Robert Marshall

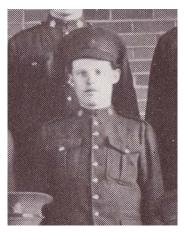
Service Number: 700864

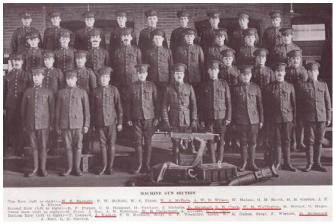
A Private, originally with the 101st (Winnipeg Light Infantry), posted to the 43rd Battalion of the

Cameron Highlanders of Canada (Manitoba Regiment) in France. Died on 8 August, 1918 at Dodu Wood during the Battle of Amiens

Son of Robert and Anna Marshall, of Ballystockart, Comber, Co. Down Ireland

Buried at Crouy British Cemetery, Crouy-sur-Somme, France, Grave IV. C. 2.





The above pictures come from a souvenir photo album published in April, 1916 by the 101st Battalion. Robert was in the Machine Gun Section. (courtesy of Jim Busby, Winnipeg researcher)

Service:

from LAC File RG150, 1992-93/166, Box 5958-50 LAC File RG150, 1992-93/166, Box 5958-50 - per Jim Busby

1916-06-03/10: ILL, Tonsillitis. Admitted to Camp Hughes MH

06-28 to 07-06: Sailed with 101st Bn aboard SS Olympic from Halifax to Liverpool. Posted to East Sandling Camp.

07-13: Posted to 17th Res Bn, East Sandling Camp

08-27: Posted to 43rd Bn & proceeded to France. TOS CBD, Havre

09-20: Joined 43rd Bn at Mouquet Farm

10-05: SW, slight, right ear at Courcelette. Evacuated to 4th Fd Amb

10-13: Discharged to duty & rejoined 43rd Bn at Warloy

11-11: ILL, Influenza. Admitted to 9th Fd Amb

11-12: Transferred to DRS

11-14: Transferred to 42nd CCS

1917-01-03: Transferred to 2nd GH, Le Treport

01-12: Invalided sick to England aboard HS Dunluce Castle. Posted to MRD, Dibgate for administration.

01-13: Admitted to East Leeds War Hospital, Leeds. Retained at hospital due to a recurrence of Tonsillitis

04-14: Transferred to Woodcote Park CH, Epsom

04-24: Discharged to duty as Cat A & posted to 14th Res Bn, Dibgate

10-15: Posted to 11th Res Bn, Dibgate

10-26/31: ILL, Bronchitis. Admitted to 2nd Res Bde MH, Dibgate

1918-02-08: Posted back to 43rd Bn & proceeded to France.

- 02-11: Attached to CCRC
- 02-15: Joined 43rd Bn at Auchel
- 02-18: ILL, VDG. Admitted to 3rd Fd Amb
- 02-20: Transferred to 1st Fd Amb
- 03-13: Transferred to 13th Fd Amb
- 03-31: Transferred to 42nd CCS
- 04-03: Transferred to 51st GH, Etaples
- 04-29: Discharged as Cat A & attached to 3rd CIBD
- 05-07: Attached to CCRC
- 07-09: Rejoined 43rd Bn at Neuville Vitasse
- 08-08: SW, head at Dodo Wood, Amiens. Evacuated to 1st Fd Amb, then to 47th CCS. DOW at 47th CCS

From the CEF Burial Registers;

"Died of Wounds",

Was wounded in the head by shrapnel, at the "jumping off" trench during an attack near Hangard. He was evacuated to No.47 Casualty Clearing Station where he succumbed.

From the Cameron Highlanders Web Site

http://ca.geocities.com/cameronhighlanderscanada/title.htm

France – 1918

From January to July of 1918, the 43rd Battalion held the line along several fronts: Avion, Arleux, Lens, and Neuville Vitasse. Much patrolling was done and the battalion had to keep alert while in the trenches. On the morning of 28 March, Corporal Irvin successfully brought down a German tri-plane in No Man's Land by Lewis gun and rifle fire. The pilot appeared to be unhurt refused to accept being captured and was shot and killed.

On 22 April, the enemy sent over an estimated 1,500 drums of gas using gas projectors. However, since 43rd patrols had heard suspicious noises, suspecting an installation of gas projectors, the battalion was prepared and not taken by surprise when the attack was launched.

On 6 July, a highland gathering took place at Tinques. All Scottish Divisions (except one) were represented. The 43rd competed in various events and were successful in entering the final Tug-of-War event, only to be beaten by the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders of Canada. The Battalion Pipe Band also secured an excellent place, but were not among the prize winners.

From 8 August until the Armistice, the 43rd Camerons took part in several battles. While the German Army was slowly pushed back, it was not realized that the war would soon be over.



AERIAL VIEW OF DODU WOOD

The first of these was at Amiens. During the early morning hours of 8 August, the battalion attacked "Dodu Wood" which lay just south of the Amiens-Roye Road. At 4:20 AM, the protective barrage began and the Camerons began moving out of their assembly trench. However, a minute later, a German counter-barrage hit the Camerons and there were many casualties. Even so, the men moved forward. B Company had a stiff fight up the hill towards the wood but were successful in capturing it, along with 20 trench mortars, 35-40 machine guns, and 267 prisoners. The other three companies crossed the main road and steadily advanced through the morning fog.

In the mist, one of the supporting tanks mistook the men for the enemy and began firing on them. However, Lt. Hanson dashed up to the tank's door, pounding on it, and persuaded its occupants that they were Canadians. The fighting continued as the 43rd reached Vignette Wood, and D Company was successful in capturing a battery of 5.9s. In the wood itself, a 4.1 artillery piece was also captured. Despite initial heavy casualties and many officer casualties. the attack was a success -- over 400 prisoners were captured by the battalion, along with 33 machine guns, 3 bomb throwers, and the 4 above mentioned artillery guns.

Further Documentation: A variety of documents related to Robert Marshall's enlistment and service are available from the author.

David Williams www.mykidsancestors.com Updated: Dec 2018