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

4642 Corporal
Edwin Charles Skinner

58th Battalion



2511002B

A.I.F. 58. SKINNER E.C. 4642.

K. 5.7.18.

He was in D.Co. and the only man of the name. After we had gained out objective on the morning of 4th.July, (about 3.30 a.m.) a M.G. was harrassing the post where he was. His officer, Lt. Thompson, Cpl. Skinner and another man went out to deal with it. Mr. Thompson was shot in the head and killed instantly and Skinner rushed up to him and he was also shot. I think Skinner was buried where he fell. Skinner was a L/Cpl. or Cpl. This occurred at Ville-sur-Ancre. He was a great loss to the Co. Men would go anywhere with him.

PHR.

Reference: Lt.H.D. Willis. D.Co.
L.G. School.

Etaples.
6.9.18.

58th Battn:

Skinner, E.C. 4642.

K. 5/7/18.

I saw Cpl. Skinner (D. Company) killed instantly while we were advancing at Ville-sur-Ancre by a M.G. bullet, being hit on the left side of the head. Capt: Dawson, D.S.O., M.C., took his effects (pay book, letters etc). I saw him buried just off the main Dernacourt road about 100 yards from an Estamet on the right bank of the river. Up to the time I left no cross had been erected.

58th Battn:

Stewart, E. Pte. 2803.

A 11. Dartford. 10/9/18.

R.D.B.

M

S.A.

A. I. F. 58th Bn. SKINNER, E. C. 4642.

K. July 5/18. Dey.D/B.

We went over the bags on the 5th July at Meault, near Albert, and as we went over Skinner was shot through the head and killed instantly. It was just 5 past 4.0 in the morning and breaking day. I was only a few yards from him when he fell. He was buried in the same place where he fell the following night. We just dug a hole and put him in. We did not put up a cross but this would be done afterwards. He was fair, looked to be about 28, average build; I did not know much about him. I was in A.Coy. and he in D.Coy. A Plat. of our chaps was attached to D.Coy. for this stunt.

Reference: Pte.R.G.Chandler, 168,

No.1 Aust.General, Rouen, 10.9.18.

GPO.

58th Battn.
A.I.F.

SKINNER.
E.C. 4642.

"Killed 5-7-18"

He was of D.Company XVI Platoon. At Hamel during our attack on 4th July. Was killed outright by shell hit in chest. I saw him lying on the field about 10 minutes past 3 in morning, when I was walking out wounded. Know nothing of burial. Christian name Ted. Came from I think Stawell.

x

Informant:- L/Cpl.M.J.Bohan. 1991.
58th Batn. D.Coy. XVI Pl.
HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.
London.
12-9-1 .
H.G.

M.

Horseferry Road records shew that E.C.Skinner 4642 was buried N.E.Ville Sur Ancre. 1000 yards S.W.Dernacourt.
A D G

58th Battn.
A.I.F.

SKINNER
E.C. 4642

"Killed 5-7-18"

He was in 16th Pltn. D.Coy., and was a Cpl. at time of casualty. I saw him killed at Villers-sur-Ancre, when death was instantaneous, he being hit through the back of the head by two M.G. bullets, about 3-30 a.m. on 4-7-18, at which time we were in action, and advancing. He went to the assistance of Lt.Thompson, who was shot through the neck and was killed, when he was hit by M.G. bullets. I knew him well, and he came from near Maldon, Victoria. There was no other man of same name in Coy. I was myself wounded the same day, so cannot give details of burial. I heard Capt.Dawson tell Sgt.Tyler (who has since been killed), to bury Skinner at place of casualty. Refer to Pte.A.Cawood, D.Coy. 58th Battn., and now in France, for he can give particulars of burial. Skinner was a very fine chap and well liked by all in our Coy.

Informant. Garrett. Pte.J. 1760
D.Coy. 58th Battn.,
3rd A.A.H.
DARTFORD.

W.Oman
London
12-9-18
H.G.

Note:- Written Cawood 10-9-18

M.

A.I.F. 58 SKINNER, E.C. 4642.

K. July 5/18. Det. D/B.

At 4.30 a.m. on July 4 we were attacking at Villers Serane on the left front when Skinner was killed instantly by a sniper. I saw him as he lay dead on the road between Villers Serane and the river. I saw him buried where he fell the next night, July 5th. The ground remained in our possession. Skinner was about 5 ft.9, 24/25, fair, a Cpl.

Reference: Sgt.S.Collett, 3058. D Co.
No.11 Con.Camp Buchy Nr.Rouen. 26.9.18.

JWA.

58th Battn.
A.I.F.

SKINNER.
E.C, 4642.

"Killed 5.7.18"

At Villers-Sur- Ancre. he was killed by bullet and I saw him dead on the road when we advanced. He was cut from the line about 800 yards. He was my pal I knew him well. Three of us were going to rush the post, and I was wounded and came back so did not see him buried.

Informant:- L/Cpl. Richards. 1954.
W 14.
HAREFIELD.

H.P.Bickson.
London.
27.9.18.
S.A.

M

58th Battn.
A.I.F.

SKINNER
E.C. 4642

"Killed in Action 5-7-18"

Re 4642 Cpl.E.C.Skinner. He was buried in the field. Height 5' 8 or 9", fair, clean shaven, also fair athelete. I cannot give any map reference as we are in anotherdistrict to that in which he is buried, nor do I think there was any mark put on his grave, as we went from that place the night he was buried. He was killed on the 4th of July.

Letter from:- Cawood. Alb. H.,
58th Battn.,
FRANCE. 15-9-18.

Note:- Hqts. gives date as 5-7-18.

London
3-10-18
N.T.

M.

58th Btn.
A.I.F.

SKINNER, R.C.
Cpl. 4642

K. 5/9/18

I knew casualty. He was a man about 5'8", well built, fair, known as "Edwin". Casualty was advancing on Ville-sur-ancre. I was in the same advance. He was hit by a M.G. Bullet which entered his breast killing him instantly. I was 5 yds. away at the time of his death and saw his body immediately afterwards. He was buried near by but I do not know the exact spot.

Informant:- T.W. Hindes, Pte. 3282
58th Btn.

Home address:- Byaduk, Vic.

T.C.P.
25/4/19.

M. C. Smith

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

Skinner E.C Cpl Edwin Thos 4642

Sellars R.C Pte Robert Henderson 3223
born of 58 Batt

Km A 5 7.18 #-3 21.9.18

" " 5 7.18 #-3 21.9.18.

Slip

4.10.18

4642

E. C. Skinner

58 Bklyn

H

See under

3223

R. C. Seller

58 Bklyn

Pt A. Cawood
& Co
58 Batt - A.I.F.

Advt
4642 Pte C. S Skinner
58th Battn
A.I.F

K July 5. 18.

Written 10.9.18

HOSPITAL