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

7328 Private
Peter Thomson

1st Battalion



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1st Battn. THOMSON.
A.I.F. Peter. 7328.

"Missing 4-10-17"

Re the above named soldier. I was with him on the morning of Oct 4th (not the 3rd) 1917 in an isolated position when a shell burst between Thompson and myself burying me. When I eventually got myself out, I looked for Thompson but could find no trace of him whatever. We were only about 5 yards apart when the shell burst. Pte Thompson was 25, years of age, when he enlisted on 14-11-16. Ruddy complexion.fair hair, and blue eyes.

Letter from:- Cpl.R.A.Painter.
A.I.F.FRANCE. 19-8-18.

Note:- Headquarters gives date of casualty as 4-10-17.

London.
21-9-18.
S.A. S.

1st BATTALION A.I.F.

THOMSON P. P'te.
No 7328.

M

"Killed 3/10/17"

Informant described Thomson as about 5ft 4in high, thick set, medium complexion, aged 22. Spoke with a decided Scotch accent. Left Australia per "Osterley" on 10/2/17. Christian Name Peter.

Informant states that they both belonged to "D" Company. On 3/10/17 the Battalion was in action at Menin Road. Informant had not seen him alive that day but was told that he had been killed by a shell during the action. Informant however, helped to bury him in a cemetery on the Menin Road near a Railway cutting. He was buried in a large grave with several others.

Informant added that Thomson was a real nice fellow and highly thought of all round.

Informant: P'te. H. H. Smith, No 7320, 2nd Batt
(Late 1st Batt.) No 3 Australian Gen. Hos.
RANDWICK.

Home address:
32 Burren Street, Erskinville.

5/6/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

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1st Australian Imperial Force — Thompson, Pte. P. 7328

(M. Oct. 3. 1917).

" I was buried by the same shell which killed and buriedPeter Thomson - only Cpl. Paintee and myself were rescued alive. We were on the road to the left of Zonnebeke Lake and up to our knees in mud. The Trench Mortars caused us to sink in the mud. The explosion occurred exactly at 6 o'clock on the morning Of Oct. 3rd."

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description - 5feet, fair hair,blue eyes,married, think he was an Englishman.

Informant :- Pte. L.C. Larsen ? 2609,
1st A I F.
King George Hospital,
Stamford Street, London, S E

Home address :-
C/O Mrs. Lensem
Wilsoms Pt,
Sydney.

24.7.18.
D.Nawton.

William Paintee 3.8.18

1st Battn: Thomson, P. 7328.

M. 3/10/17.

We were just waiting to hop over at Passchendaele when Fritz put up a big barrage which lasted for about a quarter of an house. I saw Peter Thomson (B. Company) completely buried by one of the shells. He was dragged out and left there in a very bad condition. I am certain he could not have been taken a prisoner.

1st Battn: Williamson, A.G.Pte.6580.

A 5. Dartford. 24/9/18.

R.D.B.

J.C.A.

Thos Cancel

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