

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

4213 Private
John Frederick
Heuschkel (John
Frederick Huskell)

13th Battalion



1400303B

A.I.F. 13th Btn
M.G.S. 13th Rfts

HUSKELL
John Fredk. 4213

"M. 11-4-17"

Killed in action 11-4-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 19-10-17.

London
23-10-17

8

A.I.P.
13th Battalion.
Machine Gun Section,
13th Bde.

7. 11. 18. 18. 18.

"Killed in Action 11. 1. 18."

Harvey was on the same Lewis gun crew as I. We called him "Jacky". He was short, very young and energetic. He was killed outright on 11. 1. 18 at Bullecourt. I was right alongside him at the time. He was killed in "No Man's Land" as we were going over to the Hindenburg line, from which we had later on to retire. I am certain he was killed outright, but do not know where he was buried.

Enlistment: Private S. Holland, No. 100.
13th Battalion, "A" Company.

Home address: 51 Collins Street, Barry Hills.

H.S.O.
5.12.18.
Warren Chambers Inquiry Office.

STONEY BUREAU. ✓

Gcd

13th M.G. Battn.
A.I.F.

HUSKELL.
J.F. 4213.

"Killed in Action 11-4-17"

On 11th April. 1917 at Reincourt during our attack. Was killed outright by bullet, hit in head. He was up on the parapet when he was killed and fell back into the trench. I took his pay-book, which the Germans took from me, his Bible I have handed to Miss Chomley.

Informant:- S/M. A.R. Compton. 1838.
13th Battn. Repat: P/y.
Red Cross.

London.
1-1-19.
H.G.

S.

13th Battn. M.G.S.
A.I.F.

HUSKELL.
J.F. 4213.

"Killed in Action 11-4-17"

He was in my Section. L.M.G. Section. B. Coy. On 11th April about 9.a.m. we had advanced and I came along to trench and found him killed. I think by shell - apparently killed instantly. C/S/M Compton 13th Battn. B. Coy. has his pay book which he showed me in Germany.

Informant:- 3953. Whitbread.
13th Battn. A.I.F.
Red Cross.

London.
2-1-19.

S.

A.I.F. 13th Battn.

HUSKELL

J.F. 4213.

"Killed 11.4.17"

I forwarded his prayerbook, the only thing I could retain, to Miss Chomley, who received it. He was killed instantaneously, just before we were taken prisoners at Reincourt on the 11th April 1917 in the German front line, which we had captured. He was killed by the explosion of a shell and I saw him when he was dead. I took all his papers, but the Germans allowed me to retain only his prayerbook and his paybook, which was taken from me later at Dulmen, Westphalia. I do not know if he was buried. I saw him a few minutes before we were actually captured. He was in my Coy. A Machine Gunner. A sandy headed, freckle faced, slim youth, about 5ft. 4 or 5ins. I did not know him in Australia. Sgt. Whitbread, repatriated Prisoner, was machine gun sergeant of the Coy. took me down to look at him, and could perhaps give further details.

Informant:- 1838, C/S/M. Compton, Repat.P/W
13th Battn.
London Office. 3.1.19.

L.A.W.
London

10.1.19. Note:- The P.O.W. Dept. here have no record of the Prayerbook. We hope it has reached Pte. Huskell's people safely.

S.
P.I.

A.I.F.
13th Btn.

HUSKELL
John Frank 4313

CANCELS

Killed in Action 11.4.17.

Pay book found in German War Office, Berlin, Sept. 1919
and forwarded by Capt. Mills, sent A.I.F. Hqs 23.9.19.

Reason for Cancellation	Cause of Cancellation	Unit	Name
London. 9.10.19.			S.

Group 6. Fulton Street.
The Hague. Holland.

June 11/18

ack. 22.6.18

Dear Miss Cholmley

I am sending you by this mail a small packet containing Prayer Books, the property of the late ⁴⁻¹³ Mr. F. Houshell, Machine Gun Section, "B" Coy. "13th" Batt. A.I.F. killed in action April 11/17.

This was handed me on leaving Germany by Coy. Sgt. Hys. Compton of the A.I.F. who requested me to forward same to you, and ask if you would kindly ascertain from Records Office the address of Houshell's people & send the Books on to them.

Unfortunately C. S. H. Compton was unable to obtain any more of deceased's effects. The Books was handed to him just before he was captured, and he would have sent it to you himself, but it is a very difficult matter to get parcels out of Germany.

Trusting I am not troubling you too much, and thanking you in anticipation.

I remain,

Yours faithfully

Colonel W. H. Hunt 109406
Coy. Sgt. Hys. 14th C. M. P.

S. &

N.B. this packet & letter
Kindly send a copy of this to the
hand of Mr. P. H. Houshell.
(Return to Miss Cholmley)

No. 199406,
Coy. Sgt. Major Colston, W. Hunt,
4th Canadian Mounted Rifles,
British Repatriated Prisoner of War,
Group 6,
Fulton Straat,
The Hague,
Holland.

24th June 1918

Dear C/S/M. Hunt,

Your letter of 11/6/18 has been handed to us by Miss
Gnomley to answer, and we beg to inform you that we are in receipt
of the Prayer Book, which was the property of Mc. 4215 Pto. J. F.
Huskell, A.I.F., and for which we thank you very much indeed. We
are sending it to our Sydney Office, who will forward it immediately
to the above soldiers' next of kin. His relatives who have made
many anxious enquiries concerning Pto. Huskell, will be most grate-
ful to C/S/M Compton and yourself for the trouble you have taken in
this matter.

Thanking you again, and with best wishes to yourself.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Miss Craven
Secretary.