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

1734A Private
Thomas Slater

56th Battalion



2520503H

A.I.F. 56th Battn.

SLATER
T.1734A

"KILLED IN ACTION 20.8.18"

Buried Crésy Gailly New French Military Cemetery 5 miles East of Corbie
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs List 5.12.18

London
6.12.18

S

Havre

12th December 1918.

Australians. 56.

Slater T. 1734 A.

K. 28th August 1918. Det D/B.

I knew him well. He was about 22, medium build, and dark. About the 28th August we were near Proyart holding the line. Slater was on intelligence work and was at Batt'n H.Q. In the morning he was observing, and was on a stack of timber when a shell fell underneath the timber, and a piece of shell hit him under the chin, and he was killed right out. I saw this. He is buried near the C.C.S. at Proyart

Inf:- Pte T.T.Jones No.3064.
A.I.F. 56 C. VIII.
Austra. Comp.

CWSG.

J.E.A.

PP.

56th Batn.
A.I.F.

SLATER,
Pte. T. 1734A.

"Killed 20th August 1918."

"I knew him personally, came from Aussie with him on 13th April, 1916. About 5'8", dark (very) and thin, 21 years. Our Battalion was holding line in front of Harbonnieres, we had Le Flague Dump and a post. Huns were shelling with 8'3. Slater was standing on tall heap of timber, when piece of shell severed his jugular, got him in breast, at same time setting fire to dump. He died quickly. I carried him down to R.A.P. I saw his dead body in coffin, with his name and number, but I did not see him buried. It was ~~after~~ 18th or 20th Aug. he was killed, We attacked Peronne on 1st Sept, a good 10 days after he was killed.

Informant:- Verney, Pte. R. 1751,
56th Batn. A.I.F.

London,
15-1-19.
J.E.A.

S.

56th BATTALION.
"C" Company. A.I.F. 20

SLATER, Private
T. No. 1734

"Killed 28/8/1918".

Informant described Slater as about 5'9", medium build, dark complexion, aged about 21. Slater was attached to the Battalion Intelligence Department.

On 28/8/18 the Battalion was holding the line at Proyart. While the 1st Division were in action Slater was engaged in observation work on top of a pile of timber at the 5th Army Dump when he was killed outright by a shell. Informant was close to him at the time and saw him fall, but could not go over to Slater, as he was at the time engaged in his duties as a Stretcher-bearer. He did not see Slater again, neither could he tell me where he was buried.

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

Informant;- 2475, Private J.A. Whitney, 56th Battalion.

Private address;-
Scott Street, Liverpool, N.S.Wales.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
27/5/1919.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

56th BATTALION.
A.I.F.

SLATER, Private
T. No. 1734

20

"Killed 28/8/1918".

Informant described Slater as about 5'6" high, medium build, dark complexion, aged about 20. Both Informant and Slater had belonged to "C" Company, but when killed Slater had been transferred to the Headquarter's Intelligence Staff.

On 28/8/18 the Battalion was holding the line at Proyart. Slater was engaged in Observation work from the top of a stack of timber at Headquarters, when a shell came over and killed him outright. Informant was about 100 yards away and saw Slater fall. He went over to Slater at once and ascertained that he was quite dead. Informant could not tell me where Slater was buried, but felt reasonably certain that he had been taken away to the Transport lines for burial there. Informant added that Slater was a good lad and well liked by his mates.

Informant;- 2958, Corporal J.H. Hardy,
"C" Company - 56th Battalion.

Private address;- Carter St., WYALONG. N.S.Wales.

W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
27/5/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.