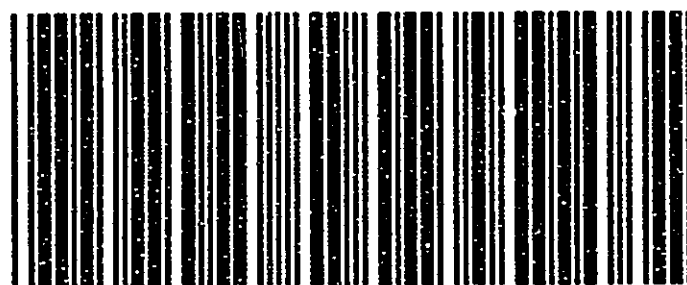


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

Lieutenant
Mervyn Digby Knight

60th Battalion



1530410E

A.I.F. 60th Btn
late 6th Bty A.F.A.

KNIGHT
Mervyn Digby Lieut.
late 129.

"K/A. 6-7-18 - verify with Lt.
Mervyn D. Knight, 1st Pion: rept:
K/A same date. Enquire".
Melb. cble.

H/K - Mr. Hy Knight, "Lloyd" Metford St, St. Kilda.

- (1) 4th L.H. Regt.
- (2) 2nd Anz. Mtd. Regt. 7-7-16
- (3) Taken on strength 60th Btm, 29-8-16.
Obtained Commission 13-9-16.

No trace of being in 6th Bty A.F.A., Nor in 1st Pioneers.

Only Knight - Mervyn Digby in A.I.F.

He is the only M.D. Knight & there are only three M. Knight in the
A.I.F. There are no M. Knights.

The cable - C I B L 2682 from A.HQ seen in code distinctly states
60th Btm. It is just possible that this might, if mutilated, be
confused with 1st Pioneers, but in that case Defence should have

A.I.F. 60th Btn
late 6th Bty A.F.A.

KNIGHT
Mervyn Digby Lieut.
late 129

- 2 -

queried by now.

There was no Lieut Knight in the 1st Pioneers at that time.

There is no doubt that Lieut Mervyn Digby Knight was correctly
reported from the evidence held at Headquarters.

Cert. by A.M.W.B. Red X Searcher @ A.I.F. Hqrs 7-8-18.

London
8-8-18

M.

60th A.I.F.

Knight (M.C.) Lt. M.D.
(K. July 6/18)

"He was killed outright by a shell near the Dressing Station at Marrett Wood near Treux at about 1.30 a.m. on July 6/18. I was close by but did not see it. Pte. Bagg M.M. S/Bearer of Cos. 60th A.I.F. who is now in France, was close to him and took him to the D.S. I was present at his funeral next day at the British Military Cemetery at Mericourt l'Abbe (Anore). Lt. Knight was O/C. of IX Pl. C Coy. His name was Meroyne and initials M.D. He was about 5'10" and 27, had been away as Musketry Instructor for 8 months at the 2nd Army School in Flanders and had only rejoined about a week. Has a brother a driver in Australian Motor Transport to whom I gave all particulars and who has visited his grave."

Eyewitness:

Description:

Informant: Capt. R. Jennings.
60th A.I.F. O/C. C Coy.
3rd London General Hospital,
Handsworth.

16.8.18.
A.G. Campbell.

60th A.I.F.

KNIGHT, (M.M.) M.D. Lieut.

K. 6/7/18.

"He was killed by enemy shell fire whilst coming back from the front line after being relieved at about 1 a.m. on 6th July, about 300 yards E. of Marrett Wood near R.A.P. He was buried the same day in the Military Cemetery Mericourt l'Abbe."

Eye-witness:- No, but I saw him buried. Brother Officers.

Description:-

Informant:- Lt. M.M. Gordan,
60th A.I.F.
3rd London General Hospital,
Handsworth.

Home address:-

19.8.18.
H.I. Borton.

60th A.I.F.

Knight (M.C.) Lt. M.D.

(K. July 6/18)
Dots. 1/2.

"I saw Lt. M.D. Knight killed by a piece of shell when he was coming back from the line. It was very rough luck, as they were changing over after being in the front line and he got hit and was killed instantaneously. The padre buried him in a little country cemetery, outside the French cemetery, Sth. of Albert. The cross was already to put up over the grave for I saw it at our Transport line. It was a wooden cross with his name and all details painted on. The Lieut. was very popular, a great sport amongst us, and such a loss."

Eyewitness: Yes.

Description: Medium size, cleanshaven, about 5'8", age about 24.

Informant: Pte. F. Quinn. 4585.

60th A.I.F.

York Place Hospital,
Brighton.

20.8.18.

E.C.B.W. Fernburn.

60th Battn:

Knight, (M.C.) Lt. I.D.

K. 6/7/18.

He was bringing out his platoon to Treux ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ just in front of Ribemont when he was killed by a shell, I was not present but was told but I cannot remember by whom. I saw his grave in a military cemetery at Ribemont but it had just been completed and the cross not yet erected.

60th Battn:

Tipler, R.S.Pte. 18

14 A. Dartford. 20/8/18.

R.D.B.

43

M

60th A.I.F.

Knight. Lt. M.D. (M.C.)

(K. July 6/18)
Dets. D/B.

"I know that Lt. Hervyn Knight M.C. (60. C) was killed instantaneously by a shell on the right of Villers sur Anore, while we were coming out of the line, on being relieved about July 6th. He was buried at Mericourt cemetery the next day at 3 p.m. I know this from those who were with him, and am quite certain it is correct. Pte. Watson (60.C.) was killed by the same shell."

Eyewitness: No. Heard from those who were with him. I can give no names.

Description: A very fine officer, thought a great deal of.

v Informant: Sgt. T. McClusky. 2211.
60th A.I.F. C Coy. H.Q.
3rd Southern General Hospital,
The Base, Oxford.

Home address:
Smith St,
Manley, N.S.W.

20.8.18.
H.M.P. CAMBRIDGE.

60th A.I.F.

Knight. Lt. M.D. (M.C.)

(K. July 6 18)
Dets. D/B.

"I know that Lt. Knight M.C. was hit in the back, and killed instantaneously, by a piece of shell, during the attack at Mericourt, about July 6th. I was there when he was buried, the next day in a cemetery outside Mericourt. A cross was put up, a Chaplain read the service. Major Kerr and Lt. Gordon (60.A.) attended the funeral."

Eyewitness: He attended the funeral.

Description: Dark, tallish, thin, I was out 11 mins. and he was there before me.

Informant: Pte. George Rison. 1665.
60th A.I.F. C. Coy.
3rd Southern General Hospital,
The Base, Oxford.

Home address:
Crescent Cottage,
Upper Bourne,
Farnham, Surrey.

20.8.18.
H.M.P. CAMBRIDGE.

A.I.F. 60.

KNIGHT (MC) Lt. E.D.

E. July 6/18. Det. D/B.

On July 6 we were in front of Morlancourt, when Mr. Knight was killed, being hit by a shell which burst close to him. I did not see him hit, but think he was buried in the small cemetery between Heilly and Morlancourt. There was opportunity for burying the dead. Even to a point 2/300 yards nearer the enemy line. Cpl J. Curran can give details of burial. Mr. Knight was about 5 ft. 9, and of medium build.

Reference: Pte. F. Hunter, 1775.
No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 22.8.18.

JWA.

(SA)

A.I.F. 60

KNIGHT (MC) Lt. E.D.

E. July 6/18. Det. D/B.

Mr. Knight was killed in the village of Treux on July 6th. I did not see him killed but have seen his grave at Merrimont Military Cemetery. A cross is placed over the grave which is a good one. We still hold this ground.

Reference: Frank Mason, 2933. D Co.
No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 23.8.18.

JWA.

60th A. I. F.

Knight, M.C. Lt. M.D.

(K. July 6/18. Dets: D & B)

"I knew Lt. Knight, who was our Platoon Lieut. (C. IX.). He was killed instantaneously by a shell as we were coming out of the trenches alongside Treaux Line, nr. Treaux, Ribemont Sector. I did not see him killed, but I saw him after, with a shell wound right through his body, and I saw him buried just behind the village. We held our ground. This was early in July last."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Was in C.Coy, IX Pltn.

Informant: Pte Frank A. Fidani, 3588,
60th A.I.F., C.Coy, IX Pltn,
Horton C. of London War Hospital,
Epsom.

Home address:
Ann St, Williamstown,
nr. Melbourne.

25.8.18.
Waterhouse.

Harve

Australians. 60.

25th August 1918.

Knight (MC) Capt. M.D.

E. 6th July 1918. Det D/B.

He was one of my Company Officers. He was killed on the right of Corbey. I saw his body on a stretcher at the R.A.M.C. and he was buried the next day in a cemetery on the right rear of Corbey edging French Cemetery.

Inf:- Pte T.J. Harboley No. 2735
A.I.F. 60. D. IVI.
Australian Conv. Depot.
Rouelles.

CW5G.

RP.

60 A.I.F.

Knights, (M.C.) Lieut. M.D.

L. July 6.18.

Det. D/B.

" On 6th July 1918 at Merincourt Lt. Knight and 5 others were coming back from the front line going over the open in single file, they got as far as the support trench and a shell killed him and 2 others viz. Tonkin and Watson. He was killed outright, hit under the arm in the side. I was on ahead 300 yards away. His batman and I and 3 others went back and he was brought in. I saw him very shortly after he was hit and was told how it happened by 2 of the men who were with him. He was buried in the Cemetery between Treux and Merincourt. These were present. The Major, a Machine Gun Officer and others and 30 men including myself. Service was read and a Cross put up.

Eye-witness: No.

Description:

Informant: Pte. L.A. Walker, 2259.

C. Coy. IX Platoon.

Home address:

Horton County of London War Hospital.

C/o G.A. Walker,

Epsom.

Swanhill.

26.8.18.

Victoria.

L.B. Oldfield.

60th Battalion.
A.I.F.

YHICPT. M.C.
Lieut. M.D.

"Killed 6-7-18"

He was with 9th Platoon in C. Company and I saw him killed near Merriemourt when death was instantaneous, he being hit by a piece of shell that went right through his body. We were behind the lines after being relieved, when a shell landed close beside us, killing him. Casualty happened just at break of day on July 6/18. I knew him well and he came from Melbourne, Victoria. He was the most popular officer we had, and everyone was sorry he had been killed. I was at his burial, the same day at Merriemourt where he was buried in a small cemetery. The grave was marked by a cross having full details marked thereon.

Informant:- Pte. Ward, F.J. 3473.
C. Coy. 60th Batta.
3rd A.I.F. DARTFORD.

W. Oman.
London.
28-6-18.
W.W.

M.

Evre.

29th. August. 1918.

60th. Australians.

Knight, Lieut. H. D. H.C.

K. July. 6/1918. Dets. D/B.

Was Officer to C. Coy, been with Battalion since October 1916;
short, dark man, clean-shaven. I saw this officer buried at Morlan-
court at the back of our lines in the open. I don't know if a Cross
was ~~erected~~ erected.

Inf:- Private. H. Whitton. 1749.
60th. Australians. C.
Hospital Ship.

WH.

00.

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

KNIGHT (M.C.)
Lieut. H.Q.
MD

"Killed 6-7-18"

He was of D. Company. He was coming out of the line at 11.30. in night at Merlancourt, he was behind Battalion H.Q. when killed outright by shell. I did not see it happen. Was buried in Merlancourt Military Cemetery. Major Kerret Acting C.O. and Major Padre Gilbert (who buried him) were both at burial. Cross erected. He was a good soldier and well liked by everyone.

Informant:- Pte. S.R. Fleming. 3053,
60th Battn. A. Coy. H.Q.
HAREFIELD.

A.D.C.
London.
3-9-18.
S.A.

H.

60th. Battn.

Knight, (M.C.) Lt: V.D.

K. 6/7/18.

I was in the line at the time when ^{Mr} Knight was killed, but did not see the occurrence.

I saw his grave with the cross erected by the Batt. Pioneers in the Maricourt Military Cemetery.

60th. Battn.

Pollock, J.C. Cpl. 5753.

11. A. Dartford. 27/8/18.

S.D.B.

SA

A.I.F. 60

ENIGHT, MC, Lt. M.D.

2. July 6/18. Det. Death & Burial.

I was near to Mr. Enight and clearly saw him killed. He was hit in the back and chest by shrapnel from a shell which burst close to him. We were coming from the front line at Molinocourt at the time. He was buried in the civil cemetery at Merrincourt. I have seen the grave.

Reference: W. Ferguson, 4488. H.Q.
No. 11 Gen. Camp Busby Mr. Rouen. 2.9.18.

JMA.

443

A. I. F. 60th Bn.

KNIGHT, M.C. Lieut. H. D.

K. July 6/18. Det.D/B.

He was killed instantly at Treux near Morlancourt. He was coming out of the line across open country and was killed by a "Daisy Cutter" (i.e. instantaneous contact) shell. I saw him brought in dead. I knew him well for he lived opposite to where my people lived in Mitfore Street, St.Kilda, Melbourne, where he was a tally clerk in a timber yard. He was about 28 and had been in Gallipoli as a Private in the 4th Aust.Light Horse. He was buried at Mericourt.

Reference: Pte.L.J.Cubbins, 3126, Battn.HQ.Signals.

No.11 Stationary, Rouen, 3.9.18.

ABHH.

Havre.

5th. September. 1918.

60th. Australians.

Knight, M. O. Lieut. M. D.

K. July. 6/1918. Dets. D/B.

In C. Coy, from St. Kilda, Victoria, single. He was about 200 yards from the R.A.P. at Morlaneourt about 10. p.m. when he was hit in the back by a piece of shell which went right through him. He was carried out & buried in a Grave-near Ribemont.

Inf:- Private. F. H. Melsish. 2882.
60th. Australians. Y B.
Hospital Ship.

EBs.

CP.

A. I. F. 60th Bn. C.Coy. KNIGHT, M.C. Lieut. M. D.

K. July 5/18. Det.D/S.

Mr.Knight was relieving his Coy. near Treux on the Morlancourt Front about midnight on the 6th July. A shell landed practically on him and killed him instantly as well as 2 other men. I was not near when it occurred but I saw the place where he died, afterwards. He had a proper funeral and was buried at Ribemont Cemetery. He was a very popular Officer: a good athlete, about 25-30 years of age.

Reference: J.C.Collins, 2137, 60.HQ.

No.6 General, Rouen, 5.9.18.

D.M.

A. I. F. 60.

KNIGHT, Lieut. M.D. (M.C.).

K. July 6th, 1918. Det. D/B.

I saw him getting killed on July 6th when we were just in front of Dernancourt. Our push had taken place on the 4th, and he was our only officer who had not been wounded in it. He had done magnificent work. He was in charge of quite a new line and was just standing having a look round when a shell burst quite close. He was hit on the left side of his head and killed instantly. I saw his body taken away but I remained in the line and do not know where he was buried. B. & C. Coys. were operating together then. He was C. Coy. and had already got the M.C. He was certain to have got something else for his work then, had he lived.

GCP.

Informant:- Thomas, Cpl. J.L. 2191. 60.B.VI.
A.F. "Princesse Elisabeth".

Calais
6.9.18.

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

KNIGHT M.C.
Lt. M.D.

"Killed 6-7-18"

Lt. Knight was killed outright, being hit in the back by a shell whilst coming from a line near the village of Treux. He is buried in the Cemetery near Mericourt, and Cross is erected. I was in same Pltn., and was present at his burial by a Padre. He was very well liked by the Pltn.

Informant. Young. Cpl. J.H. 519
60th Battn. C.Coy. 9th Pltn
Hu t 18,
WESTHAM.

W.A. Rand
London
9-9-18
H.G.

M.

60th Battn.
A.I.F.

KNIGHT. M.C.
M.D. Lieut.

"Killed 6.7.18."

I know from general information that this ~~man~~^{other} was killed by a shell on coming out of the line after being relieved by another battalion near Villers Bretonneux about July 6th, 1918. He was the last man leaving the line the time when he was hit. All the battalion attended his funeral. He was buried in a small cemetery near by. The ground was held.

Eye-witness:- No.

Informant:- Lieut. G.C. B. Bower, (Reliable)
60th Battalion,
3rd London General,
WANDSWORTH.

C.G. Thomson,
London,
15.10.18.

M

60th Btn.

KNIGHT, H. D.
2nd Lieut.

Killed in action 6/7/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man about 5 ft. 11 ins. well built, fresh complexion, about 28 years of age, known as "nerv." Casualty was on patrol duty at Moriancourt. I was in the same party. He was hit by a machine gun bullet which killed him instantly. I was 2 yds. away at the time of his death and he was most severely wounded about the head and abdomen. I went out one hour later to get his body but I could not get near it owing to the machine gun fire being so severe. He seemed to have wires all around him and every time we went near him a machine gun opened fire on us. We went several times but with the same result. I do not know if he was ever buried."

Informant:- Pte. J. R. King,
No. 1576, 60th Btn.

Private address:-
66 Chapman Street,

North Melbourne.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

T.C.F.
31/1/19.

60th Btn.

KNIGHT, H. D.
2nd Lieut.

Killed in action 6/7/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 6 ins. well built, about 35 years of age. Casualty was coming out of support lines at Villers sur Aunre near Corbie. An E.M. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I did not see Casualty kill but I saw his body as I was coming out. He had a most severe shell wound in the back. He was buried at Morricourt."

Informant:- Pte. J. Wynne,
No. 3681, 60th Btn.

Private address:-
Horne Street,
Dandenong.

T.C.F.
7/2/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

60th Btn.

KNIGHT, M. D.
2nd Lieut.

Killed in act. 6/7/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 9 ins. well built, fair complexion, about 28 years of age, known as "Harry". Casualty was advancing on the Ypres Front. I was in the same advance. An H.M. shell exploded near Casualty killing him instantly. I was 300 yds. from Casualty at the time of his death but I saw his body afterwards. I do not know if he was ever buried."

Informant:- Pte. S. J. Turner.
No. 3274. 60th Btn.

Private address:-
C/o J. Cash,
246 Plinders Lane,
Melbourne.

T.C.F.
7/2/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

60th Btn.

KNIGHT, M. D.
2nd Lieut.

K. in act. 6/7/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5 ft. 9 ins. well built, fresh complexion, brown hair, about 28 years of age, known as "Harry". Casualty was coming out of the line at Morlancourt and was going back to the reserve lines. He was killed by shell fire but I did not see him killed but I saw his body as I was coming out. He was buried just near Ribermont in a cemetery and I attended the funeral but no cross had been erected up to my leaving, but would be certain to have been erected after."

Informant:- Pte. H. J. Campbell,
No. 2632. 60th Btn.
Private address:-
1 Byron Street,
Footscray.

T.C.F.
26/2/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

A.I.F.
60th Bn.

KNIGHT, K.D.
2nd Lieut.
1st Lieut. when killed.

K. 6/7/18

I knew Casualty. He was a man about 5'8", well built, dark complexion, about 25 years of age, known as "Merv". Casualty was being relieved from the Front Line at Morlancourt, when a H.E. Shell exploded near him killing him instantly. I did not see Casualty killed, but I saw his body at Bn. Hdqrs.. He was most severely wounded about the body and was buried around Morlancourt, but I do not know the exact spot.

Informant:- Pte. R. Grinter, 3116
60th Bn.

Home address:- P.O. Geelong East.
Vic.

T.C.F.
11/4/19

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

1)
Knight Aug 129. Hunt
Marion Digby 60 Bth Loh
6 Bly A40

OK/A 6-7-18 Verify with
Lt Marion D. Knight 1st Pioneer
Regt K/A same date. Inquire
Hull Cable

AK HQ Hg Knight
Lloyd Metford St
St Kilda

- 1) 4th L. H. Regt
- 2) 2nd Aug. MIA Regt 7-7-16
- 3) 10-8 6-0 Bth 29-8-15
Commission 13-9-15

No trace of being in 6th Bly A. 40
Nor in 1st Pioneer

Only Knight Marion Digby
in A.I.F.

Knights

2)

60 Bht

Merwyn Digby

He is the only M.D Knight
and there are only three

M. Knight in the A.I.F.

There are no M Knights

The cable CIBL 2682

from A.H.Q. even in code
distinctly states 60 Bht

It is just possible that the
Knight if mutilated been
-fused with 1st Pioneer but
in that case Defence should
have queried by now.

There was no 1st Knight

Knight

3)

Lieut

Merwyn Digby

60151

in the 101 Pioneers at

that time

There is no doubt that
Lieut Merwyn Digby Knight
has correctly reported from
the evidence held at A.H.Q.

Almond HQ 7.8.43

M.