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

4448 Private Harry Hamilton Johnston

24th Battalion



1450514K

24th A.I.F. JOHNSTON, H.H. 4448,

(K. May 3rd 1917.)

At about 9 a.m. on May 3rd 1917, we had reached our third objective (a tram-line) at Bullecourt when H.H. Johnston(of D.Coy., XIV Pltn., 24 A.I.F.) was was standing on post about 6 yards from me. was hit in the chest by a bullet from a sniper. He fell on his back quite dead and I think he had been shot through the heart by what appeared to be an explosive bullet. I took the ammunition out of his pouches. Capt. Manfield, the O.C. of D. Coy., was quite close and had a look at him, but he was wounded himself by the same shell which hit me and is reported wounded and missing (? A.G.C.) Very few men got out alive out of this part of the field."

Eye witness: Yes.

Description: A small man about 5 ft. 5, fair, clean-shaven, looked about 25, known as "Tracker" Johnston

Informant: L/Cpl. John Benworth, 24th A.I.F., D. XIV
Richmond Military Hos: Grove Road,
Richmond.

July 13th 1917
A.G. Campbell.

24th A. I. F. H. H. JOHNSTON. 4448

Missing 3.5.17.

At Bullecourt he was killed and all his ammunition was used by a man named L/Cpl.Adolpheson, D.Coy. When killed he had a considerable amount of money on him.

Reference: G.B.Mackenzie, 5372;

No.1 Aust. General, Rouen, 9.8.17.

FS.

written L/Cpl. Adolpheson 20.8.17.

24th Battn
A.I.F.

Johnson
H.H. 4448

Missing 3.5.17."

Re No 4448 H.H. Johnson 24th Battn. Referring to your enquiries re the above thro' Pte. Adolfsson. The man was not on the strength of this Coy. I am handing your correpondence to the other Companies and will inform you at a later date if any trace can be found.

Letter from:- Vernon Clark.
D. Coy
France. 28.8.17.

London.
6.9.17.

Havre 10th Sept. 1917.

24th AUSTRALIANS JOHNSTON, M.H. 4448

M. 5.5.17.

He was in D Co., 14th Pltn. L/Cpl. A. Adolphson, of D Co., 14th Pltn. told me that he had seen Johnston killed instantly at Bullecourt on May 3, 1917. Adolphson is with his unit. Johnston was known as "Tracker".

Informant: L/Cpl. C.H. Collins, 854
24th Australians, D Co., 14th Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

C.H.M. RDH

written Adolphson 17.9.17

Havre

9th November.1917.

24th AUSTRALIANS

JOHNSTON, R.H. 4448

[illegible] May 3rd.1917.

I knew L.Cpl. Tracker Johnston of D.Co., [illegible] Ltn. He came from a suburb of Melbourne. He was about 24 years of age, married with some children, short and slight, fair and clean shaven. I saw his body lying on top of our parapet in an advanced position at Bullecourt on the morning of May 3rd.1917, daylight. We had to retire from it shortly after he was killed, and the body was left behind. He was killed by bullet. I passed his body several times. I do not think it was buried.

Informant: L.Cpl. [illegible] Collins,6041
24th Australians, D.Co., [illegible] ltn.
Australian Camp, Bouelles.

[illegible]

RDM.

A.I.F. 24th Btn

JOHNSTON
H.H. 4448

"M. 3-5-17"

Killed in action 3-5-17 - previously reported missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 8-1-18.

OFF.M.

London
16-1-18

acc'd by D.C.
3.9.17. [illegible]

The Secretary
Aust Red Cross Society
London M. 3.5.17.

re No 4448 H H Johnston 24 Bn

Replying to your enquiries re the above thro Ole Adolfsson, the man was not on the strength of this company & am handing your correspondence on to the other companies & will inform you at a later date if any trace can be found.

Vernon A H Cox Mj
O.M.S.
L.C.

In the Fuel
28.5.17.

4448 H. H. JOHNSTON
24 Bn

off M. 4