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

2514 Private
Thomas Henry Curtin

19th Battalion



0860704P

A.I.F. 19. CURTIN, T.H. 2514.

H. Oct 10th 1917.

Near the railway at Polygon Wood on Oct 5th we were going up to the trenches across the open to reinforce the 17th Battn, when I saw Curtin struck by a piece of shell and fall into a shell hole. I was about 40 yards away. It was about 9 o'clock in the morning and broad daylight. I am sure it was he as I know him well by sight and he was easy to notice on account of his unusual gait. Curtin christian name was Tom, he joined us with 4th Reinf in Egypt. He was rather weak mentally and for this reason was not often sent into the line.

Inf: L/Cpl.L.J.Lance. 251. A.Co.HQ.
No. 8 Stat Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 22.1.18.

WO

COPY

Statement made by No.2051 L/C Lance L.J. 19th Btn.

re No.2514 Pte Curtin T.H. 19th Btn.
Missing 16.10.17.

I knew Private Curtin and was in the same company for two years. ✱ On August 4th 1917, the company was in polygon Wood . WE had orders to reinforce a company of 17th Battn In carrying out the order Private Curtin was seen to fall. He was not amongst those who got to the 17th Battn and I have never seen or heard of hi m since. Private Curtin was about 5 feet 2 inches in height. Dark complexion , 28 years of age. It was the first time he had been in the front line for a year. He had been kept in the transport lines.

2 copies.

Dated at Chester this 7th day of March 1918.

(Sgd) LJ. Lance.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) A.R. Norie.
Matron.

✱ Presumably a mistake, meant for 4th October.

19th Batt'n.
A.I.F.

Curtin.
T.H. 2514
Thos. Henry.

"Missing 10.10.17"

Was in C.Coy. Called "Tommy" He went away from the Batt'n. about Oct.10th., having been passed, and was sent to the base at Le Havre. He was marked "Permanent Base". He was doing a job about the Mess Huts. He thought that he would be coming to England. I saw him at the base and spoke to him. He was very weak when I saw him, and could hardly speak. I don't think he would be sent up to the front line again.

Informant:- G.Francis 2140
19th Battn.
Hereford.

W.G.J.

London.
16.4.18.

Note Not sent on. Off.H.
2514 Thos.Henry Curtain is still reported Missing 10.10.17.
H.A. Searcher at H.O.
23.3.18.

A.I.F. 19th Battn.

CURTIN
Thomas Henry 2514

K/A 10/10/17

No trace in Germany
Cert. by Capt. Mills 10/10/19

London
17/10/19

OFF.E.

A I.F. 19th Btn

CURTIN
Thos. Henry 2514

"MISSING"

Killed in action 10-10-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 16-5-18.

London
17-5-18

OFF.M.