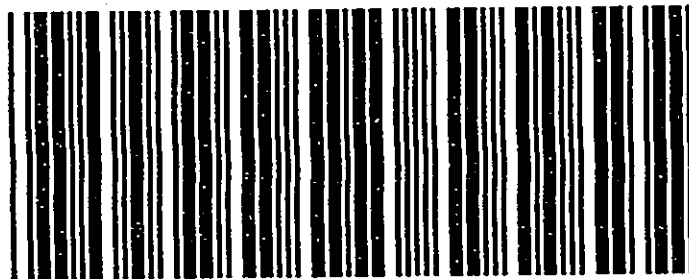


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

5434 Private
Ernest Taylor

24th Battalion



2700304G

A.I.F. 24th Btn

TAYLOR
Ernest 5434

"M. 3-5-17"

Killed in action 3-5-17 - previously reported Missing
ert. by A.I.F.Hqs 8-1-18.

OFF.M. &
P.I

London
18-1-18

24th Battn.
C. Coy
A. I. F.

E. Taylor.
5434.

"Missing 3.5.17"

He was hit on the back and fell inside the second line of wires. Casualty at Bullecourt at 5 a.m. on the 3rd of May 1917 with shrapnel. He was 20 yards from our central sap when wounded and left in the open. He was attached to the Brigade Vickers carrying party under Sgt. Hitchcock. Cannot say place of burial. Ground held. I knew him very well

Witness:-

Pte. R.R. Rankin 5162.
24th Battn. C. Coy 11th Pl.
3rd Aust. Aux. Hospital.
Dartford.

H. Oman.

London.
24.7.17.

Off. M.
P. I.

written 9/9/17.

A. I. F. 24th Bn.

TAYLOR.
Ernest. 5434.

Killed in Action. 3. 8. 17.

No trace in Germany.
Cert by Captain Mills. 14. 10. 19.

London.
16. 10. 19.

Off H & P. I

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

2545/19/2

(COPY)

Statement made by No. 5162 Pte Rankin R.R. 24th Btn

re No. 5434 Pte Taylor E. 24th Btn
Reported Missing 3;5.17

not sent on P. 1

On the 3rd May 1917 about 5.4.am. Pte Taylor was attached to 6th Bde carrying party (for Vickers Machine gun) We were lying in a shell hole just inside 2nd line of wire at Bullecourt. He was hit badly in the back as he told me when I gave him the order to move forwards. I cannot say what happened to him after this, he was lying 20 yds to right of sap when I left him.

Dated at Godford this 15th day of August 1917.

(Sgd) R.R. RANKIN.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) N.R. WEIR. Lt.

*P.I.
G.M. 3*

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

2709/10/11

(COPY)

Statement made by No. 5162 Pte Rankin R.R. 24th Btn

re No. 5434 Pte Taylor E. 24th Btn
Missing 3.5.17

On the 3rd May I saw Pte Taylor E.E. 5434 lying inside second line of wire at Bullecourt. I ordered him to advance. He replied he could not as he was wounded in the back.. I never saw him again.

Dated at Perham Downs this 14th day of September 1917.

(Sgd) R.R. Rankin

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) G. Finnie.

*off ch
P.I.*

3 copies

25th Batn
A.I.F.

TAYLOR
E. 5434

"Missing 5.5.17."

In reply to your note of 6.9.17. I am sorry to say I cannot give you any information concerning No 5434 E. Taylor. I have not been with the Battn for 18 months. He is not, nor was, in the 6th M.G. Coy., to which I now belong.

Letter from:- A. HITCHCOCK
2nd Lieut.
C.A.M.G. Coy.,
France. 22.9.17.

London.
5.10.17.

Off. M. P.I.

ask written P.I.

24th A.I.F.

Taylor Pte. E. 5434,
C. Coy. XI Plt.

(M. May 3/17)

They were 200 yds. out in No Man's Land at Bullecourt Hinderburg line where Taylor Pte. Ernest was wounded in the back. He died of wounds soon after he was hit and was buried on the spot with some others. Men of the Batt: reported it, and his wife was written to."

Eye-witness: No, told by men of the Batt. who reported they had buried him.

Description:

Informant: Pte. H. Woods 5445,
24th A.I.F., C. Coy., XI Plt.,
1st London General Hospt.,
Camberwell.

Home address:
c/o Mrs. Richards,
34 Shamrock St.,
West Brunswick.

20/10/17,
M.A. Paul.

P.I
off/dl
1-2-17

A.I.F. 24th Btn

TAYLOR
Ernest 5434

"M. 3-5-17"

Killed in action 3-5-17 - previously reported Missing
~~etc by Lt. P. H. 6-1-18.~~

Draft 1 Jan 19.

Jan W. A. Campbell Sq.
27 Golding St
hounch

OFF. M. &
P. I

London
18-1-18

Final draft to

W. A. Campbell
29 Golding St.
Norwich

re
5434 Taylor St.
~~24th St.~~

3/10/19

The Australian Red Cross Society

(B.R.C.S.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No.

6999

Date May 27-1918

No. 3397

Regimental Details of
Soldier enquired about.

Pte. B. T. Johnson,
5th Battalion,

Details of Casualty.

{ Wounded (2nd Co.)

Information wanted.

{ Location & Condition
0

6-6 (89.07)

Sgt HITCH COCK

24 Ball AIF
BEF

for

5434 E. TAYLOR

24 Ball AIF

M. 3. 5. 17

RR
6.9.17.

27, Golding Street,
Norwich.

June 20/17

ans 29.6.17
Mr Sims

Having received a letter
from the Commandant of the Australian
J. Forces. saying that my son
in law "Private E Taylor No 5434
24th Batta Australian Imperial
Force." had been reported missing
since May 3rd 1917. I am writing
you to ask your assistance
to furnish me with further
particulars (if possible) for
you to do so - you may
imagine that I am very
anxious to know his fate.

Trusting that you are
in a position to give
the required information
and thanking you in
anticipation of an early
reply I remain

Yours faithfully

W. A. Campbell

Draft 5. Letter

13th July 1917.

Mrs. N. Carpling,
27. Golding St.
Norwich.

() Madam,

3.8.17

5434. Pt. N. Taylor,
(29. Batt)

Pt. Taylor

per [signature]

25th July 1917.

W.A. Camp ~~ing~~ Esq.,
27 Golding St.,
Norwich.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your inquiry for your son-in-law
5434 Pte E. Taylor, 24th Btn. A.I.F., we are very sorry to tell
you of unofficial information given by one of his comrades No.
5162 Pte R. Rankin, when in the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital
Dartford,

He states - that he saw Pte Taylor fall in No Man's
Land at Bullecourt at 5 a.m. on 3-5-17, badly wounded in the back
by shrapnel. Although only 20 yards from the sap he had to be
left out in the open and informant knows nothing of his burial
although the ground was held by our men. At the time of his
casualty Pte Taylor was attached to a carrying party under Sgt.
Hitchcock.

We are continuing our inquiries in the hope of
obtaining less distressing news as we know how anxious you must
be about him.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

VO

SECRETARY

LAW

Recd by
letter 2-10-17
OS

France
22/9/17

Dear Miss Beetham

|| In reply to your note of 6/9/17 I am
sorry to say I cannot give you any
information concerning No. 5434 E Taylor
I have not been with the Battalion
for 14 months. He is not, nor was,
in the 6th Coy to which I now
belong

Yours faithfully
G. H. Taylor

5434 E TAYLOR
24 Butt

M 3-5-17

M M
P. I
5

9c

October 3rd, 1917.

2/Lt. A.H.Hitchcock,
6th Aus. Machine Gun Coy.
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you for your reply in answer to our enquiry concerning 5434 E. Taylor,
24th Battalion,
A.I.F.

We regret that you have been troubled with the inquiry about this man, there was evidently some mistake on the part of our informant who suggested that you would be able to give us some information regarding him.

Yours faithfully,

VD
SECRETARY.

08

December 21st, 1917.

Mr. W. A. Campbell,
27, Gosling Street,
Norwich.

Dear Sir,

In further answer to your enquiry for 5434, Pte.
E. Taylor, 24th. Batta. A.I.F. we beg to forward an unofficial
report that has just been received.

Pte. W. Woods stated they were about 200 yards
out in No Mrs's land at Bullecourt, Hindenburg line, when Taylor
was wounded in the back. He died of wounds soon after he was hit
and was buried on the spot with others. Men of the battalion
reported it and his wife was written to.

We are continuing our enquiries and as soon as other
particulars come to hand we shall advise you.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Craig
Secretary.

27, Golding Street,
Norwich.

Jan'y 5th
1918

54 3/4 E. TAYLOR

24 Bell-h. 3-51

Madme

Please excuse the delay in
acknowledging receipt of your letter
of 21st ulto. respecting my
"Son-in-law" Mr Taylor. I thank
you for the trouble you have
taken in this matter and wish
sincerely the news had been
otherwise. It is a severe blow
to my poor daughter in Australia
who still have hopes that he is
not dead. She intend coming
home as soon as she is allowed
to travel. and I can assure
you I shall be very pleased
to have her home again.

Again thanking you

I remain

yours faithfully
Annie Campenig

P.S. Should you have any further news
I shall be very grateful if you
will let me know.