

First World War Service Record of John Neill Black

The following is from the National Archives Ref: WO 339/12710



Register No.

28047.

Minute Sheet No.

Captain J. R. Black,

8th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry.

"Killed in Action - 9th April, 1917".

Next-of-Kin:-

W. R. Black Esq., (Father)
The Alexandra Hotel,
Hyde Park Corner,
London, S.W.

Handwritten signature

W. S. S. (Cms.)

23.4.17.

2

Effects disposed of (See 2a)

3
Costs - Credit - £10-3-3

4

RECEIVED

SEND 5/6 CIRC. FOR CLAIMS

Handwritten: 1/5 Accts 5

Handwritten: Please value enclosed cheque (£1.00) during a period of 14 days from date of receipt & receipt

Credit Effects 1917-18. [P.T. Over]

Handwritten: Enclosed are...

Prescribable Order No. 376
11 MAY 1917

RECEIVED

1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 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3577, 3578, 3579, 3580, 3581, 3582, 3583, 3584, 3585, 3586, 3587, 3588, 3589, 3590, 3591, 3592, 3593, 3594, 3595, 3596, 3597, 3598, 3599, 3600, 3601, 3602, 3603, 3604, 3605, 3606, 3607, 3608, 3609, 3610, 3611, 3612, 3613, 3614, 3615, 3616, 3617, 3618, 3619, 3620, 3621, 3622, 3623, 3624, 3625, 3626, 3627, 3628, 3629, 3630, 3631, 3632, 3633, 3634, 3635, 3636, 3637, 3638, 3639, 3640, 3641, 3642, 3643, 3644, 3645, 3646, 3647, 3648, 3649, 3650, 3651, 3652, 3653, 3654, 3655, 3656, 3657, 3658, 3659, 3660, 3661, 3662, 3663, 3664, 3665, 3666, 3667, 3668, 3669, 3670, 3671, 3672, 3673, 3674, 3675, 3676, 3677, 3678, 3679, 3680, 3681, 3682, 3683, 3684, 3685, 3686, 3687, 3688, 3689, 3690, 3691, 3692, 3693, 3694, 3695, 3696, 3697, 3698, 3699, 3700, 3701, 3702, 3703, 3704, 3705, 3706, 3707, 3708, 3709, 3710, 3711, 3712, 3713, 3714, 3715, 3716, 3717, 3718, 3719, 3720, 3721, 3722, 3723, 3724, 3725, 3726, 3727, 3728, 3729, 3730, 3731, 3732, 3733, 3734, 3735, 3736, 3737, 3738, 3739, 3740, 3741, 3742, 3743, 3744, 3745, 3746, 3747, 3748, 3749, 3750, 3751, 3752, 3753, 3754, 3755, 3756, 3757, 3758, 3759, 3760, 3761, 3762, 3763, 3764, 3765, 3766, 3767, 3768, 3769, 3770, 3771, 3772, 3773, 3774, 3775, 3776, 3777, 3778, 3779, 3780, 3781, 3782, 3783, 3784, 3785, 3786, 3787, 3788, 3789, 3790, 3791, 3792, 3793, 3794, 3795, 3

(This form is to be used for a cadet or ex-cadet of the Senior Division,
Officers Training Corps, or a member of a University).

Form M.T.
393 should be used for other candidates.

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO A TEMPORARY COMMISSION IN
THE REGULAR ARMY FOR THE PERIOD OF THE WAR.

*The Candidate will complete the following particulars and submit this form to the
Officers Training Corps or University Authorities.

1. Name (in full)	Surname	Black
	Christian Names	John Reilly
2. Date of birth		June 13 th 1894
3. Whether married		No
4. Whether of pure European descent		Yes
5. Whether a British born or a naturalised British subject		British born
6. Permanent address		Oldhead Taunton Somerset
7. Present address for correspondence		Oldhead Taunton Somerset
8. Whether now serving, or previously served, in any other Government Department (Home, Indian or Colonial). If so, give particulars		Late Master College O.T.C.
9. Whether able to ride		Yes

Accepted candidates will be gazetted to a general list; they may, however, state

10. The Branch of the service (cavalry, artillery, engineers, infantry or Army Service Corps) in which desirous of serving

Infantry

11. The unit (if any) to which desirous of being appointed

6th Service Battalion Linc.

but no guarantee can be given that they will be appointed to any particular unit.

I certify the above statement to be correct, and I request that I may be appointed to a temporary commission in the Regular Army for the period of the war.

Date 24 Aug 1914.

J.A. Black

(Usual signature of candidate)

Signature of parent or guardian, if the candidate is under 21 years of age

Wm. Black.

Certificate to be signed by a Member of the Military Education Committee of a University.

I certify that Mr. Black

is recommended by the Military Education Committee as a suitable candidate for appointment to a commission in the Regular Army for the period of the war.

University of Cambridge

W. D. Crawford.

Date

Aug 25. 1914

I have interviewed this officer, and consider him most suitable for a temporary commission. I request that he may eventually be appointed to my battalion.

G. R. Parry Major

6th Service Battalion Linc.

REPORT of a Regular Officer of the R.A.M.C at

Sewton

on

24. 8.

Form M.T. 348.

1911, as to

the physical fitness of the undermentioned candidate for a commission in the

Regular Army,
Special Reserve of Officers, or
Territorial Force.

Name	Age last birthday	Height inches	Chest girth inches		Weight lbs.	Hearing	Teeth	Vision	Colour Vision	Remarks as to fitness or otherwise
			Max.	Min.						
Mr J. H. Black	20	70	36	33	144	good	good	R = $\frac{5}{6}$ L = $\frac{5}{6}$	N.	Fit

This Report should be forwarded to the War Office by the first available post.

The number below should
be quoted on any further
communication on this subject

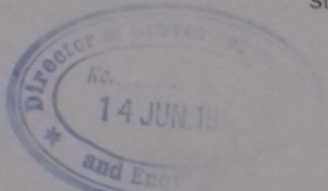
17/23127

The Director of Graves Registration and Enquiries,
WAR OFFICE,

Winchester House,

St. James's Square,

LONDON, S.W.1.



Sir,

I am directed to inform you that a report has been received
which states that the late Captain J.N. Black,
6th Somerset Light Inf., is buried in Tigris Lane
Cemetery, Wancourt, South East of Arras.

The grave has been registered in this office, and is marked
by a durable wooden cross with an inscription bearing full
particulars.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sd) Stopford.

W.N. Black Esq.,
The Alexandra Hotel,
Hyde Park Corner,
London, S.W.

Captain, Staff Capt.

~~XXXXXX~~ for Brigadier-General,

Director, Graves Registration and Enquiries.

in the London Gazette of 17th June 1917

2
The Secretary
War Office
London.

Alexander Todd S.O.

7th May 1917.

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of 20th April. informing me that my son. Captain J. R. Todd: 6th Somerset Lt. was killed in action on 9th idem.

I beg to be allowed to express my thanks to the Army Council for their sympathy with us in our loss.

May I be permitted to draw your attention to a point on which I should be glad to have your ruling. In the official announcement of my son's death in 'The Times' of 21st April. he is entered as 'Captain' whereas in the 'London Gazette' of 27th April last. he was

~~W. J. N. Black.~~
S. L. L.

Alexandra Hotel S.W.

10th May 1917.

to
Military Secretary
War Office
Mitchell.

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 9th inst. and beg to thank you for the information it contains.

May I also be allowed to express our deeply grateful thanks to the Secretary of State for War for his kind sympathy with us, as also for his tribute to our 'gallant com'?

I have the honour to be

Yours most obedient servant.
Wm. Black.

20.11-10-15
A°

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix	Code	(Inland Official)	Telegrams only.)	No. of Telegram
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		Words.	Sent	
O. H. M. S.		At	M.	
		To		
		By		

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the

W. G.
(Signature) M. F. C. Giddings

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof

Dated Stamp.

TO { Black Otterhead
Taunton

REGRET	TO INFORM	YOU THAT	
Somerset Light Inf	It was wounded	accidentally	
Oct 8th	Further	news will be telegraphed	
on receipt			

FROM { SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form.

20.4.17

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix	Code	(Inland Official)	Telegrams only.)	No. of Telegram
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		Words.	Sent	
O. H. M. S.		At	M.	
		To		
		By		

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the

W. G.
(Signature) W. Giddings

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof

Dated Stamp.

TO { W. N. Black - Alexandria Hotel
1 Hyde Park Corner - London

Deeply regret to inform you	Capt. J. N. Black		
6. Somerset Light Infantry	was killed in action		
April ninth	The Army Council express their		
sympathy			

FROM { SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form



N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry respecting this Telegram.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

WILLIAMS & SON, LTD., LONDON.

If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than 1/2d. being reckoned as 1/2d.; and if it be found that there was an emergency, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Charges
to pay

s. d.

Handed
in at

Received
here at

TO

Mr. B. Churchinford

15.5

12.13

Secretary War Office London

Referring your telegram yesterday advising
Lieut J N Black Somerset
killed wounded understand he was
sent to Base on 9th
inst no further news can you
kindly tell me where he is. Black

3/11/15

H2714

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAMS.

A. O.

Prefix Code

(Inland Official)

Telegrams only.)

No. of Telegram

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Words.

Sent

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the

O. H. M. S.

At .M.

To

By

(Signature)

Dated Stamp.

TO

Black, Ottahead, Taunton.

Lieut J N Black Somerset Light Infy discharged
to Reinforcements Camp Etaples 27th October
fit for duty on lines of communication only.

FROM

SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE.

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form.

16/10/15

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix A Code	(Inland Official)	Telegrams only.)	No. of Telegram
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. O. H. M. S.		Words.	Sent
		At	M.
		To	
		By	
I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the			W.O.
			(Signature) Reeves

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof.

Dated Stamp.

TO { **Black Overhead Taunton.**

Lieut J. N. Black	Somerset Light Infantry	admitted
1 Red Cross Hospital	Le Couquet	10th inst with
Shell wounds face & eyes slight.		

FROM { **SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE,**

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form.

Telephone Avenue { 1166.
1167.

TELEGRAMS:
D. & F. TEN, LONDON.
N.B.C. CODE.

DRUCE & ATTLEE.

A. E. BAYLI.
P. DRUCE.
A. BENTLEY.
W. GARRAN.
D. WILSON.

10, Belliter Square, London, E.C.

21 August 1917

Sir,

No 28047/4

Captain John Neill Blach O.C.

Referring to your letter of
the 30th ult we have enclosed
Probate of the will of the
deceased for registration, and
shall be glad to receive an
order for payment of £152.2.5
the amount due to the estate.

Yours obedient servants
The Secretary
War Office
Imperial Institute
South Kensington S.W.7.

4. Gross value, £2107.

17.

0

Extract from ~~Letters of Administration.~~
Probate of Will.

Dated 11th August 1917 Granted at P.P.R.

1. Estate of John Will Black of Maida Barracks
Adershot, County of Hants,
Capt. 6th Bn. Somerset L. Infantry.
2. Date and Place
of Death 9th April 1917
in France, on active service,

3. Grantees William Will Black, Father of
deceased the sole Executor
named in the said Will.

Testament dated 20th March 1915

4. Gross value, £ 2107. 17. 0.

5. Disposal of Medals
East Africa
Produced by
- To Father.
Messrs Druce & Atlee, Solic.
10, Beviliter Square,
E.C. 3.

and to whom returned by R.P. 24/8/17.

28044
J.P.S. 19
A.G.S. OFFICE 3rd ED
No. 1.5.212
Date 12.7.17
OF ADJUSTMENT
- BASE

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT.

(AFFAIRS OF DECEASED OFFICERS.)

To

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR.

(through the Command Paymaster, Base).

SIR,

We have the honour to submit the following report with regard to the affairs of the late :- A/Major J.N. BLACK 6th Bn. Somerset Light Infantry.

So far as can be ascertained the preferential charges or local debts were :-

(1) Mess Bill.....Francs.120.00

The amount of cash received was :- £10.4.11

The preferential charges or local debts paid were :- (1) by O.C. Unit out of money belonging to deceased.

Those left unpaid were :-NIL.

A balance of £10.4.11 is now in the hands of the Paymaster.

Small articles of specially sentimental or intrinsic value belonging to the deceased and received by us have been transmitted to Messrs. Cox's Shipping Agency, Ltd.

We have ascertained that articles of personal property (other than articles of specially sentimental or intrinsic value) have been sent to Messrs. Cox's Shipping Agency, also.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servants,

A. J. Simon
Captain. Major, D.A.A.G.

For the Standing Committee of Adjustment.

EFFECTS OF OFFICERS.

The Secretary,
War Office,
LONDON, S.W.

MAIN ACCOUNT

I beg to certify that the following sums have been credited to "EFFECTS" in my account for
the month of _____ 191__.

VOTE VOUCHER

RANK.	NAME.	UNIT.	PARTICULARS.	AMOUNT.
Captain	Black	J. R. 6 th Lancers L.I.	31/10/17 to 1/11/17 9 days @ 5/10 = 2 13	
Assess on	Promotion to Acting Major while 2 nd in Command.		31/10/17 to 1/11/17 Promoted 6/11/17 L. Gaz. 27. 3. 17.	
	Killed in Action 4. 11. 17		66 days @ 2/3 = 7 8	
	No further credits or charges			

RECORDED
14/11/18



Standing Committee of Adjustment,
General Headquarters,
3rd Echelon,
British Expeditionary Force,
Base, 16th May, 1917.

✓ Herewith for necessary action please
One Silver Identity Disc, wristlet, recovered from
the body of the late Captain J.N. Black, 6th Somerset
light Infantry. Other personal effects have already
been sent to you.

Kindly acknowledge receipt.

as directed by

Captain,

Staff Captain,
for The Standing Committee of Adjustment.

30/5
Messrs. Cox's Shipping Agency, Ltd.,
16, Charing Cross,
S.W. 1.

0215726

Number No.

Army Form W. 3136.

Gratuity to Officers under Article 497, Pay Warrant
and Army Order 406 of 1915.

Name in full

John Neill Black 4

Rank or Staff grading

Captain

Regiment, Department or Appointment

Somerset Infly

Period for which full pay has been
drawn during the emergency

3 Sep/14 - 30 Apr/17

Number of days' pay claimed

248

Rate

12/6

Amount

£155-

CERTIFICATE.

(To be deleted if inapplicable.)

I certify that prior to my employment in the emergency in respect
of which this gratuity is claimed I did not retire with retired pay (pension)
or gratuity.

Signature of Claimant

This portion is for the use of Agents and Paymasters.

To be completed in accordance with paragraph 6 of Army
Order 406 of 1915.

Period in payment		Transferred from	Certified
From	To		
<i>3 Sep/14</i>	<i>30 Apr/17</i>		<i>OK</i>

(4 22 42) W3613-589 20,000 7/16 HWV(P245/2) Forms/W3136/2

any such balance should be credited to
the public under the head of Effects, 1917,
the amount and the account in which the
credit will appear being reported hereon.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant.

credited by us to the late officer
in addition to pay. *Issued*

Outfit Allowance ...

Field Kit Allowance ...

Field Allowance:—

Advance ...

Other issues ...

Special Reserve Gratuity

(para. 419 S.R.

Regulations)

From

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT,
General Headquarters,
3rd Echelon,
British Expeditionary Force.

21

To

Messrs. Cox & Co's SHIPPING AGENCY, LTD.,
16, Charing Cross,
London, S.W.

The undermentioned effects of the late
Captain J.N. Black, 6th Somerset Light Infy;
are forwarded herewith, by registered post.

INVENTORY.

- ✓ 1 Watch. *RP damaged.*
- ✓ 1 Onoto Pen.
- ✓ 1 Spirit Flask.
- ✓ 1 Advance Book. - 8561
- ✓ 1 Belt.
- ✓ 1 Diary.
- ✓ Correspondence. *7481907 - 25*
- ✓ 1 Cheque Book.
- ✓ 1 Treasury Note Case contg: Photos. (damaged)
- ✓ 1 Revolver.
- ✓ 1 Key Chain.

OV. 14666 -

1st May, 1917.

From

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT,
General Headquarters,
3rd Echelon,
British Expeditionary Force.

To

Messrs. COX & CO'S SHIPPING AGENCY, LTD.,
16, Charing Cross,
London, S.W.

The undermentioned effects of the late
Captain J.N. Black, 6th Somerset Light Infantry,
are forwarded herewith, by registered post.

INVENTORY.

One Watch.

— second hand missing

04.1472

3rd May, 1917.

28047

FIELD SERVICE.

REPORT of Death of an Officer to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company 6th Service Battalion.
OR CORPS

O.3. (A) *total*

Rank Captain.

Name Black J.N.

By whom reported O.C. 6th Somerset L.I. *d/- 13.4.17*
Date of Death 9.4.17.
DIED Place or Hospital In the Field, France.
Cause of Death Killed in Action.
Place of Burial Not yet known.

State whether he leaves a will or not. -do-

ppha
All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased Officer of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

Signature of Officer in charge of Section Adjutant-General's Office at the Base. N. Z. Filgate Capt for
O i/c Reg. Inf. Sect. No.2.

Station and Date 3rd Echelon. d/20.4.17.

Captain J.W. Black,

6th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry.

"Killed in Action - 9th April, 1917".

Next-of-Kin:-

W.N. Black Esq., (Father)
The Alexandra Hotel,
Hyde Park Corner,
London, S.W.

M.S. 3. (Cas.)

23.4.17.

Effects - Be 45573

2
126 — 126 a to for A.F. 25/4
2

Auth disp - acq.
A.F. 25/4
H.B.
25/4

