

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

2691 Lance Corporal
John Patrick Keenan

53rd Battalion



14806050

53rd Battn.
A.I.F.

KEENAN
J.W. 2691

"DIED OF WOUNDS 4-9-18"

Pte. J. W. Keenan 53rd Battn. was admitted to this C.C.S. on the 1/9/18, suffering from G.S.W. abdomen. He died on the 4/9/18, and was buried in the British Military Cemetery, Dacours, on the 5/9/18.

Letter from-M.J.Winder Lt-Col. R.A.H.C.
O.C. 53 Casualty C.S.

London
30-12-18

S.

53rd Batta.
A.I.F.

KERNAN.
J.W. John Patrick. 2021.

Died 53rd C.C.S. 4-9-18

Died of Wounds at 53rd Casualty Clearing Station 4-9-18.
Cert: by Hpl Index.

Sunshot wound Abdomen. Died 4-9-18. Buried British Military
Cemetery Dacurs. on 5-9-18.
Cert: by letter O.C. 53rd C.C.S. 14-12-18.

Buried Dacurs 2 1/2 miles West of Corbie. 42 D. F. S. 222.
Cert: by Hqrs 21-2-19

London.
22-2-19.

8.

A.I.P.
53rd Bttn.

HEPNER.
J.A.A. 2691.

Burial report.

Died 53rd Casualty Clearing Station. No Burial report.
Cert. by Red Cross Searcher.
Bttn. Orderly Room. Santin.
B.N.F. 10.3.19.

W.M.H.
London.
3.4.19.

5.

53rd BATTALION
6th Reinforcements.

KEENAN, J.P. L/Corporal.
No. 2691.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 4.9.18"

Informant described Keenan as about 5 ft 7/8 inches high, medium build, fair complexion aged 23/24. Thought to have come from the Burwood District. Left Australia together per "Ceramic" on 7.10.16.

Informant states that they both belonged to B. Company 7th Platoon. On 1.9.18 the Battalion was in action near Peronne. They hopped over at 6 a.m. About half an hour later when an advance of about 1/2 mile had been made, but before the objective was reached Keenan was hit in the chest by a bullet. Informant was about 20 yards away at the time and saw Keenan lying in a shell hole after being hit. He was conscious and sang out to Informant "I'm done" or words to that effect. Informant had to keep going and never heard anything more of Keenan. The objective was captured.

According to Informant Keenan was a fine fellow, very popular with his mates.

Informant:- D.C. Cameron, 2636. Private.
B. Company 7th Platoon. 53rd Battn.

Private address:-
35 Gerrard Street,
ALEXANDRIA.

(E.G.)
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.
7.5.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

53rd BATTALION. A.I.F.
6th Reinforcements.

KEENAN.
Lance-Corporal J.P. 2691.

"DIED OF WOUNDS. 4.9.18."

Informant described Keenan as about 5 feet 9 inches high, very slim build, medium complexion, aged 24 or 25 years.

Informant states they both belonged to B. Company, 7th Platoon. On or about 3.9.18 the Battalion was in action at Morlancourt. They hopped over at 12.45 a.m. and about 2 or 3 hours afterwards when they had got the objective and were consolidating the position Keenan was hit by a shell while engaged in digging. Informant was in the rear of the Platoon, and Keenan's Sergeant reported to him that Keenan had been hit. Informant saw him being carried out on a stretcher about a quarter of an hour later, and was told that Keenan died of his wounds and was buried, although he did not learn the place of burial.

According to Informant, Keenan was a good lad, and well thought of by his mates.

INFORMANT: Coy-Sergeant-Major J. Wood, "D.C.K." 2952,
B. Coy, 53rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address; c/o Mrs R. Johnson,
Salvation Army, BOONAH. QSD. ✓

(E.G.)
Victoria Barracks, SYDNEY.
10.5.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

P. 32A
... ..
... ..
... ..

O.C.

53 C.P.S.

B.9.7.

2691

plut W. KEENAN

53 Batu:

A.I.F.

CA

D/W 4.9.18.

4w.

Leaving Bigwood Esp.

Dec. 9th

"Jourosa."

Melksham.

Wilts.

Dear Sir.

In reply to your enquiry
dated 2.12.18 regarding 2169.
Pte W. H. Phee. 1st Pioneer Bn. AIF.
we beg to inform you that there
is no report of any casualty
for him, & according to the
latest report he is well &
with his unit. Trusting
you will hear from him
soon.

Tel: VICTORIA 8576
8577
8578



ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY
WOUNDED AND MISSING
ENQUIRY BUREAU
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

36, GROSVENOR PLACE,
LONDON S.W. 1.

*D.P.
53 P.C.S.
B.G. 7.
2691 J. W. Kuman
53 Batta: A.I.F.*

10-12-18

Dear Sir,

We have been asked by the relatives in Australia to obtain the fullest details possible of the wounds, death and burial of the above, who died in your Hospital on 4-9-18, and would greatly appreciate any information that you may send us.

As we have been informed by various C.O.'s and Adjutants that the receipt of notes of thanks only causes them unnecessary inconvenience, unless you ask us to acknowledge your reply to the above we will not do so, and trust that you will understand that we appreciate it none the less.

With apologies for troubling you,

Yours faithfully,

*Admitted 1-7-18 from 6th AF Amb
Died 4-9-18. Belonged to
RC. Died in 4th-1055 pm
Barrack Square*

(Miss) Vera Drake

E.W.

Secretary.

