

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

Captain
David Leslie Todd

50th Battalion



27601080

A.I.F. 50th Battn.

TODD
Capt. D. Leslie

REPATRIATED PRISONERS OF WAR

Arrived Hull 14/12/18
Cert. by List from A.I.F. Eqrs 16/12/18

London
20/12/18

A

50th Batt,
A.I.F.

Todd,
Capt D.L

"Prisoner of War"

Transferred Offizier Gef Heidelberg
Cert, by information received by Post-Card from Miss
Lilian Lawes, Holywell, House Coker Somerset, dated 3.4.17.

London
22.6.17

A

50th Batt,
A.I.F.

Todd,
Capt, D. Leslie

"Prisoner of War"

Transferred Schwarmstedt

*A cheque just received signed by Capt D. Leslie Todd, 50th Batt, is
drawn at Schwarmstedt dated June 6th,

Cert, by information by Post-Card from American Express Co, 6.7.17

London
12.7.17

A

50th Batt.
A.I.F.

Todd,
Capt D. Leslie

"Prisoner of War"

Transferred Offizier Lager - Holzminden Brunswick

post-card from Officer dated 9.10.17

London 21.11.17

A.

50th Battn.
A.I.F.

TODD
Capt. D. Leslie

"Prisoner of War."

Interned Holzminden.

"I am in good health."

Cert. by extract from post card received from man dated
28.1.18.

London.
13.3.18.

A.

50th A.I.F.

Todd Capt. D.L.

(M. April 3/17)

"I was told by men of my Company on the night of April 2/17 that Capt. Todd was taken prisoner with a number of others at Morieull about 11 miles from Bapaume. The men who told me had a narrow escape of being captured themselves".

Eye-witness: No

Description: Short, dark, abt. 32 yrs. of age.

Informant: Sgt. F. Offler 1102,
50th A.I.F., B. Coy., VI Plt.,
1st London General Hospt.,
Camberwell.

Home address:
2 Union St.,
New Glenegle,
S. Australia.

P.W
Ed
A

May 7/17,
H. Caldwell.

A. I. F. 50th Btn

TODD
Capt. D.L.

"Prisoner of War"

Interned at Karlsruhe

Cert. by information from American Express Coy. on the 'Phone.
8-5-17.

London
9-5-17

A.

50th A. I. F.

Capt. D. L. TODD.

Missing 3.4.17.

Informant said Capt. Todd was O/C D. Coy. and there was an attack near Noreuil early in April. The day after, he was told by the Adjutant, Capt. Fowler, that Capt. Todd was captured by the Germans with a large number of D. Coy.

Reference: Pte. Bryant, 2027. C. Coy.

Nc.8 General, Rouen, 10.5.17.

DLF.

P.W. 8.5.17
A

A. I. F. 50.

TODD, Capt. D. L.

M. April 3rd, 1917.

I knew Captain Todd when he was in Egypt. He was shortish and when I last saw him had a wee (Charley Chaplin) moustache. He was in charge of A. Coy. I saw his name in the Continental Daily Mail under the official casualties "corrections" reported missing now P/W. I saw this rather more than two weeks ago. I had noticed him missing by the casualty list previously.

NC.

Reference:- White, J. 1106. A.I.F. 50.
No. 26 Gen. Hosp.

Staples
14.5.17.

50th A. I. F.

Capt. D. L. TODD.

Missing 3.4.17.

On April 2nd Informant, a Signaller, was with Capt. Todd when the Coy. had advanced to within 200 yards of a sunk road which was the objective. Informant, noticing some figures to the rear coming over a ridge, drew Capt. Todd's attention to them. Capt. Todd, having observed through his field glass that they were Germans, gave a message to Informant to take to C. Coy. who had occupied an enemy trench ~~on the night~~. After running some hundreds of yards and nearly reaching the trench, Informant's leg was fractured by a bullet. He lay down and saw the enemy in force creeping towards the shell crater in which was Capt. Todd and a few men. Informant crawled on until he reached C. Coy. where he heard the men say that a number of men of A. Coy. had been captured and marched off by the enemy. As the ground was soon after occupied by our troops, there is a strong presumption that Capt. Todd is a Prisoner of War.

Reference: Sig. S. A. Ringberg, A. Coy.
No. 11 Stationary, Rouen, 14.5.17.

VMH.

A 100

50th Batt,
A. Coy,
A. I. F.

Todd,
Capt D.L.

"Missing April 3.17"

Capt Todd and all A Coy got out too far in front of Neurelles near Vaux in a night advance. Our Coy, tried to reach them but failed. With the exception of 10 or 12 men all A Coy, were taken prisoners. We advanced over the ground later on that night and Capt Todds body was not there.

Witness;-

Pte A. E. Hewish 3038.
50th Batt,
C. Coy, Southall,
A. I. F.

P. C.
London
18.5.17.

A.

50th Battn.
A. I. F.

Todd.
Capt. D. L.

Edwards.
Lieut. J. E.

"Missing 3.4.17."

I was in this action and distinctly remember the R.S.M. telling us that they were both Prisoners of War. He got the information from a wounded Sgt. cannot remember his name.

Witness:-

H. J. Bowden. 6181.
50th Battn.
A. I. F.

L.P.J.

Note Written R. S. M. 9.5.17.

London.
21.5.17.

Note Not sent on.

Off.M.

50th A. I. F.,

Todd, Capt. D. L.,

M. April 3rd 1917.

Informant knows a man in his Battalion, Pte. Douglas, D. Company who saw Capt. Todd taken prisoner. Douglas was taken prisoner at the same time but escaped. Douglas was in the Fulham Military Hospital but is now at Harefield."

Eye Witness: No, Pte. Douglas, 50th A.I.F., D.Coy.

Description:

Informant;-- Pte. A. Carlson,, 3710,
50th A. I. F., B. Coy.,
Fulham Military Hospital,
S.W.

Home address:--

22.5.17.
E.P.Larkas?

P.W.
A
Ed

50th Battn.
A. I. F.

Todd.
Capt. D. L.

"Missing 3.4.17."

Edwards.
Lieut. J. E.

I am sorry to state that Capt D. L. Todd 50th Battn. is Prisoner of War and Lieut. J. E. Edwards 50th Battn. A.I.F. is reported missing, believed killed, in the village of Norieul in both cases the 2.4.17. We have had correspondence through from Capt.D. L. Todd to say that he is Prisoner of War.

Letter from:-

A. J. Vallis.
50th Battn.
A.I.F.

London.
23.5.17.

France. 18.5.17.

A.

50th. A.I.F.

Todd, Capt. D.L.
D Co.

M. Apr. 3/17.

" Capt. D.L. Todd & his men were taken prisoners & taken over the ridge. Our captain tried to regain them & he went up this ridge, but the firing was so heavy we had to retire. I saw Capt. Todd's equipment (complete) lying on the ground where he had laid it before surrendering, & I took his revolver & had it in my hand when I was wounded, which was when we were going to the relief of the prisoners. We took the ridge but the Germans took the prisoners further back. I don't know the name of the place, we marched all night to 4 A.M. & I was wounded in the engagement"

Eyewitness:-

Description:-

Informant:- L/cpl. C.H.P. Grant, 4935.
50th. A.I.F., B Co.
Lewisham Hosp.

Home address:- c/o Mr. A.R. Porter, 11, Esplanade, Waterloo, Liverpool

24/5/17.
Jessie Arnold.

P. W. A
Ed

12.5.17

The Regtl. Sgt. Major
50 Battrn A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have been requested to make enquiries for two officers in your unit, Capt. D.L. Todd, 50 Battrn. A.I.F. and Lieut. J.E. Edwards 50 Battrn. A.I.F. H. S.A.17., and have been informed that you had told some of the men, on information given by a wounded Sgt., that both these officers were Prisoners of War. We should be very grateful if you would write and tell us if our informant was correct in his statement, and if you have any reason to still believe these officers to be Prisoners of War or if they are now thought to have been killed in action.

With apologies for troubling you and thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

V.P.
Secretary

J.L.

ack
FM 21.5.17

R.S.N. Vallis
50th Battr A.I.F.

France
18.5.17

To the Secretary Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau

Reference your letter dated 12-5-17.
I am sorry to state that Capt D.L. Todd
50th Battr is Prisoner of War, and Lieut
J.E. Edwards 50th Battr A.I.F. is reported
missing, believed killed, in the village
of Clorieu, in both cases the 2nd 4-17.
We have had correspondence through from
Capt D.L. Todd to say that he is
prisoner of War.

I am yours sincerely
R.S.N. Vallis

Capt D.L. TODD
50 Battr A.I.F. (M)

M.3.4.17. —

A.3

(ca)

Lieut. J.E. EDWARDS
50 Battr A.I.F.

M.3.4.17.

A.P.I. 4

(ca)

23.5.17.

Reg. Sgt. Major Vallis
50th Battn. A.I.F.
B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you very much indeed for your letter of
May 18th in answer to our enquiry concerning

Capt. D.L. Todd 50th Battn. A.I.F. and

Lieut. J.E. Edwards " "

We received on May 17th the information that both of these
officers were prisoners of war, we believe at Karlsruhe, Germany,
and trust long before this the Battn. has received letters from
Lieut. Edwards as well as from Capt. Todd.

With best wishes

Yours faithfully,

R. D.

Secretary.

J. M.