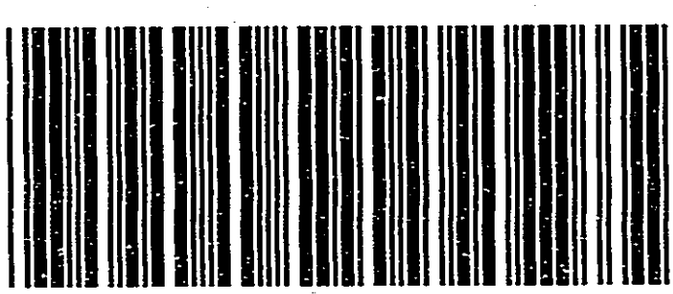
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2229 Lance Corporal William Thomas Styles

4th Battalion



2660512M

9TH Battn
AIF

STYLES
W.T. 2229

"Died of wounds Oct 5th 1917"

Styles was wounded up in Passchendaele stunt by shrapnel and died on the stretcher. The S/Bra who carried him told me. I believe he is buried at the 10th C.C.S.

Witness:- W.A. Ward 3513
1st Battn D.Coy.,
Westham

W.A.Rand
London.
17.1.18

M

1st Battn., A.I.F.
(Late 4th Battn.)

STYLES, W.T.
2229. Pte.

4th Late 12th

DIED OF WOUNDS 5/10/17.

Informant described Styles as about 5 ft. 6 inches high, fairly thin, inclined to fair complexion, aged about 20 to 25, and a well-spoken chap. He was Batman to Colonel Stacy who brought him over with him from the 4th Battalion.

Informant states that about 12/10/17 he was in Hospital at Le Havre, and was informed by Private William Ward (who was Cook at the Battalion Headquarters) that he was alongside Styles and saw him hit by a shell while going up to the line on ration fatigue. He died when being carried out. This occurred somewhere on the Ypres front. Informant suggested that Colonel Stacy be written to for further particulars, as he thought the world of Styles, and would no doubt have made a special effort to obtain full particulars of his death.

Informant added that he knew Styles well, having been at Headquarters with him. He was as well liked as anyone in the Battalion.

INFORMANT:- Pte.S.A.Camarsh, 3701,
Headquarters, 1st Battalion,
No.4 Aust. General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

Reports Ward.

Home address:- 29 Wortley Street, Balmain.

W.E.G.
20/3/18. Write Col. Stacy, 29.5.18. SYDNEY BUREAU.

M

4th Battn. late 1st. A.I.F.

W STYLES.
W.T. 2229.

"Died of Wounds" 5-10-17.

~~NOK~~ TO SYDNEY.

Re your slip 20-3-18. Taken on Strength 4th Battn from 1st Battn 24-9-17. D/W at 6th Aust Fld Amb 5-10-17. Buried Menin Road South Military Cemetery- near Ypres- 28395 G.

(A.M.W.B. searcher at Hqrs 25-5-18) In the gradation lists for June 1917, Oct 1917 and Feb 1918 Lieut Col.B.V.Stacey D.S.O. appears as commanding the 1st Battn. Apparently therefore. although Pte Styles' transfer is registered at Hqrs as 24-9-17, it would appear that he was still with the 1st Battn at the time of his death. We have therefore written to Col Stacey. 29-5-18.

London.
31-5-18.

1st Battn. late 4th Bn.
A.I.F.

STYLES.
Pte.W.T. 2229.

"Died of Wounds" 5-10-17.

Re Pte W.T.Styles late 4th Battn fromerly my batman I find from enquiries that he died from wounds received on 4th October at 6th Aust Fld Amb and was buried near Menin Road, south of Military Cemetery near Ypres.

He was wounded in the attack which took Broodseinde Ridge I knew him for a long time both in the 4th battalion and in this. He served me very faithfully for many months and always showed he had plenty of grit and pluck.

Lt.Col. Stacey DSO

Letter from:- O.C. ~~D.S.C.~~
A.I.F.

London.
24-6-18.

M.

1st Battalion
late 4th Battalion

STYLES W.T. 2229.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 5/10/17"

I knew Styles well and called him Bill; his number was 2229 and he came to us from the 4th Battalion with Colonel Stacy to whom he was batman; he was with us for 1916 to within a fortnight of the Passchendaele stunt on October 1917. he had asked to be sent back to the 4th Battalion and was sent to the 4th Battalion before Passchendaele. He was wounded at Passchendaele when with the 4th and died of wounds when at the Advanced Dressing Station or at the main dressing station the day after he was hit. I heard this about a fortnight later from a Sergeant in charge of the records at the Casualty Clearing Station who had seen Styles. He would be buried at this Casualty Clearing Station which was the 2nd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station.

Informant: Lance-Corporal C. Harrison 950. M.M.
1st Battalion Company

Home address:
Flora Street,
ARNOLIFFE.
Rawson Chambers,
H.S.O. 28/11/1[illegible].

[illegible] BURLAN.

M
time Cancel

+Anschan 1 Shp 244
Cpl. G. G. 3 Bde

M. May 1917

D/W. at 6 Aust. Fld Amb. 5-10-17
Bu[illegible] Menin Road S. Mil Cem near
Ypr[illegible] 28395 G.
HQ 25-5-18

Styles G.C. 2229.
Wm Thos. D34413
1 Btn
late 4 Btn.
D/W.S 10.17 Where? Burial? ✓ ✓ ✓
We have him listed as 4 Btn late 1st
which I am sure is wrong. He was
batman to Col. Stacey. 1st Btn.
T.O.S. 4 Btn from
1st Btn. 24.9.17 P.T.O. M.D.S. 24.5.19.

21.6.18

Lieut Col B. W Stacey D.S.O.
1st Sig Battalion
A I F
C
B.E.F

Dear Sir

We thank you for
your reply to our
enquiry about your
batman 229
Pte W J Styles 1st Sig Bn A I F
We are grateful for this
information from home

Sent which will be of
much assistance to
us & of value to Pte
Cornwell, who will greatly
appreciate your kindly
reference to Pte Styles
Good qualities

Yours faithfully

2229 Pte W T Styles
1st Batt Cale 4 Batt 15/6/18
D of W. 5-10-17

Hon Secy
Australian Red Cross Society
London

Dear Madam, In reply to your enquiry re Pte W. T. STYLES late of 4th Bn formerly of my batman, I find from enquiries that he died from wounds received on 4th October at 6th Aust. Field Ambulance & was buried near MENIN Road South of Military Cemetery near YPRES.

He was wounded in the attack which took Broodseinde Ridge. I knew him for a long time both in the 4th Bn & in this the served me very faithfully for many months & always showed he had plenty of grit & pluck

Yours sincerely
Lt-Col Br. Stacey DSO

9 C

Cpl.B.V.Stacy, D.S.O. May 30th, 1918.
1st Infantry Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
.B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by our Melbourne and Sydney Bureaux to make enquiries concerning - the death and burial of

2229 Pte. W.F. STYLES, 4th Battalion, late 1st Bttn.

We have not been able to gather any information from the 4th Battalion about the above named soldier probably as his death appears to have occurred only a few days after his transfer from your unit.

An unofficial report has recently been received by us stating that Pte. Styles had been your batman, therefore we are writing to ask you whether you can supply the information we desire (the nature of his wounds when he died, and where buried etc) and if so we shall be very grateful. If by any chance you have already written to hos people and have heard that the letter has been received we will not of course trouble you to repeat the details to us as we are making our enquiries on behalf of the relatives.

We apologies for troubling you especially at such a time as the present, but on account of Pte. Styles having been transferred

from one unit to another we are experiencing some difficulty in gathering the details we are seeking.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

SECRETARY.