

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

2396 Private
Edward Thomas
Parker

31st Battalion



2090212G

31st Batt.
B.Coy.
A.I.F.,

PARKER
Pte E.T. 2396

"Died of Wounds Sept. 27/16"

Parker came from Newcastle N.S.W. At Armentieres he had just come off duty at an observation post, and had a look over the parapet. He was sniped through the head. Informant detailed a party to carry him back. He was unconscious and never spoke again. Died on the way to the dressing station. Parker and informant were in same platoon.

Reference:- 359 Sgt. G. Bridgeland, 3
31st Batt. B.Coy. A.I.F.,
Dartford,
30.1.17

London
31.1.17
P.C.

S

31st A. I. F.

Parker, Pte E.T. 2396,
B. Company

(D/W Sept. 27th/16. Det: D & B)

Informant states that "On Sept. 27th/16, Pte E.T. Parker died of wounds, and was buried at Armentieres."

Eye-witness: Yes.

Informant: Cpl A.E. Kay, 846,
20th A. I. F.,
1st London General Hospital,
Camberwell, S.E.

Home address:
107, Tempest Road,
Beeston Hill,
Leeds.

11th February 1917.
M.A. Paul.

A.I.F. 31.

PARKER E.T. 2396.

D/W. 27.9.16.

This refers to Tommy Parker. He was a 4th. Rft. to the 31st. Bn. as I was. He was shot through the body at Armentieres on 27th. Sept. by a sniper while in the front line trench. I was about 5 yards away at the time and saw it happen. He was taken away by the 3/B's and he died on the way to the D.S. Pte. F. Foley, 3/B. B.Co. helped to carry him down. Foley could give details as to his burial.

SA.

Reference: Pte. B. Harold. 2334. B.Co.
5 A.D.B.D.

Stamped.
19.2.17.

Written Pte Foley 27.2.17

31st Australians

Packer, Pte E.T. 2396,
A. Company

(D/W Sept. 27/16. Det: D & B)

"I heard from several of my pals who were with him in the action at Fleurbaix in September that Packer was shot through the heart by a sniper. The bullet penetrated his heart after going through a sandbag. He was taken away on an ambulance and died before reaching the dressing station. Tom Keesch, now in hospital at Camberwell of A. Coy, 31st Australians, is one of those who told me; Jack Smith in B. Coy, 31st Australians, is another and Farley, B. Coy, is a third."

Eye-witness: No, as above

Description:

Informant: Pte Alfred A. McDonald, 2379,
31st Australians, B. Coy, 5 Plat.,
Brondesbury Park Military Hospital, N.W.

Home address:
Elgin,
Waratah St,
Enfield, Sydney, N.S.W.

3rd March 1917.
Henry Constable.

31st Battn.
A.I. F.

Parker.
E. T. 2396.

"Died of Wounds 27.9.16."

I can give you full information about E. T. Parker 2396. Height about 5 feet 10" Weight 12 stone 7., dark complexion, large features, stooped shoulders, a native of somewhere near Portsmouth, England, went to Australia about 6 years ago, worked somewhere about 3 years in Goulburn quarry under Mr. Seymour. Enlisted at Goulburn 9th August 1915, transferred to Liverpool, left Liverpool in 4th Reinfts 31st Battn. on 28th February 1916 for Broadmeadows Camp Victoria. Sailed from Melbourne by the S.S. Anchises on 14th March for Egypt left Egypt middle June, arrived in France 1st July 1916. Joined the 31st Battn. 28th July same year. Killed at Armentieres 27.9.16 while observing over the parapet by a sniper, shot through the breast died about one hour after, never spoke after he was hit. I helped carry him out. Everything possible was done for him. He is buried in the Soldier's Cemetery at Armentieres, with name on cross over his grave. That is correct, as I was mates with him from the time we went into camp until he was killed at Armentieres. The Pioneer Sgt. collected his personal property and made up a parcel to send it to his people by the doctors instructions. His name and number E. T. Parker 2396 31st Battn. If there is anything more you want to know I am only too pleased to let you know. I would be very

31st Battn.
A. I. F.

-2-

Parker.
E. T. 2396.

pleased if you could send me his mother's address.

Letter from:-

P. Foley.

Stretcher Bearer,

B. Coy. 31st Battn.

S.

London.
11.6.17.

E. Makeham.

A.I.F.
31st Bn.

BAKER
Edward Thomas 2396

Died of Wounds 27.9.16.

Buried in the Honour Cemetery Armentieres in Grave 6. Section III
Block III. Row A. German list of Graves in Cemetery.
Cert. by Letter-From-Capt. Mills 28.7.19.

London
6.10.19.

8.

10th March 1917

2396 E.T. Parker,
31st Co. 31st Batt. A.I.F.,
B.E.F.

2396 E.T. Parker, 31st Battalion A.I.F.
reported Died, Wounds 27/9/16

E.T. Parker

A.R.F.M.
8.16.17

Franc

June 4th 1917

The Secretary
Aus. Red Cross Society
Sir

Your letter to hand dated March 10th
I'm sorry it has been so long finding me as
I can give you full information about E.J. Parker
No 2396 Height about 5^{ft} 10ⁱⁿ Weight 12st 7^{lb} Irish complexion
large features striped shoulders & native of somewhere
near Portsmouth England went to Australia about
6 years ago worked somewhere about 3 years in
Goulburn quarry under Mr. Jeymour Entertol
at Goulburn 9th August 1915 Transferred to Liverpool
Left Liverpool on 4th train 31st East on 28th February 1916
at Broadmeadows Camp Victoria sailed from Melbourne
by the S.P. Ancher on 14th March for Egypt -
Left Egypt Middle June arrived in France 1 July 1916
Joined the 31st Batt 23 July some years killed at
Arrancourt 27/4/16 while throwing over the parapet
by a sniper shot through the front. Laid
about one hour after noon after he was hit
I helped carry him out every thing possible

2

was done for him he is buried
in the Soldiers Cemetery at Ametiers
with home on cross over his grave
that is correct as I was there with him
from we went into camp until he
was killed at Ametiers the Pioneer
Sergeant collected his personal property
and made up a parcel to send it to
his people by the Doctors instructions

His home on 4 miles E.T. Parker 2396 31 Batt

If there is any thing more you want to know
I am only to pleased to let you know
I remain

P. Foley

Quartermaster General

N. Com. 31 Batt

P.S. I would be very pleased if you could
send me his Mothers address

W. Markens

2396, E.T. PARKER,

31 Batt A.I.F

DW. 27.9.16

S. (cd)

11th. June, 1917.

Pte P. Foley,
Stretcher Bearer,
B. Company,
31st. Battalion, A.I.F.
B. E.F.

Dear Pte. Foley,

Very many thanks for your letter of June 4th
in answer to our enquiry concerning :-

2396 E.T. PARKER, 31st. Battalion, A.I.F.

The very clear and detailed information you have sent will be of
great assistance, we shall be able to apply for a photograph
of his grave to be sent to his Next-of-Kin.

By a new regulation, A.I.F. Headquarters refuses
to give the addresses of the Next-of-Kin but if you will address
your letter :-

To the Next-of-Kin, of
2396 E.T. Parker, 31st. Battn. A.I.F.
C/o Wounded & Missing Enquiry Bureau,
Australian Branch, B.R.C.S.,
54, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

we shall be able to forward it to his Mother are sure she will
be very grateful to you, for your kind thought of writing to give
her further details.

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

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

V.D.

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