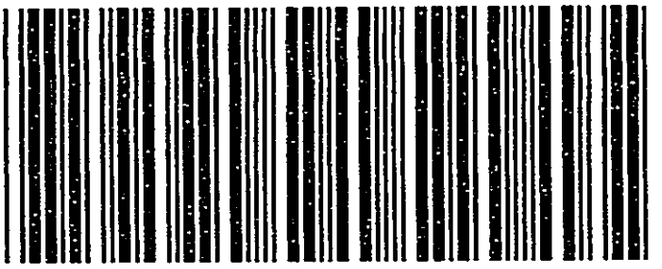
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

3037 Gunner
Thomas Hamilton

11th Field Artillery Brigade



1250605J

Havre 25th August.1917.

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY HAMILTON, T. 3057
11th BRIGADE

D/W. June 7th.1917. Det. D/B.

I knew him. He was in 10th reinforcement of the 15th Batt. He came from Maryborough, Queensland. He was a signaller during the Messines attack on June 7th, keeping up communication between the Artillery and Infantry. He went over in the 3rd wave, and was killed by a shell outright. Signaller Banyard of the 11th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery, 42nd Battery told me this.

Informant: Gunner Walsh, T. 3112
11th Brigade, 111th Howitzer Batt.
Australian Field Artillery.
H. S. "Grantully Castle" Havre.

GLT.

B

Fld Artly.
A.I.F.

Hamilton.
T. 3037

"Died of Wounds 6.7.17."

At Messines Ridge right on top of Ridge he was hit by shell he died about 2 hrs after-was hit in thigh. I saw his body lying on the ridge for 3 days. We came away then and his body was not buried. He belonged to 42nd Batty I used to be with him every day working alongside of him He was one of the Batty Signallers-he said when he went out "I don't expect to get back."

Witness:-
Afflick.
3229
Ward 50.
Harefield.

D.P. Dickson.
London.
31.8.17.

B

A. I. F.

A. F. A. 11 Sqdn. HAMILTON, T. 3037.

D/W. June 7th, 1917.

He was out with the forward observing officer on June 7th at Messines when he got hit with shrapnel(I think). Forget name of observing officer. This was in the morning. I went out to bring him in about 5.30 p.m. and found him but he had bled to death. He was lying in a trench quite near our front line. Hamilton was left there and buried by the Infantry. I have not seen his grave but know that our chaps made a cross for it. He was not I think an Australian born. 5 ft 9, reddish complexion, fairly thickset, cleanshaven.

PHR.

Reference:- Gnr. A.Hunt. 1874.
No. 1 Can. Gen. Hosp.
Etaples
15.9.17.

Havre 15th October.1917.

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY HAMILTON, T. 3037
11th Bgde.

D/D. June 7th.1917. Det. D/B.

I knew him well. He were in the 42nd Battery. His initial is as stated, and the number is about that. He came I think from Victoria, and was about 26 years of age. There was no other of that name or initial in the Company, but there is a "A.Hamilton" at present in the Battalion. T. Hamilton was hit on the Messines Ridge on 7th June,1917 by a shell, and died shortly after. I saw his cross at the Battery, and think he would be buried near the Battery position, which was in front of the Village Wulverhem, behind Messines Ridge.

Informant: Gunner Chandler, H.M. 2566
11th Bgde., 42nd Batty.
Australian Field Artillery.
Australian Camp, Boulogne.

B

L. do D.

42nd Battery
11th Bgde
A.F.A.

HAMILTON
T. 3037

Died of Wounds 7.6.17

Refer to Gnr J. Barnard, 42nd Battery 11th Bgde who is now in France and who saw him wounded at Hessines and can give particulars of death. I do not know place of burial.

Witness Gnr J. Ellis 2029
42nd Battery 11th Bgde
3rd A.A. Hosp Dartford.

Note written to
Gnr Barnard. 25.9.17

W. Oman
London 26.9.17

B

Havre 25th Oct. 1917.

FIELD ARTILLERY, A.I.F. HAMILTON, T. 3037
11th Bge.

D/W. 7.6.17. Det. D/B.

I knew Gunner Tom S. Hamilton of the 11th Bge., 42nd battery. We used to call him "Too Essen" as he was a signaller. He went over with the infantry in the 3rd wave at Messines on June 7th running the telephone wires out for the Battery, and he was caught by a shell and badly wounded. They could not get him in, and he died on the field after a short time. A signaller who was with him in the 42nd Battery, and who afterwards got the M.M. told me this; I forget his name, though I knew him quite well. Hamilton was buried afterwards. They would know in the battery where his grave is.

Informant: Bombdr. J.B. Roberts, 1522
11th Bge., 42 Bty., A.F.A.,
Hospital Train, Havre.

B

GIF

Havre 31st October.1917.

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY HAMILTON, T. 3037
11th Bgde.

D/W. June 7th.1917. Det. D/B.

I know Gunner T. Hamilton of the 42nd Batty. I saw his body being taken for burial to the Military Cemetery at Ypres in June, 1917.

Informant: Gunner H.A. McKenzie, 29750
11th Bgde.,42nd Batty.
Australian Field Artillery.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

RDM.

B
Cd
Suff

A.F.A. 11th Bde Fld Aty. T. HAMILTON. 3037.

D/W. 7.6.17. Det. D & B.

Informant said Hamilton was in 42 Bty. and he had known him since he went to the 42nd Bty. from the 24th Bde. in January, as they were in the same sub-section, B. Hamilton was a signaller and was known as "Toc Essex" and was killed in the attack at Messines on June 7th. Gnr. Barnard M.M. saw him wounded and left him for dead in No Man's Land. A party of four went out to try and find him, but when they reached him found that he was dead. They did not bring in his body as they brought another wounded man. Informant was there when they returned and heard this from one of the four, Gnr. Harrap, who is still with the Bty. A cross was made for Hamilton, but was not put up.

Reference: Sgt. Morrison, 1855.
No.9 Gen. [redacted] Rouen. 26.10.17.

DLF.

* Inform.

B.
Letter Harrap.
9.11.17

Havre 5th November.1917.

11th Bgde.
AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY HAMILTON, T. 3037

D/W. June 7th.1917. Det. D/B.

I knew Corpl. of Signals called Tom S. Hamilton; he was short, and quite a young man. He was killed at Messines on June 7th. He went over with the Infantry. I believe his legs were blown off. I saw a cross ready for his grave. It was brought up when we were at Messines again, at the end of August, or beginning of September, but I doubt if it was possible to put it up, as we were brought out again pretty quickly. I am certain they know in the Battalion where the grave is, though they may not have been able to put up the cross.

Informant: Gunner Lloyd, G.W. 21245
11th Bgde., 42nd Batty.
Australian Field-Artillery.
No. 2 Gen. Hos. Quai. Havre.

B
Cd
Soft

GLT.