

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

**424 Company  
Sergeant Major  
Vincent William Orr**

**23rd Battalion**



2060610F

23rd Bttn,  
A.I.F.

ORR.  
V.W. 424.

"Killed 5.5., 7. Details Death & Burial"

Should be Sgt. Orr., 23rd Battn, A.I.F., B.Coy, 6th Pltn,  
For information write to

C/O/M/S Laffen,  
23rd Battn,  
A.I.F., B.Coy, France.

Note:- written C/O/M/S Laffen.  
20.6.17.

Informant:-

Sgt. G. Hepturn, 1940,  
23rd Battn,  
A.I.F., B.Coy, 6th Pltn.  
Tooting Grove Hosp.

Home Address.  
Horseferry Rd.

Y. Perrins,  
London  
20.8.17.

M.  
Boulogne.

23rd Battrn.  
...I.F.

Orr,  
V.W. 424

W. July-Aug./16:

Admitted 1st Convalescent Depot 30/7/16.

London,  
7/9/16.

H.

C

23rd A.I.F.

V. W. ORR. 424.

K. 3.5.17. Det. D & B.

I was in the Regt. at the time and know that he was blown to pieces by a shell while on the way up to the front line. Quite a lot of the fellows actually saw this, and I got it from those who saw it but I can't remember just the name of any one of them. C.Q.M.S. Laffen, however, would have full details if written to. He is with the Coy. in the line.

Reference: J. C. E. McLean, 949.

No.6 General, Rouen. 2.6.17.

FMP.

*See Laffen's report*

17.

23rd Batta  
A.I.F.

Orr  
V.D. C S M 424

Killed in Action 3.6.17."

Concerning 424 Coy Sgt. Major V.W. Orr who was killed in Action 3.6.17. he was not buried by this unit, as it was impossible to do so at the time whether he was buried by Unit which relieved us I cannot say. I have written to his brother Sgt. G. Orr Finance Sect. A.I.F. Head Qtrs some time ago giving him all particulars in my power he was about 24 years old, height 5'10" stoutly built, brown eyes dark hair freckled complexion

Letter From:-

R. Laffan

C.M.S. B. Coy. 23rd Batta

London.  
22.9.17.

M. B'Logne

Havre

15th October. 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

ORR, V.W. 424

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

I knew C.S.M. William Orr. I saw him killed instantly - blown to pieces at Bullecourt on May 3rd, 1917 in the 2nd German lines. He took our objective and held the ground, but very few of the bodies were buried owing to heavy fire.

Informant: Sergt. A.H. Mounier, 4736  
23rd Australians, B.C.  
Australian Camp, Bouellies.

EDL.

M  
Boul

Havre

21st Oct. 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

ORR, V.W. 424

K. B.5.17. Det. D/B.

I think that V.W. Orr may be Sergt. Major Orr, Acting Sarrant Officer. Sergt. Major Orr was an original man. When he was killed he was on H.Q. Before that he was Sergt. Major of B Co. (He was in charge of an ammunition column going up with the Pioneers). Three pioneers were carrying ammunition up to a machine gun. They crouched down alongside the trench owing to shells bursting. Orr was killed there (in the front line) by concussion. I think it was concussion as there were no marks or blood on him. He may have been buried there. Enquiries should be made at the 23rd Battalion H.Q. I was told this by the Pioneers after we had come out.

Informant: Pte. R.H. Bond, 2254  
23rd Australians, B Co.,  
No. 5 Amb. Train. Havre.

M  
Bond  
Ed  
JFK  
Bull

Havre

18th July. 1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

ORR, V.W. 424

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

Orr had been promoted to R.S.Maj. I do not know his initials; he had been a Sergt. in I think C. Company, and his number was a low one. I was with him when he was killed by shell near the German 1st line at Bullecourt on the afternoon of May 3rd. 1917, and I saw the pioneers taking the body to a small Military Cemetery on the Railway Embankment at Bullecourt.

Informant: Pt. H. Hayes 737

23rd Australians, H.Q.

Australian Camp, Souelles.

R.H.

971.

Orr 424 23<sup>rd</sup> B.M.

V.W.

R. 4.5.17

T.A. Orr

Finance Sec H.L.

Horticultural / tree

Wants no details but wants  
names photo of Graves

COM Sgt. [20.8.17]  
LAFFEN BC  
23 Batt AIF  
BEF

(for)

H

424 <sup>2</sup> ~~(S)~~ V.W. ORP  
~~23 Batt AIF~~

K.3.5.17

18na  
20.8.17

C/s/m. V. N. <sup>W.</sup> Over. 424.

23 Bath.

see under

C. C. Ladner. 5131. " "

18/9/17.

Z

C/s/m. V. N. <sup>W.</sup> Over. 424.

23 Bath.

See under

C. C. Ladner. 5131. " "

26/9/17.