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

669 Lance Corporal Frederick Stanley Martin Smart

19th Battalion



2521010B

A.I.F. 19th Battn.

SMART
F.S.M.669

"Killed in Action 29/3/18"

We have written No. 6131 Pte A.E. Roberts about 669 Pte F.S.M.Smart 19th Battn. and the letter has been returned to us.
H.Q. reports that 6131 Pte Roberts returned to Australia per S.S.Czar 23/3/19.

London
31/3/19

S

A.I.F. 19th Battn. NOTE TO SYDNEY SMART
F.S.M. 669.

"Killed in Action 29.3.18"

Repcrted by Lieut. P. Storkey killed in February 1918 whilst they were in the lines. See ycur letter 7.11.18." Captain P.V. Storkey V.C., 19th Battalion, Returned to Australia on furlough on 23.9.18, enlisted in Victoria.

London
8.1.19.

A.I.F.
19th Bttn.

SMART.
P.3.H. 669

"Killed 29.3.18."

I saw Freddy Smart's (Of B.V.) body shortly after he had been killed instantly by minnewerfer shell or bomb at Messines, whilst on an outpost about 10 p.m. S/Bs. Bevan(in Brussels on duty) and (I think) A.N. Roberts of B.Co, and two others brought back Smart's dead body and Sgt. Tisdell who was wounded by the same shell and died after. I passed them when they came out. I believe they were in a dugout at the time they were hit giving out rations. Smart was buried by Cpl. J. Beaton. Btn. H/Qs (has left for Australia) in support lines at Messines.

Description:- Very slim, fair, about 21 years , about 5'6" in height.

Informant:- W.F. Johnson. 2420
19th Bttn. B.Coy.
A.I.F.
Belgium 26.1.19.

H.O.H.
London.
10.2.19.
J.F.A.

3.

NOTE:- Britton Bevan and Roberts 6.2.19.

A.I.F.
19th Bttn.

SMART.
F.S.M. 669

"Killed 29.3.18."

Smart. P.J.M. (not P.S.M.) 669. Killed in action 26.3.18. Buried just behind Dressing Station near Messines. Cross was erected. He was killed in front line and brought back and buried there.

Informant:- 282 S/M. Morgan.
Orderly Room.
Belgium. 26.1.19.

H.M.
London.
10.2.19.
J.T.A.

S.

19th BATTALION.
A.I.F.

SMART, L/Corporal
F.S.M. No. 669

"Killed 29-3-18".

Informant described Smart as about 5'8" high, slim build, aged about 24. Was a Carpenter by trade and came from Ryde where his father has an Orchard. They both belonged to "B" Company.

On 29-3-18 the Battalion was holding the line in front of Messines. About 10 p.m when Smart was asleep he was killed outright by a minnenwerfer. Informant did not see Smart hit, but was called upon to take his post, and when he came up he saw Smart being carried out. Two others were killed by the same shell. Informant was told that Smart was buried at a Village near Messines, of which he could not remember the name. Informant added that Smart was well thought of by his mates.

Informant;- No. 570, L/Corporal R.J. Honey
"B" Company - 19th Battalion.
Private address;-
8 Isabella Avenue, North Sydney.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
31/5/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

19th BATTALION.
A.I.F.

SMART, Lance-Corporal
F.S.M. No. 669

"Killed 29/3/18"

Informant described Smart as about 5'8" high, slight build, fair complexion, aged about 24.

On 29-3-18 the Battalion was holding the line at Messines. Early in the morning, while Smart was on a post, he was killed outright by a minnenwerfer, which also wounded two or three other occupants of the post. Informant was on the next post about 100 yards away and saw Smart soon after he was killed. Informant knows Smart was sure to have been buried, although he could not tell me where.

Informant added that Smart was a very good lad and well thought of by his mates.

Informant;- 2832 - Private L. Seers,
20th Battalion (Late 19th Battn.)

Private address;- Roxburgh Street, STOCKTON, N.S.W.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
2/6/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

19th BATTALION. A.I.F.

SMART, Lance-Corporal
F.S.M. No. 669

"Killed 29/3/18"

I first met Smart when I joined the Battalion immediately after the Bullicourt stunt in 1917. We were together in Platoon No.6, "B" Company. He was rather short about 5ft.5" and of slim build, and was, I think, an Englishman. On the 29th March 1918 at Messines Corporal Smart was apportioning the rations for the Platoon inside a dug-out. A bomb landed on it blowing it in and he was killed almost at once. I went up to him with the Stretcher-bearers and helped to pick him up. He was taken away. I do not know where he was buried.

Informant;- No. 2433, Corporal W.F. Johnsen
"B" Company - 19th Battalion.

Private address;- 25 Dumberton St., NORTH SYDNEY.

W.C.W.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
31/5/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

19th BATTALION. A.I.F.

SMART.
Lance-Cpl F.S.M. 669.

"KILLED. 29.3.18."

We were both in "B" Company. I met him for the first time when I joined up. I knew him well. We were both in the same Lewis Gun Section. He was of dark complexion and about 5 feet 8 inches in height

We were together in the same post near Messines, and during a bombardment I saw him hit by a shell. It was on the 29th March, 1918. He was killed outright and I attended his funeral. He was buried in the Military Cemetery near Messines.

INFORMANT: Private S.R. Hancock, 6441,
B.Coy, 19th Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address; Junee Reefs, JUNEE.

W.C.W.
Anzac Buffet, SYDNEY.
5.7.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F.19th Bttn.
B.Company.

SMART. F
L/Cpl. N.S.W.
669.

Killed in Action.29.3.18.

We were holding the line at Messines and very early about 2 o'clock in the morning he was killed by enemy Trench Morter Shell which landed right on top of his Lewis Gun, the full burst catching him in head and chest and he died within a minute or two but did not speak once. He was taken by two 19th Bttn S/Bearers to a distance of about 500 yards behind our lines and buried. One of the S/Bearers names being Bevan. A. Sergeant also was badlywounded at same time and died of wounds a couple of days later. Informant was on same detachment as deceased. Cross was erecteds two days later. He was a fine soldier smart looking chap of about 24, height about 5'6" thin, brown hair and was known as Freddie, Came from Eastwood N.S.W.

Informant Cpl Jones 4457,
19th Bttn.
Home Address. Gladsville P.O.
Sydney N?S.W.

London.
10.9.19.

S.

To

Pte Bevan

S/B.

19 Bttn. A.I.F

on duty in Brussels

B.E.F

about

669 Pte F.S.M. Smart

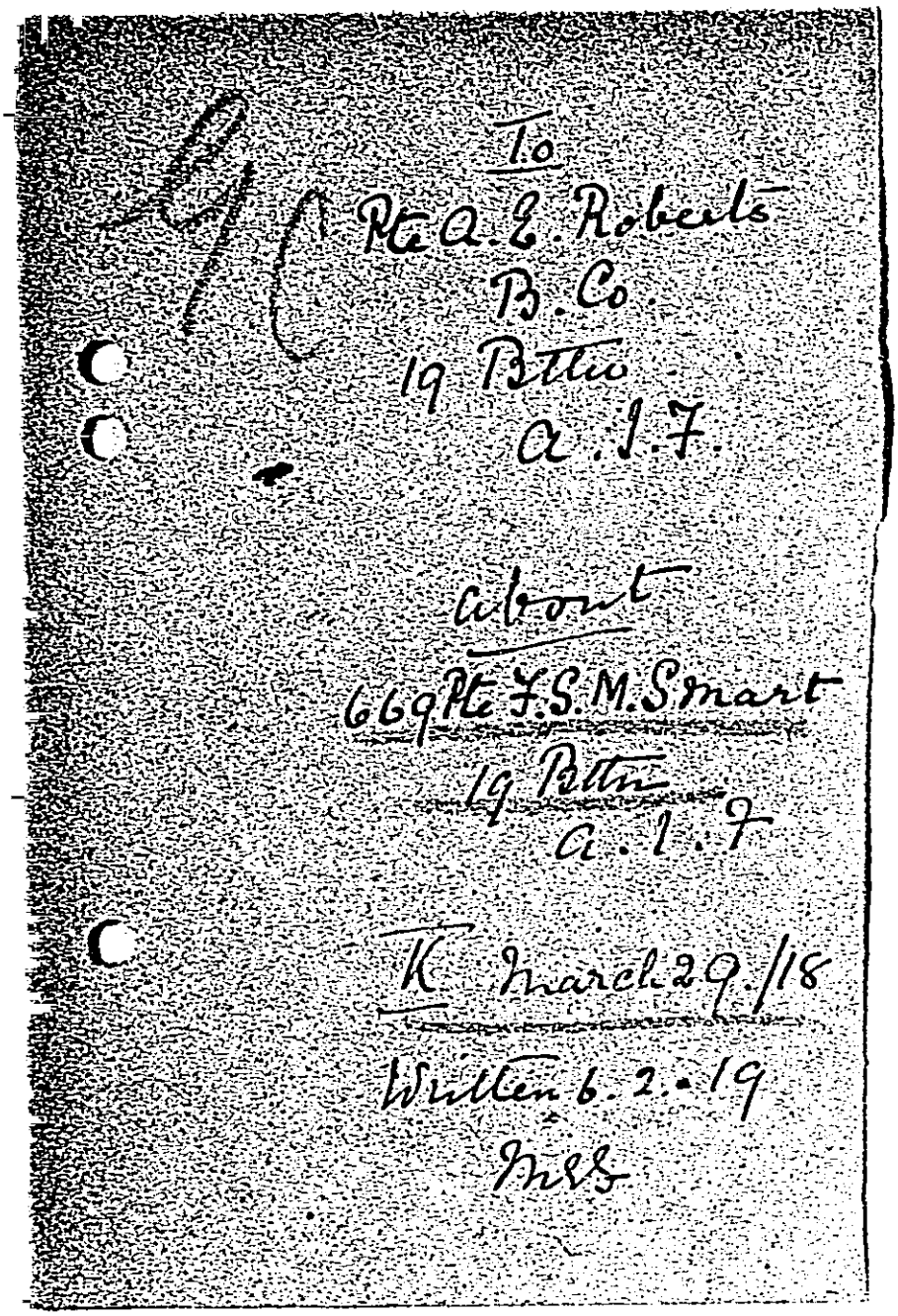
19 Bttn

A.I.F

K 29.3.18

Written 6.2.19

MRS



To
Pte A. E. Roberts
B. Co.
19 Bttn
A. I. F.

about
669 Pte F. S. M. Smart
19 Bttn
A. I. F.

K March 29/18

Written 6. 2. 19
MES

To. 5044
Pte G. J. Bevan
18th Batn
A. I. F.

Abst 669 Pte F. S. McSmart
19th Batn
K/A. 29. 3. 18.

First letter returned.
Written again 18 Bdn
7. 4. 19.

42941

Smart. date of death . 669

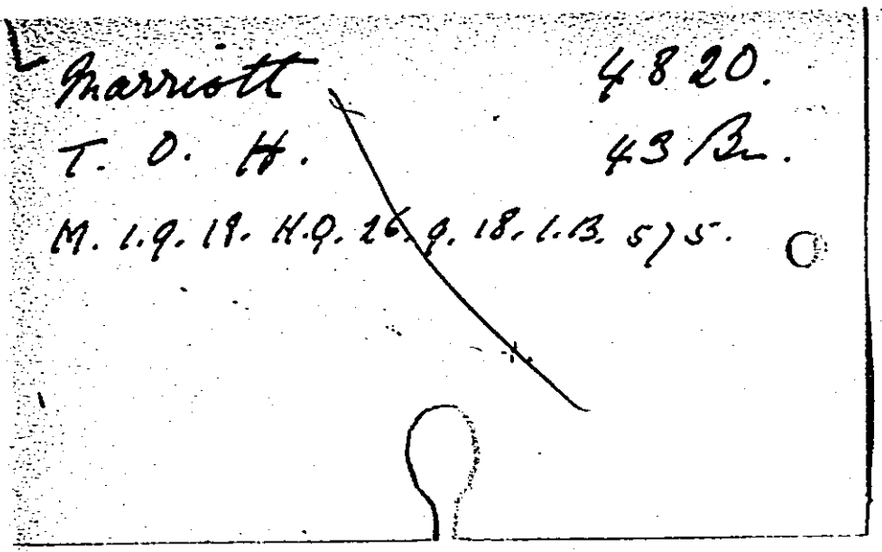
[redacted] saving details 19th Btn.

Hope F.S.M.

Kin A 29.3.18.

~~Off. rep. [illegible]~~ letter has been received from Lt Storkey stating above was Kin A in February 1918: & another from another man who says he was Kin A on 11.4.18 H/a 29.3.18. no details given H.Q 2.1.19

LAW.



Marriott 4820.
T. O. H. 43 Bn.
M. 1.9.19. H.Q. 26.9.18. I.B. 575.

Bevan. Present Address please. 19 Bth A.I.F
Griffith Inst. Nov 18

Ref unit from leave 26 2 19
H Q 1 4 19

File under.
669 Pte F.S.M. Smart
19 Bath
K 29.3.18.

Reports Section
29. 3. 19.

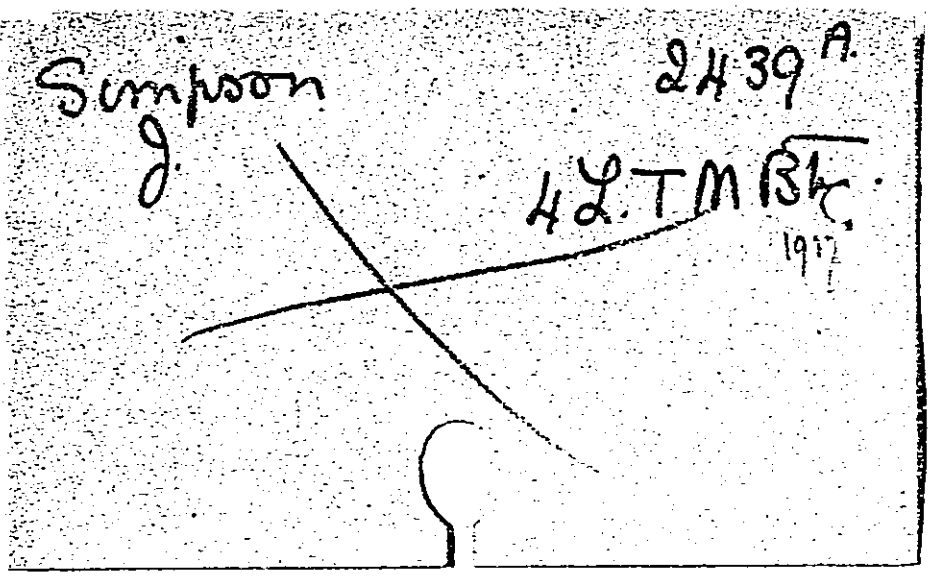
Roberts. Present Address. please. B. Coy 19th Bath. 6131.
A. E.
S/B.

Ref to Aust per Czar. 23 3 19

Wife Mrs L. Roberts
"Inglenook"
Belmore St. Bega N.S.W.

File under.
669 Pte F.S.M. Smart.
19th Bath.
KLA. 29.3.18.

Reports Section.
25. 3. 19.


Simpson
J.
2439 A.
42. TM Bk.
1912

Storkey V.C. Mureabouts Captain

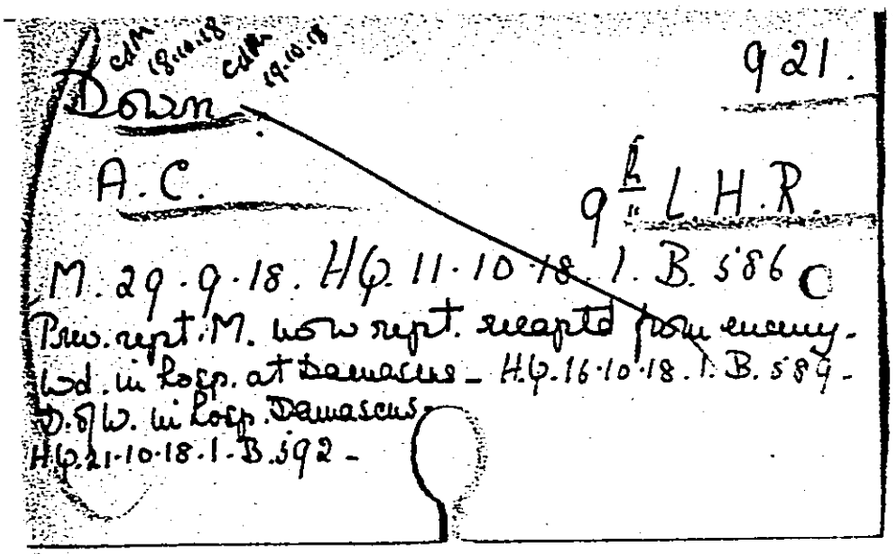
P.V. 19th Bltn.

Ret. Aust. (with Aust. V.C's) on Fwlo

23.9.18. M.D.3. H.Q 6.1.19.

File in Gen. Corresp. under 669 Smart F.S.M. 19th Bltn

LAw.


C.M. 18.10.18
C.M. 19.10.18
Down
921.
A.C.
9 L.H.R.
M. 29.9.18. H.Q. 11.10.18. I.B. 586
Prev. rept. M. now rept. recapd from enemy.
Wd. in Hosp. at Damascus - H.Q. 16.10.18. I.B. 589.
D.of W. in Hosp. Damascus
H.Q. 21.10.18. I.B. 592.


LONDON S.W.
2. 15 PM
7 FEB 19
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY,
26, GROSVENOR PLACE,
LONDON, S.W. 1.
A.B.P.O.
RETURN TO SEND
Pte Bevan
Stretcher Bearer
19 Infantry Battalion
Australian Imperial Force
on duty in Brussels.
B. E. F.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8576 8577 8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO "THE SECRETARY," WOUNDED AND MISSING — ENQUIRY BUREAU — AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

A

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE.
LONDON S.W. 1.

6.2.19

Pte Bevan
Stretcher Bearer
19 Bttn. A.I.F
on duty in Brussels
B.E.F

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about a man of your unit,

669 Pte F.S.M. Smart 19 Bttn - A.I.F
reported Killed 29.3.18

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can send us concerning him, but our enquirers wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the field, or in a soldiers' cemetery where the grave would be registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance or any points that might help to prove his identity.

In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number, as without these particulars delay and confusion might be caused in identifying the soldier about whom you have written.

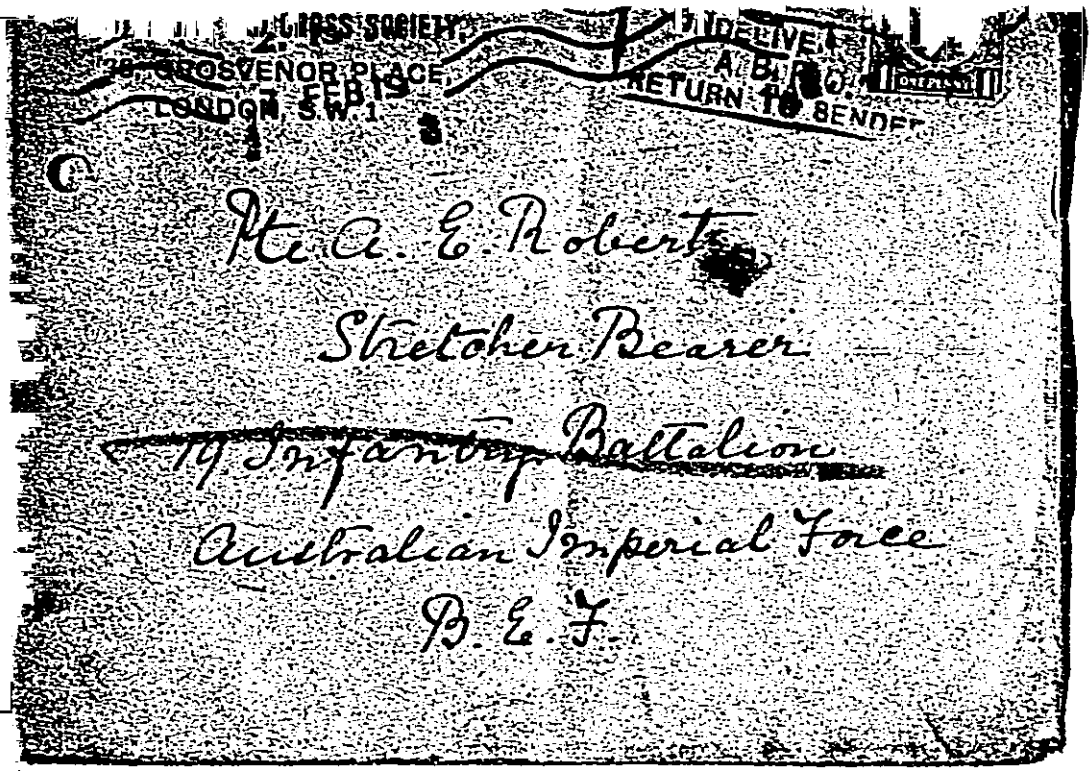
Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Dealrin

Secretary.

per M.E.F

Written again.
7.4.19.



Pte A. E. Roberts

Stretcher Bearer

19 Infantry Battalion

Australian Imperial Force

B.E.F.

Tel.: VICTORIA {8576 8577 8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO "THE SECRETARY," WOUNDED AND MISSING — ENQUIRY BUREAU — AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

A

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE.

LONDON S.W. 1.

6.2.19

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S/B. B. Co
19th Bttn - A. I. F

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Yours faithfully,

(Miss) Vera Deakin

Secretary.

per M.S.