

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

Lieutenant
William Unwin Clasper

13th Battalion



0750108L

13th Battalion.

U
CLASPER, W.H.
Lieut.

Died of wounds 21/4/17.

Informant states that on April 11th Lieut. Clasper was wounded by a machine gun at Bullecourt during an attack about 7 a.m. in No Mans Land. Informant who was in the same Coy. (A.Co.) was near him at the time and was also wounded about half an hour afterwards. When informant last saw Lt. Clasper he was lying wounded in a shell hole. Lt. Clasper had formerly been with the Machine guns and had been attached to the Coy. about 2 months before this attack. When wounded he was leading the charge on the German Trenches. The attack was at first successful but subsequently the men were beaten back by a counter attack as they had used up all their ammunition. Lt. Clasper was very popular with the men and a good officer.

Informant: Trives, A.L. Pte 2694
13th Battalion.

No.4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

W.

28/12/17.

✓SO

13th Battalion,
A.I.F.

CLASPER.
Lieutenant W.B.

DIED OF WOUNDS. 21.4.17.

Mr. Clasper was a first Lieutenant and had been my Lewis Machine Gun officer, but at the time he was wounded he was in charge of No. III Platoon of A.Coy. He was the only officer of that name in 13th Battalion. He lived, I think, in Wollahra, and his name was William. He was wounded on 11.4.17 at Bullecourt the same day as I was, and we were lying next to one another in the Dressing Station. He told me there that he was wounded in the calf of the leg, and he seemed quite bright, and told me I had earned a spell. I was greatly shocked whilst in Mile End Hospital when I read in the "Daily Mail" that he had died. I saw this about the end of April, 1917. After I saw that he had died, one of my mates told me Mr. Clasper had been wounded in the head. I do not think he could have been again wounded at the Dressing Station, as I was one of the last to leave, and it was not under shell fire whilst I was there.

INFORMANT:- Lance-Corporal F.H. HENNING, 2843.

13th Battalion, "A" Coy, I Platoon, A.I.F.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

Home address:- 58 Marshall Street, SHERY HILLS.

F.B.O.
19.2.18.

BYEWIT BUREAU.

1. 18

OR.

GLASPER, W. U.
Lieutenant.

"Died of Wounds, 21.4.17".

I knew Glasper well, he and I were in Battalion Head Quarters, he was Lewis Gun Officer, and I Bombing Officer, he was the only officer of that name in the Battalion. He was wounded in the arm on 11.4.17 at Bullecourt, and got over to England to the 3rd London General Hospital at Wandsworth, and died there. I did not see him after he was hit, but was told by Captain Wells, M.C., and Colonel Marks. Captain Wells was in Wandsworth at the same time, and told me about it within 2 months of Glasper's death. The Wandsworth records could give all further information.

Informant:- Lieutenant G.S. McDowell, M.C.,
13th Battalion, B.Coy. Head Quarters,

Home Address:- Derrigo,
N. S. Wales.

H.S.O.
No. 4, Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

7.9.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

A.I.F.
18th. Battn.

CLASPER;
Lient. W. PAV

" Died of Wounds 21.4.17. "

Died of Wounds 21.4.17. in 8th. General Hospital Rouen.

Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 19.5.17.

London.
22.5.17.

3.

Clasper,
Lieut. W. E. V.

"Died of Wounds".

The above Officer was admitted to this Hospital on 16.4.17 suffering from G.S. Wound Left Elbow with Compound Fracture of Humerus. He died at 4.30 a.m. on 21.4.17 and was buried at 2 p.m. on 22.4.17 with full Military Honours, in St Saver Cemetery, Rouen. His grave Number is 2102.

Letter from:-

Wm. Cullen,

Capt. R. A. M. C.

for O.C. 8th Gen. Hpl.

Rouen. 29.5.17.

London.

8.5.17.

S.

