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

772 Private Sydney Turner

42nd Battalion



2800304H

A. I. F. 48. TURNER, S. 722.

K. July 31st, 1917.

He was in my pl. - 10 and the only Turner. His christian name was Sidney. He was killed outright by a bullet during the attack we made for a bit of a hill in front of Messines between 4 and 5 a.m. on July 31st. We were part of the way over. I saw him drop but am not sure where the bullet hit him. I helped to bury him in a shell hole that same morning together with some others of our lads who had been killed. As far as I know the grave was not marked and our Bn. was relieved the same night.

NWH.

Reference:- L/Cpl. Thomson. 726. C.Coy.
26 Gen. Hp.

Etaples. Bool
21.5.18.

42nd A.I.F.

Turner. :te. S. 722.
C Coy.

(K. July 31/17.)
Dets. 8/18

"I remember quite well that Pte. Turner was killed on the fire step in the trench on about July 31/17 (Gappard Trench near Messines). I saw him dead with a piece of shrapnel through his heart, I did not see him buried, but feel sure that he would be properly interred as we held the ground."

Eyewitness: Yes, of death.

Description:

Informant: Pte. P. Curran. 532.
42nd A.I.F. C Coy.
Kitchener's Hospital, C Block.
Brighton.

Home address:
Charlton,
Toowoomba,
Queensland.

Bowl

L.Baird.

Havre. 1st. May. 1918.

42nd. Australians. Turner, S. 722.

K. July 31/1917. Date. D/B.

I was told by Private. E. Day, Orderly Room Clerk, 42nd. Battalion, D. Company, on about October 14th when I was with the Battalion that he had seen Turner killed at Passchendaele on ~~October 4th~~ July 31. 1917 by a shell during an attack. We gained our objective. Turner was small, dark, clean-shaven.

Inf:- Private. A. Simpson. 1038.
42nd. Australians. H.Q.
H. S. "Panama".

CWS.

Bad

Written Pte. Day 13.5.18.

Havre. 6th. May. 1918.

42nd. Australians. Turner, S. 722.

K. July. 31/1917. Dots. D/B.

He was in C. Company, and the 10th. Platoon. I knew him well and was in Camp with him for six months at Longuevon Paddock, near Enogers. He was a baker by trade, about 25, medium height and dark. On the 31st. July 1917 we were at Warneton (to the right of Messines) and made a small advance very early in the morning about 4. oclock. He went over the top with me and it was rather dark and we got mixed up with the Germans. We were crossing a shell hole and were just getting out of it when he was hit by a bullet and killed almost at once. I sat him up but he diedwithin a minute. I saw him again afterwards he was still in the same shell hole but I don't know about his burial. As we hold the ground I havexx not doubt that he was buried.

Inf:- Private Lambert, 1870.
42nd. Australians. C. 10.
Havre Hospital.

Bowl

CWSG.

13. 5. 18.

Pte. E. Day
Orderly Room Clerk
D Coy.
42nd Battn. A.I.F.
Abroad

abt.
12/2 Pte. S. Turner
42nd Battn. A.I.F.
K. 31.7.17.

14. 5. 18.
A.I.B.