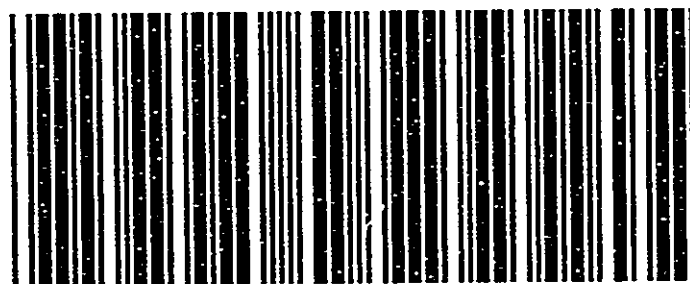


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**3329 Private
John James Morrissey**

4th Battalion



1830711L

A.I.F. 4th Batta.

MORRISSEY
John James 3329

Killed in action 15.4.17

Buried Boursies Cemetery.

This burial is taken from the reports sent to Headquarters (here)
by the 4th Battalion. Ref. W.R.4 and U.R.4 Auth.
Cart. by A.I.F. Hdqrs. 14.8.19

London
14.8.19

A.I.F. 4th Btn

MORRISSEY
J. J. 3329

"M. 15-4-17"

Killed in Action 15-4-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 8-5-17.

OFF.I.

London
10-6-17

4th BATTALION. A.I.F.
(Late 19th Battalion)

MORRISSEY, Private
J.J. No. 3329

"Killed 15/4/17".

Informant described Morrissey as about 6ft. high, fair complexion, aged about 22 - came from near Maxwellbrook. Informant states that they both belonged to "C" Company, No. 10 Platoon.

On 15/4/17 the Battalion was engaged resisting an attack by Germans at Lagnicourt. The attack took place just as day was breaking and was beaten off, but during the course of it Morrissey was very badly hit by a bomb. Informant was about 30 yards away and saw Morrissey after he was hit and came to the conclusion that he could only live for a short time. Informant had to go away and never saw Morrissey again.

According to informant Morrissey was well liked by his mates.

Informant:- 3267, Corporal J. Tyler, (M.H.)
"C" Company - 4th Battalion. ✓

Private address:- Good St., May's Hill, PARRAMATTA. S
W.E.G.
Anzac Buffet,
Sydney. 17-5-19.

SYDNEY BURZAN.

A.I.B.
4th Battalion.
(late 19th B.)

MORRISSEY, Private
J.J. No. 3329

Killed 15-4-17

Informant described Morrissey as about 5'10", very stout build, dark complexion, aged about 22/23. Informant states that they both belonged to "C" Company, 10th Platoon.

On the 15-4-17 the Battalion was in a sunken road near Hermes holding the line against the German attack. About 30 of the Battalion were ordered by an Officer to charge back. During the charge Morrissey was hit, and in all probability was killed outright, although informant was not absolutely certain on the point. He was hit by a bomb - informant being alongside him at the time. The charge was a failure and the survivors had to go back to the sunken road. Morrissey was left where he fell. Two nights later informant was out on patrol and came across Morrissey's body. He had offered to go out for Morrissey on the morning he was hit but was not allowed to do so.

According to Informant Morrissey was a well liked chap.

Informant:- No. 1413 - Pte. A. McNamee
"C" Company - 4th Battalion.

V.E.C. Private address:- 543A Bourke St., Surry Hills, Sydney.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital,
RAEDWICK.

12/2/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

4th Battn.
A.I.F.

⁶
MORRISSEY.
J.J. ^ 3329.

"Killed in Action 15-4-17"

Was a private in C.Company. 10th Platoon. 4th Battalion.
A Machine Gunner. fairly tall, slight build, medium complexion.
The Germans were attacking at Hermies and he came up with a party
to reinforce our post, but they missed us and got into No Man's
Land. He was hit by a rifle bullet, but as they were between
our fire and the Germans', it is impossible to say which he was
hit by. His body was about 60 yards from our post and we could see
it during the daytime, but it was not recovered. A few nights
later a lot of bodies, including many Germans' were buried, but
there was no record made of his burial. It was about 4.a.m. on
15th April 1917.

Informant:- Sgt.F.York. 4267.

C.Company. 4th Battalion.

I can confirm above statement. He was in the same platoon as me
and was just on the left of me. I was in a trench behind him
and could see his body lying out there.

Informant:- Pte.G.V.Lane. 6038.

C.Company. 10th Pl. 4th Battalion.

H.S. Vcwan.
London.
13-3-19.
H.G.

S.

Palestine
Feb 8th 1919

Miss V. Deakin

Sec. Red Cross Information Bureau
London

29.2.19
Dear Madam

Would you kindly
let me know if it would be possible
for your Bureau to obtain for me a
photo of my brother's grave in France
He was killed in action on April 15th 1917
and from letters I received from his mates
he was buried between the towns of
Hermies and Laguerre. His number was
and was as follows: No 3329 Pte.
John James Morrissey, C. Company 4th Battr.
Please let me know at earliest
opportunity if you can do anything in
the matter.

Thanking you in anticipation

I am
Yours truly

No 52766 Ypr. W. H. Morrissey

No 4 Section

1st Australian Machine Gun Squadron
1st A. & H. Brigade

A.I.F.

Abroad.

February 8th, 1919.

52766 Tpr. W. Morrissey.
No 4 Section. 1st Aust.
Mach. Gun Squadron.
1st Aust. Light Horse Bde.
A.I.F., Palestine.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of 8th inst, concerning
3329 Pte. J.J. MORRISSEY, 4th Battalion, A.I.F. Who is now
officially reported to have been killed in Action on 15.4.17.
we beg to inform you that we are applying to the Graves Dept,
at A.I.F. Headquarters, for a photograph of his grave. As it
may be some months before the copy can be obtained (owing to
the difficulty of identifying and photographing graves in
the war area and owing also to the tremendous number of applications
to be dealt with by the Graves Dept) we have asked that it should
be sent to the permanent address of

Mrs. J. Morrissey.
at Denman, New South Wales.

With sincere sympathy in your loss and with
good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

(Miss)

MR.

Secretary.