

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

**2818 Trooper
John Andrew Bathurst
Kerr**

**1st Battalion, Imperial Camel
Corps**



1500912I

A.I.F.
1st Btn. I.C.C.

KEHR.
J.A.B. 2818.

Killed in Action 19.4.17.

No Burial report.

Cert. by Hqrs. List 3.7.19.

London.
7.7.19.

S.

A.I.F. Imp: Camel Corps
1st Btn

J.A.B. ~~ZERR~~ 2818

"MISSING"

Killed in action 19-4-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 12-5-17

London
28-11-17
?

S & Cairo

CAMEL CORPS.
(late 6th Light Horse)
A.I.F.

KERR.
Tpr. J.A.B No. 2818.

"Killed in action 19.4.17."

Informant described Kerr as about 5 ft 7 inches high, slight build, dark complexion, and aged about 35. Came from New Zealand.

Informant states that on 19.4.17 the 1st Battalion of the Camel Corps were at Gaza, Palestine attacking the Turks. Informant was in No. 4 Company and Kerr in No. 2 Company. Both Companies were engaged in the stunt but neither Informant nor Kerr saw each other. Informant was told however by Trooper Paul that he had seen Kerr hit by a bullet at the very commencement of the advance and that he died at once. Paul told Informant that Kerr had been buried at Tel-el-Jimi, near Gaza.

Informant added that Kerr had enlisted with him at Victoria Barracks, Sydney.

Informant: Tpr. R.J. Baldwin, 1793,
4th Imperial Camel Corps.

Present address: C/- Mrs. Chamberlain, 6 Loftus
Street, Leichhardt.

W.E.G.
22.2.18.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

CAMEL CORPS.
(Late 6th Light Horse.)

KERR, J.A. B.
2818.

KILLED. 19.4.17.

I knew Kerr. He was in No. 4 Section of No. 2 Company on 19.4.17 at

Gaza. He was a Camel holder at that date, under me. He was killed on Shiekabhas Ridge on 19.4.17, and I heard 2 or 3 men say they saw his dead body on the night of 19.4.17, just outside our trenches, and a party went out next morning and buried him where he fell.

He was killed by shell fire which was very heavy that day. I think Kerr came from Victoria. He was medium height and very dark, and slightly grey, and clean-shaven.

We did not retire beyond where he fell, we were relieved the next morning, but he was buried before we left.

Informant:- Lt. W. T. Clarke.

Camel Corps, 11 Coy., (formerly 2. Co.)
Norfolk Street, Liverpool.

E.S.O.

19.4.18. Australian
No. 4 General Hospital,
RAIWHICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

CAMEL CORPS.
(Late 6th Light Horse).

KERR, J.A. B.
2818.

KILLED. 19/4/17.

Informant described Kerr as about 5 ft. 8 or 9 inches high, dark complexion, medium build, inclined to be cross-eyed, aged about 23 to 30. He had a sister a nurse in Egypt and originally came from New Zealand.

Informant states that they both belonged to No. 2 Company, No. 3 Section, Imperial Camel Corps. On 19/4/17 the Camel Corps made an attack on the Sheikh Abbas Redoubt from their camp at Abbasson el Kebir, Palestine. Both Kerr and Informant took part in the attack. Informant saw Kerr just before they went into action but not afterwards. An English Soldier picked up Kerr's identification disc and gave it to a Soldier named Private Paul, who told Informant that he had the disc together with some other personal property of Kerr's. Paul kept this property because he and Kerr were great friends. It was reported that Kerr had been wounded and was coming back when he was killed by a shell. Informant added that Kerr was a popular chap.

INFORMANT:- Pte. W. Ritchie, 575.

Home address:- No. 2 Company, Imperial Camel Corps,
110 Cowles Rd., No. 4 Aust. General Hospital,
MOSMAN.

E.S.O.
7/5/18.

RAIWHICK. SYDNEY BUREAU.