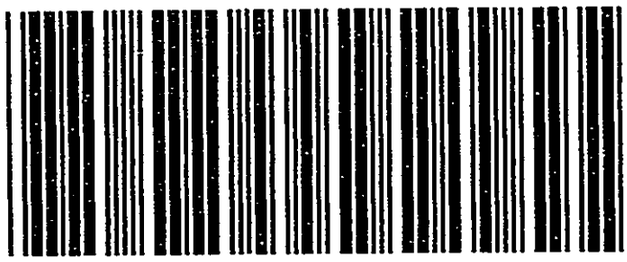
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

215 Corporal
John Edward Yates

15th Battalion



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A.I.F. 15th Btn

YATES
L/Cpl J.E. 215

"M. 11-4-17"

Killed in action 11-4-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A I.F.Hqrs 19-9-17

OFF.M
& P.I

London
24-9-17

15th Battn.
A. I. F.

Yates.
L/Cpl. J.E. 215.

"Missing 11 4.17."

I saw him dead near Bullecourt on the 11th of April 1917. He was on his side, I turned him over on his back, he was quite dead, killed early that morning in an attack at 5 a.m. It was 7.30.a.m. when I saw him. Ground was lost. Cannot say if he was buried. We called him Jack Knew him very well, sure of his number. No other of same name. His wife lives at Brighton, London. His people have been making enquiries through the "Daily Mirror" about him. Description rather short, inclined to be fair, very jolly man about 26 years.

Witness:-
Pte. J. T. Casey. 4760.
15th Battn. D.Coy.
3rd Aust. Aux. Hpl.
Dartford.

W. Oman.

London.
19.5.17.

Off.M.

Statement madeby No.4760 Pte Casey J.T. 15th Btn

re No.215 L/Cpl Yates J.E. 15th Btn
Reported Missing 11.4.17

On the morning of the 11th April 1917, when I was coming out after being wounded, I saw L/Cpl Yates lying partly on his side his steel helmet was alongside of him, I turned him on to his back but he was dead. I know nothing as regards the burying of him, but judging from where he was lying, in all probability he would have been buried.

Dated at Dartford this 8th day of August 1917.

(Sgd) J.T. Casey.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) A. Nell Capt.

2 for Nell

6/11. 17.

A.I.F. 15th Btn

J YATES
Cpl E. 215

"MISSING 11th April 1917"

For identification in the case of his being wounded & in Hospital somewhere - the said soldier's has tattoo markes on both arms on one a "Rink Rose"? on the other a snake, skull & Crossbones - He is about 25 years of age, of medium height fair, with grey green eyes and well-formed features - He joined the army at the beginning of the war in Australia and was in the Gallipoli Campaign of 1915 - afterwards in Egypt was engaged in the Mounted Military Police for some months before rejoining his battalion. and was sent to France the beginning of Dec. 1916.

Ref. Extract from letter from Emma Yates.

20 Marine Parade
Brighton 16-9-17

CEF?M

London
21-9-17

33, Buckingham Street
Brighton
Sussex
England

ack
RECEIVED
10 OCT 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE.

The Secretary

Should like to know if you could give me any information, of my Husband. John Edward Yates. 215. Corpl. 15 Ci Batt: A. I. F. I had the news, of him being missing since the 11 Ci April. 1917. now have

again the news, saying they assume he was killed on that date. Having nothing of his back yet. I cannot believe it. Therefore should be much obliged if you will kindly do this for me. He joined the Australian Imperial Force 4th August 1914.

Your Faithfully
Mrs C. Yates

33, Buckingham St.
Brighton
Sussex

215. Cpl S.E. Yates.
15th Batt.

Yates Tuesday. Oct: 16-10-17

The Secretary.

Received your kind letter with thanks. As regards knowing a friend of his there was only one he brought to the house but he was transfered to the A.S.C. & lost sight of my

Husband. previous, to
that he was in the
13th Batt: his name is
Spte. W. Farnham. 144.
Thanking you for your
kindness, in making
every possible inquiry's
Yours Faithfully
Mrs. C. Yates

Final Draft to

Wm Yates
43 Buckingham St
Brighton

re
215- Yates L. Cpl. L.E.
15- Eln

29/9/19

27/10/19.

Final Draft to
Thos Yates
33 Buckingham St
Brighton

about
215 L/Cpl J.E. Yates
15th Bn

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

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No. 7417

Date July 10. 1918.

Regimental Details of Soldier enquired about No. 294 N. Gnr. P. S. Heeds, 12 F. A. B.

Details of Casualty. Wounded

Information wanted. Location & condition

21 Marine Parade
Brighton. 16-9-17.

To The Secretary
British Red Cross & St Johns Society

Dear Sir

May I beg for the aid of your Society in our endeavour to ascertain the Date of Corporal A. E. Yates. No 215. of the 15th Battalion Australian Imperial Force. who was serving in France up to the 11th April last. was reported missing from that date & has not been heard of since. For identification in the case of his being wounded & in Hospital Somewhere. the said Soldier has tattoo marks on both arms. on one a "Built Rose" on the other a Snake. Skull & Cross bones. He is about 25 years of age. of medium height. fair. with grey green eyes & well formed

features. He joined the army at the beginning of the War in Australia and was in the Gallipoli Campaign of 1915. Afterwards in Egypt. Was engaged in the Mounted Military Police for some months before rejoining his Battalion. I was sent to France the beginning of Dec.r 1916. Any communication would be be gladly received by his Mother. Mrs E. Yates of 20 Marine Parade. Brighton.
With many apologies for thus soliciting your services

I remain

Yours faithfully
Emma Yates

October 11th, 1917.

Mrs. Yates,
20, Marine Parade,
Brighton.

Re 215. L/Cpl. J.E. YATES. 15th Battalion, A.I.F.

Dear Madam,

We deeply regret to inform you that the above soldier who was previously reported Missing is now reported "Killed in Action on 11.4.17".

We are making further inquiries in the hope of learning full details of his death and will immediately forward to you any information that we receive.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your loss.

Yours faithfully,

V. D
SECRETARY.
LAW

33, Buckingham Street
Brighton
Sussex.

215 Yates 4 Cp J. E
15 Bth

2 - 10 - 19.

Dear Madam

Re your letter received on 29th 9 - 19. If of course you can let me know any further news other than, I have already had, which is still missing, I should be very much obliged.

It is quite a long time since I heard anything, as regards my dear Husband.

Thanking you for your trouble.

Yours Faithfully
Mrs D. Yates

Further particulars please

September 20th, 1917.

Mrs. Yates,
20, Marine Parade,
Brighton, Sussex.

Dear Madam,

We have received your inquiry for your son

No 215 L/Cpl.J.F.Yates,
15th Battalion,
A.I.F.

and much regret that we have very little information to give you. He was officially reported "Missing on 11.4.17" and although we have made every possible inquiry we have so far received no information as to his fate and as his name has not appeared on any list of Prisoners we very much fear that he must have been killed.

We are however, pursuing our enquiries and any information we receive will be immediately forwarded to you, in the meantime may we offer you our sincere sympathy in your great anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY. R M for D M P.

October 17th, 1917.

Mrs. D.Yates,
33, Buckingham Street,
Brighton, Sussex.

Dear Madam,

We received your letter 10.10.17, asking for information about your husband No 215 Cpl.John Edmund Yates,
15th Battalion,
A.I.F.

concerning whom you have already heard that he was officially reported Missing since 11.4.17.

We are very sorry indeed that in spite of our having made every possible inquiry, we have never succeeded in hearing any news of him.

We are however, continuing our efforts to get information for you, and if we have any success we will communicate with you at once. At the sametime we do not wish to raise your hopes, because we fear that since so long a time has elapsed without word of him since he was reported missing that there can be very ~~x~~ doubt as to his fate. Can you tell us of any friends of his in th battalion to whom we might write?

With our sincerest sympathy in your grief and anxiety.

h-F.W.

Yours faithfully,