Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1139 Private Walter Booth

17th Battalion



0460302F

A.I.F. 17. BOOTH W. 1139.

K. 18.4.18.

He was in D.Co. and was Co. cook. The details of his death were reported to me on 18th.April. He was almost blown to pieces by a shell in front of Hanguard Wood while the Bn. was in reserve. His remains were buried by the Regt. Chaplain (Capt. Tugwell) where he fell. The grave was marked. Capt. Tugwell is still with the Bn.

PHR.

Reference: Capt. Mackenzie. D.Co.
L.G. School.

Etaples.
20.6.18.

5

17th A.I.F.

BOOTH, Pte. W. 1139
D. H.Q.

K. Apr. 18/18. Det. D/B.

"He wasinstantly killed by a shell at Villers Bretna. Pte. Booth was the cook and was hit while doing his job. An enquiry sent to Capt. A. Mackenzie, O/C. D. Coy. will give full particulars."

Eyewitness. No.

Description.

N.W.

Informant. CSM. J. Glenday, 2656
17th A.I.F. D. Coy.
Queens Hospital,
Birmingham.

Home address.
Kendale,
Cromnta St.,
Carlton, N.S.W.

C5

F. Jervis.
21.6.18.

Written Capt. Mackenzie 4.7.18

17th Australian Imperial Force . Booth, W. 1139

(K. 18 April, 18th, 1918
Dets D & R).

" Booth was a Cook, and was blown up by a shell while at work about mid-day on the 18th at the same place on the Somme where Beshewaite was blown up. I forget the name of the place. He was buried about two yards behind the kitchen. I saw his grave,which was marked. "

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description -

Informant :- Pte. R.White, 6889
17th Aus Imp Force, B Coy.
Southam Ward, 2nd Southern General Hospt
Race Course, Cheltenham.

Home address :-
Euralla, Belmore Rd,
Coogee, Sydney.

22. 6. 18.
N.C.Davidson.

Herre.

28th June 1918.

A.I.F. 17.

Booth W. No. 1139.

K. 18th April 1918. at D/B.

I know him well, he was about 24, tall, and rather slight, darkish, and was a cook. About the 18th April we were at Hangard Wood supporting the 29th. About 2 p.m. Booth was in the kitchen when a shell pitched close by and killed him right out. He was buried alongside the kitchen on the side of an embankment and a cross erected

Inf:- Pte G. J.Mara No. 5055.
A.I.F. 17. D. XVI.
Australian Conv. Depot,
Rouelles.

N.W.

CWSG

17 A.I.F. Booth W. 1139

(K. April 18/18.) Det. D/B.

"I saw Booth lying dead at a ridge while in bivouac in reserve, at the back of Villiers Brettoneux on April 18/18. His head was nearly blown off. He was killed while trying to save some dixies.

Eye Witness: Yes.

Description: 5ft. 11 clean shaven, good looking, from Sydney single, 25. "Wally" Coy. Cook.

Informant: Pte. Norman West 738
17 A.I.F. D.Co. XV pl.
New End Hospital
Hampstead, N.W.

Home address:
Westworth Villa
N.S.W.

W.F.G.Sandwith
28.6.18.

17th Battn.
A.I.F.

BOOTH
W. 1139

"Killed 18-4-18"

He was killed instantly, being practically blown to pieces by a shell, in supports at Cachy, about 20 yds. from me at 2 p.m. some time in April,1918. We called him "Wally". He was cook in D.Coy., a very nice quiet man, dark complexion, clean shaven.

Informant. Smyth. Pte.W. 4228
17th Battn. D.Coy. 14th Pltn.,
DARTFORD.

A.G.Campbell
London
4-7-18
H.W.

S.

17th Battn.
A.I.F.

BOOTH.
Walter. 1139.

"Killed in Action 18-4-18?"

Regarding the late 1139.Pte.Booth.W.of 17th Battn. On the afternoon of the 16th April he was attending to his duties in a somewhat exposed place a little way about two miles behind the line, when the enemy commenced shelling the locality, and a piece of shell killed him outright. We buried him in a grave near where he fell and marked the spot with a cross. Our Regimental Chaplain Tugwell, has the particulars of the exact locality which is still inside our lines, and though it is impossible for me to procure them at present will do so the first opportunity.

As to his description:- He was of medium height, light hair, and blue eyes, and slim in build, but I know of no other marks or peculiarities, that may help to identify him.

Letter from:- Keith Mackenzie Capt.
D.Co. 17th Battn.A.I.F.

London.
25-7-18.
H.T.

S.

France
20.7.18

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Soty
London S.W.1

1139
Valley Booth
17th Battn Rue A 18.4.18

S 2 (CO)

Acknd 25.7.18 BJ

Dear Sir (or Madam)

Your latest enquiry regarding the late 1139 Pte Booth W of the 17th Bn to hand, and the following are the details I can gather. On the afternoon of the 18th April he was attending to his duties in a somewhat exposed place a little way about (two miles) behind the line when the enemy commenced shelling the locality, and a piece of shell killed him outright. We buried him in a grave near where he fell and marked the spot with a cross. Our Regtl Chaplain Hagwell has the particulars of the exact locality which is still inside our lines, and

though it is impossible for me to procure them @ present will do so the first opportunity.

As to his description; he was of medium height, light hair & blue eyes and slim in build, but do know of ~~those~~ no ~~other~~ marks or peculiarities that may help to identify him.

Yours faithfully
Hugh Mackenzie Capt
"D" Coy 17th Bn A.I.F

R.I

C (4-7-18)

Capt. A. MacKenzie
O/C D Coy
17th Battn. A.I.F.
Abroad

M

A&F.
1139
Pte. W. Booth
D Coy, H.Q.
17th Battn. A.I.F.
K 18.4.18.

5-7-35
0.1.B.