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

3692 Lance Sergeant Montague Alphonse Roxby

2nd Pioneer Battalion



2370805P

2nd Pioneers. Roxby, M.A. 3692.

K. 14/4/18.

Sgt. Monty Roxby was killed by a shell while we were digging a sap at the East of Lavaeville, he died instantaneously. I was there at the time and saw the occurence. I saw his grave near where he fell, he was buried together with 2 others of our unit but I forget their names. We put a small cross on the grave.

2nd Pioneers. Hawkins, F. Pte. 3706.

A 15. Dartford. 4/7/18.

R.D.B.

Havre. 13th. July. 1918.

2nd. Australian Pioneers. Roxby, M. A. 3692.

K. April. 14/1918. Dets. D/B.

The Roxby I knew was a Sergeant in D. Coy, 13th. Pltn; tall, well build, medium, clean-shaven, very quite, very reserved man. We were digging tronches at night outside Honnescourt. He was standing on the parapet when a piece of shell hit him in the chest & killed him outright. I lifted him into the trench for protection. We took him out of the trech the next day & buried him in a Paddock alongside of the Hennencourt Road which road I think ran into the Albert Road. A Cross was put over the Grave which was pointed out to me the next night.

Inf:- G. Brown. 3320.
H. M. 'Western Australia'.

WHB.

OP.

2nd Pioneer Battalions

Roxby, Pte. M.A. 3692

(K/A M. April 14, 18).
Dets D & B

" I was next to a Sgt. Roxby (2. D XIII) when he was killed instantaneously about 14th April on the Albert Sector. We were digging trenches at 9 p.m. when a shell struck him in the chest. The Germans were shelling very heavily at the time. He was left on the parapet that night but the next morning was taken away to be buried on the Henencourt Road. I have seen his grave. There is a cross put up. "

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description - Big man, Tall, about 34, clean shaven. out some time.

Informant :- Pte. George Brown, 3320,
13th Pl. D Coy. 2 Pioneer Battalions,
Home address :- 3rd Southern General Hospt.
35 Flinders St, The Base, Oxford.
Melbourne.

15.7.18
H.M.Pickard-Cambridge.

Havre. 16th. July. 1918.

2nd. Australian Pioneers. Roxby. M. A. 3692.

K. April. /4/1918. Dots. D/B.

I know Sergeant Roxby; he came from Collingwood, Victoria; his Brother is a Police Constable in the same place. If you write Sergeant K. McAuley (?) spelling, 2nd. Australian Pioneers he would be able to give full information. He buried Roxby & Private Chris. Young the day after they were killed between Amiens & the Canal in April 1918.

Inf:- Private. W. Ackworth. 3514.
2nd. Australian Pioneers.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDH.

CP.

Havre 30th July 1918.

Aust. Pioneers 2. Roxby H.A. No. 3692.

R. 14th April 1918. Det D/B.

He was a Sergeant. I did not know him at all well. On the 12th April we were near Albert on the right of Albert Road entrenching. About 11 p.m. Fritz started a barrage and the Sergeant came in to the trench for shelter. While he was standing there, close by me, he was hit by a piece of shell which took off a part of his head, killing him instantly. I at once went to him but could do nothing. A burying party went out the next day and took the body away but I don't know where the grave is.

Inf:- Pte W.H.Halt No.
Aust. Pioneers 2. D.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

CWSG.

PP.

Havre 30th July 1918.

Aust. Pioneers 2. Roxby H.A. No. 3692.

R. 14th April 1918. Det D/B.

I knew him well. I don't know his initials or number. He was my platoon Sergeant. I don't think there were two Roxbys in the Battn. I helped to carry Sergt Roxby out with a wound in the chest by shrapnel. He died on the stretcher on the way to the D/Station. Our people still hold the ground and I have no doubt he was buried although I do not know of the grave. Tall, thin, 30/32, dark, very quiet in his manner.

Inf:- Pte J.T.Robertson No.1785.
Aust. Pioneers, 2. D. XVI.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

SJ.

PP.

A.I.F. 2nd Pioneers. ROXBY, M.A. 3692.

K. April 14/18. Det. D/B.

I knew a Sgt. Roxby who was killed about that date. We were encamped at Warloy at the time, a good bit behind the lines. If this be the man I mean, he was the Sgt. of a party who were engaged in digging a front line trench for a fall back. It was just behind a ridge. It was dark night perhaps about 11 o'clock. I was in the next party and within forty yards. A shell came over and he got it full. The remains were gathered up and put on a stretcher to be carried to the rear. I saw the body on the stretcher and was told by the boys that it was Sgt. Roxby. All his Pl. were there. I think he was taken to the D/S but what happened after that I do not know. We still hold the ground and there is therefore no doubt that he was properly buried. I do not know anything about him as he was in a different Coy. to me. I only knew that the boys told me that they body I saw was Sgt. Roxby and I never heard of another Roxby in the Bn.

Refereme: Pte. E. Heppen, 2633.
No.1 Australian, Rouen. 30.7.18.

GPO.

A.I.F. Pioneers. 2. ROXBY, M. A. 3692.

K. April 14th, 1918.

Roxby was a Sgt. in 2nd Pioneers D. Co. I didn't see him killed but heard that he was killed by a shell at night near Warloy. About half a dozen were hit that night, but Sgt. W. Lambert, 2nd Pioneers D. Co., was the only one to get back to a D/S. He is now in Blighty and would probably be able to give an account of Roxby's death.

Inf. Pte. F. Davey, 1181, 2nd Pioneers, A.Co.
No.2. Stat. Hosp.
ABBEVILLE, 30.7.18. HBH.

A.I.F. 2nd Pioneers. ROXBY, M. A. 3692.

K. April 14th, 1918.

Roxby was a Sgt. in the 2nd Pioneers. He was blown up and killed outright by a shell about 100 yards from me at 11 or 12 o'clock at night. I didn't see him killed but was told by different members of the Co. I knew Roxby very well and he used to stop at my place in Croydon, Vic. I wrote to my sister asking her to see his brother and tell him what happened.

I dont know anything about the burial but I believe he was brought into Warloy and buried there.

Inf. Pte. C. S. Brice, 3471, 2nd Pioneers.A.Co.
No.2. Stat. Hosp.
ABBEVILLE. 2.8.18. HEH.

2nd Pnr. Btn.

ROXBY, Sgt.
M.L. 3692

Kld. 14.4.18.

"I saw him killed by a shell about eleven o'clock at night. It was at Heilly and we were digging a trench at the time. He was buried at Dacurs. I have seen his grave with a cross on it. He was a big man about 14. or 15 stone in weight, dark and about 25 years of age. I think he had been a wharf-labourer. He was in 14th Platoon."

Informant:- E.C. Bailey
No. 3310 2nd Pnr. Btn.

Private address
Tool Street,
Hopetoun.

W.F.J.
14.2.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU–MELBOURNE.

2nd Pnrs.

M A
M.A. ROXBY
T/Sgt. No. 3692

K.I.d. in act. 14.4.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man about 6', about 14 stone, well built, fair complexion about 33 years of age, known as Monte. Casualty was digging a trench in front of Albert. A H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I was working in the same party. He was most severely wounded about the head and abdomen. He was buried just where he fell and I helped to bury him. A cross was erected over the grave with his name, number and unit on it."

Informant:- E. Bruce
2088. 5th Bgde. Art.

Private address
Mitcham P.O.
Victoria.

T.C.F.
23.5.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2nd Pioneers Btn.

ROXBY. M. A.
L/Sgt. 3692.

K. in act. 14/4/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a stout built man about 6 ft. in height, fair complexion, about 35 years of age. Casualty was at support lines near Albert. We were digging trenches just in rear of the line when an H.E. shell landed amongst us a piece entering Casualty's chest killing him instantly. I did not see him killed but his body was brought into the trench where I was digging. He was buried just at the rear of the trench where a cross was erected over the grave."

Informant:- Pte. G. Hewitt,
No. 3126, 2nd Pnrs. Btn

Private address:-
Violet Town.
N.A.T.
30/5/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2nd Pioneers.

ROXBY, H.A.
L/Sgt. No. 3692

Kld. in act. 14.4.18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, well built, medium complexion about 30 years of age. Casualty was in charge of a working party at Buire Road near Albert. I was in the same party. An H.E. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I was five yards away at the time the shell exploded, and I saw his body immediately afterwards. He was most severely wounded all over and he was buried near where he fell and I saw his grave. I made the cross that was erected over same."

Informant:- W. Thirwall
No. 2436

Private
address:-
9 Stevedore Street,
North Williamstown.

T.C.F.
30.5.19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2nd Pioneers

ROXBY, M.A.
3692

K. 14/4/18

I knew casualty, he was a tall man about 6ft., well built, fair complexion, about 30 years of age, known as Monty. Casualty was in charge taking a strong-post, I was in the same party. A shell exploded near casualty, killing him instantly. I was about twenty yards away at the time the shell exploded and I saw his body laying on top of the trench. He was buried just where he fell and a cross was erected over the grave with his name, number and unit on it.

W. H. BRADLEY.
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Private Address:-
112 John Street,
WILLIAMSTOWN

T.C.F.
6/6/19

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.