us got back. I saw the three men whose names are given in the trench. I am certain as to this. They did not come back. They were missing at roll-call. They must be either prisoners or killed. They belonged to C.Co. and were friends of mine.

SA.

Reference: Pte. J.H. Watson. 2380B. C.Co.
51 Gen. Hosp.

Staples.
14.3.17.

10th Batn.
A.I.F.

SMELT, C.H. 2794.B
McDonnell, P. 2740B.

"Killed 19th August 1916."

"McDonnell was about 30 yards from me at about 6-20 p.m. on August 21st 1916 (?) during our attack at Moquet Farm when a shell pitched between us but nearer him. We both went down and I never saw him again. Pte. C.V. Kinear 2706, 10th Batn, A.I.F. who is now at Q.M. Stores, Monte Video Camp, Weymouth told me that both McDonnell and Pte. Charlie Smelt had been killed, being both entirely buried by the shell. The ground was about 300 yards behind the German front line and was re-occupied by them. McDonnell's number was 2740B. and his name was Peter. He came from Rosewater, S. Australia. Smelt came with 6th Reinf. of 27th Batn. A.I.F. and was a slight man of about 5'9" from Port Adelaide. They were both in XIV Platoon, of D. Coy.

Informant:-Pte. E.G. Pearman, 2757B,
10th Batn. D. Coy, XIV Platoon,
Prisoner of War. A.I.F.

London,
A.G. Campbell,
20-1-19.

Written Kinear
23.1.19 A.

J.F.A.

10th Batn.
A.I.F.

SINGLE,
C.E. 2794.

"Killed in action P.R.P. 28-8-16."

The last I saw of him was on the night of 21st August 1916, when we made an attack at Mouquet Farm. I was wounded myself and have not joined the 10th Batn since. I saw several of the 10th Batn. chaps in France during the last year and the only news I could get of him was that he was buried alive, and has not been seen or heard of since. This I was told happened on 22nd August 1916. He was about 5'10" height, brown hair and I will also send a cutting from the Adelaide Chronicle which I have had since 1917 Xmas.

Letter from:- Pte. C.V. Zinnear, 2706
10th Aust. Flg. Amb,
A.I.F.

London,
31-1-19.

A.

October 26th

C
Pte. Montgomerie.
27th. Bn.
A.I.F.

Dear Sir,

We have been told that you have received a letter from Pte. G.H. Smelt 57943. from some Hospital in England, as he is on our list of missing we shall be most grateful if you will kindly let us know, from what Hospital he wrote and when, also whether you have any later news of him, so that we may send the information out to Australia.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully.

V.B.

Secretary.

M.D.S.

Smelt.



Private C. H. SMELT.

ack P.C.
27.1.19
D.H.B.

Hosp Q M Stores

Monte Video Camp

Reynolds

2794

C. H. Smelt

Loiset.

10 Btm

Kim A. P.R.P. 23.8.16 24-1-19.

Lo. Aust. Wounded and Missing Enquiry Bureau

Re. your letter of 23-1-19.

I was in the same section as 2794^B C.H. Smelt and I last saw him on the night of 21st Aug. 1916. when we made an attack at Moquet Farm. I was wounded myself and have not joined the 10th Btm since. I saw several of the 10th chaps in France during last year and the only news I could get ~~from~~ him was, that he was buried alive, and has not been seen or heard of since. This I was told happened on 22 Aug 1916. I can give you no further information only that he was about 5ft 10ⁱⁿ in height. Brown hair and I will also send a cutting from the Adelaide

99-700
P. 1-15

chronical which I have had since
1917. Xmas

Yours Resp.

2706.

Oto B. V. Kerner
10th Dist. Fld. Amb.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text follows, appearing to be a letter or report.]

To

2706 Mc C. V. Konear

10 Pctn A. I. F

Q. M. Store

Monte Video Camp

about Weymouth

2794 B Mc C. H. Smell

10 Pctn

A. I. F

K 19.8 - 16

Written 23.1 29

hbs