

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

**2670 Private  
Andrew Cameron  
Kneath**

**47th Battalion**



1530301D

A.I.F. 47.

KNEATH, A.O. 2670.

K. Oct. 12th, 1917. Det. D/B.

A. C. Kneath was I think in D. coy. His number was about 2670. He had red hair, was clean shaven, about 5ft. 2 and about 19 or 20. I was told by Pte. W. Turner of D. coy. that he had seen Kneath killed by a shell during the engagement at Passchendaele about 12th Oct. Kneath was killed just before our battn. was relieved. I never heard where he was buried.

Inf. Pte. W. Brittain, 2623. E.V.

No. 1. C.C.

BOULOGNE. 5.4.18. AGL.

Letter addressed to Pte W. Turner returned, marked "Missing" B(1-5-18)  
no trace of Pte W. Turner 1728 a.s.f.w. written Turner 15/4/18.  
J.A. 7/6/18. 26.4.18

A.I.F. 47.

KNEATH, A.C. 2670.

X.Oct.12/17. Det. D/B.

He was in A Co. 4 Pl. His initials were A.C. We attacked at Passchendaele, Oct.12 about midday. Our objective was the ridge, or part of it. After gaining the Ridge we couldn't hold it and had to retire. As we were retiring he had a shell all to himself and was blown to pieces. I was not an eyewitness; not a trace of his body could be found. He came from Rockhampton(?) Queensland. L/Cpl.B.Chant, A. 4 saw the casualty. He was with the Bn. when I left 2 days ago.

Reference: H.King, 2039. B. H.Q. formerly 4 Pl.  
No.5 General, Rouen. 10.7.18.

BT.

*Ing S.*

*Written Chant*

*25.7.18*

*B*

47th Battn.  
A.I.F.

KNEATH.  
A.C. 2670.

"Killed in Action 12-10-17"

Re 2670. Pte. A.C. Kneath. 4th Platoon, A. Coy 47th Bn  
Killed in Action 12-10-17. Pte Kneath and I were both in the  
same platoon and he and I were always together, but the action  
in which he was killed. I was not there, but I know a man who  
was with him the time he was struck and killed. That man  
being L/Cpl Seeger. now in the 45th Battalion. Cpl Seeger  
told me all about Pte Kneath's death after the action and if you  
write to him, he will be able to give you full particulars as to  
when and where he was buried. All I know is what Cpl Seeger  
told me.

Letter from:- Pte. F. A. Ferris 3138.  
London. B. Coy. 48th Bn. Inf: Bgde. 12.  
17-10-18. FRANCE. 7-10-18.  
Note:- Written L/Cpl Seeger 16-10-18.

B.

47th Battn.,  
A.I.F.

KNEATH,  
A.C., 2670.

"Killed in action - 12-10-17."

"Pte. Kneath was in the same shell hole with me for three days  
after 47th Battn., had retired at Passchendaele on Oct. 12th 1917.  
He was killed on October 15th 1917 (not October 12th 1917 as you  
state) at about between 7.0 and 8.0 p.m.

He was killed by a low burst of shrapnel, a large piece of which  
entered his right shoulder. He was not killed instantly, but  
passed away within five minutes. He suffered no pain at all, as  
he seemed to be unconscious, so far as I remember, he never spoke.

We had not time to bury him as we were relieved half an hour  
afterwards by the 11th Battn., but the party who relieved us  
promised they would be sure to see him buried. He would be buried  
on the field and not in a soldier's cemetery.

I did not know Pte. Kneath personally as he was not in the  
same platoon as I was, but I had always heard him well spoken of and  
he was very well liked by his Company.

So far as I can remember he was of slight build, short, fair  
inclined to sandy complexion, with blue eyes. I took his paybook  
and wallet and handed them to his Coy. Commander.

Informant:- (Cpl) Maurice A. Seeger,  
45th Battn.,

A.C.K.

London, 25-11-18. J.E.D.

A.I.F.

B

47th Battn.  
A.I.F.

KNEATH.  
A.C. 2670.

"Killed in Action 12-10-17"

He was of A. Company. At Passchendaele, I think about 15th October 1917, about 3 days after our last attack. He was sitting in a shell hole, when killed outright by shell. Don't know where he was hit. I was about 10 yards away at the time. We were relieved the same day. His body was left by ~~near~~ where he was killed. Don't know his initials or number.

Informant:- Pte W. Reed. 1729.  
47th Battn. A. Coy. P/W.  
RED CROSS.

A.D.G.  
London.  
7-1-19.  
J.E.A.

B.

UNIT INFORMATION  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION  
IS FOR INFORMATION OF

G C

UNIT INFORMATION  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION  
IS FOR INFORMATION OF

40  
~~4670~~

UNIT INFORMATION  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION  
IS FOR INFORMATION OF

L/Cpl Seeger  
45 Ballie  
A.I.F.

NAME  
GRADE  
NO.  
BATTAL  
COMP.  
REG'T  
BRIGADE  
DIVISION  
CORPS  
ARMY  
SERVICE NO.  
DATE  
PLACE

Atmt  
2670 Pt A.C. Knealth  
IV Platoon A.C.  
47 Ballie  
A.I.F.

Kin A 12.10.17

Written 16.10.18

Mrs

NAME  
GRADE  
NO.

HOSPITAL

# HOSPITAL *King George's* *Stam*

Fill in exactly as List.

SURNAME.	Christian Name.	Regtl. No.
<i>Norman</i>	<i>E-L.</i>	<i>1958</i>

4 P.M.

SURNAME	Christian Name.	Regtl. No.
<i>Murphy</i>	<i>J. L.</i>	<i>3414</i>

## STATEMENT

NOTE.  
In all cases state fully what informant says he saw or heard and give DATE AND PLACE of occurrence.

*3 C 2. 4. 17*  
*feel quite certain that*  
*Morelie when we were*  
*line - as we were from*  
*(Inf. was himself being)*  
*Dec 15/17 - & suffered from*  
*no soap no towels (*

## PLEASE ALSO ANSWER

1. Was Informant Eye-Witness? *Believed so*
2. If not of
3. Was the ground held or lost?
4. If In was the
5. Did Informant know Christian Name, Initials or No. of man enquired about?
6. Was man
7. Give Informant's description of man enquired about - any nickname, marks, scars, etc. *Was a Cpl. 5ft 10, 9*
8. Searcher's opinion of Informant's accuracy and intelligence *Intelligent & intel*

2670  
A.C. Knuth  
47th Bn  
K. 12.10.17 France  
1.11.18

(led)

The Secretary B2  
Australian Red Cross Society  
London.

Madam/

Re your enquiry of the  
16<sup>th</sup> ult for particulars of  
2670 Pte A.C. Knuth, 47th Bn, A.C.  
47th Bn, reported killed in action 12/10  
Pte Knuth was in the same  
shell hole with me for three days  
after 14/10. He retired at Passchendaele  
on 12/10. He was killed on  
October 15/17 (not 12/17 as you state)  
at about, between 7.0 - 8.0 p.m.

He was killed by a low burst  
of shrapnel, a large piece of which  
entered his right shoulder. He was  
not killed instantly, but passed  
away, within five minutes. He  
suffered no pain at all as he  
seemed to be unconscious; so far



as I remember he never spoke.  
We had not time to bury him as  
we were relieved half an hour  
afterwards by the 11<sup>th</sup> Btn, but  
the party who relieved us promised  
they would be sure to see him buried.  
(He would be buried in the field  
& not in a soldiers cemetery.)

I did not know Pte. Hreath  
personally, as he was not in the  
same platoon as me but I had always  
heard him well spoken of & was  
very well liked by his comrades.

So far I can remember he was  
of slight build, short, fair inclined  
to sandy complexion with blue eyes.  
I took his paybook & wallet &  
handed them to his Coy. Commander  
after ~~being examined~~. I trust these  
particulars will be sufficient. Being  
a long time since it happened I am  
not sure on many small points as I  
would like to be.

Yours Truly

(Chf) Doanier at Seeger J.S.D.

45<sup>th</sup> Btn

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY  
WOUNDED & MISSING  
ENQUIRY BUREAU

25, GROSVENOR PLACE  
LONDON, W. 1.



*Shipping*  
*1-5-18*

*W.F.R.*

*2728*  
*M*  
*3-4-18*  
*P.O. W. Turner 2728*

*RRP*  
*1st Lieut.*

*in report p/w*

*B. Coy.*

UNRECOVERABLE  
RETURN TO SENDER

*Imperial Forces*

*B.G. 7*

2670 C. P. Rucatto

47 Bln

Smith A.C.

2670

Andrew Cameron

47<sup>th</sup> Ball

What date death please?

11/12 12. 10-17 H 12. 11. 18

File under 2670

Smith A.C. Knecht

47<sup>th</sup> Ball

Gen. Corr.

Report Section 14. 11. 18

Gregory  
A.

2276  
48 Batts.

197

C

Yo

L. / Pl. B. Chant

IV. Platoon. A. Co.

47. Inf. Ball

A. J. 7.

B. E. 7.

Abmt

2670. Pl. A. C. Kneath

IV. Platoon. A. Co.

47th Inf. Ball

A. J. 7.

B. E. 7.

K/ 12. 10. 17

Written

25. 7. 18

m. 8. 7

2670  
A.C. Kneash  
47th R. M. A. 12.10.17

2670  
A.C. Kneash  
47th R. M. A. 12.10.17  
B2  
Third C.

France  
October 7/11/18.

Secretary,

Wounded Missing

"Enquiry Bureau."

U.S. Red Cross Society, London.

Dear Secretary,

Your letter of the 25.7.18 and  
enquiry after 2670 Priv. A. C. Kneash.  
H. Platoon A. Coy 47th B. attalion. Killed  
in action 12.10.17. Priv. Kneash & I  
were both in the same platoon and he & I  
were always together, but the action in  
which he was killed, I was not there.  
But I know a man who was with him  
the time he was struck & killed. That  
man being Lance Corporal Seeger  
now in the 45th B. attalion, Corporal  
Seeger told me all about Priv. Kneash's  
death after the action & if you write  
to him he will be able to give you  
full particulars as to where & when  
he was killed & where he was

married. All I know is what G. L.  
Weyler told me.

Could you give me any  
information as to what became of  
Priv. D. S. MacCallum 3177,  
A Coy 47th Battalion. He was at  
reported wounded a first, then after  
about five months was reported to his  
people as killed. I would very much  
like to know what information you  
can get concerning Priv. MacCallum  
as his people have written to me asking  
me if I knew anything of him.

Trusting you will be able to furnish  
me with some information of my lost  
comrade.

Yours faithfully

Priv. J. A. Jarvis 3138  
Note P Coy 48th Batt  
Written Lt Col Seeger 2. Aug 13 d Jode  
16.10.18



Tel.: VICTORIA { 8576  
8577  
8578

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY,"  
WOUNDED AND MISSING  
— ENQUIRY BUREAU —  
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

*Plt W. Turner.*

*26.4.18.*

*D. W. H. A. I. F.*

*B. G. F.*

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries about a man of your unit,

*2670 A. P. Kueath. 47 Batt. A. I. F.*

*up next killed in action 12.10.17.*

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you can send us concerning him, but our enquirers wish especially to know whether he was buried, if so, whether it was on the field, or in a soldiers' cemetery where the grave would be registered. We would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance or any points that might help to prove his identity.

In your reply kindly quote name, initials and number, as without these particulars delay and confusion might be caused in identifying the soldier about whom you have written.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss) *Vera Drake.*

*Sw.*

Secretary.