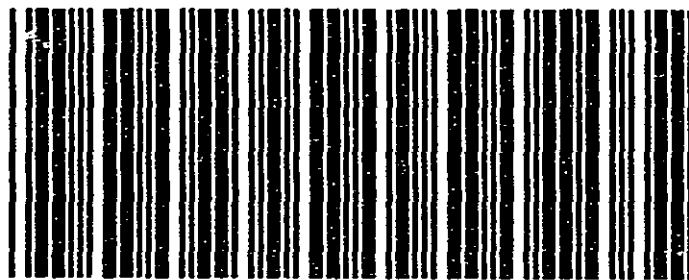


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2344 Private
Leonard Albert Balzary**

23rd Battalion



0210902E

23rd Btn.

BALZARY L. A.
Pte. 2344.

Kld. in act. 22/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man of medium build, about 5 ft. 8 ins. dark complexion, about 26 years of age, known as "Bal". Usually as in support lines and I was talking to him a few minutes before. An H.E. shell exploded alongside a piece entering his body killing him instantly. I went to his assistance but he was quite dead. He was killed by the same shell as an officer of the 22nd Battalion, name not known. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Pte. W. Moiverney,
No. 5857, 23rd Btn.

Private address:-
52 Chatwynd Street,
West Melbourne.

H.A.F.
7/3/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

23rd Battn.
A.I.F.

BALZARY
I.A. 2344

Killed Sept. 21st 1917

I saw him buried by a shell, we dug him out but he was dead, in front of Ypres. We took his body to the Dressing Station so he would be buried but I cannot give particulars. I was in the same Coy. fifteen months. He was dark and about 5ft. 8 ins. - young fellow and a very good make.

Witness:- Willis J/Cpl. C.R. 5901
23rd Batt. B. Coy.
No. 3 Command Depot.
Hurdcott,
20.12.17

G.W.Griffiths.

H.

London.
8.1.18

Havre

6th December.1917.

23rd AUSTRALIANS

BALZARY, L.A. 2344

K. Sept. 21st.1917. Det. D/S.

I knew Pte. L.A. Balzary of B.Co., I think VIII.Pltn. One hundred men were detailed from the 23rd Battalion to act as carrying party to the 26th Battalion on September 20th,1917, at Menin Road. I was Sergt. in charge. About 5.30p.m. dusk, while taking up ammunition in our own lines under shell fire, a shell burst amongst our party, and killed about four; Balzary being one of them. I saw his body, and recognised it. We did not bury them at the time, but I am certain that the bodies would be buried near where they were killed. I would be able to point out the spot.

Footnote

Informant: ~~Footnote~~, E. Sergt. 342

23rd Australians, B.Co., VII.Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

ADM.

M

23rd Btn.

BALZARY L. A.
Pte. 2344.

Kld. in act. 22/9/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a short man, slightly built, fair complexion, about 23 years of age, known as "Bal". Casualty was sitting on the side of Westhoek Ridge in the open. A shrapnel shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I was 15 yds. from him at the time of his death but I went immediately to his assistance but he was beyond all aid. He had a severe head wound but the concussion was the main cause of death. He was buried near Westhoek Ridge but I do not know the exact spot."

Informant:- Pte. A. Guinsbury,
No. 2109, 23rd Btn.

Private address:-
221 Brunswick Street,
Fitzroy.

T.C.F.
21/2/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.