

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

**3350 Trooper  
Ernest Bird**

**4th Battalion, Imperial Camel  
Corps**



0390202G

IMPERIAL CAMEL CORPS.  
Late 1-3-4. Batn. C. Coy.  
CORPS

BIRD. E. (Private) ✓  
Private No. 3350.

"Died of Wounds. 8.4.18."

Informant described Bird as about 5'5" high, nuggety build, medium complexion, aged about 21/22.

Informant states that they both belonged to the 4th Battalion 17th Company, No. 2, Section. On 30.4.18 (Easter Monday) 1918 the Battalion was in action about a mile from A-man which is situate about 30/40 miles the other side of the Jordan River, Palestine. They set out on the advance about 3 a.m. About half an hour later Informant and Bird were both wounded by bullets. Up to that time not much progress had been made as the Turks counter-attacked. They both crawled into a Turkish shellhole and in reply to a question by Informant Bird said that he had been hit through the leg. Informant replied that he was also wounded in the leg. Informant then crawled to the Dressing Station about 300 yards away and told Bird to stay where he was and he would send some stretcher bearers. Bird was however picked up and passed through the Dressing Station although Informant did not see him there. He, however, did see him at El-Arish Hospital. In Bird's case blood poisoning set in and he died under an operation that was performed on him. He was buried at El-Arish.

According to Informant Bird was well liked by his mates.

Informant:- Private F.J. McSweeney, No. 3346,  
4th Battalion, 17th Coy., Imp. Camel Corps  
Home Address:- "Leslie" Cottage, Brook St., North Sydney.

W.E.G.

22.8.18.

No. 4, Australian General Hospital, Randwick.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

CAMEL CORPS.

late 1-3-4- Battalion Camel Corps.

BIRD. E. (Private)  
Private No. 3350

"Died of Wounds 8-4-18"

Informant described Bird as about 5 ft 8 inches high, slight build dark complexion aged about 20-21.

Informant states that they both belonged to the 17th Company. On 30-3-18 the Company was at Aman about 30 or 40 miles the other side of the Jordan at the Turkish Railway that goes to Mecca. Bird was hit through the shin by a bullet and was taken to Jericho Field Ambulance Station where the bullet was removed by operation. He was then taken to Ludd Casualty Clearing Station where Informant occupied the next bed to him. While there they spoke to each other, Bird explaining how he received his wound, which was caused by a rifle bullet. They left Ludd together in a hospital train bound for El-Arish and Informant never saw Bird again after they left the train. He died at El-Arish. He was certain to have been buried there.

According to Informant Bird was well liked by his mates.

INFORMANT Crooper G. H. Graham, No. 2813  
17th Company Imperial Camel Corps.

Home address:- Hill End, New South Wales.

W.E.G.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital,  
RANDWICK. 19-8-18.

Cairo

A.I.F. 4th Bn  
Ingr. Camel Corps }

BIRD  
R. 3350  
(Greatest)

"D/Deaths"

Died in 45th Stg Hpl - G.S.W.L. Log  
Cert by A.I.F. Hqrs 25-7-18.

Cairo

London  
25-7-18

Imperial Camel Corps.

4 Bk

(Enlist)  
BIRD E. Private.

No. 3350.

"Died of Wounds 3/4/18."

I knew Bird well- I went over in the Kyarra with him in September 1917. We were at Amman about 20 miles the other side of Jericho. We were advancing when he was hit in the leg with a machine gun bullet. He was carried back on a stretcher to Jericho. I did not see him afterwards but I was told he died at El Arish Hospital 3 days after he was wounded. He was about 19 or 20 years of age- medium complexion about 5ft 3in.

Private H. Edmunds in No. 4 Hut Randwick Hospital can give further information and has already given a Report. He has a Photo out of Bird's wallet to give to Bird's people, if they would go out to see him. Bird was a great friend of Edmunds and he would like to see his people very much.

Informant: Private A. Cetta. No. 3281.

1st Camel Corps.

Home address: Oakville Road, Willoughby, Sydney.

W.M.J.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital RANDWICK.  
12/10/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F. 4th Battn.  
Imp. Camel Corps

BIRD  
Ernest 3350

Died of wounds 8.4.18

Died at 45th Staty Hpl. Gun shot wound left leg  
Cert. by A.I.F. Hdqrs List 25.7.18

Buried Masaid Mil. Cem. 3½ miles West of El Arish on the coast of  
Syria Egypt.  
Cert. by A.I.F. Hdqrs 14.6.19

London  
17.8.19

Cairo

17th Coy. IEE.

BIRD

4/Anzac

Pte. E. 3250

Killed 8/4/18

Buried El Arish Military Cemetery, Egypt, S.W. of Gaza.

Extracted from Capt. Spedding's List of 16/10/19

Melbourne  
29/12/19