Dulce et Decorum est
pro patria mori
It is sweet, right and fitting to die for your country.
John Singer Sargent

Reproduced courtesy of The Imperial War Museum, London
Is this right?

- The effects of mustard gas did not become apparent for up to twelve hours. After this time, the gas began to rot the body, within and without.

- The skin blistered, the eyes became extremely painful and nausea and vomiting began.

- Worse still, the gas attacked the bronchial tubes (in the lungs), stripping off the mucus membrane.

- The pain was almost beyond endurance and most victims had to be strapped to their beds.

- Death took up to four or five weeks.

Is this fitting?

'I wish those people who write so glibly about this being a holy War, and the orators who talk so much about going on no matter how long the War lasts and what it may mean, could see a case – to say nothing of 10 cases – of mustard gas in its early stages – could see the poor things burnt and blistered all over with great mustard-coloured suppurating blisters, with blind eyes ... all sticky and stuck together, and always fighting for breath, with voices a mere whisper, saying that their throats are closing and they know they will choke.'
It is SWEET, right and fitting to die for your country