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NAA: B2455, O'BRIEN JOHN PATRICK

Series number: B2455

Control symbol: O'BRIEN JOHN PATRICK

Barcode: 7995547

Number of pages: 59

Title: O'BRIEN John Patrick : Service Number - 2961 : Place of Birth - Deloraine TAS : Place of Enlistment - Adelaide SA : Next of Kin - (Mother) O'BRIEN Ada

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Fact sheet 7 – Citing archival records

Fact sheet 8 – Copyright

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ALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

No. 2961

Name O'BRIEN

JOHN PATRICK

Unit 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

6/32nd Inf

Joined on MAR 4 1916

6th Rein. S.
9th d Batta.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. What is your Name? ... | 1. <u>John Patrick O'Brien</u> |
| 2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? ... | 2. (In the Parish of _____ in or near the Town of <u>Deloraine</u> in the County of <u>Tasmania</u> |
| 3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... | 3. <u>Natural Born</u> |
| 4. What is your age? ... | 4. <u>30 1/2 years</u> |
| 5. What is your trade or calling? ... | 5. <u>Laborer</u> |
| 6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... | 6. <u>No</u> |
| 7. Are you married? ... | 7. <u>No</u> |
| 8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... | 8. <u>MOTHER O'BRIEN - ADA DELORAINE, WESTMEANDER TASMANIA</u> |
| 9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? | 9. <u>No</u> |
| 10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy? | 10. <u>No</u> |
| 11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge | 11. <u>No</u> |
| 12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? | 12. <u>Yes</u> |
| 13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? | 13. <u>Yes A.I.F. Melbourne Leith</u> |
| 14. (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother)—Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach 8/- per day? | 14. _____ |
| 15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? | 15. <u>Yes</u> |

I, John Patrick O'Brien do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife * † and children

Date MAR 4 1916

J. P. O'Brien
Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.
 † Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

Army Form B. 103. SHEET 2. Regimental Number 2961

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 32nd BATTALION, A.I.F.
 Rank Private Surname O'BRIEN Christian Name JOHN PATRICK
 Religion years months
 Enlisted (a) Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a)
 Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank
 Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b)
 or Corps Trade and Rate
 Signature of Officer.

Date	Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during service A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 313, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
	From whom received					
6/3/17	32nd Bn B213	Rejoined Bn. ex Hospital	Field	6/3/17	B9/11 DO/13/1746	
30/8/17	do	ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED	do	16/8/17	B9/36 VL4)467 DO/39/4757	
20/8/17.	CO 32nd Bn	Court of inquiry held on 30/3/17. Finding of Court - that Pte. O'Brien fell into the Canal and being unable to swim was accidentally drowned. Confirmed by CO 32nd Bn 27/4/17 and G.O.C. 5th Aust. Div. 3/9/17.			30/562/10	Do 39/4/50
ANZAC SECTION, 3RD BOMBARDERS, G.H.Q., British Expeditionary Force, (SGD) H. L. FERNS O. i/g Records.						

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or called into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or call-up will be entered.
 (b) Signaller, Shipping-Smith, & Co.
 [M1101] W6133/M705 1000a. 9/156. 153 G & S Forms/B.103/4. E/854. [P.T.O.]

Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
From whom received				
<i>Director of Purvis, Nottingham</i>	<i>Spines - Churchyard, & miles</i>			
<i>19.4.18</i>	<i>West South West of Hazelbrough</i>			<i>D 9976 d. 15. 1063</i> <i>8/16. 54/E 23. 19. 1911</i>

Army Form B. 103.

Regimental Number 2961

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 5th-Keisafe, 32nd BATTALION, A.I.F.

Rank Private Surname O'BRIAN Christian Name JOHN PATRICK

Religion _____ Age on Enlistment _____ years _____ months.

Enlisted (a) _____ Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____

Extended { _____ } Re-engaged { _____ } Qualification (b) _____
or Corps Trade and Rate _____

Signature of Officer. _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
30/6/16.	O.C. Troops	"HUNTSEND"	Embarked ... Alexandria	20/6/16	
			Disembarked... Marseilles	30/6/16	LR 5981
29/7/16	5th ADBD B213	Proceeded to join 32nd Bn	Etaples	29/7/16	AQ 1410
4/8/16	32nd Bn B213	Taken on strength 32nd Bn	Field	2/8/16	AQ2124 DO/47/4950
25/8/16	32nd Bn B2069	Field General Court Martial held "In the Field" on 14/8/16. <u>First Charge- Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. Second Charge- Drunkenness. Finding- Guilty. Sentence - 72 days P.P. No. 2. Confirmed by Brig.General E.Tivey G.O.C. 8th Inf. Bde. A.I.F. 25/8/16. Period awaiting trial - 5 days.</u>			AQ3911 DO/51/5180
1/9/16	32nd Bn B213	Evacuated to 15th field Ambulance	France	28/8/16	AQ4685 DO/52/5323
2/9/16	15th A.F.Amb.	Admitted - Conjunctivitis Messles.	do	do	AK 305/8

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.

(b) Signaller, Shoeing-Smith, &c.

Report		Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B, 213, Army Form A, 38, or other official documents
Date	From whom received			
9/9/16	15th F. Amb.	France	4/9/16	AK 305/19
24/10/16	CO 32nd Bn	do	5/9/16	55/562/5 DO/02
2/2/17	58th Bn B213	do	2/12/16	DO/0 DO/12/150
9/12/16	15th F. Amb.	do	2/12/16	AK633/55
2/12/16	1st Anzac M.D.S.	do	2/12/16	AK 633/67
6/12/16	2nd C.H.	Havre	5/12/16	AK 633/38
16/12/16	4th C.D.	do	16/12/16	AK 633/63 and 6
20/1/17	do	do	19/1/17	AK 764/61
2/1/17	5 ABBD B213	Etaples - Etaples	22/1/17	ES7/4 DC/6/86
10/2/17	do	do	8/2/17	ES7/6 DO/3/111
8/2/17	26th G.H.	do	do	AK 894/38
10/2/17	do	do	10/2/17	AKG94/38 and 46
27/2/17	6th C.D.	do	27/2/17	AK 1017/257
3/3/17	5 ABBD B213	do	do	ES7/9. DO/12/
10/3/17	do	do	5/3/17	ES7/11/333X ES7

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Ext

Regimental Number 2961

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

SHEET 2
 32nd BATTALION A.I.F.
 Rank Private Surname O'BRIEN Christian Name JOHN PATRICK.
 Religion Age on Enlistment years months.
 Enlisted (a) Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a)
 Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank
 Extended Re-engaged } Qualification (b) or Corps Trade and Rate
 Signature of Officer.

Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
20/8/17	CO 32nd Bn	Court of Inquiry held on 20/8/17. Finding of Court that Pte O'Brien fell into the canal and being unable to swim was accidentally drowned.	Field	18/8/17-30/8/17	20 30/17 50
		Original Copies file to Defence Melbourne Chief Pyrameter Headquarters A.F. with 77 82000 1919.			17/9
					2/9

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) Signaller, Shooting Smith, &c.
 (M1100) W630/M768 1000m 2/16 153 G & S Form B 103/4 E./354. [P.T.O.]

Serial Number 2961

Report	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B, 214, Army Form A, 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B, 214, Army Form A, 36, or other official documents

2961

W6490/1535-2,000,000-J. J. K. & Co., Ltd.-Forms B. 103/1.

D30420
Casualty Form-Active Service.

Army Form B. 103.

82nd INF BATTALION, 2961.
6th Reinforcements A.I.F.

Regiment or Corps *P*
Regimental No. *2961* Rank *Pte* Name *O'Brien John Patrick*
Enlisted (a) *4.3.16*. Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____
Date of promotion } _____ Date of appointment } _____ Numerical position on }
to present rank } to lance rank } roll of N.C.Os. }
Re-engaged _____ Qualification (i) _____

Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
			<i>Emb. BEF, Alex, 20.6.16 Huntsend</i>		
			<i>Disemb. Marseilles, 30-6-16 LR5981</i>		
<i>16</i>	<i>5ADBD</i>	<i>Proc'd to join 32nd Bn</i>	<i>Etaples</i>	<i>29/7/16</i>	<i>AQ1410</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>CO B213</i>	<i>Taken on strength 32 Bn</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>2/8/16</i>	<i>M2124 0/47/4950</i>
<i>18/16</i>	<i>CO B2069</i>	<i>7 LCO held at on 14/8/16 in the field "at charge" - conduct to the prejudice of good orders military discipline, and drunkenness. Founding guilty. Sentence 42 days of M.P. Confirmed by Sdg. Maj. F. Tivey, Col. of Bn. Ptd. A.I.F. 25/8/16. Period awaiting trial 5 days</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>15/8/16</i>	<i>P.O. 3911 0/51/5180</i>
<i>19/16</i>	<i>CO B213</i>	<i>Evacuated to 157 Aub.</i>	<i>France</i>	<i>28/8/16</i>	<i>P.O. 4685 0/52/5328</i>
<i>19/16</i>	<i>157 Aub.</i>	<i>Adv. - Conjunction to 32nd Bn</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>25/8/16</i>	<i>CO B3058</i>

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(b) e.g., Signaller, Shoing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

[P.T.O.]

Report

Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc. during active service, as reported on Army Form B, 213, Army Form A, 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.

Remarks taken from Army Form B, 213, Army Form A, 36, or other official documents.

No.	Report		Place	Date	Remarks
	Date	From whom received			
7	9/9/16	154 Sub.	France	4/9/16	AR 300/19
8	24/10/16	CO. Am	Field	10/10	AM 152/5 0/63 1031
12	4/12/16	2 Sgt	Town	6/12/16	AR 38/58
10	9/12/16	157 Sub	Field	2/2/16	AR 58/55
13	16/12/16	4 CO.	Same	16/12/16	AM 638/63 AM 659/65
11	2/12/16	(by) 1000	Field	2/12/16	AM 655/67
14	20/1/17	4 CO.	Same	19/1/17	AM 164/61
15	27/1/17	5 ABDO	Staples	22/1/17	ES 7/4 DO 6/881
16	10/2/17	do	do	8/2/17	ES 7/6 DO 8/1118
17	8/2/17	26 Sgt	do	do	AR 874/38
18	10/2/17	do	do	10/2/17	AM 594/38 AM 594/46
19	2/2/17	CO. 320 W 2/13	Field	2/12/16	ES 9/9 DO 12/1562
20	3/3/17	Staples	Staples	27/2/17	ES 7/9 DO 12/1447
19	27/2/17	6 CO.	do	do	AM 107/23
21	10/3/17	5 ABDO	do	5/3/17	ES 7/10
22	8/3/17	CO. 320 W 2/13	Field	6/3/17	ES 9/10 DO 13/1746
23	30/8/17	do	do	16/8/17	ES 9/36 12-467 DO 59/4767

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my Regimental No. 2961
 I have taken care that he understands each question, and that each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.
 I have examined his naturalization papers and am of opinion ~~correct.~~

Regimental No. 2961
 (a) 4-2-16. Terms of promotion to present rank }
 extended Re-en

(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized British Subjects)

Date MAR 4 1916

W.T. O'S

Signature of Attesting Officer

Report		Record of promotions, casualties, etc., reported on Army A. M. or in other authority to
Date	From whom received	
16	5ADBD	Proceed to
16	CO B213	Taken on
18/16	CO B2069	7 L/Cs held the field in the present military operations. Quality of service 2nd class. See 2-16. Pds 21.5 21. awaiting
19/16	CO B 213	Evacuated
19/16	15th Aul.	Adv. - Cen

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED

I, John Patrick O'Brien swear well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from MAR 4 1916 until the end of the War, and a further period of twelve months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed or released from service; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's arms to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

SO HELP ME GOD.

J.P.O'Brien
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at ADELAIDE in
 the State of SOUTH AUSTRALIA
 this MAR 4 1916 day of March of 1916
 at _____ 19, before me—

W.T. O'S LIEUT
Signature of Attesting Officer.

* A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialled by the Attesting Officer.

D 30420

FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS } 32nd BATTALION, A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company } ---

Regimental No. 2961 Rank Private

Surname O'BRIEN Christian Names JOHN PATRICK.

Died { Date 16th August, 1917. Place In the Field, France.

Cause of Death* ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED.

Nature and Date of Report Army Form B. 213 dated 30/8/17.

By whom made CO 32nd Battalion, A.I.F.

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Will not received

State whether he leaves a Will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) --- (b) in Small Book (if at Base) --- (c) as a separate document. NOR BURIAL REPORT SEE R 103.

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office. Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the I.F.A.C., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

ANZAC SECTION, 3RD BOMBAY, G.H.Q.

Station ANZAC EXPEDITIONARY FORCE 19/8/17. Adjutant-General's Office at the Base

O. i/c Records.

W2088-M1765-500,000-H. & Sr. - 5/17-(10489)-Form B.2090A/2.

subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date 1-MAR 1916

Place ADELAIDE.

E.O. Johnson
Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and

appoint him to A boy 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Date MAR 2-1916 McKinnon COL.

Place Adelaide Commanding CAMP COMMANDANT

2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Description of John Patrick O'Brien on Enlistment

Age 30 years 5 months
Height 5 feet 9 inches
Weight 156 lbs.
Chest Measurement 34 1/2 inches
Complexion Fair
Eyes Blue
Hair Brown
Religious Denomination R.C.

DISTINCTIVE MARKS.

Vip 6 L 6
W. K. H. C.

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I HAVE examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz.:-

Scrofula; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hernia; hæmorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; inveterate venereal disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with the letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest; abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or physical defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date 1 - MAR 1916

Place ADELAIDE.

E. O. Johnson
Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and

appoint him to A Coy 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Date MAR 2 1916
McKinnon LIEUT. COL.
CAMP COMMANDANT

Place Adelaide

Commanding
2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.

Statement of Service No. *2961*

Name *O'Brien J.P.*

Unit in which served	DISTINCTIVE MARKS Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of Service in each Rank		Remarks
		From	To	
<i>A Company Mitchell 6/32</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>4-3-16</i>	<i>15-3-16</i>	<i>Co 667</i>
	<i>TAKEN ON STRENGTH 32nd Bn., from Reinf 2/8/16.</i>			<i>Pte 4950 / 13/8/16</i>
	<i>Under Lieut. Capt. Mortimer sent "in the field"</i>	<i>24/8/16</i>		
	<i>Change conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. 2nd change. "Drunkness", "Lending", "Fidelity", "Sentence", 1/2 days, 4th Div No 88 confirmed. By Div. Lieut. B. Gray 2.0.6. 8th Div Bn. 2.5.4. Period awaiting trial 5 days. 24/8/16.</i>			<i>Pte 5180 4-9-16</i>
	<i>ADMITTED (Trauma) HOSPITAL</i>	<i>28/8/16</i>		<i>Pte 3328 / 11/9/16</i>
	<i>REJOINED UNIT FROM Hospo.</i>	<i>24/8/16</i>	<i>5.9.16</i>	<i>Pte 63/6531 13.11.16</i>
	<i>Marched into 5th Div Base Depot. ex Hospital.</i>		<i>22.1.17</i>	<i>Pte 6/881. 6.2.17</i>
	<i>To Hospital, Sick. ex 5th Div Base Depot</i>		<i>8.2.17</i>	<i>Pte 8/1118. 20.2.17</i>
	<i>Pte Marched into 5th Div Base Depot, ex Hospo.</i>		<i>27.2.17</i>	<i>Pte 12/1447. 13/3/17</i>
	<i>Pte To Hosp Sick.</i>		<i>2.12.16</i>	<i>Pte 1566. 13.3.17</i>
	<i>Pte REJOINED UNIT from Hospo ex 5th Div Base Depot.</i>		<i>6.3.17</i>	<i>Pte 17/46. 20.2.17</i>
	<i>DECEASED Drowned accidentally</i>		<i>16.8.17</i>	<i>GBL 1524. Pte 39/157. 18.9.17</i>

SEE COPY A.F. P. 03 ENCLOSED

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

FOR INITIAL REPORT SEE 1111

Statement of Service of No.

Name

Unit.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, etc.	Place.	Date.	Remarks.
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE CERTIFICATE OF PERSONNEL SERVICE This is to certify that the following personnel have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force for the periods specified in the following table. The names of the personnel are given in the following order: those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since its formation, followed by those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since the date of its reformation, and finally those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since the date of its reformation. The names of the personnel are given in the following order: those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since its formation, followed by those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since the date of its reformation, and finally those who have been in the service of the Australian Imperial Force since the date of its reformation.				

ent of Service of No.

Name

Place Date Remarks

32nd Ptn. Accidentally Drowned 16.8.17.
 Court of Inquiry convened
 by C.O. 32nd Ptn. held
 in the Field on 20.8.17
 finding that Pte. O'Brien
 fell into the Canal and
 being unable to swim was
 Accidentally Drowned
 Proceedings confirmed by Major
 General J. J. Hobbs, Commanding
 5th Aust. Div. 3.9.17.

Pte 39/2750 18/9/17

of 2583.

Subject: Acc. Drowned

FOR BURIAL REPORT SEE B 103



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

2009 ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

No. 2961 Name O'BRIEN JOHN PATRICK

Unit 2ND DEPOT BATTALION 6/32^{AD}

82 th. Etn Joined on MAR 4 - 1916 6-32 B tn

Index of

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- 1. What is your Name? ... 1. John Patrick O'Brien
2. In the Parish of ... in or near the Town of Deloraine
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? ... 3. Natural Born
4. What is your age? ... 4. 30 - 5/12 Years
5. What is your trade or calling? ... 5. Labourer
6. Are you, or have you been, an apprentice? ... 6. No
7. Are you married? ... 7. Mrs L Barker
8. Who is your next of kin? ... 8. MOTHER: O'BRIEN - ADA - MRS - DELORAIN WESTMEANER TASMANIA
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... 9. No
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with disgrace from the Navy? ... 10. No
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? ... 11. No
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... 12. yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? ... 13. yes A.I.F. Melbourne - 26th
14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach 8/- per day? ... 14.
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? ... 15. yes

I, John Patrick O'Brien do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children

Date MAR 4 1916

J.P. O'Brien Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age. † Two-fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three-fifths must be allotted.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.

I have examined his naturalization papers and am of opinion that they are correct.

(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized British Subjects.)

Date MAR 4 1916

W.S. Dru

Signature of Attesting Officer. **LIEUT.**

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.*

I, John Patrick O'Brien swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from MAR 4 1916 until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

SO HELP ME GOD.

J.P. O'Brien

Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at ADELAIDE. in the State of SOUTH AUSTRALIA. this MAR 4 1916 day _____ of _____ 19 _____, before me—

W.S. Dru

Signature of Attesting Officer. **LIEUT**

* A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialled by the Attesting Officer.

Description of John Patrick O'Brien on Enlistment

Age 30 years 5 months
Height 5 feet 9 inches
Weight 156 lbs.
Chest Measurement 34½-39 inches
Complexion Fresh
Eyes Blue
Hair Brown
Religious Denomination R.C.

DISTINCTIVE MARKS.
No R 6 1 6 9
Nae nil.

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I HAVE examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz. :-

Scrofula; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hernia; hæmorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond a limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; inveterate cutaneous disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with the letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest; abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or physical defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date 1 - MAR 1916

Place ADELAIDE.

E. O. Johnson
Signature of Examining Medical Officer.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and

appoint him to 1 COY. 2ND DEPOT BATTALION

Date MAR 14 1916

Place EXHIBITION A.I.F. CAMP.

W. Hancock
LT. COL.
C.O. 2ND DEPOT BATTALION A.I.F.
Commanding

S2009

4

Statement of Service No.

Name

O'Brien
John Patrick

Unit in which served	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of Service in each Rank		Remarks
		From	To	
COY. 2ND DEPOT BATTALION 6/32nd Inf. Melcham	Private	4/3/16	15 MAR 1916	
	Awarded 72 days F.P. No. 2. forfeit 5 days pay	16-3-16	25/8/16	B.R. 25/70.

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

[Signature]

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.

CAMP COMMANDANT.

<p>O'B R I E N</p> <p>Surname</p>	<p>John Patriok</p> <p>Other Names</p>	<p>2961</p> <p>Regimental No.</p>	<p>6th Rfts 32nd Etn</p> <p>Unit.</p>
<p>... CITY SCHEDULE</p> <p>PURPORT.</p>			
<p>Embarked at Adelaide per H.M.A.T.A. 60 "Aeneas" 11/4/16</p>			
<p>Pte</p>			
<p>24/8/16 1st Charge- Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. 2nd Charge- Drunkenness.</p>			
<p>Finding - Guilty. Sentence - 72 days F.P. No 2. Period. awaiting trial - 3 days.</p>			
<p>30/8/16 To hospital, sick, France.</p>			
<p>5/9/16 Rjnd. Bn. from hosp. In the Field. (EV.B)</p>			
<p>22/1/17 Marched into 5th Div.B.Dep. ex Hpl.</p>			
<p>8/2/17 To Hpl.SICK ex 5th Div.B.D.</p>			
<p>27/2/17. Marched into 5th D.B.D. ex Hpl.</p>			
<p>2/12/16 To Hpl.SICK.</p>			
<p>6/3/17 . Rej.Bn from Hpl. ex 5th .D.B.D.</p>			
<p>16/8/17 Accidentally drowned Crd.of Inq.in Fld. 20/8/17</p>			
<p>"Fell into the canal, & being unable to swim, was accidentally drowned."</p>			
<p>BEFO 51/3-16</p>			
<p>BEFO 52/4-16</p>			
<p>BEFO 63/7-16</p>			
<p>HB BEFO 6/6-17</p>			
<p>" 8/5-17</p>			
<p>" 12/4-17</p>			
<p>" 12/7-17</p>			
<p>" 13/3-17</p>			
<p>BEFO 39/4-17</p>			

D 3. of 16. - C. 2. 04.

PURPORT.	AUTHORITY.
<p>16/8/17 Accidentally Drowned. Burtd Racquingham Churchyard 8 miles West S. West of Hazebrouck (ECC)</p>	<p>BEFO 39/5-17 LON 57/18</p>

No. 2961 Name <i>O'Brien J.P.</i>		Sup. Batty, or Company <i>1st Regiment 32nd Battalion, A.I.F.</i>		Date of Enlistment <i>27.3.16</i>		G.C. Badges		Service or Proficiency Pay	
Date of last Entry, in Company <i>1st. 1st. Coy</i>		No. and date of last drunk		Signature O.C. Company, etc. <i>A. Brown Lt. O.C. 1st Coy</i>		Character			
Place	Date of Offence	Rank	Cases of Drunkenness	Offence	Names of Witnesses	Punishment Awarded	Date of Award or of Order Dispensing with Trial	By Whom Awarded	Remarks
<i>1st. 1st. Coy</i>	<i>19.5.16</i>	<i>Pvt</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Breaking away from working party Drunkenness</i>	<i>Sgt. Dennis Major G. Walker</i>	<i>20 days P.F.</i>	<i>27.5.16</i>	<i>F. G. C. M.</i>	<i>W.H.Z</i>
<i>Received 1st Coy A.I.F. 1st Coy 1st Bn</i>									
<i>D30420</i>									
<i>Recd 2</i>									

Place	Date of Offence	Rank	Cases of Drunkenness	Offence	Names of Witnesses	Punishment Awarded	Date of Award or of Order Dispensing with Trial	By Whom Awarded	Remarks

Handwritten signature: [Signature]

Army Form B. 103.

Regimental Number 2961

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 6th Reserve, 32nd BATTALION, A. I. F.

Rank Private, Surname O'BRIEN

Christian Name JOHN PATRICK

Religion Age on Enlistment years months,

Enlisted (a) Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a)

Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank

Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b)
 or Corps Trade and Rate

Signature of Officer.

Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 21, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 21, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
30/6/16.	O.C. Troops	"HUNTSEND"	Alexandria	20/6/16	LR 5981
29/7/16	5th ADED B213	Proceeded to join 32nd Bn	Marseilles	30/6/16	AQ 1410
4/8/16	32nd Bn B213	Taken on strength 32nd Bn	Field	29/7/16	AQ 2124
25/8/16	32nd Bn B2069	Field General Court Martial held "In the Field" on 14/8/16. First Charge - Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. Second Charge - Drunkenness. Finding - Guilty. Sentence - 72 days P.P. No. 2. Confirmed by Brig. General E. Tivey G.O.C. 8th Inf. Bde. A.I.F. 25/8/16. Period awaiting trial - 5 days.	Field	2/8/16	DO/47/4950
1/9/16	32nd Bn B213	Evacuated to 15th Field Ambulance	France	28/8/16	AQ4885
2/9/16	15th A.F.Amb.	Admitted - Conjunctivitis, Measles.	do	do	AK 305/B

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) Signaller, Shipping-Smith, &c.

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B, 213, Army Form A, 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B, 213, Army Form A, 36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
9/9/16	15th F.Amb.	To duty - Measles	France	4/9/16	AK 306/19
24/10/16	CO 32nd Bn	Rejoined Bn.	do	5/9/16	55/562/5 DO/63/6531
2/2/17	32nd Bn B213	To Hospital sick.	do	2/12/16	E9/9 DO/12/1562
9/12/16	15th F.Amb.	Admitted Trench Feet	do	2/12/16	AK638/55
2/12/16	1st Anzac M.D.S.	Admitted - Trench Feet	do	2/12/16	AK 638/67
6/12/16	2nd G.H.	Admitted - Trench Feet	Havre	6/12/16	AK 638/38
16/12/16	4th C.D.	Admitted ex 2nd General Hbsp. Havre - Trench Feet	do	16/12/16	AK 638/63 and 65
20/1/17	do	To Reinforcements, Etaples Class "A"	do	19/1/17	AK 764/61
27/1/17	5 ADBD B213	Marched in ex 4th Convalescent Depot.	Etaples	22/1/17	E57/4 DO/6/881
10/2/17	do	Marched out to 26th General Hospital.	do	5/2/17	E57/6 DO/8/1118
6/2/17	26th G.H.	Admitted - Effects of cold feet.	do	do	AK 694/38
10/2/17	do	to 6th Convalescent Depot Effects of cold feet.	do	10/2/17	AK694/38 end 46.
27/2/17	6th C.D.	To Base Depot - Class "A"	do	27/2/17	AK 1017/23
3/3/17	5 ADBD B213	Marched in ex 6th Convalescent Depot.	do	do	E57/9. DO/12/1447
10/3/17	do	Marched out to Unit	do	5/3/17	E9/1111X-E57/10.

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regimental Number 2961

SHEET 2.

Regiment or Corps 32nd BATTALION, A.I.F.

Christian Name JOHN PATRICK

Surname O'BRIEN

Rank Private Religion

Age on Enlistment years

Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a) months.

Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank

Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b) or Corps Trade and Rate

Signature of Officer.

Date	Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 96, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Places of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 96, or other official documents
	From whom received					
8/3/17	32nd Bn B213	Rejoined Bn. ex Hospital	Embarked Disembarked	Field	6/3/17	E9/11 DO/13/1746
30/8/17	do	ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED		do	16/8/17	E9/36 VL/467 DO/39/4757
20/8/17.	CO 32nd Bn.	Court of Inquiry held on 20/8/17. Finding of Court - "That Pte. O'Brien fell into the Canal and being unable to swim was accidentally drowned." Confirmed by CO 32nd Bn 27/8/17 and G.O.C. 5th Aust. Div. 3/9/17.				30/562/10 Do. 39/4750
<p>ANZAC SECTION, 3rd TRENCH, G.H.Q., British Expeditionary Force,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">O. i/c Records.</p>						

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(b) Signaller, Shooting-Smiths, &c.

FIELD SERVICE.

Army Form B. 2090A.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36, or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT OR CORPS } 32nd BATTALION, A.I.F. Squadron, Troop, Battery or Company)

Regimental No. 2961 Rank Private

Surname O'BRIEN Christian Names JOHN PATRICK.

Died { Date 16th August, 1917. Place In the Field, France.

{ Cause of Death* ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED.

Nature and Date of Report Army Form B.213 dated 30/8/17.

By whom made CO 32nd Battalion, A.I.F.

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.
Will not received

State whether he leaves a Will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) Will not received (b) in Small Book (if at Base) --- (c) as a separate document ---

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the Deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

ANZAC SECTION, 3RD BATTALION, G.H.Q.

Station British Expeditionary Force Officer in charge of Section John O'Brien Date 19/9/17. Adjutant-General's Office at the Base) O. I/c Records. Captain

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES - 3RD MILITARY DISTRICT.

Received One

MEDAL for No. 2961

Rank

Name

O'Brien J P

Unit

32 Bn

61

37487

34184

3887 Powell

Schedule No.

(Signature)

Ken Mack

(Witness)

M. Leonard

Place

B R

History Card completed

87 O'Grady P.A.

Date

29/11/23

Leifson Hall

D.1802/7.20.-C.12015.-100M.

JOINTED YHATHUM ONE BRACH YHATHUM YHATHUM



Please return this receipt as soon as possible,
duly signed and witnessed. to—

**Medal Distributing Officer,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne.**

C.12015.

to be signed by the recipient

TELEPHONE:
CENTRAL 4741. 4780.

In all communications regimental number,
rank, full name and unit of Soldier referred
to, are to be stated.

DC.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,
VICTORIA BARRACKS,

Melbourne, 22nd November 1923.

Dear Madam,

I shall be much obliged if you will advise me whether communications addressed as this is will reach you, as I desire to be in a position to transmit the War Medals, etc., issuable on account of the service of the late No. 2961 Private J. P. O'BRIEN, 32nd Battalion.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favor of an early reply,

Yours faithfully,

W. Mackintosh

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. L. Carter,
87 O'Grady Street,
CLIFTON HILL,
Victoria.

mb

xxx 4780.

DC.

22nd November 1923.

RECEIVED
23 NOV 1923

Dear Madam,

I shall be much obliged if you will advise me whether communications addressed as this is will reach you, as I desire to be in a position to transmit the War Medals, etc., issuable on account of the service of the late No. 2961 Private J. P. O'BRIEN, 32nd Battalion.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favor of an early reply,

Yours faithfully,

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. L. Carter,
87 O'Grady Street,
CLIFTON HILL,
Victoria.

South



Australia.

Public Trustee can, if appointed, act as Trustee, Executor, or Administrator.

Public Trustee's Office,

Supreme Court House,

Adelaide, 6th November 1923.

IN YOUR REPLY THE NAME OF THE ESTATE SHOULD BE QUOTED. BPM/MJ ALSO ABOVE INITIALS.

Sir/

Estate of J. P. O'Brien, Late Private No. 2961
32nd Battalion, Deceased.

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, I have to inform you that the latest address of the mother of the deceased, is as follows --

asm

Mrs. Lochlend Carter.
876 Yardy Street,
Cliff Hill,
Victoria.

*87 G' Grady St.
Clifton Hill.*



Yours obediently,

Wm. J. ...
Public Trustee.

DECEASED SECTION
NOV 9 1928
RECEIVED

Officer in Charge,
Base Records,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne,
Victoria.

Director

*Miss Blue
18711*

xxx 4780.

DC.

DESPATCHED
1 OCT 1923

31st October 1923.

Dear Sir,

It is noted that you administered the estate of the late No. 2961 Private John Patrick O'BRIEN, 52nd Battalion, and I shall be much obliged if you can furnish me with any information regarding his blood relations.

It is particularly desired to get into touch with the late soldier's parents, or, if they are deceased, his eldest surviving brother, if there are no brothers, his eldest surviving sister, with a view to disposing of the War Medals, etc., issuable on account of his service.

Thanking you in anticipation of the favor of an early reply,

Yours faithfully,

The Public Trustee,
Supreme Court House,
ADELAIDE, S. A.

Captain,
Officer in Charge Base Records.

ABK/AFA

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

WP/

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,"
AND QUOTE—

C/2843

TELEPHONE:
CENTRAL 1985

REPATRIATION COMMISSION
TASMANIAN BRANCH

HOBART 26th October 1923

MEMORANDUM for:-

O.i.C. Base Records,
Base Records Office,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

Re John Patrick O'Brien - 32nd Battn (Deceased)

In reply to your memorandum of 19/10/23, I have to advise that there is no record in this State of a War Pension DECEASED having been granted in respect of the abovenamed deceased SECTION SOLDIER, neither is the present address of Mrs. Ada O'Brien known at this Branch.

OCT 29 1923

RECEIVED

J. F. Humphreys
Deputy Commissioner.

John P. T. 4

Miss Blane
29/10

xxx 4780.

DC.

19th October 1923.

Deputy Commissioner,
Department of Repatriation,
H O B A F T, Tasmania.

I shall be much obliged if you will advise me whether any pension is being paid on account of the service of the late No. 2961 Private John Patrick O'HEW, 32nd Battalion, and, if so, favor me with the name, address, and relationship of the pensioner, stating at what Post Office the pension is being drawn, also Certificate No. of same.

In the event of a pension having been applied for but not granted I shall be glad if you will furnish me with the name, address, and relationship of the applicant, as I desire to get into touch with someone who can furnish me with the present address of the late soldier's mother, Mrs. Ada O'Brien.

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,"
AND QUOTE--

DEPARTMENT OF REPATRIATION
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

Pulteney Street, Adelaide

26th March, 1923

G 23/3584

TELEPHONES:
CENTRAL—7060 AND 7061
AP/HM Pens.

W 50M—6/22

MEMORANDUM for -
The Officer in Charge,
Base Records Office,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

Re - J.P. O'BRIEN - No.2961, Pte. 32nd Btn (Deceased).

Receipt is acknowledged of your memorandum of the 19th
March, 1923, and in reply thereto I have to inform you that no claim
for War pension has been lodged in this State in connection with the
abovenamed deceased soldier.



DECEASED
SECTION

MAR 28 1923

RECEIVED

J.H. Bell
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

Mr. P. Pollock
29/3

----- 4750.

MK/AS.

19th March, 1923.

RECEIVED
29 MAR 1923

The Deputy Commissioner of Pensions,
Department of Repatriation,
ADELAIDE, S.A.

I shall be glad to learn whether any claim for war pension has been submitted on account of the service of the late No. 2961 Private J.P. O'BRIEN, 32nd Battalion, if so, kindly state the name, address, and relationship of the claimant.

I desire the information in order that I may get into touch with some of deceased's blood relations, with a view to disposing of his war medals, etc., and the favor of early attention is therefore requested.

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

DISCREPANCY REPORT.

SUPPLY OFFICE, _____, No. _____

_____ 191 .

_____ es which have been discovered upon the examination of the supplies charged

_____. Please note that the numbers and quantities actually found to

for the month of _____ by Receipt Voucher No. _____.

Name and Rank _____

Deficient.	Remarks.†

vessel will be stated. It should also be stated in column of Remarks whether the discrepancies

sent to the Consignor, one will be put up with the Receipt Voucher in the Consignees' Supply

ng the discrepancies, should be shown by the Consignee in this column. Similar particulars as regards issue

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES. 4TH MILITARY DISTRICT.

AB/EMP

KESWICK BARRACKS,

Adelaide, 26th September, 1922.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

7073

Officer in Charge,
Base Records,
MILFOURNE.

1. With reference to your memo. of 14th September, 1922, concerning the Next-of-kin of the late No. 2961, Pte., J.P.O'BRIEN, 32nd Battalion, I have to advise that the only information available at these Headquarters is that the late soldier's Mother, Mrs. A.O'BRIEN, resided in Deloraine, Tasmania, at the date of his enlistment.

2. No claim for the late soldier's Gratuity has been lodged in this District.

BASE RECORDS
SEP 29 1922
RECEIVED

DECEASED
SECTION
SEP 29 1922
RECEIVED

David D. Wood

Major,

BASE COMMANDANT, 4th DISTRICT BASE.

War Medals Etc to Untraceables

J.M. Major.

Officer in Charge Base Records.

2.10.22

JK

8/10

Miss Blue

9/10

*Miss Gardiner
8/10*

xxx 4780

MB/AVF

14th September, 1922.

Headquarters,
4th District Base.

15 SEP 1922

On the 20th December 1921, a communication was
forwarded to -

Mrs. A.O'Brien,
Deloraine,
Westmeander, Tas.

mother of the late No.2961 Private J.P.O'Brien, 32nd Battalion,
asking her to let me know whether the father was still alive,
and if so, his address. No reply has so far been received and
I shall be much obliged for any action you may be able to take
that will obtain the desired information. Possibly the War Gratuity
files may assist.

The late soldier's religious denomination is shown
as Roman Catholic.

The favour of early attention is requested.

PEND 21 DAYS.

Captain.
for Officer i/c Base Records.

The enrolment card for the honorary reserve is blue; that for the Class 'B,' Active Reserve, is Green.

Having been classified as *'Fit', *'Unfit', for Class 'B,' A.A.R., you should fill in the enclosed *Green card, *Blue card, and return it to me as early as possible. Having done this, your enrolment is complete, and you will be no longer liable for training in the Citizen Forces under Part XII. of the Defence Act.

Under the Australian Military Regulations, a trainee who resides within five miles of a training centre, and who, though fit, does not join the Australian Army Reserve, is liable for Citizen Force Training of 16 days or more per year, commencing on 1st July after the Proclamation of Peace.

Read the enclosed card of instructions, 'The Australian Army Reserve,' carefully.

An early return of the enrolment card to the address shown below is specially requested.

..... Area Officer.

..... Address.

* Area Officer to strike out one of these.

D.1008/6.19.—C 8008.—73.

Ext. from folder of photo. of grave.

2961 Pte. J. P. O'Brien, 32nd Btn.

Buried Racquinghem Comm. Cem. Plt. 1.

H. M. S.

E.F.M.

In all communications regimental
number, rank, full name, and unit of
Soldier referred to are to be stated.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE
BASE RECORDS OFFICE.
VICTORIA BARRACKS.
MELBOURNE.

B.R. Form No. 19.

Dear

I have to acknowledge receipt of your
communication of the _____ concerning

and to inform you it is officially reported that
he is returning to Australia per _____
which is due at Melbourne about the _____

_____ulars as to exact date

**PROCEEDINGS OF COURT MARTIAL
HELD FOR TRIAL OF**

D.

Regimental Number.	Rank.	Initials.	Name.	Unit.
2961	Plt	J.P.	O'Brien	32 nd Inf.

Sentenced to—

42 days JP

Dated 24 / 8 / 1916

Filed in Attorney-General's Department and

numbered 6651

D.1754/2.30. - C.9292. - 23M.

D.T.

10th October, 1918.

Sir,

3rd instant,

No. 2961, Private J. P. O'Brien, 32nd Battalion.

The Public Trustee,
Supreme Court House,
ADELAIDE. S.A.

DESPATCHED

Handwritten initials

D.T.

No. 2961,

-----Private John Patrick O'Brien,
32nd Battalion,

Australian Imperial Force.

mxmxm was accidentally Drowned, -----

mm in France, 16th August, 17.

Cable No. C.I.B.I.

1824, from the Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters, dated London,

17th September, 1917, confirmed by Mail from the Commandant, A.I.F.

Headquarters, dated London, 25th September, 1917, and Army Form B.2090A.---

10th October, 18.

Major, *MAJ*

South



Australia.

No.

In your reply
please quote the
above number.

1000-27-12 665
PCM/IMG.

Public Trustee's Office,
Supreme Court House,

Adelaide, 3rd October 1918.

Sir/

ESTATE OF NO. 2981 PRIVATE JOHN PATRICK
O'BRIEN, 6TH/32nd BATTALION, A. I. F.



It is my intention to apply to a Judge for
an order authorising me to administer the estate of the above
mentioned soldier. Please supply me with an official intimation
of death at your convenience, and oblige.

Yours obediently,

Wright

Wright
PUBLIC TRUSTEE.

The Officer in Charge,
Base Records,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne,
VICTORIA.

Morgan
5/10

D. B.

80

20.
19th August, 1918.

31452

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of 13th inst., I have to state that presumably the soldier you refer to is No. 2961 Private John Patrick O'Brien, 32nd Battalion, who was accidentally drowned in France on 16-8-17. This soldier enlisted in Adelaide, S.A., on ~~4-3-16~~ and nominated as next-of-kin, his mother, resident at Meander, Tasmania.

It is not the practice of this branch to furnish the personal description of a soldier but if Mr. O'Brien will communicate such particulars they will be compared with the records.

Yours faithfully,

Major.
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mr. A. MacLennan,
Recruiting Organiser,
Deloraine, Tas.



Records Office
Melbourne

Neloraine
Tasmania

13 8 18

RECEIVED

Sirs

Will you ^{kindly} send me if possible
description of Late Pte 2961 Herbert O'Brien of
Meander Tasmania, who enlisted in South Australia
and who was killed in action in France.

I am seeking this information on behalf of his
brother M. O'Brien of Meander, Tas.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours

Faithfully

Alex. MacLennan

Recruiting Organiser

A. MacLennan
15/8

D.B. 17/8

2961
Herbert O'Brien
Meander Tasmania
13/8/18

Ju 24th 1917

2117

T.O.C.D. Company i do not Desire to make a Will out.

2961

Pt. J.P.O. Brien.

D. Coy. 32 batt

A. i. f.

4298. Hill. A.

2683.

F. Martin.

Certified to be a true copy of statement of No. 2691 Pte O'BRIEN
John Patrick, 32nd Battalion. A. I. F.

J. E. Martin Cpl
do: 3/Sgt.
Estates Branch.
Adm. Hdqrs.
LONDON.

Checked.

Cpl.

[Signature]

7/2/18.

Ju 24th 1917

2117

T.O.C.D. Company I do not Desire to make a Will out.

2961

Pt. J.P.O. Brien.

D. Coy. 32 batt

A. i. f.

4298. Hill. A.

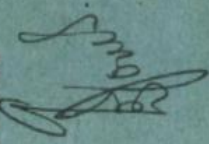
2683.

F. Martin.

Certified to be a true copy of statement of No. 2691 Pte O'BRIEN
John Patrick 32nd Battalion. A. I. F.

Checked.

Cpl.



7/2/18.

J. E. Hunter Cpl
Estates Branch.
Adm. Hdqrs.
LONDON.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

15 NOV 1917

Newman Capt.
Lieut.
for Officer i/c Records.

A217: Wt. W774/836 254000 4/15 D. D. & L. Sec. 2

Forms
A. 2
38

Army Form A. 2.

BRM 24/889

PROCEEDINGS of a COURT OF ENQUIRY.

*N.B.—The Form being applicable to any Board of Officers, or Committee, or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The proceedings should be signed by each Officer composing the Board, etc.

assembled at WARDECCUES.

on the 20th. August 1917.

by order of Lieut. Col. C. Davies.,

C.O. 32nd. Battalion. A.I.F.

for the purpose of enquiring into and reporting upon the
circumstances surrounding the death of No. 2961. Pte.
J. P. O'Brien. "D" Coy., 32nd. Battn. A.I.F.

PRESIDENT.

Major. B.A. Wark. 32nd. Battalion.

MEMBERS.

Lieut. H.K. Neild. 32nd. Battalion.

Capt., A. Campbell, 32nd. Battalion.

IN ATTENDANCE.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to
take evidence.

F I N D I N G.

The Court having carefully considered the evidence brought before them is of the opinion that Pte. O'Brien fell into the canal and being unable to swim was accidentally drowned.

PRESIDENT.

(Sgd) R.A.Wark. Major. 32nd.Batn.,

MEMBERS.

(Sgd) A.Campbell Capt., "

(Sgd) H.K.Neld. Lieut. "

I concur.

27.8.17. (Sgd) C.Davies. Lt.Col.
32nd. Battalion, A.I.F.

I concur.

1.9.17. (Sgd) E.Tivey.Brig.General.

I concur in the finding of the Court that Pte. O'Brien fell into the canal and being unable to swim was accidentally drowned.

(Sgd) J. T.Hobbs. Major.Gen.,
Commanding 5th.Aust.Div.,

1st. Witness. Lieut L.S.Brown. 32nd.Battalion states:-

Lt.L.S.Brown."I was Battalion orderly Officer on the morning of 20th.

August. At about 7.35 a.m. I received instructions to investigate the report that a body was in the canal about 150 yards South of the Pont Asquin. The Battalion Medical Officer and Pioneer Corporal were following. I immediately called for a good swimmer and proceeded to the locality, where I found the deceased in the water alongside the bank. I afterwards ascertained that he had been taken from the mid-stream by a French Bergeman.

The man was fully dressed except for hat, and wore a web belt. With the assistance of L/Cpl. Heatton and Pte. Parker, I brought the body up on the bank. He wore no identity disc, but pay book showed "Pte. O'Brien"- Last Pay entry was on 15.2.17 - 21.9.14. of which 25 francs remained in the book. The pay book and contents of a leather wallet (also taken from pocket) I afterwards handed to the Assistant Adjutant. The Pioneer Corporal took charge of the remainder of personal effects and arrangements were made for the removal of the body. I reported to O.C. of deceased company to arrange for an officer to identify the deceased.

(Sgd) Leonard S.Brown. Lt.

"A" Co. 32nd.Battn.,

2nd.Witness. Capt. J.R. Williams states:- While acting as Medical Officer 32nd. Battalion on 20th.August 1917, at 8.45 a.m. I was asked by the C.O. of the Battalion to see a man who had been removed from the canal. I found the man was quite dead. The appearance of the body suggested that it had been in the water for some time. I made a superficial examination and found no marks of violence. All external evidence pointed to "Death from Drowning".

Capt. J.R.
Williams.
A.A.M.C.

(Sgd) J.R.Williams. Capt.,

A.A.M.C.,

2.

3rd.Witness. No. 2112. L/Sgt. S.A.J.Smith. 32nd.Battalion, No.13.Platoon
242.Sgt. S.A.J. Smith. states:- I was acting Platoon Sergeant of No.13 Platoon on 17.8.17. Pte. O'Brien had leave to St. Omer on the 16th. On the morning of the 17th. His section commander reported him absent. I did not see him after the 16th. inst.

(Sgd) S.A.J.Smith. L/Sgt.

4th.Witness. No. 6220.Pte. E.D. Burrige, 32nd.Battalion states:-
6220. Pte. E.D.Burridge. I am a member of No.13 Platoon. At about 7 p.m. on 16.8.17 I saw O'Brien standing outside an Estaminet between "D" Coys billets and the station. The deceased spoke to me and asked me if I had seen his section commander. He appeared to be perfectly sober. He was popular amongst all members of the Platoon.

(Sgd) E.D.Burridge Pte.

6220.

5th.Witness. Pte. R.J.Beckett, states:- I am a member of No.13 Platoon
Pte.R.I.Beckett. At about 8 p.m. on 16.8.17 I was in the Estaminet de la Hare when Pte. O'Brien walked in. He passed the time of the evening and immediately went out. He appeared at the time sober. I did not see him after this.

(Sgd) 1978. A.J. Beckett.

6th.Witness. 2170. Cpl. H.J.Ferguson 32nd. Battalion states:-
2170.Cpl. Ferguson. H.J. I am a member of No.13 Platoon, Pte. O'Brien could not swim.

(Sgd) H.J.Ferguson.

7th.Witness. 2406. Pte. K.A.G. Seeber, 32nd.Battalion states: - I was
2406.Pte. K.A.G. Seeber. in the Estaminet a La Station on the night of the 16th. between 7.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. The deceased and I had a glass of beer together. He seemed quite rational, none the worse for liquor.

No. 2406. K.A.G.Seeber. Pte.

Transferred to **C**

D

DEFENCE
B.R. **X**
D 35565

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 2961 ✓
Rank Pte ✓ Name O'BRIEN J P ✓
Unit 32nd Battalion ✓

Casualty Accidentally Drowned 16/5/17 ✓
839 41924 9887 B dated London 17.9.17 La

LIST.
940

DATE.	REPORT.	A. F. B. 2090A Received	REF. NO.
SEP 20 1917	A. F. B. 103 Received		
	M. C. Advised		
SEP 20 1917	M. C. Advised		
27.9.17			accidentally drowned 16/5/17
15.3.18			
23.4.18			
	COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS		
	Court of Inquiry proceedings received - D. R. M. 24/5/17 accidentally drowned 16/5/17		
	"Will" to D.P.M. 4 M.D. Location only No 27/1085		
	CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF		
	C 215 L 1824 vide 7/293 Oct 26/9/17		
	No personal effects in kit, D. R. M. No 23/912		
	D. R. M. 46/1368 & Booklet re Graves despatched 12.12.19K		
	Proceedings of Courts Martial filed in Attorney-General's		
	- ...ment and Numbered 6621 16/5/17		
	  		
	27/9/20		
	PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE, TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN, E. B. M. No. 1 53/249. 2002		

WAR HISTORY INDEX
16.4.20

"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST"
Pamphlet sent to *Untraceables* 12/10/22 *AS*

MEMORIAL
SCROLL
To
Untraceable
Mothers
Mrs L. Leander
330388
12/10/22 *AS*

COUNTER
ISSUE
29th
November
1923.

MEMORIAL
COUNTER
ISSUE
MERQUE
To
Untraceable
Mothers
Mrs L. Leander
330388
12/10/22 *AS*