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

2260 Driver
William Wilfred Jeffrey

2nd Field Company Engineers



1430510E

2nd F. Coy.
Eng.

Jeffrey
Pte. W.W. 2260

"Died of Wounds"

Was brought in on May 7th wounded un the chest he died next day.

Letter from:-
3td A.C.C. Sth.
A.I.F.
3.9.17.

London.
10.9.17.

M

A.I.F. 2nd Fld.Coy.Engrs

JEFFREY
W.W. 2260

"D of Wds 8th May 1917"

Died of wounds recd. in action at 3rd Aust: C.C.Stn 8-5-17
Cert. by Hpl Index

M

London
30-8-17

2nd AUST. ENGRS. W. W. JEFFREY, 2260.

D/W. 8.5.17. Det. D & B.

Jeffrey was a Driver and was killed by M.G. fire from an aeroplane at Fremicourt, near Bapaume. At first it was not considered serious but the C.O. received word later on that he had died from his wounds at the C.C.S. I did not know him very well. I am a Sapper and he was a Driver. He was the only Casualty we had in the Bapaume stunt.

Reference: L/Cpl.P.M.Hutton, 138, 2nd Fd.Co.

No.5 General, Rouen, 29.10.17.

WS.

M 6d

2nd Engineers.
A.I.F.

Dvr. W.W. Jeffery,
2260.

"DIED OF WOUNDS" 8.5.17"

Re No. 2260. Driver W.W. Jeffrey, was wounded on the night of the 7.5.17. and died from such wounds on the following day. A machine gun bullet penetrated his left breast & he was under medical treatment within half an hour of his being wounded, but the wound proved fatal after everything possible being done towards his recovery, and he was buried in a Casualty Clearing Station cemetery, where the unit to which he belonged erected to his memory a substanial cross bearing an inscription of his name, number, rank etc, as regards to description of his personal appearance. He was a man of good build about 5ft9ins in height with fair complexion and blue eyes, and I should day about 32-34 yrs of age. and I may futther add that in my opinion, he was a man of such fine qualities & bearing as this or any other unit could ill aford to lose.,

Letter from;- V .Yuill. L/Cpl.
France. 3. 11. 17

Note;- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have benn obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.,

London.
2.3.18.

M.

2nd Engrs.
A.I.F.

Jeffrey
W. W. 2260

"Died of Wounds 8.5.17"

I was in the tent with him when he was shot from an aeroplane at Fremicourt. He died at a C.C.Station near by and would be buried there I think. He was a driver.

Witness:-
J.K.Alford 2802
2nd Engineers.
A.I.F.
Dartford.

L.P.J.

London.
29.10.17.

M.

2nd Fld.Coy.Engrs,
A.I.F.

Jeffrey.
W.W. 2260

"Died of Wounds 8.5.17"

I believe that Dvr.Bill Jeffrey was wounded one night in May at Fremicourt. We were about 5 milometers behind the lines, when the Germans made an air raid. He wasshot by a machine gun bullet from an aeroplane while asleep in a bivouac. Our R.A.M.C.Cpl.TomFynmore (2Coy) carried him away to the dressing station outside Beugny and a report came through afterwards that he had died of wounds. I was camping about 100 yards away at the time.

Eye-witness:- No.
Description:- A Victorian. Married. "Snow" 35.

Informant:-
Spr.Alfred Beverley 7277
Engineers A.I.F.
3rd Southern Gen.Cowley Section.Oxford.

Home address:
Thorn St.,
Ipswich, Q'Land.

19.10.17.
H.M.Pickard-Cambridge.
London.
26.10.17. Note Written Cpl.Fynmore 25.10.17. M.

AUST. ENGINEERS. 2 Coy. JEFFREY, W,W, 2260.

D/W. May 8th, 1917.

I know that he died early in May and though I have not seen his grave I have seen the cross which was made up forwit with his name and number on. I think he was buried in the graveyard at Lagnicourt but cannot vouch for it. He was a driver. Cannot give a description of him. He was not in my section but in the "Drivers Section".

PHIL.

Reference:- Spr. A.C.Webber. 7100.
No. 1 Can. Gen. Hp.

Etaples
25.10.17.

2nd Engineers,
A.I.F.

Jeffrey,
W.W. 2260.

"Died of Wounds 8th May 17 Det"

On 7th May about 1.A.M. hit by machine gun bullet, from an aeroplane, line on way to Hpl, - buried in a Cemetery near Bapaume, I saw his grave ~~his grave~~ took a photo of it. But my things were left in France when I got hit he was a friend of mine and that is why I took the photo.

Witness:- J. Malone, 2270.
W.32. Harefield

D.P.Dickson,
8.10.17.

London 15.10.17 M.

AUSTRALIAN ENGRS. 2nd Co. JEFFREY W.J. No.2260.

D/ 8th May 1917. Det D/B.

I knew Charlie Jeffrey who came from Bairnsdale, Victoria. He transferred to the Motor Transport about January and was killed in an accident; a train ran into them. He was killed right out, but it was not in May, but I should think about February. That would be about his number. He was a very small little fellow about 22 or so.

Inf:- Sapper Waldron No.7064.
Amb.T. 'Stad Antwerpen'
Calais. 28.9.17. CR.

2nd AUST. ENGINEERS. W. W. JEFFREY, 2260.

D/W. 8.5.17.

Informant said he knew 2 Jeffreys in No.2 Coy. of whom one was a driver and this man's No. was 22--. This man was, in the beginning of May, with the Co, at Fremicourt near Lagnicourt when there was an air raid. Jeffrey while sleeping was wounded by an aeroplane bullet in the chest and Informant saw him before he was taken away. He was badly wounded and Informant does not know where he died.

Reference: Sgt. B. Stewart, 234.
No.9 General, 6.10.17.
Rouen.

DLF.

Engineers. A.I.F.

Jeffrey. Pte W.W. 2260.
2 Coy.

D/W May 8/17 Det D/E.

"I knew William or 'Bill' Jeffrey of my Coy. and of a No. approximating to mine. We were in camp together at Sydney and Melbourne. We left Australia the 9th Nov. 1915 on the "Beltana" S.S. Jeffrey was wounded about May 1917 at Fremicourt in our retreat from Bapaume after the Germans broke through at Lagnicourt. He was wounded by an aeroplane machine gun whilst in his tent in the night, he was dressed by our medical corporal and I believe died at a clearing station. L/Cpl. Yule of 2 Co. Engrs. A.I.F. (one of our men) made a wooden cross for him putting on it his name, killed in action, and other words. Yule was with the Coy. when I left on 20th Sept. 1917." There was a Charley Jeffrey in the Coy. but unrelated who had been previously killed in a motor bus by a train."

Eye-witness:--
Description:-- 5'9", moderate build, about 30 yrs, from Maffra, Victoria, a mother not certain about father, single, a farmer, light colour or ginger hair, grew moustache after joining the Coy. jovial at times, other reserved, no scars or marks visible probably state school education.

Written L/Cpl. Yule 23.10.17. M

Informant:-- Sapr. Harry Woodruff. 2299.
Engineers, A.I.F. 2 Coy.
1st Southern Gen. Hos. C.II Ward.
Dudley Road,
Birmingham.

Home address:-- Seville Post Office,
Victoria,
Australia.

13 Oct 1917.
Em.Hodgkinson.

Written L/Cpl. Yule 23.10.17.

Pte. W. W. Jeffery 2260.
2nd Hd Co. Bugls.

See under
Pte. C. M. Bell 5-925
24 Batt.

20/9/17.

Pte. J.S. Letter Off. 9-11-17

2260 Driver W. W. Jeffrey.
2 Engineers 3.-11-17
D/W 8.5.17
France
3 (ca)

To The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society

Dear Sir or Madam

Your letter of enquiry regarding No 2260 Driver W. W. Jeffrey, dated 23.10.17 to hand.

The late Driver Jeffrey was wounded on the night of the 7.5.17 and died from such wound on the following day.

A machine gun bullet penetrated his left breast the was under medical treatment within half an hour of his being wounded. but the wound proved fatal after everything possible being done toward his recovery. and he was buried in a Casualty Clearing Station cemetery where the unit to which he belonged erected to his memory a substantial cross bearing an inscription of his name, number, rank etc

As regards a description of his personal appearance / He was a man of good build about 5 ft 9 in in height with fair complexion & blue eyes. and I should say about 32 to 34 years of age. and I may further add that, in my opinion, he was a man of such fine qualities bearing as this or any other unit could ill afford to lose

Trusting this brief information will furnish you requirements

I am Yours faithfully

J. Y. Hill

4 C

L/Cpl. V. Yuill,
2nd Field Coy Engineers
A. I. F. - B. E. F.

10.11.17.

Dear L/Cpl. Yuill,

We wish to thank you for your answer to our enquiry concerning:-

2260. Driver..... Jeffrey, 2nd Engineers .. I.F

The information and details you have sent will be of much assistance to us, and of value to our enquirers. It will be a great comfort to the late soldier's relatives to learn of the high tribute you have paid to his memory.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY,