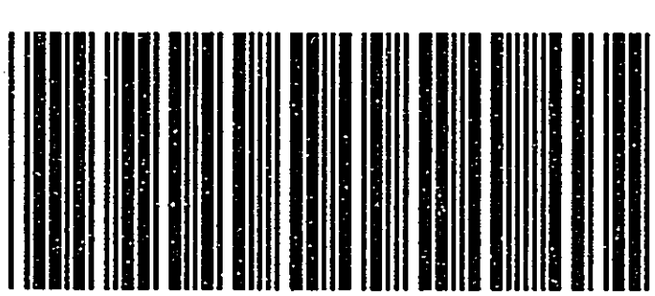
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

5049 Lance Corporal George Edward Thomas Larkins

20th Battalion



1550906Q

A.I.F.
20th. Battalion.

LARKINS. 5049.
George Edward Thomas.

"Killed in Action 1.5.17

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
17.10.19.

S.

20th A.I.F. Larkins G.E.F. 5049,

(K. Mar 1st 1917)

Informant states that "on March 1st at Martinpuich Larkins was killed by a shell. He was assisting a trench Quartermaster and held rank as L/Cpl. He was buried by Pte. D. Reid, D. Coy., 20th A.I.F., who is still in France. Informant cannot give Reid's number".

Eye-witness: No, was told by Pte. Reid as above.

Description:

Informant: Pte. James Stutsel 5037,
20th A.I.F.,
2nd Birmingham War Hospt.,
Birmingham.

Home address:
46 Abattion Rd.,
Rezelle,
Sydney N.S.W.

May 6th 1917,
E. Clegg.

20th A. I. F. G. E. F. LARKINS. 5049.

Killed 13.17. Details D & B.

Larking belonged to D Co. He was killed near Le Sars. He was with the fatigue ration party. Two shells burst killing about 12 of them. He was buried close at hand and a cross erected which I have seen.

Reference: Pte. J. Olsen, 4748.

No.12 General, Rouen. 7.5.17.

FS.

A. I. F. 20.

LARKINS, C.E.F. 5049.
ERICKSON, W.F. 4109.

E. March 1st, 1917.

When Fritz started to evacuate from the Butte de Warlincourt and Martinpuich they were waiting with a ration party at the rail head. A big H/E probably with a time fuse came over amongst them and caused over twenty casualties. These two were killed. They belonged to C.Coy. Erickson was short, slight, fair, 25. Larkins I did not know.

RJE.

Reference:- Sparks, Cpl.L.H. C.XI.4320.
St. Johns Hosp.

Etaples
7.5.17.

20th A. I. F.

Larkins, L/Cpl G.S.F. 5049,
? Company

(K. March 1st/17. Det: D & B)

"Larkins were was my trench quartermaster and I know him well. He was killed at the ration dump March 1st/17 by a shell, and was buried where he fell at Le Sars, and I believe service was held by the Chaplain. His first name was George, no other of this name (Larkins) in the company."

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Sergt Daniel Poole, 1422,
20th A. I. F., D. Company,
County of London War Hospital,
Horton, Epsom.

Home address:
19, Leamington Avenue,
Newtown,
Sydney, N.S.W.

9th May 1917.
W.J. Parker.

20th A.I.F. LARKINS G.S.F. No.5049.
ditto Erickson W.W. No.4109.
K. 1st March 1917.
ditto Barber J.T. No.5303.
K. 2nd March 1917.

These three men were killed at Horse Shoe Dump, Dead Mule Gully at Le Sars. I was in the same fatigue party with them to carry rations to the front line. Whilst waiting a shell landed in the middle of the party and killed the three men instantly. I saw them dead and I saw the three crosses over their graves at Horse-Shoe dump. A map reference giving position of the grave can be obtained from the 20th Battn. I had known all these three men for months. Erickson & Barber were remarkably young looking and very short. Barber had red hair.

Inf:- Pte B.H.Cohen No.5552.
H.S. "Newhaven".
Calais. - 12.5.17. BHR.

A. I. F. 20. LARKINS, G.E.F.5049.

K. March 1st, 1917.

He was killed while on a ration party not far from Martinpuich on March 1st. (It was not the same party as that on which Erickson was killed as I have described). I did not see the body. QMS. S.S.Burgess C.Coy. could give details. I have heard him speak about the casualty as if he knew all about it. Larkins belonged to IX pl. C.Coy. He had only been with us for a fortnight and I did not know him well beyond having slept in the same dugout with him for a time.

SA.

Reference:- Cpl.P.S.Graham. 4132. C.Coy.
No. 26 Gen. Hosp.
Etaples
15.6.17.

Havre 17th May, 1917.

20th AUSTRALIANS HARKINS, G.S.F. 5049

X. 1.5.17. Det. D/S.

He was in B Co. and was killed by the same shell as Barber and Erickson. He was buried by one of his mates in a separate grave not far off the other grave.

Informant: C.S.M. Vince, C.H. 1033
20th Australians, CCo.,
H. S. Wards.

RSS

20th.A.I.F.

Larkins,Pte.G.E.F. 5049

K. Mar.1/17.

" I knew Larkins well. He belonged to the 13th reinforcement. He was killed by a shell between Martinpuich & the Butte-de-Wallencourt at a Rail-head,& was buried just alongside.the scene of accident. This was behind the line. The Germans started to retreat & we were advancing. The same shell got 23 men. I came up about 3 or 4 minutes afterwards & saw them all."

Eyewitness:- Saw them dead a few minutes afterwards.

Description:-

Informant:- Cpl.Sparks, 4520.
20th.A.I.F. C Co.,XI Plat.
3rd.London Genl Hosp., W/worth.

Home address:- 10,Oaks Ave.,
Neutral Bay,
N.S.Wales.

14/5/17.

A.A.Needham

20th A. I. F. G. E. F. LARKINS, 5049

Killed 1.3.17. Det.D/E.

Informant states that Larkins was a L/Corpl. in D.Coy. and a personal friend of his. L/Cpl.D.C.Reid, 5083, D.Coy. No.14 Plat. told Informant that he had helped to bury Larkins at Dead Mule Gulley, near Le Sars.

Reference: Pte.B.G.Williams, 5113.

No.10 General, Rouen, 17.5.17.

GJS.

A. I. F. 20. LARKINS, C.E.F. 5049.

K. March 1st, 1917.

He was killed while on a ration party near the Butte de Warlincourt on March 1st. A couple of shells came over, one was a dud, the second killed 9 men and wounded 14. He was amongst the killed. I saw his body. It lay at the railhead. Afterwards it was buried just at the back of Le Sars near a light railway line. A cross marks the grave with his name on it. He was Trench QM. at the time and belonged to XV pl. D.Coy. He came from some part of N.S.W. inthe 13th reinf. to the battn. I know him quite well.

SA.

Reference:- Pte. W.F.Moore. 1523. D.Coy.
No. 2 A.D.B.D.

Etaples
14.5.17.

20th A. I. F.

Larkins, G.E. F. 5049

(K. March 1/17)

"I saw Larkin's grave at Horse Shoe Dump near the Butte de Warlencourt, a rough wooden cross with his name on,"

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant:- Pte. C. Wilson, 4328
20th A.I.F. D.Co. 13.Pl.
Bishops Knoll Hospital,
Bristol.

Home address:
Monadale, Barellan. N.S.Wales.

May 17
C. Strachan

20th Australian Infantry

Larkins, Pte. G.E.F.5049,

(K . March 1.1917.Dets D & B)

" I helped to bury Larkins at Dead Mule Gully, opposite the Butte Warkencourt. The grave is by itself, and is marked by a wooden cross with his name on. He was killed while bringing up rations, by a shell one evening, and was buried the next evening. "

Eye Witness - Yes.

Description - Medium height, clean shaven.

Informant :- Pte. James H. Callaghan, 5138,
D Coy. 14th Pltn. 20th Aus. Infantry,
1st Birmingham War Hospital,
Rubery.

Home address :-
Greenbank Street,
Marrickville,
Sydney,
N. S. Wales.

20. 5. 1917.
W.H.V.May,

20th A.I.F.

Larkins George G.E.F. 5049 D. Coy.

(K. March 1/17 Dets D/B)

Informant states that"early in March at Le Sars he saw the grave with George Larkins' name and number on a cross, and his helmet on the grave with a big bullet hole through it. Informant passed it twice at least, it was on the right of Bapaume Road just before entering the village of Le Sars. Informant had known Larkins in England."

Eye witness:

Description:

Informant: Cpl. Dunn 4578,
23th Battn. A. Coy , A.I.F.,
Princess Christian Hospital, Plymouth.

Home address: Emsore, Sydney

25.5.17.
C. Stephenson.

20th A.I.F. Larkins, Pte. G.E.F. 5049

(K. March 1/17)

"Larkins was killed by the same shell as Barber at Le Sars near Warlencourt. He was killed instantly and is buried in the same grave with 4 or 5 others. I was a 100 yards away or more but made particular enquiries."

Eye-witness: 100 yards away, told by men who were nearer.

Description:

Informant:- Pte. W.J.Murphy. 5441.
20th A.I.F.
War Hospital, Duston. Northampton.

Home address:
None in England. Ward E. Duston

May 29
Gertrude MacKinnell