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

2903 Private Frederick George Seaton

5th Pioneer Battalion



2450303H

Seaton.
F. C. 2903

Pioneers
5th Battn.
A.I.F,

"Died of Wounds 4.10.17."

At Polygon Wood. Was wounded by shrapnel. Was in a shell hole at time lying down, pieces went in his back, into stomach. Was in great pain. Taken by our own Pioneers to Dressing Station I was there and saw it.

Witness:-
4812 Hodges
W.38. Harefield.

D.P.Dickson.

London.
23.11.17.

P.I.
S.

A.I.F. 5th Pion: Btn

SEATON
F.G. 2903

"D/Wounds 4-10-17"

D/Wounds 4-10-17 - S.W.Chest - 17th C.C.Stn
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 8-11-17

S

London
9-11-17

5th Pioneer Batt,
A. I. F.

Seaton,
R. G. 2903.
F

"Died of Wounds Oct 4. 17. Det D/B"

Pte. L. P. Fleming, 2451. 5th Pioneers now at Red Hill War Hospital Surrey, told me of his wound (and subsequent death)- wounded when about to unload a waggon - He can probably give more full information

Reference Hunter H. A.
3rd Pioneers,
11.Hut Westham,

W. A. Rand 20.1 .17
Note - written Pte Fleming 27.11.17
London 3.12.17

P.I & S

5th Pioneers Battn.
B.Coy.
A.I.F.

Seaton.
F. C. 2903

"Died of Wounds 4.10.17 "

I saw him wounded at Ypres he was caught in his back with a shrapnel pellet. We were busy laying a road at the time, for the advance of the troops. He was taken away to the dressing station about 300 yards away. He was conscious at the time but was suffering great pain. I never heard that he had died until today. Refer to Sgt.Thos.Charton B.Coy.5th Pioneers Battn.who is in France and will be able to give full details of death and burial. I know him very well his Christian name was Frederick.

Witness:-
Pte.E.Sheppard 2198
5th Pion.Battn. B.Coy.
3rd A.A.Hospital.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.
4.12.17.

P.I.
S.

Note written Sgt.Charton 27.11.17.

5th Pion.Battn.
A.I.F.

Seaton.
Pte.F.G. 8903

"Died of Wounds"

No.2903 Pte.F.G.Seaton was admitted to this hospital suffering from severe shell wounds in Chest, and in a critical condition. I regret to inform you that he died at 9.50.p.m. on the 4.10.17 as a result of these wounds and was buried on the following day in the Soldier's cemetery near to this hospital his grave being duly marked and registered.

Letter from:-
The O.C.
No.17 C.C.S.
19.11.17.

London.
5 12.17.

S.
P.I.

Havre

30th Nov. 1917.

PIONEER BATTNS.,
A.I.F.

SEATON, 2903, 5th Batt. F.G

D/W. 4.10.17. Det. D/B.

I knew Seaton for 22 months. He was tall, medium build, dark, about 25. He was known as the "Devil's Kid" - a hard case! At Ypres on Road Fatigue he was hit right through the back of the head by shrapnel and died instantly. Pte. Faulkner of the 5th Pioneers, B Co. can give all information.

Informant's name omitted in error, but report sent in as reference is made to Pte. Faulkner.

Taken at Australian Camp, Rouelles.

S(X.1) PM

Written Pte Faulkner 22.1.17 P.1

5. Pioneer Battn. A.I.F. Seaton. Pte. F.G. 2903

D/W. Oct. 4/17
Det. D/B.

"I was about 10 yds from Seaton. A shrapnell pellet penetrated his back right down. He was taken away by stretcher bearers. It happened near Chateau Wood, towards the evening. He was in B Coy."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description: Fairly tall and dark, between 25 & 30 rather round shouldered always in good spirits, and always carried about a small bell especially on route marches.

Informant: Pte. R. Torr. 3051.
B Coy. Vl Pltn. 5 Pioneers. A.I.F.
2nd London General Hospital,
Kings Rd. S.W.

Home address:
35 Durham Street,
Stanmore, Sydney, N.S.W.

14/12/17.
L.Coote.

5th Aust.Pioneer Battalion,
(late 4th Battalion).

F. SEATON.
Private S.G. 2903.

"DIED OF WOUNDS.4.10.17."

Informant described Seaton as about 5 feet 10 inches high, medium build, dark complexion, aged about 27. He left Australia with the 9th Reinforcements in the "Argyllshire" on 30.9.15.

Informant states that on or about 4.10.17 the 5th Pioneers were in Glencoress Wood, South Menin Road, near Ypres, laying down a sleeper track. At about sundown Seaton was hit in the back by shrapnel. Informant was working in the next party and did not see Seaton, but word was passed down the line that Seaton was hit. Informant had seen him alive earlier in the day. After receiving his wound he was taken to a Dressing Station and subsequently to a Clearing Station where he died. Informant had no doubt that he was decently buried.

Informant added that Seaton was well liked and that he was in the habit of seeing him often.

INFORMANT;- Private V. Maloney, 3389,
5th Pioneers, A.I.F.
Home address;- Starkey St, HABERFIELD.

Please
Sydney Bureau

5th Pioneers
AIF

SEATON
F.G. 2903

"Died of wounds 4.10.17."

Re Pte. F.G. Seaton I can furnish you wuth all particulars
No 2903 Pte. F.G. Seaton B.Coy., 5th Aust. Pioneers . He was
wounded on the night of the 24.9.17. and died of wounds on the
4.10.17. at the 17th Casualty Clearing Station and he was buried
in the Poperinghe Cemetery 10.8.17. O.C's plot 20, H.17.B.
He had a proper burial and this Unit erected a rail and
cross and the boys of his platoon placed a wreath on the grave
properly inscribed. He was tall and thin, dark.
His brother was in the same Platoon and he had all these particulars.
Letter from:-
F.C. Larlton CSH
France
3.12.17.

London.
27.12.17.

S & P.I.

5th Pioneers,
A.I.F.

SEATON,
F.G. 2903

"Died of Wounds 4.10.17."

Regarding F.G. Seaton, 2903, B.Coy, 5th Pioneer Battn. He was with me up to the time he was wounded on the night of September 28th 1917, and I afterwards saw his grave in the Soldiers' Cemetery at Popperinge near Ypres (He had a good burial) He comes from Hogarah, N.S.W. and was of medium size, about 5'10" in height, complexion fair.

Letter from :- P.N. Falkner,
A.I.F. France, 3.1.18.

London.
14.2.18.

S
P.I.

Note We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

5th Pioneers. B.Coy
A.I.F.

SEATON.
F.G. 2903.,

"DIED OF WOUNDS 4.10.17"

He was seriously wounded on the 25th Sept, on the Glencourse wood track, and was then removed to hospital where he died of wounds 4.10.17. I cannot state whether he was buried or not, but by what I can understand every soldier that died in a hospital is buried in a Soldiers cemetery. Pte.F.G. Seaton was about 5ft 10ins high, 10.10lbs weight, clean shaven & a fair complexion. He was not buried on the field. should you need any further details I advise you to write to his brother.Pte.Seaton.5th Pioneers Battn. B. Coy.A.I.F. who would probably be able to give you more information.,

Letter From;- Pte.L.P.Fleming.3103/A
Redhill War Hospital.
Earlswood Common.
Redhill Surrey., 21/12/17

Note;- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.,

London.
26.2.17.

S. P.I.

9.12.17

Pte F. FAULKNER

Aud: B Co

5 Pines Balb

A.I.F

B.E.F

alt

2903

F.G. SEATON

5 Pines

DN 4.10.17

26-12-17

27-11-17

9c

245-1 Pte. L. P. Fleming
5-th Pioneers A.I.F.
B.F.F.

K

and.

2903 Pte. F.C. Seaton
5-th Pioneers A.I.F.

D/W. 4-10-17.

Env.
28.11.17

27-11-17

9c

Sgt. T.H. Charton

B Coy.

5th Pioneer Battn. A.I.F.

B.P.7. IJ

Advt.

290[3] Pte. F.C. Seaton

B Coy.

5th Pioneer Battn.

A.I.F.

D/W. 4-10-17.

Sw.
28-11-17.

Ans'd p.c. 11-1-18

In the field
France

3-1-1918

The Secretary, Graves Bureau

Sir,

In reply to your letter received I can give you the following information regarding P.I. Seaton (Reg. No. 2903) Pte. R. Company 54th Pioneer Battalion. He was with me up to the time he was wounded on the night of September 2nd/3rd 1917 and I afterwards saw his grave in the Soldiers Cemetery at Poperinghe near Ypres. He had a good burial.

He came from Ulgarah of S.A. and was of Cornish and about 5ft 10 inches in height. Complexion fair.

Trusting these particulars are sufficient

I am

Yours Faithfully

W. H. Faulkner

2903 F.G. SEATON
5 Pioneers
B/W 4-10-17
Spl 4

10. 11. 17.

O C's Draft.

The O C

14th Car Clear Mtn.

B. E. F.

About 2903

Pte F. G. Deaton

5th Con Batty. A47.

Deed 4. 10. 17.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).
54, VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by the relatives in Australia to obtain the fullest possible details of the Wounds, Death and Burial of the above who died in your Hospital on and would greatly appreciate any information that you may send us.

With apologies for troubling you,

I remain,

21 Malcolm Rd
Wimbledon S.W. 19

Nov 18/14 2903 Pte J.G. Seaton

I want you my much sympathetic note. I
dear Madam for your
am very grieved to hear
of Pte. Seaton death. It
will be a great blow
to his Mother. I should
be most grateful

In any details you can give me as to where he is buried &c
He was such a nice fellow I was so glad to give him a home.
Thanking you again
I am
Faithfully yours
Grace M Lee

TELEPHONE, 1210 WIMBLEDON.

21, MALCOLM ROAD,
WIMBLEDON, S.W.

Jan 22/18

2903 Pte R. G. Seaton
5 Plat.

Dear Madam

Thankyou very much for your letter this morning. I am so grateful to know a little more about Pte. Seaton. It will be a great comfort to his Mother to know of his last resting place. He was such a good Son & Brother. This death

is a terrible price to pay.

I gather from your letter that his brother is about 18 which I am very thankful. he is only 18. The youngest & No 7. Leaving the eldest of the family. Thanking you again but so much for loaning me all this information & your sympathy which does help in these sad days.

Believe me

Very Faithfully yours

Frances N Lee

21 Malcolm Rd
Wembledon S.W. 19

Nov 12/14

RECEIVED
13 NOV. 1917
CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE

Ans 15/11/17 m.a.

Dear Sir I should be so grateful if you could give me any information of "Pte T.G. Seaton 2903 B. Coy. 6th Pioneer Batt. A.I.F." I heard from him in August. he hoped then to be on leave very soon was coming to my home in Halifax. since then we have heard nothing from him or of him. We were his only friends in England & made our home his home. & his young brother also who was in the same Regiment.

We fear his long silence means

he is wounded & unable to write.
& would be so grateful for some
definite news of him before writing
to the Mother in Australia
These two were her only children.
Faithfully yrs
Frances M Lee

AUSTRALIAN BELGIAN BASE

B3/25
19.11.17

To:
Secretary,
Australian Red Cross Society,
London.

In reply to your enquiry regarding, No 2903 Pte. F.G. Seaton, 5th Aust Pioneer Bn:—
He was admitted to this Hospital, suffering from severe Shell wounds in Chest, and in a critical condition.

I regret to inform you that he died at 9.50pm on the 11th inst as a result of these wounds, and was buried on the following day in the Soldiers' Cemetery, near to this Hospital, his grave being duly marked and registered.

Nov 19 1917

W. Ramsay

Captain RAMC
for LIEUT-COLONEL, A.A.M.G.
COMDG No. 17 CASUALTY CLEARING STATION

Ack
Sympathetic
Enq. 10.12.17

In the Field

2903 F. G. SEATON 3/12/17

DW. 4.10.17. 5 Pioneers

Dear Miss Beaton

In answer to your enquiries about Pte F G Seaton I can furnish you with all particulars No 2903 Pte F G Seaton B Coy 5th Pioneer Batt He was wounded on the night of the 24/9/17 and died of wounds on the 4/10/17 at the 17th casual clearing station, and he was buried in the Poperinghe Cemetery 10.8.17 C C S. Plot 20. H.17.B

He had a proper burial and the Unit erected a rail and cross and the boys of his platoon placed a wreath on the grave properly inscribed.

He was tall and slim dark.

His brother is in the same platoon and he has all these particulars.

Hoping this gives you all the information you require

Yours faithfully

C.S.M. J C Carlton

January 21st, 1918.

Mrs. Francis W.Lee,
21, Malcolm Rd,
Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Dear Madam,

We regret to inform you of further unofficial details about the death of :-

2903 Pte.F.G.SEATON, 5th Pioneers Bttn,A.I.F.

informants being men of the same unit.

C/S/M.T.C.CARLTON, wrote to us from France,

"Pte.Seaton was wounded on the night of the 24.9.17, and died of wounds on the 4.10.17 at the 17th Casualty Clearing Station and he was buried in the Upperinghe Cemetery 10.8.17. O.C.'s plot 30, H.17B. He had a proper burial and this Unit erected a rail and cross and the boys of his platoon placed a wreath on the grave properly inscribed. He was tall and thin, dark. His brother was in the same Platoon and he had all these particulars."

No 3051 Pte.R.Torr, stated that he was 10 yards from Pte.Seaton when he was wounded by a shrapnel pellet which penetrated his back when they were at Chateau Wood and he saw him removed by stretcher bearers. Pte. Torr described him as fairly tall, round shouldered dark and between 25 & 30 years of age. He was always in good spirits and always carried a small bell with him especially when on route marches.

2198 Pte.E.Sheppard, when in hospital at Dartford reported that he saw Pte.Seaton wounded at Ypres by a shrapnel pellet which wounded him in the back when they were laying a road for the advance. He was removed to dressing station about 300 yards distant and unfortunately he was then conscious.

The O.C. of the 17th Casualty Clearing Station, in which he died stated that Pte.Seaton was admitted to hospital suffering from severe shell wounds in the chest and in a critical condition. his death taking place at 9.5 p.m. on the same evening and his burial next day in the adjacent cemetery.

We have now removed his name from our enquiry lists but should we obtain further news of his casualty we shall immediately forward it to you, as we realise how anxious his Mother must be.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

F.A.W.

November 16th. 1917.

Mrs. F. W. Lee,
21, Malcolm Road,
Wimbledon. S.W. 19.

Dear Madam,

Your letter of the 12.11.17. has been forwarded to us from Carlton House Terrace as we are the only organisation that makes inquiries for wounded and missing Australians.

With reference to 2903, Pte. F. G. Seaton, 5th. Pioneers Battn. A.I.F., we very much regret to inform you that he is officially reported as having died of wounds at 17th. Casualty Clearing Station on 4.10.17.

We are doing our utmost to obtain particulars of his death and burial and will advise you as soon as we succeed.

Regretting that we should have to forward such sad news and assuring you of our sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

MR

Secretary.

December 10th, 1917.

Mrs. F.W.Lee,
21, Malcolm Rd,
Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Dear Madam,

In further reply to your enquiry concerning the

death of No 2903 Pte.F.J.SEATON,
5th Pioneer Battn,
A.I.F.

we beg to forward the following unofficial report that

has come to hand.

1912 Pte.Hodges stated that Seaton was severely wounded by shrapnel at Polygon wood, He was lying down in a shell -Hole and pieces went into his back and his stomach. He was taken by their own Pioneers to the Dressing Station.

We are continuing our enquiries and as soon as further

details are received we shall advise you.

Trusting these few particulars may be of some help to

you, .

Yours faithfully,
~~Hon~~ Miss Craig.
SECRETARY.

Ack FM. 24/12/17

3103/A. Pte. L.P. Fleming

NEAREST RAILWAY STATIONS:
EARLSWOOD, L.B.S.C.R., ½ MILE.
REDHILL JUNCTION, 1½ MILE.
(S.E. AND L.B.S.C.R.)

REDHILL WAR HOSPITAL,
Earlswood Common,
Redhill, Surrey.

2903 Frederick George SEATON 5th Plons.

21/12/17.

D/W 4-10-17

Sol. 4.

The Secetary.

Dear Sir.

Re 2903. Pte. F. G. Seaton.

5th Pioneer Battalion B. Coy. A. I. F. was seriously wounded on the 25th September In the Glencourse wood track and was then removed to hospital where he died of wounds 4-10-17.

Sir I cannot state whether he was buried or not, but by what I can understand every soldier that dies in hospital is buried in a Soldiers Cemetery.

Pte F G Seaton was about 5ft 10 ins high 10 st. 10 lbs. weight, clean shaven & a fair Complexion.

F. G. Seaton was not buried on the field.

Sir should you need any further details I would advise you to write to his brother Pte Seaton. 5th Pioneers 2nd Batt. B. Coy. A. I. F. who would probably be able to give you more information.

Yrs Sincerely
Pte L.P. Fleming.

Mrs. Francis W.Lee,
21, Malcolm Road,
Wimbledon, S.W.19.

February 19th, 1918.

Dear Madam,

We are sending you a still further reports we have received concerning :-

2903 Pte.F.G.SEATON, 5th Pioneer Battalion, A.I.F.

from a man in his unit Pte. P.H.Falkner, who certifies as follows:- "2903 Pte.F.G.Seaton, was with me up to the time he was wounded on the night of September 28th, 1917, and I afterwards saw his grave in the Soldiers' Cemetery at Poperinghe near Ypres. (he had a good burial) He comes from Kogarah, N.S.W. and was of medium size, about 5'10" in height complexion fair."

We shall continue to send you any further information we may receive.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

Dec B. for B. M. C.