

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

4780 Private
Francis Robert
McInerney

28th Battalion



1910602J

A.I.F.

28th Btn D.Coy.

MC INERNEY

~~McMURRAY~~

Francis Robert

4780A

"WHEREABOUTS"

Wded 20-9-17 - 2nd occasion - no further report
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 12-10-17

Killed 20-9-17
Cert. by Rouen letter 16-10-17.

P & P.I

London
19-10-17

28th Battn.
A. I. F.

McInerney.
F. R. 4780A

"Killed 20.9.17"

He had just left the trenches and was on his way up to Headquarters Ypres. He was Coy.runner. He was just behind me when a sniper fired and hit him through his heart. He fell in a shell hole full of water I did not have time to go back to him, and I do not know where he is buried. He was of medium height and very fair. We used to call him Snowy. He comes from W.Australia.

Witness:-

Pte.W.Sorrensens 6400
28th Battn.
Weymouth.

F.Mackay.

London.
20.11.17.

P.
P.I.

28th Australian Imperial Force

McInerney, Pte. F.R.
4780. D Coy. 14 Pl.

(K. Sept. 20. 1917).
Dets D & B).

" I was told by L/Cpl. Marr that Pte. McInerney died on the way to the Dressing Station at West Hoek Ridge -on Sept. 21st from a shell wound. He died on the stretcher as he was being carried to the dressing station. He was unconscious and L/Cpl. Marr helped to carry Pte. McInerney"

Eye Witness - No. L/Cpl. Marr in same Regt and Coy and Platoon, B.E.F. France, told him.

Description - Tall, very fair, clean shaven age 20 to 24. Called by the men " Snowy".

Informant :- Pte. Edward McEvoy, 5636
D Coy. 14th Pl. 28th Aus I Force

Home address :- No. II Pennysylvania Hospt
Horseferry Rd, Exeter, Devon.
Westminster, Nov. 17.17.
London, S.W. M. Kestell-Cornish.

Written L/Cpl. Marr 7-12-17

Havre

8th Dec. 1917.

28th AUSTRALIANS

McINERNEY, F.R. 4780

K.20.9.17. Det. D/B.

I knew Pte. McInerney slightly. He was a runner in D Co. He was a young fellow, well built, medium height, very fair hair, cleanshaven. I was close to him at Co. H.Q. on the 20th Sept. 1917 at dusk, and moonlight, when a shell exploded and wounded him. I helped to bandage his head and L/Cpl. J. Prater, M.M., D Co. ~~0000~~ - a S/B. then a Private, helped to carry him away, and he told me after that McInerney had died. Prater may be able to give further details.

Informant: L/Cpl. J. Enright, 6071
28th Australians, D Co., 15th Pltn.,
Australian Camp, Rouelâes.

RDM

Written
L/c Prater
3.1.18.

~~ad~~
P.P.I.

A.I.F. 28

McINERNEY F.R. 4780.

K.Sept.20/17. Det D & B

McInerney was in XIV pltn, I think or possibly XV. I think it was on Sept. 21st, about 6 in the evening that he was wounded while we were holding the line in the centre sector at Ypres. He was bandaged up, and was taken out with us the following night 22nd Sept. The S/B's left him at our D/S, about a mile and a half behind our front line. He was seriously wounded and not expected to come through. And we heard later on that he had died there.

Informant: Pte M.McInnis. A/3407. D.XIII
55 General

BOULOGNE. 12.12.17.

P.

P.1

JT

28th Batt. A.I.F.

McInerney, F.R. Pte. NO. 4780.
D. Coy.

Killed Sept 20th 1917. Det. D.B.

I helped to carry him out from the front lines to the dressing station, to the left of Polygon Wood, on the night of the 20th. Later on we received word from the dressing station that he died of wounds. I could not say if he was buried. I knew him in the Coy. I could not say where he came from.

Description. height. 5-10. Complexion. Fair. Well Built.

Witness. L.Cpl. Latham. R.J.G. NO. 652. 28th Batt.

Taken at
6th. T.B. Fovant.
18-12-17.
S.W.

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

P
P. 1

28th Battn.
A.I.F.

McInerney.
F.R. 4780a

"Killed in Action 20.9.17"

Re Frank McInerney. He was killed on the 20th Sept. 1917 he was hit about 6 o'clock that night, he died as I and my mates were carrying him back to the dressing station. We buried him that night and put a cross up with his name and Battn. on it. We did all that could be done for a comrade. It was a great blow to me as he was one of my mates and in the same company as myself. The Description of 4780 F.R. McInerney, his height was about 5'7½" complexion fair, snowie hair and he came across with the 12th Rfts. of 28th Battn. He was wounded in Fleurs on the 5th of Nov. 1916.

Letter from:- Joe Prater^R M/L/Cpl. 606
S.B.

28th Battn.

No.1 Com.Depot.

Sutton Veny. 17.2.18.

London.
27.2.18.

P.
P.I.

A.I.F. 28th Btn

McINERNEY
F.R. 4780

"Killed 20-9-17"

McInerney was killed about midnight Sept. 20-21/17.,
in the same place where I was wounded either at Westhoek or
Zonnebeke Ridge. I am not sure which. I did not actually see him
killed and can't say as to burial. He was in my platoon and was
to have been section Commander after the stunt.

Witness: Baker Sgt. C.E. 5554
28 D.Coy. XIV
Ent 19. Westham.

W.A.Rand
London
28-2-18

P. & P.I.

A.I.F. 28.

K. 20.9.17.

McINERNEY

MCINERNEY F.R. 4780

a

I helped to carry him to the D.S. at Polygon Wood on 20th. Sept. after he had been hit in the head by a piece of shell. His brain was exposed. When we got him to the D.S. we believed him to be dead and we left him there. I know nothing as to burial, as we were on our way out at the time. He belonged to XIV Pl. D.Co.

SA.

Reference: Pte.H. Marr. 6108. D.Co.
Le West.

I helped to carry him as described.

Reference: Cpl.H.D. Edgar, 4062. D.Co.
Le West.

Etaples.
27.2.18.

Identity cert. from Bn. records.

4
P
P1
Cd sury

A.I.F. 28.

K. 20.9.17.

McINERNEY F.R. 4780.^a

T

We helped to carry him to the D.S. at Polygon Wood on 20th. Sept. He had been blown up by a shell. His head was badly smashed. He was unconscious. We left him at the D.S. He belonged to C.Co.

SA.

Reference: Pte.J. White. 6167. D.Co.
Pte.J. Smith. 693. D.Co.

I saw him hit near HQ. at Polygon Wood, on 20th. Sept. and looked after him. His brains were exposed. He could not possibly live more than a few minutes.

SA.

Reference: Pte.J. Rafferty. 4214. D.Co.
Le Wast.

Etaples.
27.2.18.

Identity cert. from Bn. records.

4
P
PI
Cd xuf

A. I. F. 28.

McINERNEY, F.R. 4780.^A

K. September 20th, 1917.

McInerney was a tall, very fair man, was single and about 21 years old. He was Coy. runner to my (D) Coy. On September 20th the Bn. took a position in Polygon Wood. At about 7.30 p.m. we were being heavily shelled. I was passing back to Menin Road on a ration party when I saw S/Bs. carrying McInerney back to D/S. I gave them a hand to D/S and soon after, while waiting outside, an RAMC man came out and told me McInerney was dead. He had been hit in the head. I do not know what happened to his body but it would be properly buried as that place was well back from front line.

FJ.

Reference:- L/Cpl. H. Manson. 6034.
1 Can. Gen. Hp.

Etaples.
9.5.18.

P
P/Ed
and

Havre.

2nd. August. 1918.

28th. Australians.

McInerney, F. R. 4780.

K. September 20/1917. Dets. D/B.

I knew Private McInerney, D. Company, 14th. Platoon, he came from Fremantle in the 11th. to the 28th. reinforcements. I was close to him when he was hit at Polygon Wood in September 1917 by shrapnel. I helped to carry him back to our front line; he was then unconscious, but died of wounds shortly after I left. Sergeant Jack William, D. Company, was with me, also Sergeant Clark, D. Company, the latter in charge of the party; they will likely know where he was Buried.

Inf:- Private. H. Smith. 4219.
28th. Australians. B. 15.
Australian Camp.
Roules.

RDM.

P
P. 1 d
B. 1 d
B. 1 d

CP.

HS.

Havre

12th August 1918.

A.I.F. 28.

McInerney F.R. No. 4780.

K. 20th Sept 1917. Det D/B.

A. Coy.. His people have heard from Pte W. Burns of the 28th Battn B.Coy. now in Australia, that he was killed by a shell at Ypres on the 20th Sept 1917. We were advancing at the time. He was probably buried at Ypres. About 5 feet 8, very fair, fresh complexion, about 22 years. He came from Perth, Western Australia

Inf:- Cpl P. Hynes 'No.' 4652.
A.I.F. 28. B. Vill.
74 General Hospital.

RJG.

P. ed
P. 1 6 20/11
EP.

2/11

ack 4.05.
Ultra 20-2-18

47800.

F. R. MCINERNEY

606

28 Batta

1K/A

20.9.17

P. 4



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Lane box for Prater
M. C. H.

28 Battalion

1st Command Dept

Sutton Veng

W. H. H.

17/2/1918

Dear M^{rs} Deakins

I now write these few
lines in ~~answer~~ answer to your letter
asking me about young Frank. he
was killed on the 20th Sep 1917 he
was hit about six o'clock that night
he died as ^{one} and my mates ^{were} was
carrying him back to the Dressing
station we buried him that ~~night~~
night and put a cross up with
his name and Battalion it we ^{did} done
all that ^{we done} (a man) could for a
comrade it was a great blow to
me as he was one of my mates
and in the same company as
myself. the description of 4780
F. R. McInerney his right was



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

about 5 feet 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch complexion
fair ^{nowie} hair and he come
across with the 12 Reg of 28 Batt
he was wounded in ~~Flures~~ on the
5th of Nov 1916. I think I have
told you all that I know concern-
ing ~~the~~ Private F. R. Inerney. I
will draw my letter to a close
I remain yours truly
Joe Prater
S. B.

P.S. if I should be any help to
you concerning my comrades
I will only be to pleased to do so
as I will be in England for a few
weeks yet

(7.12.17)

L/Cpl. Marr

28th Battn. A.I.F.

B. I.F.

abt.

4780 - Pte. F. R. McInerney

12 Coy. XIV Bn.

28th Battn. A.I.F.

K. 20-9-17.

10.12.17.
A.I.F.

P.C.

U.C.D. Hospital
Banbury Road.
Oxford.
8th Aug. 1917.

The Secretary
Wounded Enquiry Bureau,
Australian Red Cross Society.

Dear Sir

I shall be much obliged if you
will give me the present address of
4780 Pte J.R. McInerney

D Company
28th Batt.

7th Brigade, A.I.F. France.

My letter was returned to-day with a note
wounded, 10/6/17.

With many thanks

Yours faithfully
(Rfr) E.O. Collett.

"Rhodesians."

E. O. Collett, Esq.,
"Rhodesians",
V.A.D. Hospital,
Banbury Road,
Oxford.

Oct. 23rd, 1917.

Dear Sir,

We have received your inquiry of 8.8.17 for -
No. 4780A Pte. F.R. McINERNEY - 28th Battalion. A.I.F., a letter to
whom had been returned to you marked wounded on 10.6.17.

We are very sorry to tell you, as the result of our inquiries at Headquarters and from our office in France, that he was killed in action on 20.9.17.

He had been wounded on a previous occasion, probably earlier in this year, and that would account for your letter to him being returned to you in June.

We are making inquiries for details of his death and as soon as we receive any news you shall be advised.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs W. W. Deyer
Secretary.

Pte. E.O. Collcutt,
"Rhodesians", V.A.D. Hpl.,
Banbury Rd, Oxford.

January 1st, 1918.

Dear Pte. Collcutt,

We are sending you two unofficial reports we have received concerning No 4780 Pte. P.R. MCINERNEY, 28th Battalion, A.I.F. from two men in his unit, 5636 Pte. F. McEvoy, and 6071 L/Cpl. Wright.

The former states he was told by L/Cpl. Marr that Pte. McInerney died from a shell wound on the way to the Dressing Station at West Hook Ridge on Sept. 21st. He was unconscious and died on the stretcher. L/Cpl. Marr was helping to carry him. We have now written to L/Cpl. Marr for further details.

Wright
L/Cpl. Marr states he knew Pte. McInerney, slightly. He was a young fellow, well built, medium height, with very fair hair, and cleanshaven. He was a member in D. Coy, Informant was close to him at Coy, Headquarters on Sept. 20th at dusk, when a shell exploded and wounded him and he helped to bandage his head and L/Cpl. J. Proter helped to carry him away and told informant afterwards that Pte. McInerney had died.

We trust these two reports may be of some value. We shall continue to send you any information we may receive.

With all good wishes to you yourself.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

Blair

3.1.18

Lt Col J. PRATER
D Co M.M.
28 Btu AIF
B Es.

abt

4780

F.R. McINERNEY

28 Btu AIF

K20. 9. 17.

4-1-18
Bt.

29th January 1918.

Pte. E.O. Collcutt,
Rhodesian
V.A.D. Hospital,
Banbury Road, Oxford,

Dear Sir,

We have received further unofficial reports about-
4780 Pte. F.R. McInerney 28th. Batt.

Pte. N. McInnis 3407. said he was wounded about 6 p.m. in the line in the centre sector of Ypres-he thinks on Sept. 21st. He was bandaged up and was taken out the following night (Sept. 22) The S/Bearer left him at the D/Station about 1½ miles behind the line, he was so seriously wounded that he was not expected to live, and they heard later that he had died there.

L/Cpl. R.J.C. Latham 652-28. Batt. helped to carry him from the front line to the D/Station on the left of Polygon Wood on the night of Sept. 20th. Later they heard that he died there. He described him as being about 5ft. 10". fair complexion and well built.

We are continuing our enquiries and hope to get details as to where he is buried.

Assuring you of our sympathy,

Yours faithfully,

Miss Russell

Secretary,

GC

February 21st, 1918.

606 L/Cpl. J. Prater, M.M.,
28th Battalion, A.I.F.,
No 1 Command Depot,
Sutton Veny, Wilts.

Dear L/Cpl. Prater,

We wish to thank you for your letter in answer to our
enquiry concerning :-

4780a ~~R.V.~~ F.R. McINERNEY, 28th Battalion, A.I.F.

The information and details you have given will be of much
assistance to us, and of value to our enquirers.

It is good of you to offer us information about ~~others~~ of
your comrades who have fallen, and if we find we need it, will
write to you again.

Please accept our deep sympathy in the loss of your
friend.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

OS

5th March, 1918.

Pte. E. H. Collicutt,
Rhodesians, V. A. D. Hospital,
Barbury Road,
Oxford.

Dear Sir,

We beg to inform you that we have received two unofficial reports respecting:-

4780A. Pte. Frank R. McInerney, 28th Battn. A.I.F.

606 L/Cpl. J. Prater, stretcher bearer, 28th Battn. A.I.F., now at No. 1 Command Depot, Sutton Veney, states that Pte. McInerney was wounded about 6 o'clock on the evening of Sep. 20th, and died while Prater and others were carrying him to the dressing station.

He was buried that night and a Cross with his name and Battn on it, erected over the grave. "We did all that could be done for a comrade", Cpl. Prater adds, having been a special friend of Pte. McInerney.

5554 Sgt. Baker of the same Battn. confirmed the report as to Pte. McInerney's death, but having been wounded at about the same time and place, can give no information as to burial.

With renewed sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

F. St. George
SECRETARY.

Livingstone
Northern Rhodesia.
14th April, 1918.

The Secretary
Wounded Missing Enquiry Bureau,
Australian Red Cross Society.

Madam

4780 A I beg to thank you very much for
the trouble you have taken for me in enquiring
for Pte F. R. McInerney, 28th Bn. A.I.F.

I much regret to hear the sad news of his
death, as from your description, I have little
doubt but that it is the same man.

I have now returned to Rhodesia, discharged
medically unfit from wounds.

With very many thanks

Yours faithfully

E. O. Collett.