

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

**913 Private
Robert MacFarlane
McGregor**

12th Machine Gun Company



1910204H

A.I.F.
12th. M.G.C.

MO. GREGOR. 913.
Robert Mo. Farlane.

"Hissing 13.10.12"

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
22.10.12.

Off. M. F. I.

2327/57/8

O O P Y

Statement made by No. 4311 Pte Hudge H.G. 12th M.G.O.re No. 913 Pte McGregor R.M. 12th M.G.O
Missing 13.10.17

The last time I saw Private McGregor was on the night of the 11th October at the 12th Machine Company's horse-lines at Ypres. He was proceeding to the front line with "A" Section 12th Machine Gun Company under Lieut Grievason. I did not hear anything of him till the 13th of October 1917, when the company returned when I was told by either Cpl W. Miller or Private J.J. Steer that he had been killed. We had so many casualties in that company that I do not remember hearing definite particulars as to how and when he was killed.

2 copies to Miller

Dated at Verne Citadel this 12th day of January 1918.

(Sgd) H.G. Hudge

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) G. Hamilton.

Lieut.

Written Lieut P. Grievason. 19.1.18

O/C "A" Coy.

"G" Sub-Depot.
Weymouth.NOTE B/cpl. R. Miller. No. 4302) Overseas.
Pte J.J. Steer. No. 5181)Echelon notified.

JAN 1918

G O P Y

Statement made by No. 3347 Pte West G.O. 12th M.G.O.re No. 915 Pte McGregor R.M. 12th M.G.O.
Missing 12.10.17

This man was killed with the same shell as I was wounded with.
Killed 12.10.17 at Passchendaele.

End sent on

Dated at Burdett this 11th day of January 1918.

Statement made and signed before me

off m.
(Sgd) G.O. West

(Sgd) F.H. Steele
Captain.
O.C. B.O.O.

12th Mach. Gun Coy.
A.I.F.

McGregor.
R.M. 913

"Missing 13.10.17"

McGregor of 12th M.G.C. A. Section was killed while going into the line on the night of either 11th or 18th Oct. Pte. Jones of same section and company being killed at same time. I saw them killed and went up to them. Neither of them were buried by us as we went on

Witness:-

H.G. Mudge 4311
12th M.G. Coy. A. Sec.
Hut 12 Westham.

W.A. and

London.
18.12.17.

Off.M.

Mach. Gun Coy.
A.I.F.

McGregor
R.M. 913

"Missing 13.10.17"

I saw him killed instantly by shell at Passchendaele. He went black all over. The same shell killed 3 and wounded 4. I was one of the wounded. The 3 men were left in the shell hole and were not recognisable when I left. He was in the same Section from June. Dark with a moustache, rather thin about 38.

Informant:- C.G. West 3347
12th Mach. Gun Coy.
No. 3 Command Depot.
Huracott

G.W. Griffith.

London.
8.12.17.

Off.M.

12th Battn.
Machine Gun Co.,
A. I. F.

Mc GREGOR.
R.M. 913.

"MISSING 13.10.17"

We were going up a ridge towards Passchendaele when a shell came and knocked me out for a time, killed three and wounded Six. When I came to, I found McGregor right across my legs and had to shift him off. His head was blown off and His Vickers Gun was in tatters, I just knew him.,

Informant;- C.F.Mc. Dougall. 2790.
12th Machine Gun Co.
Anzac Buffet.

W Alison.

London.
18.2.18.

off.M.

12th Mach.Gun Coy.
A.I.F.

MacGregor.
R.M.. 913

"Missing 13.10.17"

The witness showed me a letter (undated) received early in November from S/Lieut. William Gregson of 12th Mach.Gun Coy. stating that MacGregor of A.section along with several others was killed outright just after going up in single file to a ridge at Passchendaele, after leaving the old railway line.

Informant:- G.W.Chambers 55
12th Mach.Gun Coy.
Dartford.

L.P.J.

London.
18.2.18.

P.I.
Off.M.

12th M.G.C. A.I.F.

913
McGregor, R. M. Pte, NO. 913.

Missing Oct 13th 1917.

I saw him killed by a shell whilst we were going up into the lines at Passchendaele, there were two others killed by the same shell. I could not say if he was buried as we had to leave ~~for~~ the next day. I knew very little of him as he had just joined up the coy.

Description. Height. 5-7. Complexion. Dark. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. McDougall. C.T. NO. 2790. 12th M.G.C.

Taken at
NO. 4. C.D. Hurdcott.
17-18.
S.W.

S. Whitmee.
NO. 4. Command Depot
Hurdcott.

J.E.L.

1 more

269th 2nd A.C.

France 4th July 18.

913 Pte R. McGregor

Secret

Australian Red X Socy.

12th M.G. Coy

Dear Madam,

Your letter of 28th ult. to my father with regard to my brother Pte. R. McGregor has just been received by my father here. It having been forwarded by my father here by

I think in an earlier letter you gave Pte. McDougall's name & I wrote to the address stated asking if he could give us any more information but I received no reply. However as Pte. McDougall did not know my brother personally it is futile to do anything further.

We have already been officially notified from the War Office that my brother was killed on 13th Oct. 1918, the date he was originally reported missing, but if any further information should reach you, we should be very grateful indeed if you would let us know.

Thanking you for your kind & continued attention to this matter.

Yours faithfully

Harry McGregor

G.P.O. S. 14 B. 67.

The Shipping Federation Limited.

DUNDEE DISTRICT.

Registered Telegraphic Address:

"NEMESIS DUNDEE."

Secretary, R. T. Leitch.

Registrar, B. M. Gregor.

Telephone No. 2136.

Office: 65 Trades Lane,

Dundee, 14th March 1918

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
36 Grosvenor Place
London, S.W. 1.

Dear Madam

I beg to acknowledge
receipt of yours of 12th inst and note
contents regarding my son W 913.
(not W 193) Pls Robert Macfarlane W 913
12th M. S. Coy A. I. F. Thanking you in
anticipation and believe me to be as
you say an anxious parent I am

Yours sincerely
D. W. Gray

The Shipping Federation Limited
DUNDEE DISTRICT.

Registered Telegraphic Address:
"NEMESIS. DUNDEE."

Secretary, R. T. Leitch.

Registrar, B. M. Gregor.

Telephone No. 2196.

Office: 65 Trades Lane,

Dundee, 4th March 1918

The Secretary
Australian Red Cross Society
36 Grosvenor Place
London, S.W. 1.

Dear Sir

Yours of 5th inst. to hand and
sorry to the loss of my son W.D. 913
Mr Robert Macfarlane M.D. 913 ^{2nd Lt. G. Coy}
J.E.F. however I would like to point
out to you that Lt. Lerauch reported
to us that he went missing on the
13th Oct-1914 and on that date he was
in the first line and after they had
consolidated the place taken he was
then missing and he thought that he
had been taken a prisoner of war
over

now you report to me that he
was killed between the 11th & 12th
of October 1914. now if he was slight
on the 13th there must be some
thing for wrong either by Sgt
Branch or the others with the
date, trusting that you will
endeavor to get at the right
date and then if it was my
son that was killed on the 11th & 12th
then Sgt Branch must be wrong
with the date he sent.

I Remain

a loving parent

D. W. Chaspe

RECEIVED
27 FEB 1918

GRANTON HOUSE 1888

The Shipping Federation Limited.

DUNDEE DISTRICT.

Registered Telegraphic Address:
"NEMESIS. DUNDEE."

Secretary, R. T. Leitch.

Registrar, B. M. Gregor.

Telephone No. 2196.

Office: 65 Trades Lane,

Dundee, 26th Feb. 1918

Measur

4 Acknowledged
The British Red Cross
ships 18 Carlton House - London, S.W.1.

Having read your ad in today's
"Daily Mail" giving assistance in tracing
Missing Soldiers. My son Robert Macfarlane
McGregor. 30913. P.O. 12th M. G. Coy. A.S.C.
B.C.F. France. Went missing on the 13-
October 1917. And to date there has been
no trace of him. He was reported to be
a Prisoner of war. and should you be
the means of conveying any information
as to his whereabouts. You will certainly have
the blessing of his sorrowing Parents I am
Yours faithfully
D. M. Gregor

12 M.G. Co. M. 13/10/17. MacGregor, R.M. 913

The witness showed me a letter (undated) received early in November from Second Lt. William Gregson of 12 M.G. Co. stating that Mac Gregor of A section along with several others ~~was~~ was killed out right just after going up in single file to a ridge at Paschendale, after leaving the old Railwayline.

12 M.G.Co. Chambers, G.W. 55. 5

DB

Pl 71. missing

Dartford 5/3/18.

5th March, 1918.

D. McGregor, Esq.,
65, Trades Lane,
Dundee,
Scotland.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry concerning your son:-

No. 913 Pte. Robert Macfarlane McGregor, 12th Machine Gun Coy.,
A.I.F., who was officially reported missing on 13-10-17.

We regret to inform you of the following reports which we would emphasise, are quite unofficial, given by several men of the same unit.

3347 Pte. C.G. West, 12th M.G.C., No. 3 Command Depot, Hurdcott, Wilts, states that he saw Pte. McGregor Killed instantaneously at Passchendaele, by the same shell by which he was wounded himself. When informant left, your son's body was still lying in the shell hole, and he knows nothing of his burial.

2790 Pte. C.F. McDougall, 12th M.G.C., states that the Company was going up a Ridge towards Passchendaele, when a shell landed amongst them, killing three and wounding six, including himself. When he recovered consciousness, he found Pte. McGregor's body lying beside him.

4311 Pte. H.G. Mudge, 12th M.G.C., A. Section, Hut 12,
No. 2 Command Depot, Westham, Weymouth, states that Pte. McGregor
was killed by shell fire, whilst going into the line on the night
of either the 11th or 12th October. Informant went up to
your son, who was then dead, but they could not wait to bury him,
as they had to go on.

The above reports are confirmed by two other men of the
same company, and we fear that there is very little hope of
your son having been taken Prisoner of War. At the same time
however, we are continuing our enquiries, and will forward you
any further information we receive as we realize how very
anxious you must be.

Assuring you of our deepest sympathy in your anxiety.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Caven
SECRETARY.

D. McGregor, Esq.,
65, Trades Lane,
Dundee.

12th March, 1918.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter of 7-3-18, referring to the death
of - No ⁹¹³ ~~193~~ Pte. ROBERT MOPARLANE MCGREGOR, 12th Machine Gun Coy. A.I.F.
- We beg to inform you that the reports of the witnesses of a
casualty are entirely unofficial, and we think it probable that our
informant has made a mistake in the date. As A.I.F. Headquarters
officially reports that your son was Missing on 13-10-17, we consider
it certain that the Casualty occurred on that day. We would point
out to you, that he has not been officially reported Killed in Action
up to date, and we are continuing our enquiries on your behalf and
as soon as further details are received we shall advise you as we
realise how very anxious you must be.

With our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Craven
SECRETARY.

21st March, 1918.

D. McGregor, Esq.,
65, Trades Lane.
DUNDEE.

Dear Sir,

We regret to inform you that we have received further unofficial information about your son :-

913 PTE. R.M. McGREGOR, 12th Machine Gun Coy, A.I.F.

which only confirms our worst fears as to his fate.

55 Pte. G.W. Chambers, of the same Coy, when interviewed at Dartford recently stated that he had received a letter early in November from 2/Lt William Gregson, 12th M.G. Coy, stating that Pte. McGregor of A Section along with several others was Killed outright just after going up in single file to a ridge at Passchendaele after leaving the old railway line.

We are continuing our enquiries and as soon as further details are received we shall advise you as we realise how very anxious you must be.

With our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

L.B.

D. McGregor Esq.,
85, Grades Lane,
Dundee.

28th June 1918

Dear Sir,

With further reference to your enquiry for your son 913 Pte ^{Mc} B. F. McGregor 12th Machine Gun Company A.I.F., we regret to inform you of another unofficial report which we have received which unfortunately confirms our worst fears as to his fate. 2790 Pte. C. T. McDougall of the same unit when interviewed recently at No. 4 Command Depot, Hurdcott stated that he saw your son and two others killed by a shell whilst they were going up into the line at Passchendaele. Informant knew nothing of his burial as they left the next day, he described Pte McGregor as 5' 7" in height, well built and of dark complexion, but added that he did not know him well as your son had only just joined the Company.

We very much regret the sad and indefinite nature of this report and if any further information reaches us will immediately advise you although we greatly fear that there can be little hope of your son being alive. With out sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

Secretary. D.F.