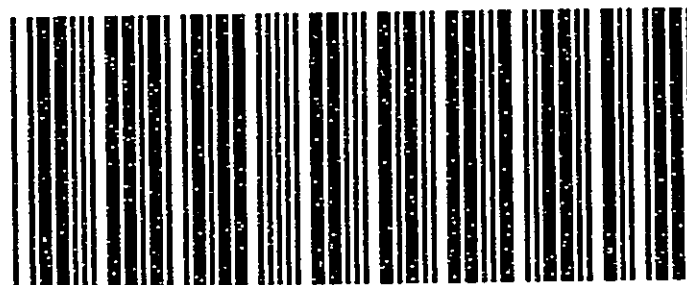


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**2121 Private
John Thornhill Crane**

3rd Battalion



0830402H

Grass P. P. P. 2121

Grd A.I.P.

Cpl John Thornhill (Missing)

Wounded by bomb. Badly in face. Went away wounded.

Reference, Nixon; 2233 Grd A.I.P.
Has at Tin Convalescent Hospital Alexandria.

R.A.Ker
Nov. 8 1913.

S.A.I.F.

Pte J. E. Crane S.I.P.I.

(Missing)

Man wounded about 10th September by shrapnel in the back at Mesopotamia Gully. He was taken away to the beach. He was on fatigue at the time.

Reference Pte H. R. West-1222, 2970 7th B. Luffs
Ras el Tin Conv. Hospital Alexandria.

H.A. Ker
Dec. 4 1915.

3 copies. P.I. & S.

3rd Batt. A.I.F. B.C.

(H.)

CHANCE

J.T. 2121.

Cpl John Thornhill

Wounded and sent to Egypt in August.

Ref:

W. Irwin, 1337

13th Batt. A. Coy.

Al Hayat Convalescent Home,
Melouan, Cairo.

R.F. Koy,
Cairo,
7:11:15.

Already cabled.

Sydney
Mrs. J. Smith

S A.I.F.

M. 7th to 12/8/15.

Crane.
Cpl Pte. J.T. 2121
John Thornhill

Crane had a piece of his face carried away by a 75 shell at Lone Pine, on 7th August. Private Martin Gallagher, D.Coy., 3rd Battalion, saw this happen. Gallagher told witness he was sure Crane was too much damaged to live. Witness knew Crane well and described him as a dark, thick-set fellow, who came from Surrey Hills, N.S.W.

Ref.: - Pte. C.P. Wilson, 2191, B.Coy. 3rd Battalion
No. 3 Auxiliary Hospital, Heliopolis.

S.A.
15/2/16

S. & P.I.

M E D

Crane ✓
John Thornhill
Cpl 2121

3rd Australian Infantry,
Crane Pte. J.T., 2121,
6th Reinforcement.

(M. Unoff. W.)

Informant states that on 6th Aug., at Lone Pine Gully he saw Crane being carried down to Dressing Station on stretcher. He was badly wounded in the face and head with shrapnel. Informant knows nothing further of Crane.

Reference: Pte. R. Jones 2154,
Aust. Inf., 3rd Batt.,
Harefield Hospt., Middlesex.

London,
Jan. 14th 1916,
J. Burnett.

S-2 P.I.S.

3 A.I.F.

CRANE
Pte J.T. 2121.

M. 7/8/15.

(John Thornhill)

Witness states that he knew a man named Crane in the 3rd Btn. He was wounded in the face at Lone Pine about 18/8/15. Witness was present and saw him while he was being bandaged. He was then sent along to the dressing station and subsequently left the Peninsula.

Ref:- Cpl F. Stanwell, 1585,
A Co, 85 A.I.F.
Tel el Kebir Camp.

J.L.K.
5/3/16.

S. & P.I.

3 A.I.F.

Hed.

Cram,
cpl etc. J. T. 2121
(John Thornhill)

Witness Sgt. Munro of Orderly Room, 55th Battalion, who appears to be a reliable man says he believes this man was in hospital at Malta soon after the Lone Pine charge on 6/8/15.

J.L.K.
3/4/16
Cairo

S. & 2 P.Is.

Asked Malta verify.
M- sent on.
For Cairo files only.

Moore's Modern Methods, Ltd., London, England. Binder and holes in leaves. Pat'd No. 8774, 1924

Cancelled

M E D.

3rd Btn. A.I.F.

CRANE
Cpl J. Thornhill 2121.

(John)

M. 7~~5~~12/8/15.

Cannot be traced at Malta.

Malta Cable.

CAIRO.
4/5/16.

S. & P.I.

M E D

3rd Australians

Crane, J.J., 2121.
(John Thornhill)
(M. Aug. 7-18 1915)

Visitor's Note: Please refer to my former report on J.J. Crane, dated 5th June given by Pte. T. Eaglesham. My Informant wrote at once to a friend to find out the correct Regimental numbers of the Pte. Crane who was shot through the cheek after the Lone Pine charge, and who got on all right afterwards. He tells me to-day that he has heard it was 1439 so that it cannot be the same man.

Reference: Thomas Eaglesham 1526,
3rd Australians, A. Co., 111 Plt.,
Home address: 3rd Southern General Hospital, The Base,
41 Union Avenue, Oxford.
Newton-on-Ayr.

London,
June 23rd 1916,
Hilda M. Pickerd-Cambridge.

S. I. Y. A. C. A.
Cd

3 A.I.F.

Crane

(Missing)

Amended report:-

The report given by me December 4 should be applied
to:-

H. Crane.

I do not know his number.

Reference H.B. Westlake 2378, 3 A.I.F.
Ras el Tin Conv. Hospital Alexandria.

R.A. Ker
Dec. 13 1915.

33. A.I.F.
S.E.

CRANE,
Capt. J.T.

(John Thornhill)

About the 7th August, the day after the Lane Pine charge, informant went into a trench in the second line at Lane Pine. He there saw the body of Crane, who had just died as the result of a bullet wound in the head. Informant was a tent-mate of Crane's, and in the same platoon.

Ref.: - Gurney,
Pte. W.L., 3120,
3rd Battalion, 6th Reinfts.,
4th Aust. General Hospital,
BUNDICK.

D.W.
29.2.16.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

5

S 12 P.I.S

3rd Bat., A.I.F.,
6th Rfcts.

CRANE,
Cpl., J.T., 2121.

(John Thornhill)

(Missing).

On 7th August, just after the Lone Pine charge, Crane was in the 3rd Trench with Informant and was killed by a shell. The men were stationed in the firing line at the time. Informant was only three men away from Crane and saw his body taken away.

Ref:- Lambkin,
Pte. Q., 2165.

3rd Bat., 6th Rfcts.

4th Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

D.W.
22/2/16.

S. 2 P. 15

RECEIVED

21 NOV. 1916

KYREWOOD,

49, ENDLESHAM ROAD,

BALHAM, S. W.

Nov. 20th/16.

Dear Sir,
Will you kindly
put the following name
in the Enquiry List
for December.

Vide Y. H. Crane 2121,

Call: A. I. F.

Missing about Aug: 4th/15.

Should you
receive any

information from
the Researcher.
Please send same
to -

Lt. T. D. Downing,
7, Brunswick Place,
Gerry Hill,
Aberdeen.
Scotland.

Yas Luby
Spencer Penru.

act

St. Lawrence
Chubb St.
Central May
14.8.16

Re the matter of C/o. 2121
Corporal John Thornhill Crane
6th Rgt. 3rd Batt. St. 14
reported missing 4/8/16

Dear Madam

A letter of yours
to Sister Smith of Chubb
Hospital, Cairo, with
regard to above, has
been handed to me, and
while thanking you
very much for the

(2)

trouble you have taken
and for the information
you have given, I am
going to trespass
further on your kindness
and ask for a few more
particulars.

You speak in your
letter of "several unofficial
reports", but only mention
the name of one of your
authorities, that of Mr.
Hampden. In your notes
on the subject, have you
any other names you
can furnish me with

(3)
so that I may be able to communicate
with them?

Of course I have known for a long
time that my son was killed in action
though I ~~had~~ have not yet received
official intimation of the fact, but
am very anxious to learn all the
can of the circumstances of his death,
and if you can give me all the
information you have gained, you

(4)

will be helping to
allay some of my
anxiety.

I cannot express my
gratitude, and admiration
for, those who like
yourself are working
to relieve the sorrow
and worry of those un-
happy people who
have lost someone dear
to them; and the knowledge
of the good you are doing
ought to comfort you under
the heavy strain of your work.

Yours most sincerely
Ann Grace Crane

8th April, 1916.

Sister Smith,

Choubrah Infectious Diseases Hospital,

Choubrah, CAIRO.

Dear Sister Smith,

2/21

We much regret the delay in answering your enquiry for Corporal J. Thornhill Crane, 3rd Battalion, who is reported as "Missing 7-12/8/15" at A.I.F. Headquarters, and the very few details we can supply.

From several unofficial reports we are led to believe that Corporal Crane was very severely wounded in the head on 7th August just after the Lone Pine charge, when the Battalion was stationed in the third trench in the firing line, and that he died very soon afterwards. At this terrible time of stress it was almost impossible for the men to take notice of what was happening to their comrades, but Private C. Lambkin, 2165, now returned to Sydney, stated that Corporal Crane was only three men away from him at the time, and he saw the body of Corporal Crane being carried away by his comrades.

Trusting that the knowledge that Corporal Crane died gallantly in the famous Lone Pine charge will be of a little comfort to his friends

Yours truly,

H.S.

Secretary,
Australian Branch,
B.R.C.S. W. & M. Enquiry Bureau

8258

11th October 1916.

Mrs. Ann Grace Crane,
Glenroy,
Aubin Street
Neutral Bay,
Sydney.

Dear Madam,

In answer to your inquiry for further information about your son No. 2121 Corporal John Thornhill Crane, 3rd Battalion, A.I.F., we should advise you to go to our Sydney Bureau, in Dalton Buildings, Pitt Street, Sydney, and they will show you all the information that we have here, as a typed copy of all the information we have received has been sent out to Australia.

Assuring you of our deep sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

L. O.

Secretary.
/ A.W.

Nov: 21st.

Sgt. T.D. Downing,
7 Brunswick Place,
Ferry Hill,
Aberdeen,
N.B.

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by Miss Jessie Perrin of Balham to add to our list the name of Pte. J.R. Crane 2121 3rd Battalion, A.I.F. and to send information to you. The name has been on our list for some time and all possible enquiries have been made. Below you will find some unofficial report from our searchers -

2165 Pte. C. Lambkin, 3rd Battalion, 6th Rfts, A.I.F. states "on 7th August just after the Lone Pine Charge, Crane was in the 3rd trench with informant and was killed by a shell. The men were stationed in the firing line at the time. Informant was only three men away from Crane and saw his body taken away.

3120 Pte. W.L. Carney, 3rd Battalion, 6th Rfts, states - About the 7th August, the day after the Lone Pine Charge, informant went into a trench in the second line at Lone Pine. He there saw the body of Crane, who had just died as the result of a bullet wound in the head. Informant was a tent-mate of Crane's and in the

2.

same platoon."

Then we have another report from 2191 Pte. C.P. Wilson, B. Company, 3rd Battalion, but we are not sure that this refers to your friend as there appear to have been two Cranes in the Battalion. You will be able to tell this, however, better than we can as he adds a description - "Crane was wounded by a 75 shell at Lone Pine on August 7th. Pte. Martin Gallagher, D. Company, 3rd Battalion, saw this happen. Gallagher told witness he was sure Crane was too much damaged to live. Witness knew Crane well and described him as a dark thick set fellow who came from Surrey Hills, N.S.W."

We trust that all these particulars may be of some help to you.

Yours faithfully,

V. D.

Secretary

[Handwritten signature]

The Secy

Warner's Missing Persons Bureau

Aust Branch, B.R.C.

London, ~~Eng~~

J. T. Crane 2/21.

Dear Madam,

Yours of the 3rd inst. is
hand to Mr. H. Crane 2/21 3rd Floor, 230
Oswestry 7th Aug 1915. Gallipoli.

Hi. Thanking you for letter is

Yours truly, Yours.

75.11.16

Thames

C