

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

**2054 Sergeant
Charles Leonard
Parnell**

18th Battalion



2090802L

A.I.F. 18th Btn

PARNELL
Sgt. Chas. Leonard 2054

"K/A 51-8-18"

K/Action 51-8-18 - buried isolated grave just N.E. of Halle
& 1 1/4 mile N.W. of Seronne D.C.R.E. L.S. 5.3066
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 12-3-19.

London
13-5-19

S

18th BATTALION, A.I.F.

late 20 Stn.

PARNELL - Sgt. G.L.
No. 2054.

"Killed 31.8.18."

Informant described Parnell as about 5 ft 11 in. high, slight build, aged about 26. Was an engine driver in civil life.

Informant states that they both belonged to A. Company. On 31.8.18 the Battalion was in action against Mont St. Quentin and hopped over about 4 a.m. Informant did not see Parnell hit, but the next night passed him lying dead in a trench on the top of the Mont. Parnell had clearly been killed outright and the same shell apparently killed two other men. Burial parties went out afterwards and Informant felt sure that Parnell was picked up by them and buried. He had seen Parnell and spoken to him on the afternoon of the day previous to his death.

According to Informant Parnell was a decent chap and very popular with his mates.

Informant: Private G.D. Arthur, No. 152.
Headquarters 18th Battalion. ^S

Private address: C/- Gibbs, Bright & Co.,
Pitt Street, Sydney.

W.E.G.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.
23.4.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU. ✓

A.I.F.
18th Bttn
A. Coy. Ptn.1.

PARNELL Sgt. Ch
2054.

"Killed Aug. 31st.1918."

About noon on 1.9.18. I saw Parnell about ten minutes after he was killed by shell at Mont St. Quentin. He was badly knocked about by shell on face and body. Dont know anything of burial.

Description:- Sgt Parnell 2054. 5ft.10ins Dark. Age 30.

Address.
The Folly
Bourne, N.S.W.

Informant:- Pte S. Marshall 6353.
18th Bttn A. Coy *Ward 12. 3AA.7.*
Ptn.1.
A.IF

1.6.19.

S. R.

C
O.S.W.
London.
10-6-19.
J.E.A.

18th BATTALION,
(Late 20th Battn.)

PARNELL, Sergeant
C.L. No. 2054

"Killed 31/8/1918".

Informant described Parnell as about 5'10" high, medium build, dark complexion, over 30, married, came from Lithgow, and worked on the Railways. They both belonged to "A" Company.

On 31/8/18 an action was on against Mont St. Quentin. The 18th Battalion did not advance, but were ready to do so if called upon. While a party of about 20 men, including Parnell, were in a trench a shell fell amongst them and hit about 10 men, killing 4 outright, Parnell being one of them. Informant was about 20 yards away and saw the explosion and afterwards saw those killed lying on the ground. They were all buried together on the spot. Informant added that Parnell was well thought of by his mates.

Informant:- 2830, Corporal J. Viles,
"A" Company - 18th Battalion.

Private address:- 74 Morgan St., PETERSHAM.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
2/6/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

5
2d
32nd

18th. BATTALION A.I.F.
late 20th. Btn

PARNELL C. L. Sergeant
No. 2054.

Killed 31/8/18.

Informant described Parnell as about 5 feet 10 inches high, medium build, fair hair, aged about 27. Spoke with a drawl, came from Newcastle.

Informant states that Parnell was in A. Company. On 31/8/18 the Battalion was in reserve to the 5th. Brigade to the left of Anvil Wood behind Mont St. Quentin. About 5 p.m. Parnell and some of his mates were in a loop trench when a shell fell nearby killing Parnell outright together with 5 others. Informant was 100 yards away and heard the explosion and went over to the spot and helped to bind up the wounded. He saw Parnell lying dead on the ground. 3 days later Parnell was buried by Corporal Thorpe where he was killed. Those killed with him being buried at the same time. Each man was put in a separate grave and crosses were erected on the graves.

According to Informant Parnell was well thought of by his mates.

Informant:- Sergeant G. Buckley, D.C.M. 1894.
18th. Battalion.

Home address:- 500 Glenmore Road, Rushcutter's Bay.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet.
13/6/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S. J. ✓
20th