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

445 Lance Corporal John William Skinner

23rd Battalion



2511008H

France.

A.I.F. 23. L/cpl SKINNER. J. 445.

M.July 28th.1916.

He was killed by a shell in a trench at Pozieres. I saw this and was there, we put him in a waterproof sheet and we put him on the parapet and I am al,ost sure he was buried afterwards.

Inf: P.Wills 473.
8, Stat.Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 14.12.16. JDP.

OH M

23rd Battn.
AIF

SKinner
L/Cpl. J.W. 445

"Missing 28.7.16."

Killed in Action 28.7.16. prev. reported Missing.
Cert. by AIF HdQtrs 28.7.16. 3.1.17.

Off M

London.
8.1.18.

Not a ~~[illegible]~~ prisoner of war.

Ans. 6.2.18

Coleraine Victoria
Nov.r 26th 1917

To. The Secretary
Prisoners of War Department
Australian Red Cross. London.

will you please let me know. if you have my brothers name on your lists. he has been reported missing since July 1916. & we have no trace of him since. his Address was. No 445. Private or L. Corporal
John. W. Skinner
B. Company
6th Infantry Brigade
23rd Battalion. A.I.F.

I will be so Grateful if you will please let me know this. even though I dont think there is much hope. as it is so long ago and he was in the big battle of Pozeres.

yours very sincerely
Mrs James Wheeler
Maconochie Street
Coleraine. Victoria
Australia.

Mrs. James Wheeler,
Maconochie St,Coleraine,
Victoria, Australia.

February 7th, 1918.

Dear Madam,

Your enquiry of 26.11.17, has been handed to us from our Prisoners of War Department as we regret to say there is no trace of

445 L/Cpl.J.W.SKINNER, 23rd Battalion, A.I.F.

as a Prisoner. As you have no doubt been advised by this time he is now officially reported Killed in Action on 28.7.16, having previously been reported Missing on that date.

Up to the present we have been unable to obtain any details of his death and burial, in spite of our efforts to do so, and we are very much afraid there is little likelihood of information being received now - so long after the action in which he fell.

Should news concerning L/Cpl.Skinner ever come to hand we will advise you through our office in Melbourne with which we are in constant communication both by cable and letter. If you keep in touch with it you will be able to obtain all possible information without the delay that application to England necessarily entails.

Our address is :-
Australian Red Cross Society,
Colonial Mutual Buildings,

60, Market Street,
Melbourne.

Regretting we are unable to send you more satisfactory information and assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

M.R

SECRETARY.