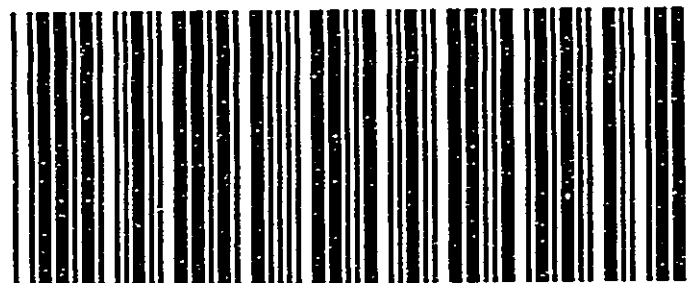


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**412 Private  
Edward John Fensom**

**33rd Battalion**



1050209H

A.I.F. 35rd Btn

M  
FENSON  
E.J. 412

"D. 3rd Can.Gen.Hpl"

Admitted 3rd Canadian General Hospital - Gun shot wound neck,  
Paraplegia & Pneumonia

Trans - 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station 20-2-17

Trans - 3rd <sup>C.</sup> G.Hpl Boulogne 22-2-17

Died 3rd Canadian General Hospital Boulogne  
Cert. by Hospital Index

Died of wounds 3-3-17 at 3rd Canadian General Hospital  
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 1-5-17.  
c

S.

London  
2-5-17

33rd Battn.  
A. I. F.

Fenson.  
Pte. E. J. 412.

"Died of Wounds.3.3.17."

With reference to the foregoing this man was admitted to the hospital under my command 22.2.17. suffering from a severe wound in the neck, which he had received at Armentieres on the 18th. The bullet had passed through his spine causing complete paralysis of the legs and partial paralysis of the left arm. The case was quite hopeless from the start, he developed a very severe attack of bronchial-pneumonia with continued high fever, and this was the immediate cause of his death, which occurred March 3rd.

Letter from:-  
Col. H. S. Birkett,  
O.C. No 3 Canadian Gen. Hospital.

London.  
21.5.17.

S.

33rd Battn. A.I.F.

FENSON

Pte. H.J. 412

3-3-17  
Died of Wounds 1917.

Informant describes Fenson as about 5 ft. 9 inches high, rather dark, stoutly built, aged about 24. He came from Top Bingara, N.S.W.

Informant states that some time in March or April, 1917 (he could give no further particulars of date) the Battalion was holding the lines at Houplines near Armentieres, France. Informant was told that Fenson was hit by a stray bullet. He was taken away, but Informant did not know where to, and he heard later on that he had died of his wound. Informant saw Fenson on the day when he was shot.

Fenson was well liked in his Battalion..

Informant:-- Pte. E.J. McManus, 490,  
33rd Battalion, A.I.F.  
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Home address:-- Kyall Creek, Bingara.

W.E.G.  
16/1/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S. C. 2044 J. M. A.

Home address: Ross Hill, Laverell,  
W.B.C. No 4 A.C.H. SYDNEY  
7/3/18

33rd Battalion A.I.F.

FENSON H.J. P'te  
No 412.

3-3-17

"Died of Wounds 1917"

Informant described Fenson as about 5ft 10 inches high, medium build, fair complexion, aged about 21. Came from Gunnedah district his people being farmers. Left Australia with Informant in the "Karathen" on 4/5/16.

Informant states that he was a scout attached to "C" Company and Fenson a scout attached to "B" Coy. The Battalion was at Houplines from January to April 1917. So far as he can remember they were in a subsidiary line at the end of February or the commencement of March and were walking together along a trench with a very low parapet which was about a mile from the German lines and was considered safe so that they took no special precautions to shelter themselves. While so walking Fenson was hit in the neck by a bullet in the presence of Informant. When hit Fenson became semi-conscious but was able to say "Leave me alone, I am done." Informant saw him being taken to a Dressing Station and that was the last he saw of him. The official report to the Battalion was that he had died from Pneumonia as well as from his wounds. He was taken to the Dressing Station by P'te Kaceberg who lives at Muswellbrook.

Informant added that Fenson was a very good chap, well liked and popular with his chums.

Informant: P'te. A.D. Frater, No 771, C" Coy 33rd Batt.

Sydney Bureau

S.C. 4/11

W. M. G.

No 4 A. G. H. SYDNEY

7/3/18

Home address: Ross Hill, Inverell.

33rd Battalion A.I.F.

3-3-17

"Died of Wounds 1917"

FENSON E. J. Pite  
No 412.

Informant described Fenson as about 5ft 10 inches high, medium build, fair complexion, aged about 21. Came from Gunnedah district his people being farmers. Left Australia with informant in the "Marathon" on 4/5/16.

Informant states that he was a scout attached to "C" Company and Fenson a scout attached to "B" Coy. The Battalion was at Houghlines from January to April 1917. So far as he can remember they were in a subsidiary line at the end of February or the commencement of March and were walking together along a trench with a very low parapet which was about a mile from the German lines and was considered safe so that they took no special precautions to shelter themselves. While so walking Fenson was hit in the neck by a bullet in the presence of informant. When hit Fenson became semi-conscious but was able to say "Leave me alone, I am done." Informant saw him being taken to a Dressing Station and that was the last he saw of him. The official report to the Battalion was that he had died from Envenomation as well as from his wounds. He was taken to the Dressing Station by Pite Macabere who lives at Murrumbidgee.

Informant added that Fenson was a very good chap, well liked and popular with his chums.

Informant: Pite. A.D. Frater, No 771, C Coy 33rd Batt.

Sydney Bulletin S. C. 11 Aug

33rd Battalion,  
A.I.F.

3-3-17

FENSON.  
Pte. E.J. No. 412.

"Died of Wounds 1917."

( Fenson whose initials were E.J.: we called him Ted, came from Bingara where he was on the land. He was originally in "B" Coy., VIII Platoon and then went to the Scouts attached to "C" Coy. He was wounded (not in an attack) by a rifle bullet whilst in the Mess subsidiary lines, about a month or a little more before Messines stunt. This I heard from men who saw him after he was hit. He went back to hospital and just before the Messines stunt word came through from the hospital that he had recovered from his wounds but had died from pneumonia. I have seen letters from Fenson's people to his mates confirming the above. He was a fine fellow.

Informant: Private J. Matthews, No. 498,  
33rd Battalion, "B" Company, VIII Platoon.

Home address: Denaville, U.S.W.

"I can confirm the above report."

Informant: Pte. T.M. Faint, No. 408,  
33rd Battalion, "B" Coy., VII Platoon.

Home address: Gulf Creek, Barraba.

H.S.O.  
12.3.18.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDEWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU. S.C.H. 24/1 ✓

Died of Wounds, 2-3-17  
1917.

Informant described Fenson as about 5 ft. 9 inches high, of stout build, with dark complexion, aged about 25/26 years. Came from Bingara.

Informant states that as far as he could remember, some time in January or February, 1917, the battalion was at Square Farm, Armentieres, holding the line. Fenson was a scout attached to Headquarters. He was hit by a bullet - Informant saw him hit, being just behind him at the time. He was conscious after being hit and was picked up by stretcherbearers and taken away. The battalion had to move on, so that Informant lost sight of Fenson, but was subsequently informed that he had died some days later. When he was hit, Fenson had a very bad cold, which subsequently turned to pneumonia. Informant was quite certain that he received decent burial.

Informant added that Fenson was very well liked and popular.

Informant:-- Private A.P. Collins, No. 960,  
C. Company, 33rd Battalion,  
Home address:-- Heber Street, MCKEE.

W.E.G.

18/3/18.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, ✓  
RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S.C. 2nd



R



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Tel.: VICTORIA 8858.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO  
"THE SECRETARY."  
WOUNDED AND MISSING  
— INQUIRY BUREAU —

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."

54, VICTORIA STREET,

LONDON, S.W.

4th May 1917.

The Commanding Officer,  
3rd Canadian General Hospital.  
Boulogne.

Dear Sir,

Would you very kindly give us any details concerning  
No. 412. Pte. E. J. Fenson, 55rd Battn. A.I.F. who is officially  
reported to have died at 3rd Canadian General Hospital 3.3.17.

We have a cable from Sydney enquiring for all information and  
his people would greatly value any further details you can give  
us.

We regret very much to trouble you, but would be exceedingly  
grateful if you could help us.

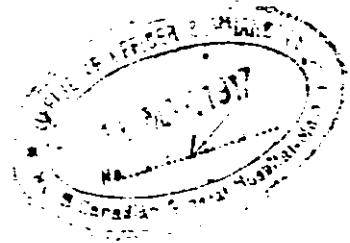
Yours faithfully,

*Vea Deakin*

Secretary.

*(MR pe Mc.)*

The Secretary,  
Australian Red Cross Society,  
Wounded & Missing Branch,  
London.



*75 of 1000* 2.  
Dear Madam,

With reference to the foregoing this man was admitted to the hospital under my command 22.2.17 suffering from a severe wound in the neck, which he had received at Armentières on the 18th. The bullet had passed through his spine causing complete paralysis of the legs and partial paralysis of the left arm.

The case was quite hopeless from the start, he developed a very severe attack of bronchial-pneumonia with continued high fever, and this was the immediate cause of his death, which occurred March 3rd.

Believe me,  
Yours faithfully,

*H. S. Birrell* Col. A.M.  
O.C. No. 3 Canadian General Hospital (McGill)

S

4th May 1917.

The Commanding Officer,  
3rd Canadian General Hospital.  
Boulogne.

Dear Sir,

Would you very kindly give us any details concerning  
No. 412. Pte. E. J. Fensom, 35rd Battn. A.I.F. who is officially  
~~reported to have died at 3rd Canadian General Hospital 5.5.17.~~

We have a cable from Sydney enquiring for all information and  
his people would greatly value any further details you can give  
us.

We regret very much to trouble you, but would be exceedingly  
grateful if you could help us.

Yours faithfully,

(MR. J. M.?)

Secretary.