

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

**745 Private
Samuel Campbell**

35th Battalion



06807120

Havre

11th Dec. 1917.

35th AUSTRALIANS

CAMPBELL, S. 745

K. 23.6.18. Det. D/B.

He was in C Co., 12th Pltn. (COOK). He was a chum of mine. He lived in Maitland District, Kurri Kurri, N.S.W. I know his number was 745. He was no relative of mine. After we had taken Messines we were holding the line on the 23rd June. About 24 of us, and two Officers were in a shell hole. An Officer was giving us a lecture on ~~cooking~~ cookery, to all the Cooks of the Battn. A shell dropped in our shell hole and killed Campbell and an Officer (I don't know his name). I saw Campbell buried. A cross was put up to him. This was on the left-hand side of a Dressing Station before you enter the Mule Track, running into Messines. There were a lot of graves there. He was buried by the Padre of the 35th Battn.

Informant: Pte. W. Campbell, 752
35th Australians, C Co., 12th Pltn. Cook,
No. 2 Gen. (Palais) Havre.

HPG

35th. Battn.
A.I.F.

CAMPBELL

S. 740.

Killed June 23/17.

At Messinas Ridge there was a lecture in the Cookhouse and a lot were there. A shell came over and killed him almost at once. I saw him carried out, he was an old Battn. man and I knew him well.

Inf: T.L. Buck, 1423.

D.P. Dickson.
London.
5.1.18.

S.

35th Batta. A.I.F.

CAMPBELL, Pte. S., 745.

Killed 23/6/17.

Informant described Campbell as about 5 ft. 5 inches high, weighed about 10 stone, fair, aged about 38 years. He came from Kurri Kurri district.

Informant states that on 23/6/17, the Battalion was in reserves on Messines Ridge, after its capture from the Germans. Campbell and Informant were with others, attending a lecture on the subject of cooking, when a shell came over and burst about 3 yards from Campbell, wounding him so severely, that he died in about 3 minutes without speaking. This occurred in the afternoon. Campbell was buried just at the foot of the ridge, and a cross was put on his grave.

Campbell, who was a member of Informant's platoon, and was often in his company, was well liked.

Informant:-- Private T. Bubbins, 728,
35th Battalion, A.I.F.,
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Home address:-- Post Office, Newcastle.

W.E.G.
25/1/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

V.C.
25/1/18

38th Battn.
A.I.F.

CAMPBELL
S. 745

"Killed 23-6-17"

He was C. Coy. cook. He was killed by a shell while they were having a lecture at Messines Ridge. He was very badly hit and was killed right out. I was in the same Coy., and saw him just after he was hit. He comes from Newcastle, N.S.W., short, about 5ft. 4", rather thin. I do not know where he is buried.

Informant. Lawrence Pte. A.J. 946
38th Battn.,
France. War Chest.

P. Mackay
London
15-3-18

S.

Note:-

We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

35th Battalion.

CAMPBELL, S.
745 Pte

Killed in Action 23/6/17.

I was in the same section with Campbell and was with him when he was killed. We were moving up into the trenches near Ploegsteert Wood when a shell burst and killed Campbell at once. This was about midday. We went on. He was an exceptionally small man, fair, with red moustache. He enlisted the same day as I did and we went over to England together. He was a single man about 32 years of age and was a Miner at Kurri Kurri. He boarded with a friend at Adamstown before he left.

Informant: Nevill, H. Pte 863
35th Battn.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

H.H.J.
29/12/17.

S. G. Aug

35th Battalion

X Campbell S.
Private, 745.

Killed in Action:- 23/6/17.

I was at Messines. During a lecture by an officer a shell fell on the house. I was at the lecture. Campbell was killed by the shell. He was buried at Messines between the trenches. I was told about Campbell's death and burial by Corporal Lord.

Informant:- Quarter-master Sergeant Armour 703.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, 35th Batt
Randwick.

F.H.B.W.
Searcher
23/1/18.

S. Ed 2011

35th BATTALION A.I.F.

CAMPBELL, B. Private
No. 745.

KILLED 23/6/17.

Informant described Campbell as about 5 ft. 5 inches high, very slight build, fair complexion, aged about 35/40. Came from Kurri Kurri. He left Australia with Informant in the "Benalla" on 1/5/16.

Informant states that they both belonged to "C" Company, No 11 Platoon. On 23/6/17, the Battalion was at Messines in support. Campbell, who was the Company Cook, was cooking in the Cook-house during the course of a lecture, when a shell burst beside the Cook-house, and a portion of shrapnel struck him and killed him at once. Informant was in the line about 100 yards away, and saw the shell burst.

Campbell was taken away before Informant could reach the spot, but his mates who were also at the lecture, told him that Campbell had been killed. The stretcher-bearer who buried Campbell, told Informant that he had done so.

Informant added that he had known Campbell in civilian life, and he was well liked by his mates.

Informant:- Private A. Goodwin. No. 784. "C" Company,
35th Battalion.

Home address:- Cessnock Street, Kurri Kurri.

W.E.G.

26/3/18.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

382
SYDNEY BUREAU.