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

Lieutenant
Joseph Kirman

45th Battalion



1520914M

Name.	Unit.	Casualty.	Cause of Casualty.
	A.I.F. 45th Bttn.	KIRMAN. Lieut. Joseph.	
		Killed in Action 20.10.17.	
	No trace in Germany. Cert by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.		

London.
18.10.19.

8.

CANCELLATION SLIP

45 A.I.F.

Kirman Lt. T. J.
20
(K. Oct. 3/17.)
Det D/B.

"In reply to your letter Lt. T. Kirman was in my Coy: of 45 A.I.F. On the night of 20th Oct. 17. he was killed instantly by a shell when coming out of the line. The following day a party of N.C.O.'s and men accompanied by our Padre made a six mile journey to bury him and took with them a cross. Unfortunately they were caught in a barrage and were unable to reach the place where he was killed, roughly 150 yards South West of Anzac Farm, Westhook Ridge near Ypres. I do not think there is any doubt that he was buried as he was only 50 yards from a Battery position. His coolness and bravery were wonderful, not only his Platoon but the whole Coy: loved and admired him, and any other particulars I should be glad to give."

Eye-witness: Writes from B.E.F. and does not say.

Description:

Informant: Capt. Owen Dibbs.
45. A.I.F.
1, Moreton Gardens. S.W.

Home address: c/o Capt. Russell.
Benledi,
Belle Vue Rd.,
Woollahra.
N.S.W.

26.12.17.
H. Bulford Hancock.

A.I.F. 45. KIRMAN, Lt J.

K. Oct 20th 1917. Dets.

Lt Kirman was the second in command in my own company and on Oct 20th 1917 having been relieved, his Battn was on its way out when he was hit by a shell in the shoulder and side and killed instantly. With regard to burial the 45th Battn Padre was his batman, Pte J.Graig. would no doubt be able to supply particulars of burial. He was a very popular officer.

Inf: F.T.Wallock. 3469. 45.XI pltn.
No. 7 Stat Hosp.
BOULOGNE. 15.1.18.

HH

Written Pte. Graig 25.1.18.

45th Battn
C.Coy.,
AIF

KIRMAN
J. Lieut.

"Killed 20.10.17"

Refer to Captn. Dibbs 45th Battn C.Coy., who is now in France, he saw him killed at Passchendaele, and can give full details of death and burial. I heard that he was wounded , and was being carried out to the dressing station when he was caught by shrapnel and killed instantly.

Witness:-
Sig. J. Rodgers 2235
45th Battn B.Coy.,
3rd A.A.Hospital,
Dartford

NOTE Brother Capt. Dibbs
23.1.18

W.Oman
London.
24.1.18

S

45th Battn.
A.I.F.

KIRMAN,
Lieut. J.

"Killed in Action 20.10.17."

Re the late L.J.Kirman.tOn the night of 20.10.17 he was killed instantly within 200 yards of Anzac Farm, Anzac Ridge, near Ypres. The following day a party of men from his platoon and our Regimental Chaplain made a five mile journey to bury him, but were held up by a barrage for the remaining hours of daylight. and were unable to reach him. He was alongside an Australian battery who would ensure his burial. He was one of our most valued officers and has been awarded a posthumous Military Cross for his great bravery and example during operation on 12.10.17. I have written fully to his relations in Australia.

Letter from:- Capt.Owen Dibbs,
30.1.18

London.
15.3.18.

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.

S.

45th Battalion, A.I.F.
(late 13th Battalion)

KIRKMAN.
Lieut. J.

"Killed in Action 2.10.17."

Informant states that he was the Lieutenant's Batman. When on his way back to Australia in the "Euripides" he was informed by Private Douglas that he was just near the Lieutenant when he was killed during the Ypres stunt, he thought near Passchendale. The official date of the Lieutenant's death (2.10.17) must be wrong as Informant showed me a letter dated 7.10.17 that he had received from the Lieutenant. Informant had been told the exact date of death but had forgotten it. It was probably a few days after the date of the letter referred to. Informant had last seen the Lieutenant on 23.8.17 when he had been wounded at Messines alongside the Lieutenant.

Informant added that the Lieutenant was a very popular officer.

Informant: Private A.L. Gould, No. 1731.
"C" Company, 45th Battalion, A.I.F.

Home address: 35 Park Avenue, Drummoyne.

S
Ed
Enl
1/7

C.E.G.
7.4.18.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

45th BATTALION. Lt. KIRMAN. J.
(Late 13th Battalion.)

KILLED. 2.10.17.

I knew Kermain. He and I were in the 13th Battalion together. His name was Joe. We transferred to 45th Battalion when it was formed in Egypt.

He was the only Kermann in 45th Battalion. I saw him up to 5 p.m. on 11.10.17, before I was wounded at Zonnebeke. I heard later on in England that he was recommended for the Military Cross for his work on 11th or 12th.10.17., and that he was killed outright as they were being relieved, a day or two after the 12.10.17. I was told that his Batman was wounded, and that Kirman waited to look after him and was killed in a shell-hole whilst attending to his Batman. Kirman was in C.Company. I was told about him by men in C.Coy. who were there at the time. I am sure the date in the Book is wrong.

Informant:- Lt. H. K. Haiden, M.M.
45th Battalion, Headquarters.
Private Address:- Bristol Villa,
Nelson Street,
ANNANDALE.

H.3.0.
19.4.18.
c.o. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

45th BATTALION (Late 13th Battn.) A.I.F.

KIRMAN, Lieutenant J.

"Killed 20/10/1917".

Informant states that they both belonged to "C" Company - the Lieutenant being Informant's Platoon Officer.

On 20.10.17 the Battalion was coming out of the line at night time near Ypres. While the Lieutenant was walking out on the duck-boards he was badly hit by a shell. Informant was 100 yards away and sang out for Stretcher-bearers, who came and carried the Lieutenant away at once. About ½ an hour later Informant was told that the Lieutenant died within a few minutes of being picked up by the Stretcher-bearers and before they could reach a Dressing Station.

According to Informant the Lieutenant was an Officer well thought of by his men.

Informant:- No. 3366, Corporal H.R. Madden,
"C" Company - 45th Battalion.

Private address:- "Chaoley", 5th Street, SOUTH ASHFIELD.

W.E.C.
Anzac Buffet, Sydney.
20/5/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

45th BATTALION
late 13th Battalion

KIRMAN J. Lieutenant

"Killed 20.10.17".

Kirman was killed during the fighting at Passchendaele. He was in a shell hole waiting to attack when a German shell fell near him and killed him instantaneously. I do not know where he is buried. This was on the afternoon of the 20th October, 1917

INFORMANT :- Corporal C.N. Venables, No.3948
G.P.O.,
S Y D N E Y.

J.V.M.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
R A N D W I C K.
20.11.18

Sydney SYDNEY BUREAU

A.I.F. 45th BATTALION.
Late 13th Battalion.

KIRMAN, Lieutenant,
J.

"KILLED 24/10/17."

Informant states that the Lieutenant belonged to D Company. On 20/10/17 the Battalion was in action at Bullecourt. During the course of the action the Lieutenant received a wound. He was walking out behind his Company as it was coming out of action when another shell came over and killed him instantly. Informant, although not far away, did not see this happen but was given the details by eyewitnesses.

Informant added that the Lieutenant was an exceedingly well liked officer.

INFORMANT - Sergeant W. Feutrill - No. 384,
B Company, 45th Battalion,
HOME ADDRESS - 22 the Avenue,
CAMPERDOWN.

Co Edsy

W.E.G.
Anzac Information Bureau,
S Y D N E Y.
5/12/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

45th Battalion, A.I.F.
(late 13 Bn.)

KIRMAN, J. Lieut.

"Killed 20. 10.17."

I knew Mr Kerman, his name was "Joe", and he was a 1st Lieut. and I understood he was married in England. He was very tall and thickbuilt, and dark complexion, and had been a Sergeant. He was in "C" Company I think. I was with him as we were coming out of Passchendaele in October, 1917, he had been wounded, and was marked for hospital. I was in the front of him, and of "C" Company, when a shell came over and killed him instantly. We were coming out of the line at the time, for a rest, after a very heavy 24 hour stunt.

Informant - Sergeant W.T.Feutrill, No.384,
45th Battalion, "B" Company (late 13 Bn

Home Address - 22, The Avenue, Camperdown, Sydney.

H.S.O.
Anzac Furlough,
Rawson Chambers,
23/12/18.

45th BATTALION, A.I.F.
(late 13th Battalion)

KIRMAN - Lieutenant J.

"Killed 20.10.17."

Informant states that on or about 20.10.17 the Battalion was coming out after they had been in action at Passchendaele. While coming out in the afternoon the Lieutenant was wounded and later on was hit by a shell and killed while he was near the duck boards in our own lines. Informant saw him lying dead on the ground as he was passing by the same day. He was told that a couple of stretcher bearers were with the Lieutenant when he was killed, but never heard where the Lieutenant was buried.

Informant added that the Lieutenant was his Platoon Sergeant before he got his commission and that he was very well liked by the boys.

Informant: Corporal R.A. Tibbey, No. 3127.
45th Battalion.
Home address: 23 Broadstair Street, Balmain.

W.E.G.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.
24.2.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.