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

611 Gunner
Arthur West Treu
(Arthur West Black)

11th Field Artillery Brigade



04003029

42nd Battery
11th Bgde
AFA
A.I.F.

BLACK
A.W. 611

"Killed 3.8.17."

Refer to Sgt Fowls 42nd Battery 11th Bgde who is in France he saw him killed in a dugout near Ypres, and can give full details. Sgt. Fowls was in the same dugout and ~~erected~~escaped uninjured. I saw his grave in the field at "The Bluff" near Ypres, and it was marked with a cross bearing his number, name, and Battery.

Witness:-
Gnr. A.E. Sagno[illegible] 27974
42nd Battery 11th Bdge
3rd A A. Hospital,
Dartford

W.Oman
London.
11.1.18 Note written Sgt. Fowls 7.1.18. S

Havre.

12th January 1918.

11th A.F.A.

Black A.F. No.611.

K. 3rd August 1917. Det D/B.

I knew him. He had a brother in the 9th Battn. He was medium height, dark hair, age about 22. Gunner Arthur Jordon of the 11th Brigade, 42nd Batty (gassed in November and now in England) told me, Black and four others were in a dug out at Ypres near Spoilbank at the beginning of August when a shell lobbed in and they were all killed except one - Sergt. Fowles - Jordon had gone out just before the shell came and was there immediately after. He said they could find no trace of Black. He must have been blown to pieces.

Inf :- Gunner T.R.Yapp No.1298.
11th Bde 42nd Batty.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

GLF.

Written Gui. Gordon 4.2.18.

39th.Battery A.F.Artillery.

Black.A.F.No.611.

K.Aug.3rd.1917. Det.D/B.

I saw him killed at the gun position at the Bluff,Ypres. He was blown to pieces by a shell,and I don't think he was buried. I only knew him in the Battery,but he was a seaman in civilian life and came from West Australia.

Description. Age.25yrs.Height.5-4.Complexion.Fair.Medium Build.

Witness. Bostock. F.C. Gnr.39th. Battery A.F.Artillery.

Taken at
No.3.C.Depot.
Hurdcott.
F.G.H.

S.Whitmee,
No.4.C.D.
Hurdcott.

Havre 28th January.1918.

11th AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY. BLACK, A.T. 611 42 Batty,
Reid, A.C. 1733 -42 Batty.

K. Aug. 3rd.1917. Det. D/B.

I knew Black well. Reid was originally in the 7th Batty. I knew him well. He came I think from Brisbane. At the time he was a Corpl. Our Battery was on the Bluff at Dickebusch about 3rd August,1917. The enemy was shelling us. We had orders to go into our dugouts for shelter. Black and Reid's Dugout was about 20 yards from mine. I heard that a shell dropped right on the Dugout, and blew it to pieces; killing four men out of the five in it. Black and Reid were amongst those killed. All were blown to pieces. We gathered up what we could, and buried them in one grave close to the Dugout. I saw the cross that was put up; it was made out of an 18 lb. shell-box; and had one Corpl. and three gunners names on it. Black and Reid's names were on it. Sergt. D. Fowles of the 11th Batty., 42nd Batty., (who was with the Batty. when I left early in January) was one of the five in the Dugout, and the only one who escaped.

Interment: L.D. Harneminde, 2645
11th Bgde., 42nd Batty, Australian F.Art.
Havre Hospital. Havre.

HFG.

Fld. Art. 11th Bde.
42nd Bty. A.I.F.

BLACK
A.W. 611
REID
A.C. 1733

Killed 3.10.17 Det. D/B.

Both Black and Reid were killed outright at the gun position at Hollebeke and are buried at Bashouse - not certain of the name some "house" - Cemetery to the right of Dickebusche. I saw them killed and saw the grave with cross on. I did not see actual burial but saw them borne away.

Informant:- Murphy Bombdr. W.H. 5982
42nd Battn.
51 Hnt, Westham.

S.

W.A.Rand.

London.
7.2.18

A.I.F. 11th F.A.B.

BLACK
A.W. 611

Killed in action 3.8.17

Buried Bus House Cemetery 2 miles S. of Ypres.
Cert. by A.I.F.Hdqrs List for Lieut Spedding.

London
24.5.19

S

4.2.18

Lieut. Arthur Gordon

42nd Bty.

11th Bde. C.F.A.

13.5.7.

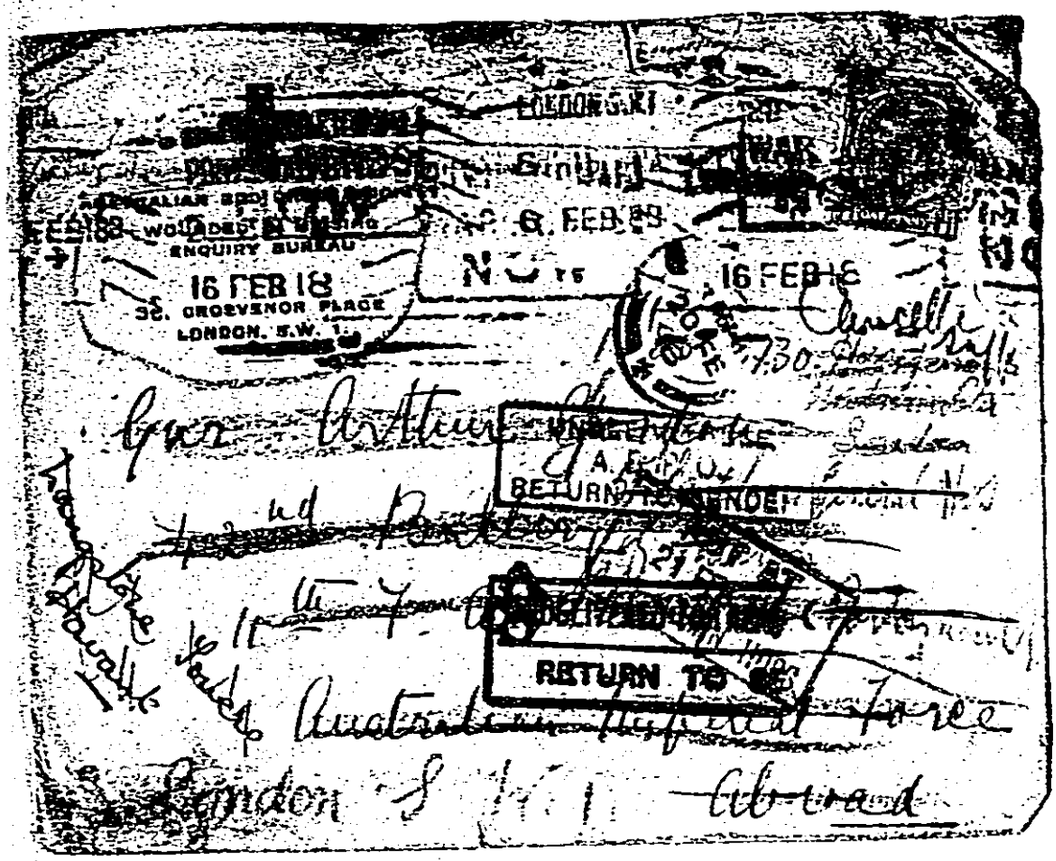
abt

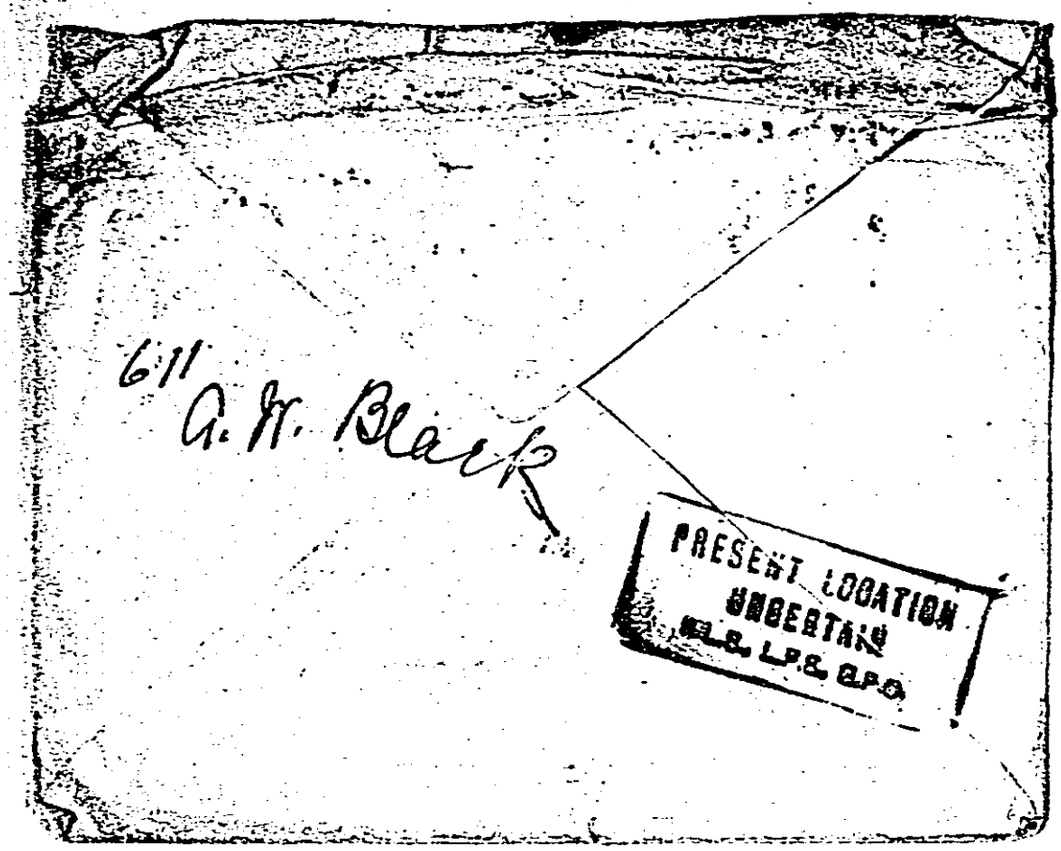
6th Pte. A.W. Black

11th Bde. C.F.A.

K. 3-8-17

6.2.18.
C.I.B.


ENQUIRY BUREAU
16 FEB 18
32, GROSVENOR PLACE
LONDON, S.W. 1.
16 FEB 18
RETURN TO SENDER
RETURN TO


611
A. W. Black
PRESENT LOCATION
UNCERTAIN
M.S. L.P.& G.P.O.

4-1-18

Sft. Fowls.

11 ± Bjds.

42 ½d Blg. a.f.a.

a.g.f

B.E.f.

abt 611 A.W. Black.

11 ± Bjds

42 Blg. a.fa

K - 3-8-17.

T

8-1-18

6. 2. 18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).
~~54, VICTORIA STREET,~~
36, GROSVENOR PLACE, LONDON, S.W. 1.

Telephones
VICTORIA 8576, 8577, 8578

Telegraphic Address:
"GUESTMAN LONDON."

Gnr. Arthur Gordon
42nd Bty. 11th T.M. Bde.
B.T.7. C.T.7.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your unit

611 Pte. A. W. Black 11th T.M. Bde. C.T.7.
K. 3-8-17.

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can send us concerning Pte. A. W. Black but our enquirers wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the field or in a soldier's cemetery where the grave would be registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance or any points that might help to prove his identity.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin.

SECRETARY.

NOTE In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number of casualty enquired for, as without these particulars delay and confusion is caused in identificationof the soldier about whom you are writing.