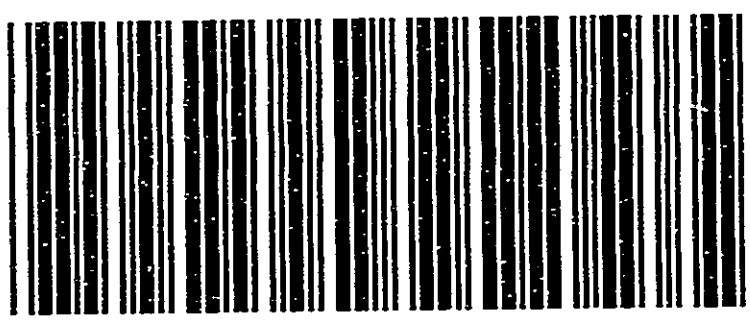
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

16128 Private
Joseph William Elms

6th Field Ambulance



1010703C

6th Fd. Ambulance. A.I.F.

ELMS. Pte J.E. No.16128
6th Fd. Amb.

Killed April 21-22/17. Det. D./B.

"There were about 4 men, Elms among the number, buried alive just to the left of Noreuil in the Sunken Road. They were all buried together on the rise behind the Sunken Road and a crosses erected by the units over the graves, giving names numbers and units. I did not know Elms very well as he had not been long with th unit."

Witness. Pte L.B.Gretgrix, No.9022, 6th Fd. Amb.

Taken at No.3 C.D.,
Hurdcott, 4-8-17.
S.W.

No.4 Command Depot,
Codford, 6-8-17.
S.W.

A.M.C. A.I.F. 6th Fld.Amb. J. W. ELMS, 16218

K. 21/22.4.17. Det. D & B.

Four of the A.M.C. were killed at the Sunken Road just outside Noreuil by a shell. They were buried close to where they were killed and a cross was erected with their names on it, which I have seen.

Reference: Pte. A. L. Higgins, 8758.

No.12 General, Rouen. 28.7.17.

FS.

S.

Havre 8th August.1917.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS. ELMS, J.#. 16128
6th Field Amb.

K. April 21st-22nd.1917. Det.D/B.

I know him; his initials are as stated, and the number about that. He came in the late reinforcement, and joined us about February, 1917. We were at the Bullecourt front and he and three others were in a dug-out, stationed at Relay Post when a large shell buried them in sometime during the night, and when this was noticed the next morning the men were dug out; they were all dead. I did not see the grave, and cannot say definitely where they were buried.

Informant: Pt. Mundie, D. 9841
6th Field Ambulance.
Australian Army Medical Corps.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

L. de D.

CJ

P.1

my Medical Corp,
6th Field Amb.

ELMS.
J.W. 16128.

"Killed 21-22.4.17".

He was killed at Noreiul a shell landed in the dug-out and the concussion caused instant death. He was buried at Noreiul but i did not see the grave. Refer to Sgt.Ellis, A,M.C. who may be able to give particulars. I knew him well, there being no other of the same same in the corp.

Witness:-
Pte. Allen Green, 14816.
A.M.C.,
3rd Aust. Aux. Hosp,
Dartford.

W.Oman,
London.
15.8.17.

S.

NOTE:- written Sgt. Ellis. 15.8.17.

A.I.F. 6th Fd. Amb.

KLMS
Joseph William 16128

K/A 21 - 22/4/17

No trace in Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10/10/19

London
24/10/19

S
~~P.I.~~

29.8.17

No. 12039 Pte. W.Pearson
9th. A.F.A. A.A.M.C. B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We very much regret to send you further unofficial evidence about No. 16128 Pte. J.W.Elms 6th. Fld. Amb. A.A.M.C. informant being a man of the same unit. He stated that when Pte. Elms was in a dug-out with three other men at Bullecourt on April 21st. a large shell exploded on top of it burying them under the earth. Their bodies were recovered next morning and their death must have been instantaneous. We sincerely hope it will be of some help to you to know this and to realise that he could have suffered no pain. Should further information be received about him we shall gladly advise you of it.

With our sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend,

Yours faithfully,

V.D.
Secretary
L/Pw

16.8.17.

12039 Pte. W.Pearson,
9th. Australian Field Ambulance. A.A.M.C. B.E.F. France.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of enquiry we beg to state that we have the record of 16128 Pte. William Joseph Elms 6th. Fld. Ambulance A.I.F. and we very much regret to state that he is officially reported "Killed in Action 31-22/8/17" Is this the man for whom you are enquiring? If not, can you supply us with his number or any further particulars and we shall make enquiries.

We have received two unofficial reports from men of 6th. Fld Ambulance stating that 16128 Pte. Elms and three others were killed by a shell in Sunken Road to the left of Noreuil. They were all buried together on the rise behind Sunken Road and crosses erected over the graves giving names, numbers and units.

Re: 2822 Cpl. E.Smith 25th. Battn. A.I.F. we regret to have to inform you that he was "Killed in Action 2.5.17" - Up to the present we have been unable to obtain details concerning his death. If you would like us to forward any particulars to you wi they come to hand, if you advise us we shall do so.

We may say that in each of the above cases news is already being sent to Sydney -

Assuring you of our sympathy and with every good wish for yourself,

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

Secretary.

Somewhere in France
2.9.1917

To
Miss V. Dearing
Secy. Amst Red Cross Society
London.

Re No 16178 Pte J.W. Elms - 6th Field Amb.
I desire to acknowledge the valuable
information contained in your letter
of 29/8/17 and tender herewith my
sincere thanks for same.
Yours faithfully
W. Pearson.

Use this for Reply Only—The Sender to Fold Down This Flap before fastening the ot

PASSED FIELD CENSOR 8853

O.A.S

FIELD POST OFFICE STAMP. 5 A S 17

Miss Vera Deakin
Secy Aust Red Cross Society
Wounded + missing Enquiry Bureau
54 Victoria St.
London S.W.1

10.8.17

Sgt ELLIS

~~A.A.M.C~~

6 Field Ambce

A.A.M.C

B.E.F

16128

J. W. ELMS

6 F. Ambce

A.A.M.C

K. 21/22. 4. 17

15. 8. 17