

Copy of papers relating to 1 Primary Report

Complaint by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] against research report on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - [REDACTED] advocate for [REDACTED]

Major complaint

Words attributed to witnesses within the report denied when the witnesses were contacted by the veterans' advocate.

[REDACTED] complains that at best Writeway is using witnesses who are so incompetent they cannot recall events with any degree of accuracy, or at worst, Writeway gave fabricated evidence to suit.

Witness - [REDACTED]

Report states he said:

- He was there the day after the battle
- the smell of rapidly decomposing bodies would be his predominant memory
- remembered dead VC bodies being thrown into trenches made by bull-dozers

[REDACTED] states he told [REDACTED]:

- there were no bulldozers used
- there was no smell of bodies as they were only a few hours old when he got there (conversations of 2/5/04 and 5/5/04)

Witness - [REDACTED]

Report states he:

- confirmed the battle scene as described "above" (the report's previous page contained a paragraph titled "The Battle" which described the battle scene.)
- was brought in the day after the battle to resupply D company and bring in Engineer bulldozers to dig puts to bury the enemy dead
- He remembered [REDACTED] well and had to discipline him for shooting at a 'Dear John' letter and had him returned to Australia after a series of poor efficiency reports because he was unfit to remain with the battalion.

[NB. only dot points relevant to the complaint have been noted above - [REDACTED] is also reported to have made other statements]

[REDACTED] states he told [REDACTED] he:

- had not spoken to [REDACTED] for "10, 15 maybe 20 years". (conversation of 3/5/04); and
- that he has never heard of Writeway or [REDACTED]
- (conversation of 5/5/04 with [REDACTED]).

Other complaints

- Biased
- Gratuitous comments
- Inaccuracies
- Substandard research

Other problems

The claims assessor provided too much information on how [REDACTED] 'felt'. The contention should have excluded claimant's personal feelings.

'Documentary evidence in ref G not logical – means "5"? Careless wording in the report but does not alter the content of the quotes.

Re-admitted to hospital – Researcher states 2 Fld Ambulance has no records. The claims assessor could check the content of the medical file.

Documentary evidence – buried the day after the battle
Researchers' comment – day after battle – already buried. This is inconsistent and could be clearer in expressing the timing.