

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

**3267 Private  
Arthur Ormond Butler**

**59th Battalion**



0660310G

A.I.F. 59th Bn  
B.Coy.

EUTLER  
A. 3267

Wounded-July-Aug

Missing - previously reported Wounded & Missing 19-7-16  
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters I.B. 79

London  
15-11-16

M.P.I.

59th A. I. F.

Butler, A. 3267.  
B. Company

(W & M 8th Aug/16)

"Pte Creelman, B. Coy told me he had seen Butler shot through the head and killed with a machine gun bullet at Fromelles on July 19/16"

Eye-witness: No, see above

Description: Rather old, over 40 I should say, medium height, thickset, bald head, came from Melbourne

Informant: A. Wickham, 4914,  
59th A.I.F., B. Coy,  
Royal Victoria Hospital, Ward 9 A,  
Netley.

W.M. 19-17-16

p. 1.

M

15th March 1917.  
Norman W. Hick.

Written by Creelman 22.3.17

A.I.F.

9th. Battn.  
Co.

BUTLER,  
Pte. A. 3267.

Missing 19.7.16.

Re 3267 Pte. A. Butler reported wounded and missing. I hear there was a Butler of the same name and number killed on the 19th. July, 1916 he was laying with me and was killed by my side. I will give you a description of him as near as I remember.

He was medium height, fairly well built, slightly bald, with heavy fair moustache, very deep dimple in chin, he was a married man, and had spent a lot of his time on the sea, and came from South Melbourne.

Cert by letter from 2142, Pte. E. Creelman,  
59th. Battn. A.I.F.  
B.E.F.  
9.4.17.

London.  
25.4.17.

M.A.P. I.

M-19-4-16

59<sup>th</sup> Natl

C-1

59th Btn A.I.F.  
P.I. M. Same Cancel

C

3

59th Battn.  
A. I. F.

Butler.  
A. 3267

"Missing 19.7.16."

Creelman 59th Battn. B Coy. told me he saw Butler killed.

Witness:-

A. Wickham. 4914.  
59th Battn.  
W 26 Harefield.

W. Alison.

London.  
23.5.17.

Already written to Creelman.

P.I.  
M.

A.I.F.  
59th Bttn.  
B.Co.

BUTLER. Pte.  
A. 3267.

Missing 19.7.16.

5'7", dark, age 23/24 yrs. From Melbourne. Sing Married in England.

I came over with Butler on same boat. He was wounded in head I forget the stunt. I saw him about the end July 1916 in 47th Hospital C.C.S. in bed; I forget the name of locality. I had a letter from him while he was in hospital in England.

⊗ (probably Dartford 3 A.A.) in which he said he expected to return to Aust. shortly. I have not heard from him since. It was about Dec. 1916 I heard from him.

Informant:- Pte. A. Prout. 5426.

Home address:-

Francis St.  
Bairnsdale.  
Nth Gippsland.  
Vic.

59th Bttn. C.Co. 9th Pltn.  
19 Ward. 35 Bed.  
3rd A.A. Hpl. 16.4.19.

⊗ No record in 3rd A.A. Hpl.

O.S.W.  
London.  
6.5.19.

H & P.I.

NOTE:- probably another man See report by K. Creelman. Not sent to P.I.

Final draft. 26-9-19

Mrs. Lacey.

" Newton House  
Landsdown Road.  
Yotterham

re

3267 Butler A. 58<sup>th</sup> Bu

The Australian Red Cross Society

(B.R.C.S.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WOUNDED AND MISSING ENQUIRY BUREAU.

Enquiry No.

6805

Date May 13-1918

Regimental Details of  
Soldier enquired about.

Lieutenant-

Edgecombe Roy Anderson,  
28th Battalion.

Details of Casualty.

{ Wounded

Information wanted.

{ Present-Location & Condition

40-17

Merton House  
Lansdowne Rd  
Tottenham

Dear Madam

Very many thanks

for all the trouble you are  
taking re no 3267 Pte Butler

58th Batt A.D.F. I am very

sorry indeed to hear that he  
is evidently one of the killed

& will certainly send you

communication straight to

Melbourne to his wife. & if

you will let me have any further

particulars, you might hear

I will always let her know.

Am sorry to say the son has

since died in the Canadian

Military Hospital & I am very

interested in the poor lad

all the time he was there.



Again thanking you very  
sincerely

I am  
Yours faithfully

E. Lacey

Mrs. V. Deakin

7.10.16

Merton House  
Lansdowne Rd  
Lottenham

Dear Sir

Many thanks for  
communication received  
this morning re 103267 P.G.A.  
A.J.F.  
Butler, which I will pass on  
to his son, who is very anxious  
about him, & the poor boy is  
suffering of rapid consumption

which naturally makes me  
all the more anxious to  
help him, she is very grateful  
to you for all you have done  
for him.

Again thanking you

Yours faithfully

(m) . Edith Lacey

8858

6th October 1916

Mrs. Lacey,  
Menton House,  
Lansdown Road,  
Tottenham.

Dear Madam,

In answer to your inquiry for No. 3267 Private A. Butler 59th Battalion A.I.F., we regret to inform you that he is now reported as officially wounded and missing on August 8th and not wounded only as previously reported. We are doing all we can to get information for you and shall let you know the result as soon as we hear anything as we fully appreciate the son's anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

*F. W. P.*

*W.* Secretary.

Nov. 16th.

Mrs. Lacey,  
Menton House,  
Lansdowne Rd.,  
Tottenham.

Dear Madam,

We beg to inform you that 3267 Pte. A. Butler, 59th  
battalion, is now reported officially as having been missing  
since July 19th, and we have no further information about  
him. We are making inquiries and will let you know as soon  
as we hear anything further.

Yours faithfully,

V. D.

Secretary.  
L.A.W.

2nd April 1917.

Mrs Lacey,  
Menton House.  
Lansdown Road.  
Tottenham.

Dear Madam,

With regards to your inquiry for 3267. Pte. A. Butler,  
<sup>A.I.F.</sup> 59th Battn. reported missing on Aug. 8th 1916. we regret to inform  
you that according to an unofficial report which has just come to  
hand, Pte. Butler was shot through the head and killed with a machine  
gun bullet at Fromelles on July 19th. 1916.

Our information <sup>ation</sup> is from 4914. Pte. A. Wickham, 59th Battalion B.Co.  
A.I.F. who heard it from Pte. Crealman, B. Coy. Pte. Crealman's des-  
cription of Pte. Butler is that he was rather old, probably over 40.  
of medium height, thick set, bald head and came from Melbourne.

We have written to Pte. Crealman and will send you his answer and  
any further evidence we may receive.

Meantime, may we assure you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

*Miss Hansen.*  
Secretary.

McCrealmaw

B. Co. 59th Btn

A. F. 7.

B. E. 7

for

3267

A. Butler

B. Co 54th Btn A. F. 7

W. M. 8.8.16

4.78  
26.3.17

Regan, C. G. 2785. (M.G.S.)  
 Richmond, 2nd Lieut. G. H.  
 Riesecke, W. 2495.  
 Ross, L. 2881.  
 Ross, W. F. 960.  
 Sedgman, T. E. 4220.  
 Shawe, C. B. 3249.  
 Shrubsole, H. F. 2040.  
 Sinclair, A. 2380.  
 Smith, A. H. 498.  
 Stamford, H. C. 2006.  
 Staley, H. B. 2265.  
 Thompson, H. W. 515.  
 Thornton, C. L. 514.  
 Turner, H. H. 3930.  
 Ulake, N. J. 2123.  
 Vaker, J. G. 3770.  
 Watkins, T. 2282.  
 Waugh, G. W. 946.  
 Weir, T. E. 529.  
 Whitely, E. C. 2886.  
 Whittenham, H. W. 4553.  
 Wilkinson. 3954.  
 Williams, L. 248.  
 Woodhouse, F. 3937.  
 Wrightson, F. C. 2447.  
 Young, W. 3960.

M., bel. K. Aug. 26/16.  
 K. Aug. 26/16. Det.D./B.  
 M. July 29/16. Det.D./B.  
 K. July 31/16. Det.D./B.  
 K. Aug. 24/16. Det.D./B.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 K. July 19/16. Det.D./B.  
 Unoff. W. and M. July—Sept. 16.  
 M. Nov. 20/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/15.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. July 19/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 W. Unoff. M. Aug. 2/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 K. Aug. 26/16. Det.D./B.  
 K. Oct. 14/16. Det.D./B.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.  
 K. Aug. 5/16. Det.D./B.  
 M. Aug. 26/16.

Check  
FM 19 July 17

3267 A. BUTLER BCO

59 Batt

M. 19.7.16

M.  
P. 14

Field

9 = 14 = 14

Dear Madam

In reply to your letter dated 26-3-14 re 3267 A. Butler reported wounded and missing.

There was a Butler of the same name and number killed on the 19th of July 1916. He was laying out wire and was killed by my side. I will give you a description of him as far as I remember.

He was medium height, fairly well built; slightly bald, with heavy eye-mustaches, very deep dimple in chin. He was a married man and had spent a lot of time on the sea, and came from South Melbourne.

Yours faithfully  
2142 P. H. Creelman

59 Batt AIF  
15 EF



20th April 1917.

No. 2142. Pte. E. Creelman,  
59th Australian Inf. Batta.  
E. E. F.

Dear Pte. Creelman,

Very many thanks for your letter of April  
9th in answer to our enquiry for:-

No. 3267. A. Butler, B. Company. 59th Batta. A.I.F.

The information you have sent will be of much assistance.

With best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

Secretary.

Lu.

1st May 1917.

Mrs Lacey.  
Henton House.  
Lansdown Rd.  
Tottenham.

Dear Madam,

We regret to advise you of further unofficial evidence concerning No. 3267. Pte. A. Butler, 58th Battn. A.I.F. which confirms our worst fears as to his fate.

Informant reports that Pte. Butler was killed on July 19th. 1917. while they were lying outside by side. He describes him as slightly bald and fairly well built, of medium height with a heavy fair moustache and a deep cleft in his chin. He was a married man and had spent a lot of his time at sea, his home being in South Melbourne.

Our informant No. 2142. Pte. K. Creelman 59th Battn. gave us this information in a letter from France.

We are pursuing further inquiries and will advise you immediately on receipt of other news.

Assuring his son of our sincere sympathy in his sorrow and anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

*K.D.*

*L.A.W.*