

Alfred enlisted in E Company, AN&MEF on 11th August 1914, stating that he was 40, single and listing his occupation as "Literary". He gave his father, Rev E Anderson, Rectory, St Barnabas, East Grimstead, England, as his next of kin.

Alfred gave an account of his service in New Guinea in correspondence with the Repatriation Commission in 1936, as follows: -

"...I was a member of the Landing party at Herbertshohe New Britain, in September 1914; after that action I was in the party that demanded the surrender of the Governor at a place called Toma, the action involving shell fire before completion. Colonel Watson who later commanded the 24th Bn. A.I.F. was the officer in charge at this time. Later on, in September 1914, I was in the party under Major Martin assigned to the action necessitating the capture of Wilhelmshaven; in Kaiser Wilhelm Land a few shells and shots were fired on both sides and the action from our point of view was successful. My next action was at Anserum, North of Wilhelmshaven; we were sent out to occupy this Station and after a short engagement the operation was successful. We were then sent up the Sepik River to take a place, the name of which I have forgotten, this was taken."

Alfred returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 18th January 1915, having completed 171 days service.

In 1927 he was in Singapore, working for the Straits Times.