

## Richard Laughton

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**From:** Bowers, Tracey C2 (DBS-JCCC Commem SO2) <Tracey.Bowers100@mod.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 2, 2018 7:24 AM  
**To:** rlaughton@cefresearch.ca  
**Subject:** 20181001\_Rededication ID292\_Clark\_Noon  
**Attachments:** Aircraft serials for Clark and Noon.docx; 20191002\_ID 292.pdf

Good Afternoon Richard,

I am writing regarding the case you submitted to the CWGC concerning the burial location of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Clark & 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Noon. This case was sent to JCCC last September as the adjudicating authority and our report is attached.

Kind regards  
Tracey

**Tracey Bowers**

**SO2 Commemorations**

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Ministry  
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**Defence Business Services**  
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Imjin Barracks  
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GL3 1HW

Tel: 01452 712612 Ext 5520

By email  
rlaughton@cefresearch.ca

Date: 2 October 2018

Dear Richard

**Identification Case Second Lieutenant E V Clark & Second Lieutenant G Noon**

Thank you for submitting the possible identification of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Clark & Noon who went missing in action on 29 November 1917. I regret to inform you that following submission to the Air Historical Branch there is insufficient evidence for the JCCC to progress this case at this stage.

As you are aware a strong identification case must provide “clear and convincing” evidence to support the identification and “clear and convincing evidence” to rule out all other casualties. Unfortunately, the investigation submitted fails to do the latter at this stage but with extra research it could be considered. To progress the case evidence must be provided to substantiate the claim made in your point three:

“The record of the loss of aircraft by noted researcher and author Trevor Henshaw reports there was only one (1) aircraft that was lost on the Western Front that contained the serial numbers **253**. That aircraft, a Bristol F2B of 20 Squadron, Serial Number **A7253**, was flown by Pilot E.V. Clark with Observer G. Noon...”

There were many aircraft with ‘253’ in the serial during the First World War, and although it is acknowledged that not all of them would have been lost on the Western Front or indeed, lost at all – some may have survived the war or been scrapped in the aftermath. Air Historical Branch (RAF), however, does not have the documentary resources to trace the fate of so many aircraft, as this material has long since been transferred to the National Archives. It is the responsibility of the originator to provide evidence on the fate of these aircraft, including date and location, name and burial location of casualties, if applicable. This must be supported by official evidence. This information is essential, as the graves in question do not display a date of death. I have attached a list of aircraft to assist you in this task.

I know this will come as a disappointment and appreciate, like us, you would like to identify all “unknown” graves. Should the missing information be supplied I would be delighted to reconsider the case.

**Contact us:**

Your reference:

Our reference: ID 292

Commemorations & Licensing:

**Contact Name: Tracey Bowers**

Tel: 01452 712612 Ext 5520

Tel: 95471 5520

email external:

tracey.bowers100@mod.gov.uk

I understand that it is difficult from Canada to visit the National Archives but there is a copying service which could help [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/record/copying/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/record/copying/)

I sincerely hope you will be able to supply this additional evidence so I can progress this case.

With many thanks for your work in submitting this case.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Bowers  
SO2  
Commemorations

### Allocations 1914-1916

<b>Serial</b>	<b>Type</b>
253	Nieuport Monoplane
1253	Bristol Scout
2253	RE7
2531-9	BE2c/d/e
3253	Morane Parasol
4253	FE2a
5253	Caudron G.III
6253	BE2d/e
7253	BE2d/e
8253	Short 827
9253	Henry Farman Astral

### Prefixes 1916 onwards

<b>Serial</b>	<b>Type</b>
A253	SPAD
A1253	Henri Farman
A2253	Maurice Farman Shorthorn
A2531-2	Maurice Farman Shorthorn
A2533-2539	Airco DH2
A3253	Nieuport Type 12
A4253	RE8
A5253	FE2b
A6253	Martinsyde Elephant
A7253	Bristol F2B
A8253	Sopwith Strutter
A9253	Airco DH5
B253	Armstrong Whitworth FK8
B1253	Bristol F2B
B2253	RE8
B2531-9	Sopwith Camel
B3253	Avro 504A
B4253	Avro 504A/J
B5253	Sopwith Pup
B6253	Sopwith Camel
B7253	Sopwith Camel
B8253	SE5a
B9253	Sopwith Camel
C253	Sopwith Pup
C1253	Airco DH9
C2253	RE8
C2531-9	RE8
C3253	BE12/12a/12b
C4253	Sopwith Dolphin
C5253	Airco DH6
C6253	Airco DH9

C7253	Airco DH6
C8253	Sopwith Camel
C9253	SE5a
D253	SE5a
D1253	Airco DH9
D2253	Bristol F2b
D2531-9	Bristol F2b
D3253	Airco DH9
D4253	Martinsyde F4 Buzzard
D5253	Sopwith Dolphin
D6253	Avro 504a/j/k
D7253	Airco DH9
D8253	Avro 504k
D9253	Airco DH4
E253	RE8
E1253	SE5a
E2253	Bristol F2b
E2531-9	Bristol F2b
E3253	SE5a
E4253	Avro 504k
E5253	Bristol F2b
E6253	Sopwith Snipe
E7253	Sopwith Camel
E8253	Sopwith Snipe
E9253	Avro 504k

38 a/c