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5.10.16

To S.M.O. Sanitary Section

From 13970 A.E. Roberts Cpl.

Sir,

I have to report that on the night of the 4th inst. whilst relieving the billet about 5.30 pm, accompanied by Pte. H. Mahony and Gray of the 5th Sanitary Section we became aware of a fire raging on the vicinity of the Abattoirs North West portion of the town of Armentieres. We proceeded there and reported for duty and carried on until 3 o'clock am 5th inst. We had to stand by for about 45 minutes on account of the water supply. We did not commence the work of fire until the fire engines were put out of action. During the whole of our period of duty enemy bombardment was proceeding. After sending one wounded soldier to the main dressing station (8th Australian Field Ambulance) I returned to my quarters 3.30 am

(Sgd) A.E. Roberts Cpl.
Sanitary Section

Copy

5/10/16

To C.O. Sanitary Section

From 13970 A.E. Roberts Cpl. San. Sec.

Re my report of fire on the 4th inst.

Sir,

I beg to state that in my report re the fire on the 4th and 5th inst. I omitted to mention the following facts, viz:- That during the progress of the fire, Private W. Hippersley C. Section 5th Field Ambulance did report to me for duty some time after to certain duties. I received a verbal report from Corporal H/c Fire Brigade (for whom I was acting) that two telegraph lines connected with a Battery were burned through. I called for a volunteer to carry a message to Hdqrs. Signallers. Pte. Hippersley volunteered, after delivering my message he reported back and stated that he had carried out my instructions also that when he asked for a man to come down he received no answer also that when he asked for a receipt it was refused.

(Sgd.) A.E. Roberts Cpl.
Sanitary Section