

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, THE HON. MALCOLM TURNBULL MP, SHADOW MINISTRY, LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA WAS CONTACTED ELECTRONICALLY ON 31 OCTOBER 2009, TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FOR THE FROMELLES CAMPAIGN OF THIS GROUP. THAT IS TO REQUEST THE PARTY LOOK AT THE NOTION OF AGGREGATION AS PART OF THE ONGOING RECOVERY PROCESS AT FROMELLES AND TO ENCOURAGE ALL NATIONS TO ASSIST THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS TO DIGITIZE ITS GREAT WAR RECORDS. BESIDES MALCOLM TURNBULL MP, OTHER MEMBERS AND SENATORS TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT INCLUDED THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, JULIE BISHOP MP, THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, DAVID JOHNSTON AND BOB BALDWIN, THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE SCIENCE AND PERSONNEL AND ASSISTING SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE. IT WAS ALSO FORWARDED TO OTHER SHADOW CABINET SENATORS AND MINISTERS AS WELL AS THE SHADOW MINISTER FOR TRADE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT & LEADER OF THE NATIONALS, WARREN TRUSS AND HIS DEPUTY, NIGEL SCULLION.

**THE HON. MALCOLM TURNBULL MP., LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION,
SHADOW CABINET, GROUND FLOOR, 287-289 NEW SOUTH HEAD ROAD,
EDGECLIFF, NEW SOUTH WALES, 2027:**

Dear Leader,

Fromelles Discussion Group has been speaking out about concerns relating to the forensic and archaeological dig at Pheasant Wood as well as the need to aggregate the remains of all missing and unidentified First AIF soldiers that have been recovered from this historic battle which took place on 19 / 20 July 1916 just outside Fleurbaix. It does this to uphold the rights of Australia's war dead and to give voice to all the fallen, including the 1,131 Great War Diggers awaiting identification which are buried in nearby cemeteries.

In trying to achieve this the group would appreciate the Liberal Party of Australia looking into the conduct, operation and management of the dig which has just concluded for the purpose of lending support to our grassroots campaign to have the authorities recognize the importance of having these men included in the current forensic programme so they can be individually memorialized.

This can still be achieved before the 93rd Anniversary of the assault during 2010 when the Commonwealth War Graves Commission will have completed reinterments from the mass grave that was discovered last year at Fromelles. Reinterments from the burial pits at Pheasant Wood are scheduled to start on 30 January 2010 according to the website of the Department of Defence and it would be a great pity to just do the 193 bodies said to be in this location, when a further 1,131 soldiers are awaiting inclusion in the current project jointly funded by the British and Australian governments.

Further information relating to the Battle of Fromelles and the unknowns being discussed can be obtained on our website FromellesDiscussionGroup.com, where there are a number of Discussion Papers, Contributions, Resources, etc. In addition, the group respectfully requests the Liberal Party of Australia to support the International Red Cross in its efforts to digitize its 1st World War archives and also, our call for the Federal Government to establish a permanent recovery and accounting command in keeping with that supported by the United States of America.

Should you require further background on the work of Fromelles Discussion Group or the campaign just mentioned please contact me on the Email address listed.

**Kindest regards,
Grant Triffett, Convenor/Administrator, Fromelles Discussion Group**

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