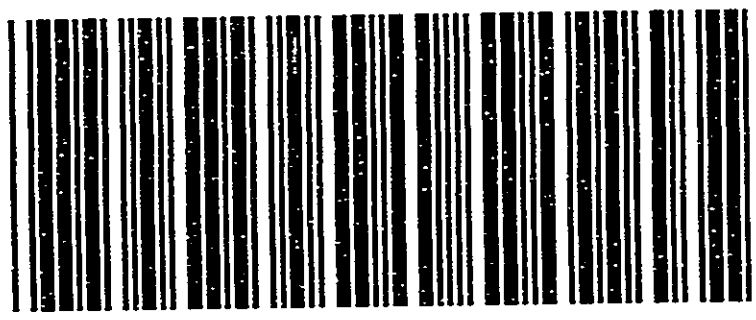
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

440 Lance Corporal George Washington Ellsworth

39th Battalion



1010609H

A.I.F. 39th Btn

ELLSWORTH
G.W. 440

"Ill Nova"

Adm. 1st Eastern Gen.Hpl Cambridge 6-11-17 - Nephritis.

Transf. Northampton W Hpl Duston 7-11-17

Trans: Harefield 28-12-17

Discharged furlough & report Hurdcott 3--17-1-18
Cert. by Hpl Index

London
17-5-18

M

A.I.F. 39th Btn

ELLSWORTH
L/Cpl Geo. Washington 440

"Died 28-7-18"

Died England 28-7-18
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 5-10-18

Died in France - body was found by 44th Btn - no details yet. Hqrs enquiring cause.
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 7-10-18.

London
9-10-18

M

39th Battn.
A.I.F.

ELLSWORTH
G.W. 440

"DIED 28-7-18"

Died in France 28-7-18 - body found by 44th Battn.

Cert. by A.I.F.Hqts. 7-10-18.

London
16-10-18

M.

A.I.F. 39th Battn.

Ellsworth
C.W. 440

"Died 28/8/18."

Re 440 L/Clp C.W. Ellsworth, 39th Battalion A.I.F. I regret to say we have no trace of burying this soldier. I might state that in the recent advance a number of soldiers bodies were found by this Battalion and the effects were taken from their bodies and sent to their respective Units. The conditions which existed at the time did not permit us of burying of these men.

Letter from O.C.
44th A.I.F.
Bn., Headquarters,
B.E.F.

F.E.A.

M.

Havre. 17th. November. 1918.

39th. Australians. Elsworth, L/Corporal. G. W. 1040.

D. July. 28/1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew L/Corporal George Elsworth. B. 6. his number would be somewhere as stated. We were holding the line in front of Corbie at end of July 1918 when word came in that his body was lying at Riveria ? near Amiens. Private. W. Canole. B. 6. was sent out to identify it. He returned two days afterwards and told me that it was Elsworth and he brought his pay book and other papers and belongings back to the Unit. Canole was killed on 29th. September. 1918.

Cnf:- Private. A. G. Tillett. 2183.
x 39th. Australians. B. 5.
Australian Conv. Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

OP.

39th Batn.,
A.I.F.

ELSWORTH,
G.W., 440. L/Cpl.

"Died - 28-7-18."

"His body was found at Villers Bretonneux just behind the lines.

The Pioneers found his body and buried him.

I don't know the Cemetery behind the lines.

Discription:- He was very quite and nice amd a good soldier.

Home address:-
9, Ballaing Street,
S. Geelong,
Victoria.

Informant:- Irwin, J.R., 482 Cpl.
(Seemed absolutely certain of above facts, I should think very accurate and intelligent.),
39th Batn., A.I.F.,
Section III. Exeter War Hospital, Exeter.

C.H. Bird,
London,
~~22111118~~
22-11-18.
M.I.S,

M.

A.I.F. 39th Battn. G.W. Ellsworth,
4 40 L/Cpl.

"Died 28/7/18."

Of B. Company. At Dawcurs about this date. They had lost a machine gun post and had to retire to front line. They were ordered to take the post back in afternoon. When he heard this he shot himself, previous to doing so he had written home. Shot through the head. I did not see him myself. The man who gave me details, Pte. W. Cannole, of B. Company, has since been killed. Was buried in Dawcurs Military Cemetery. I have not seen his grave. Knew him well, came from Ballarat. Christian name William.

Informant:- Pte. H. Bryce, 5504,
39th Battn. B. Coy,
Anzac Buffet.

Witness does not want it known that he shot
A.D.G. hiself.
London
26.11.18. M.
M.I.S. Note:- Not sent on - Name George Washington Ellsworth.

A.I.F. 39th Battn.

ELLSWORTH
Geo. Washington 440.

"Died 28.7.1918."

Note to Melbourne.

We regret that our report about above dated 22nd November 1918 was sent out with heading incorrectly spelled.- "Elsworth". Possibly the report given about him by Pte. Tillett, 17th November 1918, was also incorrectly headed.

London
7.1.19.

M.

39th Battn.
A.I.F.

ELLSWORTH.
440. L/Cpl. G.W.

"Died 27-8-18"

Extracts from notes made bynPioneer Sergeant Rossen of the 39th Battalion. A.I.F. who is at present in the Australian Camp. A.P.O. S.12. B.E.F.

440. L/Cpl.G.W.Ellsworth. 39th Battn. A.I.F. was buried at Davours Cemetery.

London.
18-2-19.

M.

October 11th, 1918.

The Adjutant,
44th Infantry Battalion.
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir.

We have been officially informed that the body of - 440 L/Cpl. GEORGE WASHINGTON ELLSWORTH, 39th Battalion. A.I.F. was found by some men of your battalion. Would you be good enough to furnish us with details as to when and where the burial took place, and if possible any other particulars as to the circumstances in which the body was found and as to how the casualty occurred. Please forgive our troubling you but we have exhaustive all official sources of enquiry and we are anxious to forward all possible details to L/Cpl. Ellsworth's relatives in Australia.

Yours faithfully.

(Miss) W.A.Y.

Secretary.

44th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

Ref. 18/18. G. W. Ellsworth 440 39 Bn D 25.7.18.

Battalion Headquarters,
In the Field,
16.10.18.

Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society, 2.
36 Grosvenor, Place,
LONDON.S.W.1.

Re 440 L/Cpl G.W.ELLSWORTH, 39th BATTALION.A.I.F.

Reference your memo of the 11th inst reference the above named soldier.

I regret to say we have no trace of burying this soldier.

I might state that in the recent advance a number of soldiers bodies were found by this Battalion and the effects were taken from their bodies and sent to their respective Units.

The conditions which existed at the time did not permit us of burying of these men.

I regret I am unable to further assist you.

G L Bates

Captain.
Adjutant 44th Battalion.A.I.F.

(P.H.)