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

6609 Private George Arthur Webster

9th Battalion



2890501P

9 A.I.F.

Webster. Pte. G.A. 6609.

(K. Oct 6/17)
Det D/B.

"Webster was killed in Oct/17 on the Ypres front near to Glencorse Wood. The back of his head was blown off by a shell. I was present when he was buried just outside the support trench. He came from Brisbane; was married; had four children. He joined in June 1916. I have known him since 29 July/16. He was in the reinforcements with me in the Lewis Gun Section."

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: Rather round face; brown eyes, brown moustache, height 5ft 6 in:

Informant: Pte. Francis Casey. 6548.
9 A.I.F. A Co. III Pl;
Tranmere Mil. Hos: Birkenhead.

B

Home address: Biboohra.
Yi-Cairns. Queensland.

14.12.17.
Margaret Bromfield.

9th Batt: Webster, G.A. 6609.

K. 6/10/17.

He was killed by a shell and buried by it under about 7 tons of dirt and sand.

9th Batt: Farrell, H. Pte. 6486.

15 A. Dartford. 3/1/18.

R.D.B. B

9th Batt. A.I.F.

Webster.G.A. Pte. No. NO.6609. A.Coy.

Killed Oct 6th 1917. Dat D.B.

He was killed and buried by the same shell during the hop over at Ypres. He was dug out and buried again by his mates in the coy, I could not say if there was any mark put up over his grave. I knew him in the coy, he came over with the 21st reinf of the batt. He came from Queensland.

Description.Age. 29. Height. 5-8. Complexion. Fair. Medium Built.

Witness. Pte. Thompson. H. NO.6600. A.Coy. 9th Batt.

Taken at
NO.4.C.D.Hurdcott.
7-I-18.
F.G.H.

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

B

Havre 14th January 1918.

9th A.I.F. Webster G.A. No. 6609.

K. 6th Octr 1917. Det D/B.

I knew him fairly well, he came from Brisbane.
On the left of Polygon Wood we were holding our line. I was about 10 or 15 yards from Webster when I saw a shell drop right on top of the gun (he was in the L.G.S) killing him instantly. I went up to where he layhe was badly damaged but I could recognize him. Sergt. Thomas of the 9th Battn A.Co. 111 Pltn, (who is now in England as instructor of 3rd T.B) took his paybook.

Inf:- Pte P.Hennessy No.6989.
9th A.I.F. A.Co. 1V Pltn.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

Thomas
William Webster
26.1.18

9th. Battalion.A.I.F.

Webster.G.A.No.6609.

K.Oct.6/17.Det. D./B.

I saw him killed and buried by a shell which blew a dug out in on top of him. He was dug out the next day and re buried,.This happened in the supports at Passchendaele.I knew him well in the company,and he came from Queensland.

Description. Age.32yrs. Height.5-3.Comp.Dark. Medium Build.

Witness. Pte.Travers-Jones.No.3801."A" Coy. 9th Battalion.

Taken at
No.4.C.D.
28-2-18
S.W.

S.Whitmee,
No.4.C.D.
Hurdcott.

B

9th Battn.
A.I.F.

Webster.
G.A. 6609

"Killed in Action 6.10.17"

Re No.6609 Pte.G.A.Webster. This man was on my platoon from the time he joined the Battalion, and was killed by a shell in the front line on Oct.6th 1917. My platoon officer, myself, with two men buried him the same night immediately in rear of the line. I made a cross the next day with a bayonet and piece of board, bearing his number, name and regiment and date (written in indelible pencil) He was a light build of a man about 5'6½" in height, rather heavy and white complexioned.

Letter from:- Sgt.F.Thomas
No.4 Camp.
1st Training Battn.
Sutton Veny.
1.3.18.

London.
9.3.18.

B.

9th A.I.F.

Webster. Pte. G.A. 6609

K Oct. 6/17

"Webster was in my Coy. A married man with 2 or 3 children. About 10th Oct. he was buried in the trench under 5 ft. earth by a shell and I helped to dig him out but he was dead. I helped to bury him there on the spot. The Pltn. Sgt. was Sgt. Thomas, Webster's wife was in Brisbane."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description: About 27 yrs and 9 st. weight. not very tall, light moustache.

Informat: Pte. M.T. Keating. 4816.
9/A.I.F. A Coy. 111 Pltn.
King George V Hospital,
Dublin.

Home address:
Cambooya,
Queensland.

Sgt Thomas written to

8/2/18
A.M.B.Irwin.

9th Battn.
A.I.F.

Webster.
G.A. 6609

"Killed 6.10.17"

Webster was in same Platoon as me and a Lewis Gunner. He was killed outright by shell fire just in front of Zonnebeke. Ypres I can't say where he is buried. I did not see him killed, but was told by Cpl.A (?) Austin 9th Battn.A.Coy. Lewis Gun Sec. who was in London on furlough a few days ago

Informant:-
E.T.White 4912
9th Battn. A.Coy.
Hut 17 Westham.

W.A.Rand

London.
1.3.18.

B.

Note Written Austin 1.3.18.

Sgt. THOMAS
A. Coy 9.A.I.F.
Instructor

3 Cust Training Bgde
Larkhill

about
SGA WEBSTER
6609

9 A.I.F.

K 6.10.17.

G.W.
26.1.18

Ack. p.c 4.3.18

6609
G. A. WEBSTER
G Batt
R/A 6-10-17

3

No 4 Camp
Sutton Veny
Wiltshire
1/3/18

To
Miss Vera Deakin
Secretary W & M. Enquiry Bureau
London

With Reference to your letter of Jan 27th which I have just Received, inquiring for information regarding No 6609 Pte G A Webster.

This man was in my platoon from the time he joined the Battalion, and was Killed by a shell in the front line on Oct 6th 1917. My platoon officer, myself, with two men buried him the same night immediately in rear of the line.

I made a cross the next day with a Bayonet, and piece of board, bearing his Number Name, Regiment & date. (Written in indelible Pencil). He was a light build of a man about 5 ft 6½ ins in height rather light hair & moustache which was rather heavy and white complexioned

Hoping this will assist yow, and if yow require any further information shall be only too pleased to give it.

Yours faithfully
H Thomas
Sgt.

No 4 Camp
1st Training Battalion
Sutton Coney
Wilts

9 e.

Corpl AUSTIN.
L. 9.S.
A. Coy 9 Batt.
A. I. F.
Abroad

K

about.

6609
G. A. WEBSTER
9 A. I. F.

K 6.10.17.

Sw.
1.3.18