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

4007 2nd Corporal Frank Herbert Ward

2nd Tunnelling Company



2851207P

AUST TUNN COY. 2. WARD, Cpl.F.H. 4007.

K. July 20th 1917. Dets D/B.

Cpl.Frank H. Ward was in No. 2 Tunn.Coy with me. We came over from Australia together. I believe he was a mine manager at Bendigo before the war. I did not know his number. He was a short stardily built man, inclined to be dark, clean shaven and about 30. I was told by several men who were on a working paty with Ward that a shell had fallen amongst the party and wounding one or two others. This occurred in July near Nieuport. I heard his body was brought back to the camp and buried.

Killing Ward

Ref: Spr J.E.Dooley. 3963. 1 section.
No. 3 Can Gen Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 31.12.17.

AGL

AUST. ENGRS. 2nd Tun. Co. Cpl. F. H. WARD. 4007.

K. 20.7.17. Det. D & B.

Informant said Ward was a Cpl. and came from Long Gully, Bendigo, Victoria, about ¾ mile away from Californian Gully, where Informant lives. In civil life he was a miner and the two came out together with the Bn. in February 1916 on the "Euripides". In July towards the end, they were on the coast at Nieuport Bains. Ward was at the mouth of a coastal tunnel just coming out, when a shell came over and dropped at the mouth of the tunnel, blowing the tunnel x and Ward to bits. Informant was 500 yards away at the time, but came up just after and helped to gather up the remains. He was able to recognise Ward, and the next day he was buried with military/honours at Coxyde on the Belgian Coast. A cross was made at the tunnelling camp, which Informant saw. There was another man belonging to the Manchesters badly wounded by the same shell.

Reference: Spr. Geake. 2451.
No.8 General, Rouen. 5.1.18.

DLF.

FRANCE.

AUST. 2nd TUNN. COY. WARD. Cpl F.H. 4007.

K.July 20th.1917.

He was killed coming from the sap to the billets at Nieuport. He was practically blown to pieces. The remains which could be found were collected and buried at Coxyde. He was a man of darkish complexion, about 30 years of age and by his work I should say he had been a miner.

WSI

Ref ---Sapper G.Grainger. 5333
No 16 Gen. Hospital.

Le Treport. Jan 9th.1918

Havre. 11th January 1918.

2nd Aust. Tunn. Co. Ward Cpl F.H. No.4007

K. 20th July 1917. Det D/B.

I knew Corporal Fred Ward, he was short, thick-set, dark, age 25-30.

I saw him killed outright by a whiss bang in July or August just after the Nieuport Stunt - He was killed at Nieuport les Bains. They bought a coffin up from the Company and I saw him taken away in it, but I don't know where he was buried.

Inf:- Sapper E. Ferris No.3732.
2nd Aust. Tunn.Co.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

GLT.

A.I.F. 2 Tunn.Coy. WARD, Cpl.F.H. 4007.

K.July 20th 1917.

He was blown to pieces by a shell at Nieuport Bains. We were in a covered in trench at the time going to work between 10 and 12 noon. The remains were collected and put in a coffin and he was given a proper funeral behind the line. I cannot say where as we remained in the line. He was s very quiet cool headed chap. Would walk along whether shelled or not.

Inf: Spr. P. Wearmar. 5724.
No.5, Gen.Hosp.
ROUEN. 21.1.18.

RAK.

2nd Tunnl. Coy.
A.I.F.

WARD
Capt. F.H. 4007

Killed 20.7.17 Det. D/B.

Sgt. W. Hollow or Cpl. W. Dalton both with 2nd Tunnlg. Co. now - could give information as to Cpl. Ward who was going out of Blighty Tunnel, Nineport. I heard he was blown to pieces, Dalton told me.

Informant:- Downes Capt. J.J. 537
2nd Tunn. Co.,
18th Hut, Westham.
~~15.1.18~~

M.

W.A.Rand.
London 8.2.18

2nd Tunneling Co.

WARD, F. H.
A/Cpl. 4007

Killed in action 20/7/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 7 ins. huggety build, medium complexion, about 38 years of age, known as "Frank". Casualty was in charge of a fatigue party at Hicuport Baines on the coast of Belgium. Casualty was coming along the road when a shell exploded near him killing him instantly. I was further along the road but came up later and got the body and brought it back to Coxide. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Sgt. J. F. Comb,
No. 519.

Private address:-
93 Garsed Street,
Bendigo.

T.C.F.
9/3/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

2nd TUNN. Co.

WARD, F. H.
A.Cpl. 4007

Killed in Action 20/7/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 8 ins. well built, medium complexion, about 38 years of age. He had two fingers twisted on the right hand. Casualty was Corporal in charge of a fatigue party at Nieuport. A whizz bang exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I did not see him killed but I saw his body the next day and I helped to make the coffin he was buried in. He was buried at the Coyxide Cemetery where nearly all our men were buried that fell in that sector."

Informant:- Pte. T. H. Meatchem,
No. 6122, 2nd Tunn Co.

Private address:-
Koroit Road,
Williamstown.

T.C.F.
5/7/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE

2nd Tunnelling Co.

WARD. F. H.
A/Cpl. 4007.

Killed in Action 20/7/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 8 ins. well built, fair complexion, about 35 years of age. Casualty was in the front line at Nieuport and was coming out of his dug-out to be relieved. An H.E. shell exploded near him killing him instantly. I did not see Casualty killed but I saw his body lying in a waggon in the camp at La Panne. He was very severely wounded about the head. He was buried at Coxide and I made a cross which was erected over his grave."

Informant:- Pte. S. S. Kemp,
No. 611, 2nd Tunn.Co.

Private address:-
Palmer Street,
Ararat.

T.C.F.
6/9/18

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

2nd Tunnelling Co.

HARD, F. H.
A.Cpl. 4007.

Killed in action 20/7/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 8 ins. well built, dark complexion, about 27 years of age. Casualty was taking a party to work at Nieuport. An H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I was 50 yds. away at the time of his death. He was most severely wounded about the legs and body. He was buried at the Croxyde-Baynes Cemetery. A cross was erected with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Pte. L. A. Florimel,
No. 2448, 2nd Tunn. Co.

Private address:-
58 Powlett Street,
South Yarra.

T.C.F.
14/10/16.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

A.I.F. 2nd Tunn: Coy
late 5th

WARD
Cpl F.H. 4007

"W. Jan-Feb"

Admitted Norfolk War Hospital 14-2-17 - Gun shot wound left hand

Trans - Southall 31-3-17
Cert. by Hospital Index

Discharged - Weymouth 3-4-17
Cert. by 'Phone 4-4-17.

London
4-4-17

M.