



Army History - Thornton Douglas Gordon Munn Regimental Number 4248

PERIOD OF SERVICE:

28 July 1915 to 2 December 1919 1st AIF

1588 days total effective service with 950 being overseas service



Photo of Gor as a Sergeant with the colour patch of the 60th Battalion 1st AIF

AWARDS:



British War Medal, Victory Medal, Croix de Guerre (Belgium)



WW1 Returned From Active Service Badge

CROIX DE GUERRE (BELGIUM)

Gor was awarded the Belgium Croix De Guerre for valour. The Croix de Guerre is bestowed to individuals who distinguish themselves by acts of heroism involving combat with enemy forces. Gor's was awarded for service on the Western Front during operations



Date recommendation passed forward
 Brigade Received **10/8**
 Division
 Corps
 Army

(M1787) "Warrior" Form 1000 12/26/17 G.S.S. E. 088. Form W. 3121/4

15th Aust. Inf. Brigade. 5th Australian Division. AUSTRALIAN Corps. Date of Recommendation.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name (Christian name must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honor or Reward	(To be left blank)
	59th Infantry Battalion A.I.F.	4249	Sergeant Theodore Dorcas Gor <u>M.V.C.</u>	During the operations on 8th and 9th August 1918 this N.C.O. did splendid work. On the 8th when the operation was held up he showed great courage in moving up and down the line (under fire) and organising the Lewis Guns of three platoons so as that they could give good covering fire thus enabling the sections to continue the advance. By his fearlessness he inspired the rest of the men. The splendid example set by this N.C.O. is worthy of recognition. Not recommended in connection with New Years G.C. 1919.	<i>H. A. Gor</i> Brig. General 15th Australian Infantry Bde	Commander (Australia)	10 6 15

Gor's original citation for recommending an award. It reads:

During operations on the 8th and 9th August 1918 this NCO did splendid work. On the 8th when the operation was held up he showed great courage in moving up and down the line under fire and organising the Lewis Guns of three platoons so as that they would give good covering fire and thus enabling the sections to continue the advance. By his fearlessness he inspired the rest of the men. The splendid example set by this NCO is worthy of recognition.

SERVICE SUMMARY:

This is a very brief summary of Gor's service history, taken from photocopies of his original service records.

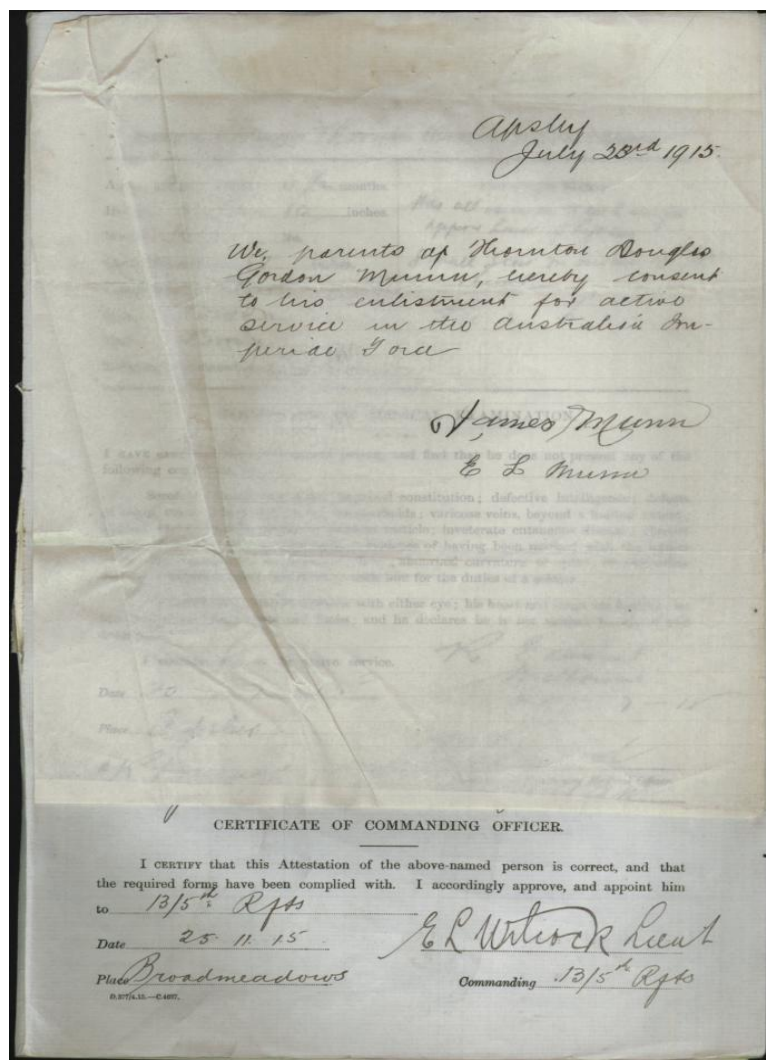
- 22 July 1915 – Enlisted – 20th Castlemaine Depot Battalion
- 25 Nov 1915 – Transferred to 13th Infantry Reinforcements 5th Battalion
- 29 Dec 1915 - 13th Reinforcements departed Melbourne *HMAT DEMOSTHENES*
- 17 May 1916 – Joined 5th Battalion in France
- 25 Jul 1916 – Wounded in Action, Gunshot Wound to Head – Pozieres (Somme)
- 30 Jul 1916 – Transferred to hospital in England
- 14 Oct 1916 – Transferred to 60th Battalion
- 4 Jun 1917 – Promoted to LCPL
- 30 Jun 1917 - Promoted to acting SGT
- 4 Sep 1917 – Reverted to LCPL
- 4 Sep 1917 – Promoted to CPL
- 4 Oct 1917 – Promoted to SGT
- 5 Jul 1918 – Wounded in Action 2nd Occasion - Mericourt L' Abbe (Somme)
- 8 Aug 1918 – Wounded in Action 3rd Occasion – Harbonnieres Area (Somme)
- 27 Sep 1918 – Transferred to the 59th Battalion
- 20 Oct 1918 – Admitted to hospital with influenza

22 Nov 1918 – Rejoined 59th Battalion from hospital
 8 Jan 1919 – Charged with AWL 25 Dec – 27 Dec 1918 – case dismissed
 12 Jan 1919 – Awarded Croix de Guerre for actions on the Somme 8/9th Aug 1918
 25 Apr 1919 – To England for RTA
 10 Jun 1919 - RTA HMAT Port Littleton
 5 Aug 1919 – Disembarked in Australia
 2 Dec 1919 – Discharged

ENLISTMENT and TRAINING:

Gor enlisted in the army 22 July 1915. According to what I can ascertain his place of enlistment was Melbourne, not Apsley. It appears from his records that he initially trained with the 20th Castlemaine Depot Battalion however I have not been able to find out anything about that battalion.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plains area.



Letter from Gor's parents giving him permission to join the AIF

AUSTRALIA

TRANSFERRED TO *6th B. Battalion*

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. *14248P* Name *Thornton Douglas Gordon Munn*
 Unit *Munn* *6th Battalion* *1st Bn*
 Joined on *22/7/15* *59/13*

13 H. Reinf's
5th Battalion

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? ... *Thornton Douglas Gordon Munn*
2. In the Parish of *Brimgulbar* in or near the Town of *Apsley* in the County of *W. Down*
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... *Nat British born.*
4. What is your age? ... *30 yrs - 6 1/2 mos.*
5. What is your trade or calling? ... *Farming*
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... *No*
7. Are you married? ... *No*
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... *Father James Munn Apsley Victoria*
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... *No*
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurrible 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? ... *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? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge ... *No*
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... *No*
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... *No*
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 in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with pay would reach eight shillings per day? ... *No*
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? ... *Yes*

I, Munn Thornton Douglas Gordon do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and loyally 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 *22-7-15* *Thornton Douglas Gordon Munn*
Signature of person enlisting.

* 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.

Gor's attestation (enlistment) paper showing personal details

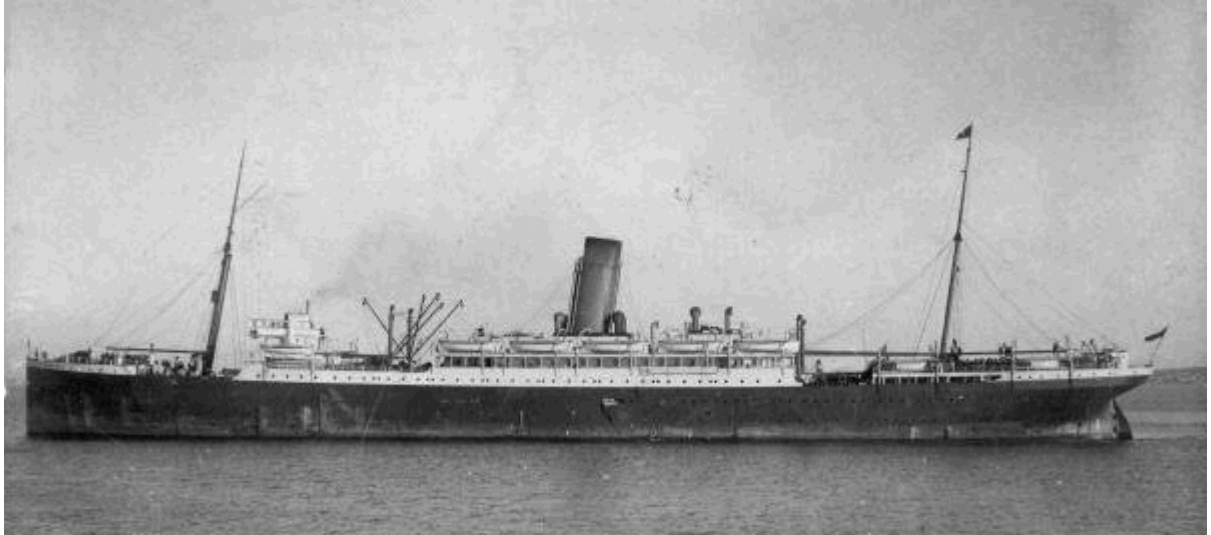


A photo taken during training which I think is in Australia, I believe Gor is bottom right

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE—NOMINAL ROLL—continued.

Regt. No.	Name in full.	Rank.	Age.	Trade or calling.	Married.	Address at date of Enlistment.	Name of Kin and Address.	Religion.	Date of joining.	A.I.F. Form No. 100 (or other).	Before Induction.		After Induction.				Daily Rate of Pay, plus Gratuity on Discharge.	Remarks.
											Rate per Week.	Date to which paid.	Public Money received.	Allowance as to kit.	See Spec. Instructions as to Special Pay.	See Spec. Instructions as to Special Pay.		
5th INFANTRY BATTALION, 13th REINFORCEMENTS—continued.																		
4243	Mason, Honas Thomas	Private	27	Blacksmith	S.	Apsey, Victoria	Father, Mr. T. R. Mason, Apsey, Victoria	Pres.	5.8.15		5 0	23.12.15	5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4244	Martin, Ernest Sydney	Labourer	30	Labourer	M.	19 Ballantyne-street, West Brunswick, Victoria	Wife, Mrs. E. N. Martin, 19 Ballantyne-street, West Brunswick, Victoria	Pres.	4.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4245	Mohr, Christopher Frank	Labourer	22		S.	Buchan, Victoria	Father, Mr. A. M. R. Buchan, Vic.	Pres.	28.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4246	McDonald, Percy Walter	Railway employe	18		S.	28 Malvern-grove, Malvern, Victoria	Father, Mr. L. McDonald, 28 Malvern-grove, Malvern, Victoria	Pres.	13.9.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4247	McDonald, Allan	Driver	21		S.	South Hamilton, Victoria	Father, Mr. D. McDonald, South Hamilton, Victoria	Pres.	26.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4248	Mann, Gordon Douglas Thornton	Farmer	30		S.	Apsey, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. Mann, Apsey, Victoria	C. of E.	22.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4249	Matthews, George Rouben	State school teacher	19		S.	Apsey, Victoria	Father, Mr. G. Matthews, Apsey, Vic.	C. of E.	5.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4250	McDonald, Robin Alan	Telephonist	18		S.	Nicholls Point, Mildura, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. C. McDonald, Nicholls Point, Mildura, Victoria	Pres.	13.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0	Acting Sergeant	
4251	Murray, Walter Alfred	Clerk	22		S.	Addiside-street, Chewton, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. R. Murray, Addiside-street, Chewton, Victoria	C. of E.	4.8.15		5 0		5 0	3 6	1 6	1 0		
4252	Marshall, James William	Labourer	22		S.	Fardaly, via Chewton, Oatfield, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. W. Marshall, Golden Point, Chewton, Oatfield, Vic.	C. of E.	12.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4253	Marshall, Reginald John	Greaser	22		S.	Exposition Pass, Castlemaine, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. W. Marshall, Exposition Pass, Castlemaine, Victoria	C. of E.	15.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 6	1 6	1 0		
4254	McKay, Rayford Royal	Postal employe	18		S.	Kendal-avenue, Mildura, Victoria	Father, Mr. A. F. McKay, Karadoc-avenue, Mildura, Victoria	Meth.	1.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4255	McDonnell, George Bain	Gasman	33		M.	Mildura, Victoria	Wife, Mrs. C. McDonnell, Mildura, Vic.	Pres.	12.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0	Acting Corporal	
4257	Martin, John Herbert	Teacher	24		S.	49 Connell-street, Hawthorn, Victoria	Father, Mr. E. Martin, 17 Albert-street, Abbotsford, Victoria	Pres.	3.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0	Acting Corporal	
4258	MacKinnon, John David	Farmer	19		S.	Burrows, Bundalong, Victoria	Father, Mr. A. MacKinnon, Fairview, Bundalong, Victoria	Pres.	30.8.15		5 0		5 0	3 6	1 6	1 0		
4259	Newton, Milton	Greaser	19		S.	Castlemaine P.O., Victoria	Father, Mr. W. C. Newton, Castlemaine P.O., Victoria	Coag.	13.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4260	Neema, William James	Labourer	23		S.	Fryerstown, via Castlemaine, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. Neema, Fryerstown, via Castlemaine, Victoria	Pres.	16.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4261	Nork, Arthur Charles		18		S.	Kingsley, Victoria	Father, Mr. F. North, Kingsley, Victoria	C. of E.	27.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4262	Olgers, Reginald Jacob	Machinist	21		S.	Campbell's Creek, Victoria	Father, Mr. B. Odgers, Campbell's Creek, Castlemaine, Victoria	Meth.	13.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4263	Palfrey, Herbert Frank	Paister	25		S.	Harcourt, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. J. H. Harcourt, Harcourt, Victoria	Meth.	28.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4264	Puffrey, Charles Preston	Stoker	34		M.	378 Spencer-street, Melbourne, Victoria	Wife, Mrs. N. Puffrey, 378 Spencer-street, Melbourne, Victoria	R.C.	4.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4265	Pittard, Andrew Maddon	Carpenter	23		S.	44 Edinburgh-street, Richmond, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. M. Pittard, 44 Edinburgh-street, Richmond, Victoria	Pres.	30.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0	Acting Corporal	
4266	Park, Leslie Douglas	Horticulturist	30		S.	Mildura, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. H. Park, Lyall-street, Auburn, Victoria	C. of E.	6.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0	Acting Corporal	
4267	Patterson, John Julius	Clerk	31		S.	52 Moulton-street, Footscray, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. M. Johanson, Dory Porter, 19 Arthur, Denmark	Bapt.	7.6.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4268	Pollard, Harold Ralph	Railway employe	22		S.	Elphinstone, Victoria	Father, Mr. R. J. Pollard, Elphinstone, Victoria	C. of E.	17.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4269	Palmer, Patrick	Blacksmith	22		S.	Happy Valley, Castlemaine, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. C. Palmer, Happy Valley, Castlemaine, Victoria	R.C.	14.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4270	Paisley, Thomas	Labourer	22		S.	Valentia-avenue, Kew, Victoria	Friend, Mr. G. P. Essery, Valentia-avenue, Kew, Victoria	Pres.	2.9.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4272	Fleming, Thomas James		18			Tullaganuta Valley, Tallangatta, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. S. Fleming, Tullaganuta Valley, Tallangatta, Victoria	C. of E.	27.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4273	Ross, John Marshall		30		S.	Elms-street, Melbourne, Victoria	Father, Mr. W. M. Ross, Melbourne, Victoria	Pres.	29.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4274	Raid, Harold William	Immessenger	26		S.	Berkely-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	Father, Mr. T. F. Reid, Berkely-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	C. of E.	20.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4275	Robinson, John	Orchardist	44		M.	Campbell's Creek, Victoria	Wife, Mrs. A. L. Robinson, Campbell's Creek, Victoria	C. of E.	30.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4276	Reeves, John	Labourer	25		S.	Campbell's Creek, via Castlemaine, Victoria	Father, Mr. W. Reeves, Campbell's Creek, via Castlemaine, Victoria	R.C.	9.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4277	Russell, James	Seaman	9		S.	9 Carrington-street, Roselle, Victoria	Sister, Mrs. M. Jones, 121 Central Park road, East End, London, England	C. of E.	7.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4278	Rasmussen, Hans William	Blacksmith	19		S.	Penrose-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. L. Rasmussen, Penrose-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	C. of E.	19.7.15		5 0		5 0	3 0	2 0	1 0		
4279	Rasmussen, Herbert Ludwig	Farmer	30		S.	Penrose-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	Mother, Mrs. L. Rasmussen, Penrose-street, Castlemaine, Victoria	C. of E.	13.7.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0	Acting Corporal	
4281	Ramsay, Walter	Farmer	18		S.	Clydesdale, Victoria	Father, Mr. J. Ramsay, Clydesdale, Victoria	Meth.	4.8.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4282	Ross, Timothy Eschert...		22		S.	Hamilton, Victoria	Sister, Miss Nora Ross, Lonsdale-street, Hamilton, Victoria	R.C.	25.11.15		5 0		5 0	4 0	1 0	1 0		
4284	Rodgers, George	Carpenter	18		S.	Spring Creek, Daylesford, Victoria	Father, Mr. G. Rodgers, Spring Creek, Daylesford, Victoria	C. of E.	4.8.15		5 0		5 0	3 6	1 6	1 0		

Embarkation roll, Gor is the fifth name from the top



The troop transport, HMAT DEMOSTHENES that Gor travelled to England in.

Gordon Douglas Thornton Munn

Service number: 4248

Rank: Private

Roll title: 5 Infantry Battalion - 13 to 23 Reinforcements (December 1915 - November 1916)

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of embarkation: 29 December 1915

Place of embarkation: Melbourne

Ship embarked on: HMAT Demosthenes

Ship number: A64

Gor's embarkation details as recorded by the Australian War Museum, note that his name is the wrong way around.

BATTLE HONOURS

Gor's service was all on the Western Front. During his service with the 5th, 60th and 59th Battalions he saw service in the following battles for which Battle Honours were awarded:

5th Battalion

France and Flanders 1914 – 1918, 4 Aug 1914 – 11 Nov 1918; The Somme 1916, 1 Jul – 18 Nov 1916; Pozieres, 23 Jul – 3 Sep 1916



Colour Patch of the 5th Battalion

60th Battalion

France and Flanders 1914 – 1918, 4 Aug 1914 – 11 Nov 1918; Bullencourte, 3 – 17 May 1917; Ypres, 31 Jul – 10 Nov 1917; Menin Road, 20 – 25 Sep 1917, Polygon Wood, 26 Sep – 3 Oct 1917; Poelcappelle, 9 Oct 1917; Passchendaele, 12 Oct 1917 & 26 Oct – 10 Nov 1917; The Somme 1918; 21 Mar 1918 & 21 Aug – 3 Sep 1918; Avre 4 Apr 1918; Villers Bretonneux, 24 – 25 Apr 1918; Amiens 8 – 11 Aug 1918; Albert, 21 – 23 Aug 1918; Mount Saint Quentin, 31 Apr – 3 Sep 1918; Hindenburg Line; 12 Sep – 9 Oct 1918.



Colour Patch of the 60th Battalion

59th Battalion

France and Flanders 1914 – 1918, 4 Aug 1914 – 11 Nov 1918; Hindenburg Line; 12 Sep – 9 Oct 1918; Saint Quentin Canal, 29 Sep-2 Oct 1918.



Colour Patch of the 59th Battalion

CROIX DE GUERRE

WOUNDS

Gor was wounded on three occasions. On the first occasion, in which he received gunshot wound to the head (GSW), he was repatriated to England for recovery. On the other two occasions he remained on duty and the exact nature of his wounds is not known.



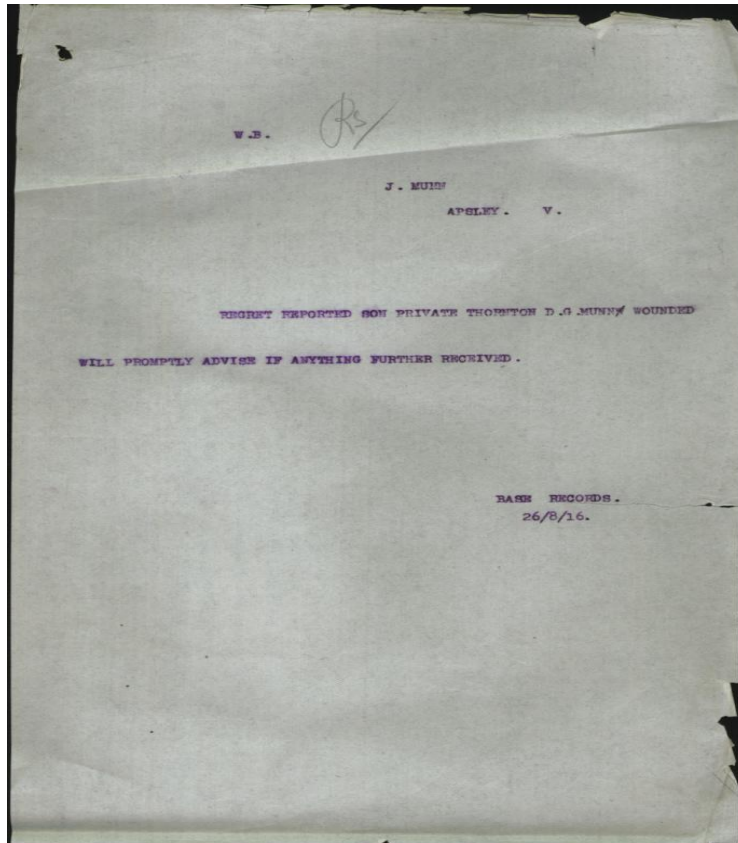
Gor (signified by red cross) recovering in hospital after being wounded on the first occasion. Note the bandaging to the head.



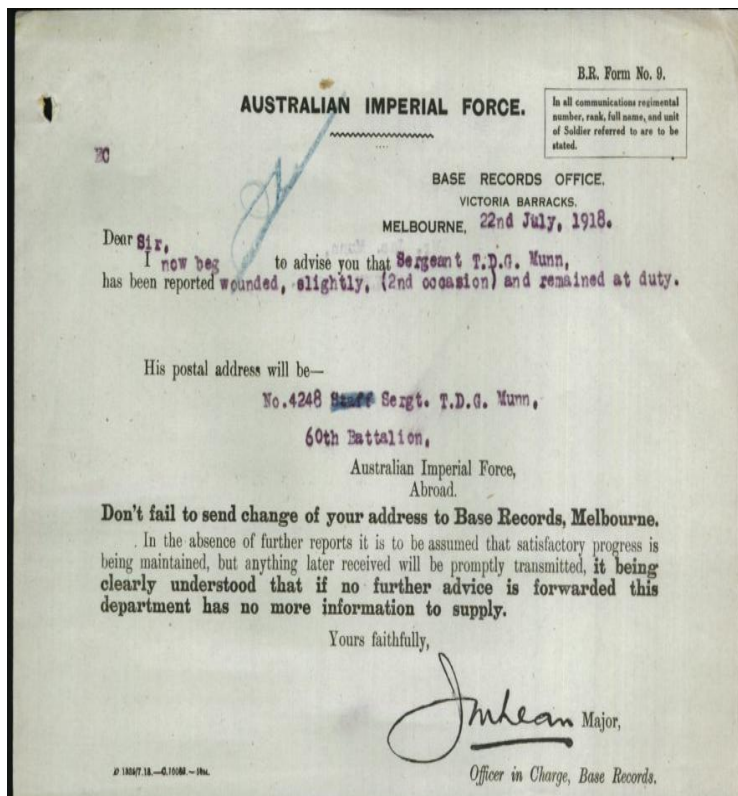
The wound stripe kit.

The metal stripe went to the outside of the sleeve, the backing bar went inside and the spring pin held everything together. Gor would have been entitled to three wound stripes.

Notification letters to the family informing them Gor had been wounded. Note the vast information provided, particularly the first wounding



Parental notification of first wounding



Parental notification of second wounding

B.R. Form No. 9.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

RG
BASE RECORDS OFFICE.
VICTORIA BARRACKS,
MELBOURNE, 25th August, 1918.

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

Dear Sir, I now beg to advise you that Sergeant. T.D.G. Munn has been reported wounded, 3rd occasion, and remaining at duty.

His postal address will be—
No. 4248 Sergeant. T.D.G. Munn
60th Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force,
Abroad.

Don't fail to send change of your address to Base Records, Melbourne.
In the absence of further reports it is to be assumed that satisfactory progress is being maintained, but anything later received will be promptly transmitted, it being clearly understood that if no further advice is forwarded this department has no more information to supply.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. Lean Major,
Officer in Charge, Base Records.

D. 11507/15—C. 19002—402.

Parental notification of third wounding

B.R. Form No. 10.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

BASE RECORDS OFFICE.
VICTORIA BARRACKS,
MELBOURNE, 9th October, 1917.

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

D.L.B. 60th/4248

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that, according to the records, No. 4248, Private Thornton Douglas Gordon Munn, 60th (late 5th) Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, was wounded in action, and admitted to 20th General Hospital on 28th July, 1916; transferred to Rust Hall Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital on 30th July, 1916; discharged to duty on 17th September, 1916.

John Taylor, Esq.,
Secretary,
Loyal Border Lodge, M.U.,
Apsley,
VICTORIA.

J. M. LEAN, Major,
Officer in Charge, Base Records.

P.S. Card enclosed is returned herewith. (w)

This letter was sent to the Loyal Border Lodge Apsley informing that Gor had been wounded. Note date some 12 months after the event.

AFTER THE WAR



The Apsley War Memorial



The Apsley War Memorial with side showing Gor's name