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

2507 Corporal
William John Williams

57th Battalion



2961109S

57th. Btn.

WILLIAMS. W.J.
Cpl. 2507.

K/A. 6.I2.I7.

I knew Casualty, he was dark, slim build, 5'6" in height, 25 years of age, known as "Smocker". Casualty was taking a despatch from Coy. Head Quarters at Rose Wood, Ypres and while walking across Gully, a shell landed killing him instantly. He was buried by Bob Heard, at Estaminet Corner.

Informant:-
Charlton, W. 5055,

Private address:-
C/O I4 Council Street,
Upper Hawthorn.

S.V.P.
I7. IO. I9.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU–MELBOURNE.

57th Battn.
A.I.F.

WILLIAMS.
W.J. 2507.

Killed in Action"e 6-12-17.

Re 2507Spd.Williams. B.C. 57th Battn. A.I.F. He was killed on or somewhere about 6-12-17, and he died before he reached the dressing station and he was buried in the field in a soldiers' grave a few miles behind the firing line and the grave is registered. He was buried by our Chaplain Rodgers of the 57th Battn, and he was a stout build of a man, dark complexion, and my mate was with him the night he was killed. He cannot give you any more information than this so he told me to tell you and he had nothing in his pockets only his Pay Book and that was handed in to the officer in charge here and any time you want information of anyperson in the 57th Battn 5th Division, 15th Brigade, I shall always be pleased to let you know at any time as I know all of the boys in this brigade, I am in the A.M.C. and I know all thatgets killed and wounded, as I am here with the doctor all the time.

Letter from:- Pte.A.C.Nancarrow. 5159.
A.M.C.
57th Battn.
A.I.F.
FRANCE.

London.
15-5-18.

M.

57th Batt: late 5th

William, W.J. 2507.

K. 6/12/17.

We were on a working party at Wytscharte when a shell burst right amongst us. It wounded Williams on the head and chest and he lived for about an hour. I took him to the Dressing Station at Estaminet Corner on a light railway. He died just as we arrived. I saw his grave at a cemetery, near Estaminet Corner, there is a cross with all particulars.

57th Batt:

10 A. Dartford. 7/5/18. R.D.B.

Meigan, R.H.Pte. 1964.

R.D.B.

M

57th Battn. A.I.F.

Williams, Pte. W.J. 2507

K. Dec. 6/17 Det D/B

"I was near Williams when he was killed. He and two other men were in"The Ravine", in front of Wytschaete, and he was killed by a shell. He was the first to be killed that day at that place - and death was instantaneous. He was buried in a Cemetery, behind Messines, and I saw his grave there."

Eye-witness:- Yes.

Description:- Does not remember much abt. him except that he was rather big and came from Victoria.

Informant:- Pte. Joseph Schlotterlein, 3602,
57th Battalion A. I. F. C.Coy.,
Royal Victoria Hospital,
Belfast.

Home address:- Dooley Street,
Bendigo,
Victoria,
Australia.

May 1/1918.
C. Vance.

M

57 A.I.F.

Williams. W.J. 2507.

(K. Doc. 6/17.)
Det. D/B.

"I was with a Cpl. Williams. (57. B.V.) when he was very badly wounded in the head and body by a shell, on Dec. 6th. at Wytschaete, while on fatigue. I was on the same working party with him at 9 p.m. He was taken away to the D/S. by two stretcher bearers, Pte. Robert Anderson (57. B.V.) and Pte. Archibald Henderson (57. B.V.) but when he got to the door of the Dressing Station he died. He was buried outside. I saw his grave later. There is a Cross put up."

Eye-witness: Yes. William Anderson Lancaster 30-4-18

Description: Very tall; fair; 27. big build; out about two months.

Informant: Pte. Richard Meigin. 1964.
57 A.I.F. B Co., V Pl.,
3rd Southern General Hospital.
Durham Buildings. Oxford.

Home address: 24, Fitzroy St.,
Footscray. Victoria.

17.4.18.
Hilda.M. Pichard-Cambridge.

57th A.I.F. (?)

Williams, W.J. Pte. 2507
C. or D. Coy.

K. 6/12/17. Dets D/B.

"Pte. W.J. Williams was killed by a shell at Kemmel whilst holding the line on the 6th Dec. 1917."

Eyewitness. Yes.

Description. Tallish dark thin built man.

Informant. Sgt. D.G. Mackay, 3433
57 A.I.F. (?)
B. Coy. V. Pltn.
Norfolk War Hosp.
Norwich.

Home address.
4 Victoria Street,
Ballarat, east,
Victoria,
Aust.

7.4.18.
E. Rice.

A.I.F. 57. WILLIAMS, W.J. 2507.

K. Dec. 6th 1917. Det D/S.

This was on the Wytschaete front. He went out on a fatigue at night and was hit by a shell. He had hardly any life left in him, and by the time they got him back to the D/S he was dead. It was a quiet front and he was sure to be properly buried though I don't know where. It was about the only casualty we had just then. He was B, Coy.

Inf. C.P.Hodgson 57 A.I.F.
A.T. 'Newhaven'
CALAIS. 18.3.18.

CGP.

57th Battn. B Coy.
A.I.F.

WILLIAMS
W.J. 2507

"Killed 6-12-17"

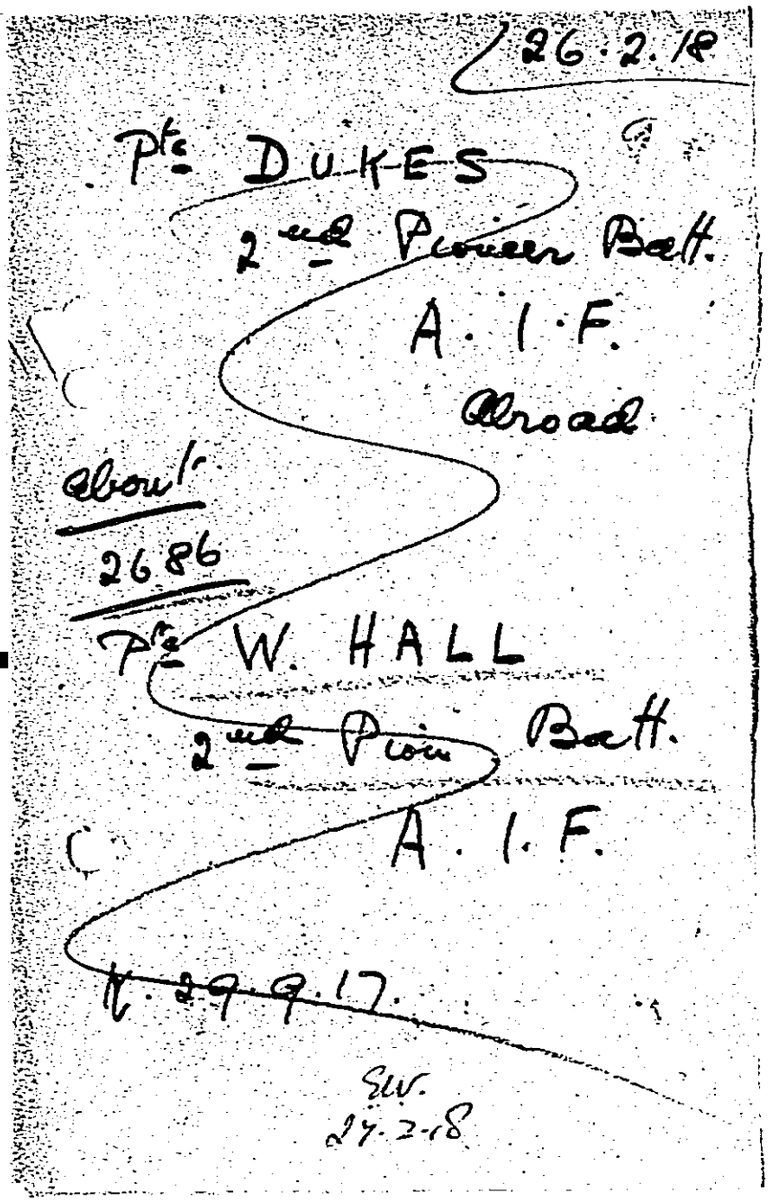
Refer to Cpl.G.Schmahl and Pte.R.Anderson, 57th Battn., B Coy., who are now in France, they saw him wounded, and took him to the dressing station, and can give full details of death and burial.

Informant. Ashmore Pte.H.E. 477
57th. Battn. B Coy. 5th Pltn.,
3rd A.A.H.,
DARTFORD.

W.Oman
London
5-4-18

M.

Note:-
Written to Cpl.Schmahl 5-4-18


26.2.18

Pte DUKES

2nd Pioneer Batt.

A.I.F.

Abroad

about

2686

Pte W. HALL

2nd Pion Batt.

A.I.F.

N. 29.9.17.

Sw.

27.2.18

To 3/4/18

Cpl
~~Pte~~ G. Schmahl
B. Coy.
5th Battn.
C. F. F.
B. E. F.

Admit per W. T. Williams
2504
B. Coy
5th Inf. Battn.
C. F. F.

Killed 6/12/17

Info
3/4/18

To 9C

Pte ROBERT ANDERSON

B. Coy 57 A.I.F

and B.G.T.

E

A/C ARCHIBALD NANCARROW

B. Coy 57 A.I.F.

about B.G.T.

2507

W. J. WILLIAMS

B. Coy 57 A.I.F.

K/A 6-12-17

Sw

30-4-18

Dead in Pc
13.5.18
9.1

2507
Pte J. Williams
5th Battn
Rue A. 6.12.17

France

May 9/1918

M

Just a few lines hoping this information will be useful to you of 2507 Pte/Cpl W J Williams B Co 5th Batt of) # Was killed on or somewhere about the 6th 12/1917 and he died before he reached the dressing station & he was buried in the field in a Soldiers grave a few miles behind the firing lines and the grave is registered and he was buried by our Chaplain Rodgers of the 5th Batt and he was a stout built of a man dark complexion and my mate was with him the night he was killed and he cant give you any more information than this as he told me to tell you and he had nothing in his pockets only his pay book and that was handed in to the Officer in Charge here and any information you want to know at any time of any person in the 5th Battalion 5 division 15 Brigade I shall always be pleased to let you know at any time as I know all of the boys in this Brigade and I am in the 5th M.G. and I know all that gets killed and wounded as I am here with the division all the ten

and I remain

5/5 9
Pte. A. E. McCarron
5th M.G.C.
5th Batt
France