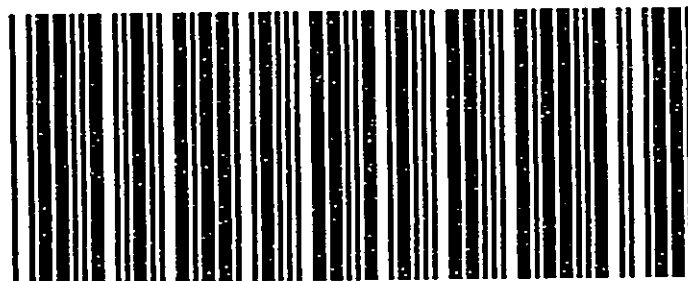


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

4963 Lance Corporal
Robert Joseph
Sheumack

56th Battalion



2480904R

A.I.F.
56th Btn.
D.Coy. Late 4th Btn.

SHEUBLACK
Robert Joseph 4963

Killed in Action 18.10.1917.

No trace Germany.
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10.10.19.

London.
22.10.19.

S.

56th A.I.F.

Lt 4th Bn

Sheumack. R.J. 4963.

(K. Oct. 18/17.)

Dets. D/B.

"I am sure that Cpl. R.A.E. Watson (4942. 56 D. M.G.) could give all particulars about L/C Sheumack (56. D. M.G. No.1 on gun.) We were holding the line about Oct.18. between the mound and Polygon Wood, when a shell came over, which caught the whole M.G.Crew. I am sorry I do not know where they were buried."

Eyewitness: No. Refer to Cpl. R.A.E. Watson 4942 56.D. M.G.

Description: N.S.W. single, brick maker, 15th Reinforce-
ments of 4 Bn.

Informant: Pte. Thomas Warrington. 4946.
56th A.I.F. D Coy. XVI Pl.
3rd Southern General Hospital,

Home address: Cowley Section, Oxford.

Wentworth Street,

Port Kemble,

H.S.W.

27/4/18.

H.M.Pickard-Cambridge.

Written Cpl. Watson 13.5.18.

S

56th A. I. F.

Shemack, Pte R.J. 4963.

late 4th Bn

(K. Oct. 18/17. Det: D & B)

"Shemack was Lt. Col in charge of a Lewis Gun Section, a shell landed in the middle of the Section, 4 were killed, he was one of them and one wounded. It was on Broedsinde Ridge, they were all buried together with one cross over them."

Eye-witness: Told by Cpl Jennings, who saw them all the morning after they were killed

Description:

Informant: Pte Thomas Ramsley, 2968,
56th A. I. F.,
No. V. War Hospital,
Reading.

29th April 1918.
E.A. Matthews.

S

56th A.I.F.

Shemack, Pte. J. 4963.
D Coy.

(K. Oct 18/17.)
Det. D/B.

"I know this man was killed in the reserve line 2000 yards behind Broedsinde Ridge on the morning of Oct. 18/17 about 3 a.m. by shell fire. He was buried where he fell. Three others were killed and some wounded at the same time."

Eye-witness: No. General information.

Description:

Informant: Lt. C. McDonnell. asst. Adjt.
56th A.I.F.
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth.
Home address: Carrington St,
Granville,
N.S.W.

30/4/18.
C.R. Thompson.

S

56th A.I.F.

Sheumack, L/C. R.J. 4963.
D Coy. 16 Pl.

(K. Oct. 18/17.)
Dets. D/B.

"I saw Sheumack buried with 2 others (Evans and Chinnery)
at Broad Siende, Ypres about Oct 18th."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description:

Informant: Pte. M. C'Brien. 830.
56th A.I.F. D Coy. 15 Pl.
2/1st Southern General Hospital,
Home address: Dudley Road, Birmingham.

5/5/18.
G.A. Baker.

S

56th Batt. A.I.F.

Shumack, R. J. Pte. NO. 4965,

D. Coy, L.M.G.S.

Killed Oct 18th 1917, Det. D.B.

I saw him killed by a shell whilst we were in the front lines in front of Polygon Wood. He was buried close by by a party from the coy, I could not say if any cross was erected, I knew him in the coy, He came over with the 15th reinf of the 4th Batt, He came from N.S.W.

Description. Age. 23. Height. 5-6. Complexion. Dark. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. Brown. J.H. NO. 5248. J.H. D. Coy. 56th Batt.

Taken at
NO. 4, C, D, Hurdcott.
II-5-18.
F.G.H.

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

S. Cd
Suff

Havre.

15th. May. 1918.

55th. Australians.

Shenmach, R. J. 4963.

Late Lt. Nally

K. October 18/1917. Dets. D/B.

He was in D. Coy, came from N. S. Wales, was a single man. He had both his legs shattered by a shell at Westhoek. He died shortly after in our line and was buried but I don't know where.

Inf:- L. J. Reeves. 4883.
56th. Australians. Transport.
No. 36. Ambulance Train.

RBS.

*S. Ca
Luff*

56th Battn.
A.I.F.

SHEUMACK.
R.J. 4963.

"Killed in Action" 18-10-17.

Re 4963. Pte. R.J. Sheumack. D. Coy. 56th Battn. A.I.F.
late 4th Battn. He was buried in the same cemetery in
the Field with two comrades, about 30 yards west of
Retaliation Farm on the Brocdeinde Ridge. He was slight
build about 5 ft 9 ins. He had a scar on the back of head
from a wound he received on 20-7-18.

Letter from: - 4942. Cpl. Watson. R.A.E,
D. Coy. 56th Battn.
A.I.F. FRANCE.

London.
28-5-18.

S.

56th Battalion, A.I.F.
"D" Company, Late 4th Btn.

SHEUMACK SHUMACK, R.J.
Lance-Corporal, 4963.

"Killed in Action" 18/10/17.

Informant described Shumack as about 5'6" high, slight build, medium complexion aged about 22/23.

Informant states that they both belonged to "D" Company 16th Platoon. On 18/10/17 the Battalion was at Zonnebeke near the Church there, holding the line. At about 2 p.m. Shumack and a soldier named Chinnery (No.2386) were on the one Machine Gun, Shumack being the Lance Corporal in charge, when a shell came over, burst near the gun and killed both of them instantly. Informant was close by at the time and saw the whole occurrence. Informant stated that there was no doubt whatever that Shumack was buried, probably near the Church at Zonnebeke.

Informant also stated that Shumack was very well liked by all who knew him.

Informant:- Private C. Ward, No.938,
D.Company, 56th Battalion,

Home Address:- Parkville,
Scone, N.S.W.

W.E.G.
No.4, Australian General Hospital,
6.6.18 Randwick.

*Sd
to
Shumack*
SYDNEY BUREAU.

56th Battn.
A.I.F.

Shennack.
R.J. 4963

"Killed 18.10.17"

I saw him dead by a shell in a Machine Gun position, at Polygon Wood. He died ~~abruptly~~ almost instantly. He was buried on the spot. We came over in the Star of England together. He came I think from H.S.W. 5'8 or 9" and dark. He enlisted the same time as I.

Informant:- J.H.L. Whitehead 4928
56th Battn.

W. Alison.

War Chest.

London.

12.4.18.

S.

4943 R.C.
27-5-18
D.D.

4963 (Ca) In the Field.
R.J. Shermack
Kia 56th Batt. Late 4th Batt. 20-5-18.
Kia A 18-10-17

Miss. Vera. Deakin.

S
3

Near. Madam.

Your inquiry about
4943. Pte. R.J. Shermack. W. Coy, 56th Batt.
A. I. F. (Late 4th Batt.)

He was buried in the same grave in the
Field with two other comrades, about 300 yards
West of Retaliation Farm on the Broodseinde
Ridge. He was of slight build about 5ft 9inches.
He had a scar on the back of head from a wound
he received on 20-7-16.

Yours Faithfully.

4942 Cpl. Watson. R. A. C.
W Coy. 56th Batt. A. I. F.

13-5-18

4942

Cpl R A E Watson

10 Coy

56th Batta M G

Abroad a. 7.7

abt.

4963 Pte R J Sheumach

56th Batta (Lt 4th Batta)

a. 7.7

K. 18 10 17

14-5-18
a. 7.7