

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

**2932 Private
Frank Arthur Bowden**

60th Battalion



0470905P

60th A.I.F.

Bowden, Pte. F.A. 2932
B. Co. (Co. Signaller)

(M. July 19/16)

"It was at Fleurbaix. I was lying at Bowden's side when a piece of shell hit him in the back and nearly cut him in half. I did my best for him and on going to him I found his back torn open and his back shattered. I was myself wounded a few minutes later and consequently can say nothing more. This occurred on July 19. 1916."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: A good pianist

Informant:- Sgt. A.J. Ferguson, 783
60th A.I.F. B. Co. V Pl.
Napsbury War Hospital,
St. Albans

Home address:

Park Road, Beaufort
May 30 - Victoria Australia.
Ada Puddicombe

P.1
off 26
1

Statement made by No. 782 Sgt Ferguson A.J. 60th Btn

re No. 2932 Pte Bowden P.A. 60th Btn

Reported Missing 19.7.16

I saw the above mentioned soldier cut in half by a shell on
the 19.7.16 at Fleurbaix. We were half way across No Man's Land
when he was struck. I was wounded a few minutes later, so could
not say what became of his body.

Dated at Monte Video Camp this 20th day of July 1917.

(Sgd) A.J. Ferguson.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) H.J. Story.
Capt.

Off c/b P.1
James Lancel
3

60th Battn
A.I.F.

BOWDEN.
F.A. 2932

"Missing 19.7.16."

Killed in Action previously reported Missing.
Cert. by A.I.F. HdQtrs. 22.8.17.

Off. M. P.I.

London.
25.8.17.

A.I.F. 60th Bn
late 8th

BOWDEN
Sig. Frank Arthur 2932

"K/A. 19-7-35"

No trace Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10-10-19

C.F.M & P.I.

Recd.
28-10-19

The Australian Red Cross Society
(B.R.C.S.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No.

7203

Date

June 17-1918

Regimental Details of
Soldier enquired about.

No 1402
Pte. D. F. Jones
5th Pioneers.

Details of Casualty.

{ Gassed - March

Information wanted.

{ Location & Condition.

1.9.20

Final draft -

Mrs C E. Bowden

O 23. Barber-hd
Ballersea
S. VV

Le 2932. J. A. Bowden.
60th Bn.

W. 1000

24. 8. 17.

Comp A & E Bowden, 23, Berker Road
Dattersea. P.W.

About 2932 Signaller of A Bowden
60th Battalion. A.P.F.

19.4.16

Killed on action, previously
reported missing.

Home Car. Draft

60t h. Batta
A.I.F.

BARTISSE.

Douglas Clarence 3768

"Missing 19.7.16."

Killed in Action 19.7.16. previously reported Missing.
Cert. by A.I.F. HQs. 22.8.17.

P.I.
Off. H.

London.
25.8.17.

January 10th.1917. ---

Mrs. E. Bowden
23. Berber Road.
Battersea. S.W.

Dear Madam;

Your enquiry for your son No. 2932. Sig. F.A. Bowden, 60th. Btn
to hand.

We are very sorry to say that we have no information
beyond the official report Missing 19-7-16." His name has not come
through on any list of prisoners. We are doing all in our power
to obtain news, and should any come to hand, we shall forward it
immediately.

With deep sympathy in your great anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

E. M.
/r. Secretary

June 16th, 1917.

Mrs. A. E. Bowden,
23, Berber Road,
Battersea, S.W.

Dear Madam,

We have received an official report concerning your son, 2932 Sig. F.A. Bowden, 60th Battn. A. I. F. from a man in his unit 783 Sgt. A. J. Furguson - at present in Nansbury War Hospital, St Albans. He tells us he was beside Pte. Bowden when he was very badly wounded indeed by a shell at Fleurbaix. Informant tried to help him but he was unable to do anything for him as he himself was wounded a few moments later.

We most deeply regret to send you such very distressing and indefinite information, and we feel also there is practically no reason to believe he may be a prisoner of war, for so much time has elapsed since he was reported missing and his name has not yet appeared on the German Prisoners lists.

With our most sincere sympathy to you in your great sorrow.

Yours faithfully,

Miss McConnell
Secretary.

September 26th, 1917..

Mrs. A. E. Bowden,
22, Harbor Rd.,
Battersea, S.W.

Dear Madam,

We deeply regret to send you another unofficial
report about your son No 2932 Pte. ~~A. A. Bowden~~
60th Battalion,
A.I.F.

and we trust that it will be some consolation to you to
know that his death was swift and painless.

Pte. A. J. Ferguson of the same unit gave evidence
at Monte Video Camp, Weymouth to the effect that he saw
Pte. Bowden killed instantaneously by a shell when half
way across no Man's Land at Fleurbaix on July 19th 1916.

He was himself wounded a short time afterwards,
however, and can give us no details of your son's burial.

Should any further information be received about him
we shall advise you immediately but we greatly fear that no
additional particulars will be obtained.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

SECRETARY *L. M.*