

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

**7096 Private
Claude Thomas Martin**

19th Battalion



1720403H

19th Battn!

Martin, O.T. 7698.

K. 23/7/18.

Martin (B. Company) was killed by the same shell as Barber, S.F. 7040, while we were in reserves at Villers Bretonneux. I saw their grave with crosses on them in an Australian cemetery at Villers Bretonneux.

19th Battn!

Morris, H.Pte. 7097.

A 5. Dartford. 24/9/18.

R.D.B.

S.

Handwritten signature

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN
C.T. 7096

"Killed 23-7-18"

He was in B.Coy., I did not see the casualty, but he was killed by pieces of shell behind Villers-Bretonneux. The shell landed on the dug-out and killed Pte.S.F.Barber 7040 and another man named McShane, all three of them from N.S.W. I cannot say where he was hit, but he was killed instantly. I did not know him very well, and did not see grave, but he was buried near place of casualty, and grave was marked. Refer to Pte.Madden, B.Coy., and now in France, for he was in next dug-out and saw him killed. He assisted in carrying him out to place of burial, and can give full details.

Informant. Wingrave. Pte.W.E. 7142
B.Coy. 19th Battn.,
3rd A.A.H.,
DARTFORD.

W.Oman
London
30-9-18
H.G.

S.

Note:- Written Madden 24-9-18

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN
C.T. 7096
Barber S.F. 7040

"Killed 23-7-18"

Barber, B.Coy. was killed by the same shell as Martin C.T.7096 while we were in reserves at Villers-Bretonneux. I saw their grave with Crosses on them in an Australian Cemetery at Villers-Bretonneux.

Informant. Morris. Pte.H. 7097
19th Battn.,
DARTFORD.

R2D.B.
London
11-10-18

S.

J. A.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN C.T. 7096
Barber S.F. 7040

"Killed 23-7-18"

Barber was
At Villers-Bretonneux, in his dug-out, killed by a shell
that came right in. Martin 7096 and McShane were in the dug-out.
Barber and McShane were dead when we got them out. Martin was
taken to dressing station. I helped to get them out. All
buried beside the dressing station in Railway tunnel in a bit of
a Cemetery, near Villers-Bretonneux. I saw the graves, Cross up.
Everybody knew Barber, he played the violin.

Informant. Wright. G.F. 7139
Ward 17.
HAREFIELD.

D.F. Dickson
London
11-10-18

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN C.T. 7096
Barber S.F. 7040

"Killed 23-7-18"

We were in reserves at Villers-Bretonneux. A gas shell
burst in the dug-out, killing Barber and Martin, and wounding
W.H. Robinson, now in Hpl. in Blighty. I do not know his Pltn.
and Coy.

Informant. Bullock. J. 7029
19th Battn. 11th Pltn. C.Coy.,
SOUTHALL.

T.St. J.F.P.
London
11-10-18

S.

J.F.P.

*Written Robinson
24.10.18*

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN.
C.T. 7096.

"Killed in Action 23-7-18"

Re 7097. Private Martin, C.F. 19th Battalion. He was wounded whilst in Reserves trenches near Villers Bretonneux and died whilst at the Dressing Station. He is buried in a small cemetery near the aforesaid village and is alongside of the Amiens-Villers Bretonneux railway.

Letter from:- F. Madden.
19th Battn. A.I.F.

London.
21-10-18.

FRANCE.
S.

J.P.A.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN.
C.T. 7096.

"Killed in Action 28-7-18"

Villers Bretonneux. Was in a dugout and wounded by shell. Barber and Mc Shane were killed when we got them out. I helped to get them out and saw Martin wounded. He was not conscious, both legs badly hurt and in fact, all over body. He is buried in a small cemetery near the Dressing Station which was in a railway tunnel. I saw his grave - cross up. I knew him well.

Informant: - G.F. Wright. 7139.
D.P. Dickson. W.17. HAREFIELD.
London.
11-10-18.
M.I.S. S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN
C.T. 7096.

"KILLED 23-7-18"

Of B.Coy., About this date to left of Villers Bretonneux in reserves. Between 10 and 12 o'clock at night was killed by shell - died within a few minutes. He and 2 others were in a dug-out at the time - Pte. Barber 7040 and Pte. McShane were the other two and both killed also.

Was buried in Military Cemetery at Villers Bretonneux near Railway tunnel, Cross erecter. I have seen his grave. S/B told me he lived for a few minutes, but was unconscious. Pvt. Barber and Pvt. McShane were also buried in the Cemetery.

Informant - Petersen. Pte. J. 7108
19th Battn., B.Coy., 8th Pltn.
Aldwych Theatre.

A.D.G.
London
28-10-18
H.G.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN
C.G.T. 7096

"KILLED 23-7-18"

On July 25rd 1918 Martin was killed by a shell in a dug-out just behind the reserves in the Sunken Road at Villers Bretonneux on the Somme Front. Informant was there the next day and heard this.

Eye-Witness:-
Description:- Tall - spare - small head - cynical disposition - a humorist - dark - moustache - nickname "Lofty". Death was instantaneous.

Informant - Samuel.Pte.7129.

Home Address:-
Sydney.
N.S.W.

(Intelligent)
19th Battn. C.Coy. XI Pltn.
3rd Sec. War Hosp.
EXETER.

E.Benson.
10-10-18
London
29-10-18
J.E.A.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN.
C.T. 7096.

"Killed in Action 23-7-18"

He was in B.Company. I saw him killed at Villers Bretonneux, when death was instantaneous, he being hit by pieces of a shell all over the body. Casualty happened about 9 o'clock in the evening after they had just dug in. Two others were killed with him one of whom was Barber.S.F? 7040., now cancelled from your list. These men had just joined up and it was the first day up in the front, though they were in reserves at the time. I think Martin came from New South Wales. I did not see their graves, but they were buried at a railway tunnel to the left of Villers Bretonneux on the field. Refer to Pte Ladbroke B.Coy. 19th Battalion; who is now in England wounded, also refer to Cpl Hohan.B.Co. 19th Battalion, now in France, for both these men were present at their burial.

Informant:- Pte Van Emden.J.6897.

W.Oman.
London.
8-11-18.
J.E.A.

B.Coy. H.Q. 19th Battn.
3rd A.A.H.DARTFORD.

S..

19th Batn.,
A.I.F.

MARTIN,
C.T., 7096.

"Killed in action - 23-7-18."

Re: 7096 Pte. C.T. Martin, 19th Batn., I cannot say I knew him personally as his draft only joined up the Batn., the same night as he was killed so therefore I cannot give a description of him.

The only information that I can give us that he was killed by a gas shell on or about the 23-7-18.

You will find he was buried in a Soldier's Cemetery about 300 yards on the north west side of Villers Bretonneux near the railway line on the north side near which, at that time was the 7th field dressing station.

If you can get into communication with Sign. A. Ladbroke of the 19th Batn., he might be able to give you some information as he was on the burial party at that time, I don't know his number but he is in England in hospital you could find his address from Base post office.

Informant:- W. Robinson, 6608,
3rd Batn., 6 T.B. Band.,
Sandhill Camp,
Warminster, Wilts.

A.C.K.,
London,
11-11-18.
J.E.D.

S.

19th Battn.
A.I.F.

MARTIN,
7096. Pte. C.T.

"Killed in Action 23-7-18"

7096. Pte. C.T. Martin. was killed by a shell on July 23rd 1918 in France in the same dug out as me. I was wounded.

Letter from:- 7117. Pte. H.W. Robertson.
21st Rfts. 19th Battn.
Home address:-
345 Liverpool St.
Darlinghurst.
Sydney.
A.I.F. SUTTON VEY.
London.
14-11-18.
I.E.D.

S.

19th BATTALION.

MARTIN, Private,
C.I. # 7998.

TELIER 21/1/18.

Martin went from Australia with me in the "Hauler" in February, 1918 in the 21st Reinforcement to the 19th Battalion. We were together in B Company. On the 23rd July, 1918, we were in a dug out in the support trenches at Villers Bretonneux. At 8.10 at night a shell burst in the dug out and killed Martin, Barber and McKinnon and wounded me. There is no doubt Martin and Barber were killed outright.

INFORMANT - A. W. Robertson,
19th Battalion.

Home Address - 345 Liverpool Street,
DARLINGHURST.

B.M.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,

HANDWICK.
10/1/19.

SECRET BUREAU.

CS
cd

V