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

286 Private
Donald MacPhail

5th Machine Gun Company



1970112L

A.I.F. 5th M.G.Coy.

MacPHAIL
D. 286

"M. 5-5-17"

Died of wounds 5-5-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 11-2-18.

O.C.F.M.

London
12-2-18

FRANCE

AUST. M.G.C. 5th.Coy. McPHAIL. D. 286.

M.May 5th.1917.

He had emigrated to Australia from Scotland and was in No 3 Section. He was wounded going over in the charge with his Vickers Gun Team, to the Hindenburg line. He was No 1 on his gun. Men of his team told me that he was wounded by a shell in the mouth and very badly in the hip. They bandaged him and left him in a shell hole, but they said that they did not think there was much chance of his living.

WSI

Ref ---Pte A.F.Wall. 339. 5th MGC. 3rd Sec.
No 3 Can. Gen. Hospital.

Le Treport. Nov 13th.1917

M.G.C. A.I.F. McPhail, D. 286.
5th Company.

M. May 5/17.

"D. McPhail was with me on the same gun on May 5/17, and was so badly wounded in the abdomen when we were within 10 yds. of the German trenches that he had to be left behind when we retired. Sgt. Thompson was in charge of the gun and had bandaged him up. This was during the attack at Bullecourt".

Eye-Witness: Yes.

Description:

Informant;- Pte. J. Lewis, 3167.
M.G.C. A.I.F., 5th Company.
Richmond Military Hospital,
Grove road.

6.7.17.
A.G.Campbell.

Written Off Thompson 20-7-17

ORIGINAL STATEMENT EVIDENCE 2372/1/33

(SOFT)

Statement made by No.5167 Pte Lewis J.J. 5th M.G.C

re No.266 Pte McPhail D. 5th M.G.C.
Missing 3.5.17

I was with Pte D. McPhail on the 3rd May 1917 when he was badly wounded in the stomach and was in a dying condition when I was forced to leave him in a shell hole as were in a shell hole among the enemys' barb wire and had to evacuate the position.

Dated at Weymouth this 3rd day of September 1917.

(Sgd) J. J. Lewis.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) H.J. Storey

5th Mc/Gun Coy.
A.I.F.

McPhail
D 286

"Killed 5.5.17."

Refer to Sgt. W. Thompson 5th Mc/Gun Coy, , who is now in France and who saw him killed and can give particulars.

Witness:-----
Pte. A.J. Phillips 289
5th Mc/Gun Coy.,
3rd A.A. Hospital
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London,
17.9.17 Note written to Pte Thompson.

Off. M

5th M.G.C.
A.I.F.

McPhail
D 286

"Missing 5.5.17."

I went over with him and he was wounded in the thigh and in the nose. I bandaged him up and had to leave him in a shell hole at Bullecourt. That is the last I heard of him-I sent the Stretcher bearers out but they could not find him.

Witness:-
Sgt. V.W. Thompson 2455
21st Batn
Dartford.
20.10.17.

London.
2.11.17.

Off. M.

Note see previous report Sgt. Thompson.

19.7.17

Sgt THOMPSON
5 Mach Gun Co
A.I.F
BEF

for

286 D. McPHAIL
5 M.G.Co
AIF

M. 5.5.17

F.M
21.7.17