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

# 3446 Private
# Arthur Leonard Swan

## 53rd Battalion



2680201J

A.I.F. 53rd Btn

SWAN
A.L. 3446

"WOUNDED"

18 Gen. Hpl

G.S.W.R.Thigh severe, left thigh fractured - died 8-11-17 in 18th Gen.Hpl

Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 12-11-17

S

London
13ell-17

53rd Battn.
A.I.F.

Swan.
Pte.A.L. 3446

"Died of Wounds"

Pte.Swan was admitted this hospital with a severe gun shot wound of the left hip 27.9.17. He also suffered from a small wound in the chin and one over the right eye. He died in this hospital at 3.35.a.m. Nov.8th 1917 and was buried in the Military Cemetery at Etaples. Any further information as to the burial we advise that it may be obtained from the cemetery authorities at Etaples.

Letter from:-
The O.C.
No.18 General Hospital
30.11.17.

London.
14.12.17.

S.

53rd. BATTALION A.I.F.
(late 3rd.Battalion)

SWAN A. L. Private
No. 3446.

"Died of Wounds 8/11/17."

Informant described Swan as about 5 feet 7 inches high, medium build, fair complexion, aged about 29. Formerly a schoolteacher

Informant states that they both belonged to "B" Company No.5 Platoon. On 25/10/17 the Battalion was in the support lines at Polygon Wood. In the evening about half an hour after d-rkness set in Swan was with Informant and others detonating bombs when a shell burst right in the midst of them killing two of the party and wounding two others. Informant was one of the wounded and lost consciousness. He heard the stretcherbearers say that a man taken away by them had been very badly wounded, and informant believes that the man in question was Swan although he did not actually see him wounded. Informant never heard anything further of Swan.

Informant:- Corporal C. Bowen, 2862,
"B" Company, 53rd. Battalion,
Present address:- "H" Ward Randwick Military Hospital,

Postal address:- G.P.O. Sydney.

W.E.C.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.
29/7/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F.
53rd Battalion.

SWAN, Private
A.L. No. 3446

late 3 Bde "D/Wounds 8-11-17"

Informant described Swan as about 5'6 or 7" high, stout build, fresh complexion, aged about 23/26, school teacher.

Informant states that they both belonged to "B" Company - Swan being in the 5th Platoon. On the 25.9.17 the Battalion was in Polygon Wood - the morning before the big stunt. About 8 p.m. a shell burst alongside the parapet of the trench in which Swan was and hit 5 men, including Swan, and wounded him badly. Informant was close by and helped to lift him on the stretcher, after he had been given 'first aid'. Swan spoke to Informant when he was putting him on the stretcher, and he saw him carried away to the Aid Post about ½ mile behind the support lines. He never saw /Swan again, but sometime afterwards it was reported to the Battalion that he had died of his wounds. According to Informant Swan was a well liked chap.

Informant;- No. 281, Sergeant R. Modrall,
"B" Company - 53rd Battalion.
Private address;- C/o Mrs. Watson,
Kitchener Rd., Artarmon, Sydney.

W.E.C.

S cd

"Anzac Information Bureau,
SYDNEY.
29-1-19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.