

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

Lieutenant
Charles Pope

11th Battalion



2180201E

N

Land England		Todesstag ?	
Abschrift		125	
Name oder Erl.-Zeichen	P o p e , C.		
Dienstgrad und Truppenteil	Leutn.	11.austr. Batl.	
Gemeldet von	A.O.K.2 Nachr.Offiz.		
Lage des Grabes			
Altenzeichen	62.5.17 Z.N.		
Nachlaß	Ja		

N

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Nachlaß	Ja		

11th Batt.
A.I.F.

Lt.C. Pope, V.C.

"Killed in Action 15.4.17"

Dead - Personal effects forwarded

Cert. by German Nachlass List dated 20.8.17

London 19.9.17

File copy

M.

A.I.F. 11th Batta.

POPE "VC"
Lieut. Charles

(Death Voucher received from Capt. Mills and sent on to A.I.F. Hdqrs
18/10/19)

(Translation)

Transcribed Extract from H.N.1043

Chief Army Command 2.

A.H.Q. 21st April 1917

Intelligence Officer,
No 1768

To the Central Office for Left Property,
at War Office, Berlin, W.15.

Joachimstalerstr 10.

The Austr. Lieut. Pope C. 11th Austr. Btn., fell. Further details
are not to hand.

Captain & I. Off.,

Undersigned

Attested, Berlin, 22/9/19

(Signed) JACOBI,
Lt. of Res.

NOTE:- Card found in Nachweise Bureau, Berlin.

London
18/10/19

11

11th Battn
A. I. F.

POPE
Lieut. O. G

"Killed April 15th 1917"

Killed in an attack by Fritz to our lines-he was called on to surrender but would not do so. He was killed by a charge of bayonets. I do not know where he was buried. He got a posthumous V.C.

Inf:- Sig. G.B. Robertson 1867
3rd Aust. Bde 11th Battn A. I. F.

London.
6.11.17.

M

F. McKay.
Anzac Buffet and War Chest club.
1.11.17.

11th Battn
A. I. F.

POPE
Lieut. C.

"Killed April 15th 1917"

Was Lieut. in A. Coy., 4th Pltn. He was on outpost duty at Morchies and Fritz broke through on our left and Pope's out post party ran out of ammunition and they charged with their bayonets. Pope was shot through the head by bullet. His action undoubtedly saved us, and he was awarded the V.C. I did not actually see him hit or know where buried.

Witness:-

C. C. Walker 5988
11th Battn
Harefield.

London.
6.11.17.

M

11th Battn.
A. I. F.

POPE.
Lieut. C.

"Killed 15.4.17"

He was killed up in Vermelles. This was published in Australia and is buried at the Cemetery at the Cross Road at the right of a village close to Vermelles. The battalion that relieved us got his body. Lieut. H.E. Brooks c/o Nicholson & Co., Ltd., Barrack St., Perth who was in charge of our company can give full particulars. Lieut. Pope was in C.Coy.

Witness:-

Capt. W. O'Grady 334
11th Battn. B.Coy.
Hut. 33. Littlemoor.

London.
20.11.17.

M.

*Asking Perth to obtain information
from H Brooks.*

11th A.I.F.

Pope Lt. C.
C. Coy.

(K. 15.4.17. Det D/B)

"I saw Lt. Pope's body at a place in front of Monchy on April 16th or 17th lying out in a shell hole. His post had been attacked and he was killed. The whole of the post was wiped out. Lt. Pope was awarded the V.C."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description:

Informant: Pte. S. Dewar 6027,
11th A.I.F., B. Coy.,
Bath War Hospt.

Home address:
c/o Mrs. E. Dewar,
463 Hay St.,
Perth,
W.A.

*M
Bd
Suff*

20.11.17,
J. Wesley Whinston.

11th A.I.F.

Pope Lt. C.
C. Company.

(K. Apl. ¹⁵ 9/17)

"I knew Lt. Pope. I heard that he was found dead with a small party of his men who were all dead, and dead Germans lying all round them. It was at Iagnicourt. He was mentioned in despatches, he got a V.C. for it."

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Cpl. F.W. Phillips 1395,
11th A.I.F., D. Coy. 16 Plt.,
2nd London General Hospt.,
Chelsea.

Home address:
Ferndale,
Benfleet,
Essex.

*M
Bd
Suff*

Dec. 22/17,
E. Robertson.

11th Batt,
A.I.F.

Pope,
Lieut. C. V.C.

"Killed in Action 15.4.17"

"I do not know the exact spot where Lt. Pope, was buried, but I believe it to be close to where he fell in front of Louverval. Our Batt, was relieved on the night of the 17 or 18 Apl by a British Batt, and we thought Lt Pope, would have been buried by them. Up to the time we were relieved, there was no opportunity for us to do so. Lt. Pope was in charge of an advance post with 8 men and having expended practically all their ammunition, one man of the party was sent back for further supplies. The post was surrounded by Germans and Lt. Pope gave the order to fix bayonets and charge every one of the party was killed and we were told that the bodies were found with 80 dead German lying in front of them. I believe it was for this action that Lt. Pope, was awarded the V. C. after death. In the slip of 18.9.17 there is an error. Lt. Pope had not received the D. M. and the Cross de Guerre. this was evidently meant by Lt Lamerton to refer to Sgt. W. Plunkett who had been awarded both decorations"

Informant:- 258.Pte. J. J. Ryan,
11th Batt, A.I.F. Signal Sec:
A.I.F. (on sick leave)

M.

London 15.10.17

11th A.I.F.

Pope Lt. C.

(K. 15.4.17. Det D/B)

Although not an eye-witness I can give definite information of Lt. Pope. On April 15th 1917 he went out with a party to take a strong post in No Man's Land near Lagnicourt. His batman was Pte. (now Cpl.) Gledhill, who was an eye-witness, or rather, saw his dead body. Gledhill was sent back for reinforcements and returned guiding 50 men. They found the original party had been captured but Lt. Pope was dead and the Germans had taken everything from his pockets etc.

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: Pte. E.V. Smith 6820,
11th A.I.F.,
Bath War Hospt.

M

20.10.17,
F.W. Turner.

written Gledhill
6-11-17.

11th Batt. A.I.F.

Pope, C. Lieut. K

~~Killed April 15th~~
Killed April 15th 1917. Det. D.B.

We received word from a fellow Officer, who was taken Prisoner, that Pope was killed in action after his Coy had been cut off from the Batt. He received the D.C.M. and Cross De-Geurrae.

Witness. Lieut. Lamerton. 11th Batt.
Lieut. Stahl. →-----

Taken At
3rd. T.B. Durrington.
18-9-17.
S.W.

S. Whitmee.
NO. 4. Command Depot
Codford.

W.

A.I.F. 11.

POPE, Lt.C.

X.Apl.15th.1917. Det D & B

Lt.Pope was in C.Coy, he was killed on the 15th Apl. at Bullecourt; although I did not see this happen myself it was witnessed by nearly the whole company. Mr.Pope greatly distinguished himself by holding a certain post which he was told to hold at all costs, and for his bravery was awarded the V.C. I do not know where his body was buried, He was an extremely popular officer.

Informant: Pte G.A.Keay. 1965. C.XII
I.C.C. BOULOGNE. 25.9.17.

AGL

11th A.I.F.

Pope Lt. C., V. C.

(K. Apl. 15/17 Det D/B)

"I knew Lt. C. Pope in C. Coy. He was killed on 15th April on right of Lagnicourt (in front of Lonverall) I heard that he was buried by an English Battalion".

Eye-witness: No

Description:

Informant: J.J. Ryan 258,
11th A.I.F., H.Q. Coy.,
Netley Welsh Hospt.

M

Oct. 5/17,
G.R.B.

11th Australians

Pope, Lieut C., V.C.

(K. 15th April/17. Det D & B)

"Mr. Pope was in an outpost with 30 men on the 15th April, and in all their ammunition was exhausted they charged the Germans and were all killed. Mr. Pope was awarded a posthumous V.C. This took place at Lagnicourt and I believe he is buried there."

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Lieut G.W. Mathews,
11th Australians,
16 Bruton St Hospital,
London.

M

8th Oct. 1917.
D.J.D.Fenton.

Cpl GLEDHILL
11 Batt. A.I.F.

B. 9. 7.

About

LIEUT. POPE
11 Batt. A.I.F.

Killed 15. 4. 17.

EW.
6. 4. 17.

11 Batt^A IF

K.A. 15.4.17

L. POPE
Lieut. C. V.C

"I do not know the exact spot where Lieut Pope was buried: but I believe it to be close to where he fell in front of LOUVERVALE. ~~11 Batt~~ 11 Batt^A was relieved on the night of the 17 or 18. Oct by a British Batt^A & we thought Lieut Pope would have been buried by them. Up to the time we were relieved, there was no opportunity for us to do so. Lieut Pope was in charge of a advanced post with 2 men. They having expended practically all their ammunition, a man of the party was sent back for further supplies. The post was surrounded by Germans & Lieut. Pope gave the order to fire ~~by~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~whole~~ ^{the} ~~whole~~ ^{whole} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~party~~ ^{party} was killed & we were told that their bodies were found with 30 dead Germans lying in front of them. I believe it was for this action that Lt. Pope was awarded the V.C. ~~after~~ ^{after} ~~death~~ ^{death}. In the slip of 18.9.17 - there is an error. Lt. Pope had not won the D.C.M. & the Order of Merit. This was evidently meant by Lieut Pope to refer to Sgt. W. Plumbe who had been awarded both decorations."

Subsistant 258.

J. Ryan
11 Batt^A IF
Signal Section
(on sick leave)

London office
13.10.17

M.
3.

THIS REFERENCE MUST BE

INQUIRY BUREAU, 39 BROAD STREET, BRISTOL.

Gen. SOUTHERN GENERAL

Cross Index No. 21814

NAME ~~GREEN, Edward~~ No. 2595 Rank Gnr

(Surname first) Regiment ~~A.F.A. 27/10 10/37~~ Coy. Plat.

Hospital ~~Red Haids~~ Ward ~~Lion~~

Arrived ~~Oct 7th 1917~~ At Front from ~~June 1916~~ To ~~Oct 1917~~

Home Address ~~Southlead, Forbes, N.S. Wales~~

Depot

GIVES INFORMATION REGARDING:-

Missing man ~~Rogers, N.H.~~ Casualty? ~~D/W~~ Ap ~~25/17~~ Det ~~B/~~

Regiment ~~A.F.A.~~ Battln. ~~27/10 10/37~~ Coy. No. 1829

Red Cross List dated ~~Oct 1st 1917~~ page ~~62 a~~

Rogers
This man: was wounded by shrapnell in the lung and died at the dressing station. He was buried just below the railway embankment at Ecoust, in front of Bullecourt 400 yards below the cemetery, with four others in the same battery. There is a cross on the grave with all the names.

5

Any Nickname? Christian Name?

Any Tattoo Marks? Scars?

When last seen, and where? Date

Was it light or dark at the time?

If killed, was body buried, and where?

Engagement or Circumstance? Place?

Was the ground held or not?

Were you an eye-witness?

If not, who told you, and when?

Give man's No. and Rank, if possible

Any other man of same name in Battln.?

Searcher's opinion of Informant

Searcher's Name J.A. Hall Oct 9th 1917

Dated

RECEIVED
12.00
CARLTON HOUSE