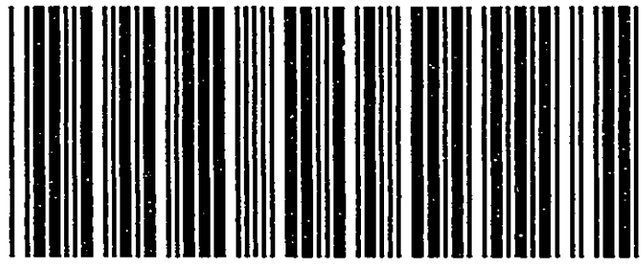
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

# 6319 Private William Bernard Ramsey

## 4th Battalion



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4th A.I.F. Ramsey, Pte. W.P. 6319,
D. Coy.

K. April 15/17.

"I was alongside Ramsey when he was killed. He was shot through the head by a sniper at a village on the left of Herius. It was morning. I buried him by the side of the road near where he was killed".

Eye Witness:-- Yes.

Description:-- 5ft 8", about 19. Dark hair, blue eyes.

Informant:-- Pte. W.L. Riley, 6320,
D. Coy. 4th A.I.F.
Horton War Hospital,
Epsom.

Home address:-- Batt:

18.7.17.
Phyllis. A. Flowa.

4th Battn.
A.I.F.

Ramsay.
W. B. .6319

"Killed 15.4.17"

He was on my posts during a counter attack and went forward in advance of the post with others in order to get a better range of fire at the enemy. This happened at day break, he was sniped through the forehead and buried the same day where he fell. It was 500 yards in front of Demicourt. There was no opportunity of erecting a cross and there is nothing whatever to identify the grave. Many were buried at the same time and place. I was in charge of the section he was in for the time and he was a tip top soldier and the lifeof the section. We were all very sorry to lose him. It was his first time in the trenches. There was no need for him to have gone in front of the post and he set a very fine example.

Witness:-
Sgt.Apted 4723.
L/Cpl.at the time
Dartford.

R.D.B.

London.
26.10.17.

S.

Havre 8th Nov. 1917.

4th AUSTRALIANS RAMSEY, W.B. 6319

K. 15.4.17. Det. D/B.

He was in D Co., 15th Pltn. I knew Ramsey slightly. We were in Hermies on the 15th April. The Germans were attacked at daylight. I saw Ramsey just outside the village and saw him shot, I think in the head. He fell back and never moved. I know that most of our fellows were buried there in an old French Cemetery, but I did not see Ramsey's grave.

Informant: Pte. S.J. Frost, 3753
4th Australians, D Co., 15th Pltn.,
Havre Hospital.

HPG

S
Bd
Suff

4th A.I.F.

Ramsey, W.B. 6319.

K. April 15th, 1917.

"I saw Ramsey killed and he was buried on the side of the sunken road at Demicourt about 4 a.m. on 15th April, 1917. I was with the Corporal when he removed Ramsey's disc".

Eye Witness:-- Yes.

Description:-- Dark, 5'8" medium. Well built, clean shaven. About 20 years old.

Informant:-- Lowsett, J.A. 257,
B. Coy; 9. Pltn: 4th A.I.F.,
Southwark Military Hosp:,
East Dulwich Grove, S.E. 22.

Home address:-- 26, Whistler St,
Manly,
Sydney.

12.7.17.
C. E. Gilmot.

S.

Havre 25th July 1917

4th AUSTRALIANS RAMSEY, W.B. 6319

K. 15th April 1917 Det. D/B

Ramsey was in D. Co. 15th Pltn. He came from N.S.W. about Sydney. I had known him about 12 months, I knew him well and saw him every day. 6319 is about his number. He came over with the 20th Reinforcements to the 4th Btn. I saw his grave about 200 yards up the Sunken Road which runs to the front through Dernancourt - It is on the left hand side. There were several other men buried there. I do not know if there was a cross put on the grave. I could point out the spot.

Informant: L/c. R.S. Swain 6334
4th Australians B.Co. 15th Pltn
No. 1 Gen. Hospital Etretat

CHR

S.

4th Battn.
A. I. F.

Ramsey.
W. B. 6319.

"Killed 15.4.17"

Was an Englishman. He was in D.Cay. He was killed by shell - hit in the forehead. It happened during the raid by Fritz on April 15th at Ermies (?Hermies) Cambria Rd. He was killed instantly. I did not see it happen, but Pte. O'Mara, D.Coy. 4th Battn. in France, can give-full information regarding Ramsey's death and burial.

Witness:-
W. C. Mercer 6379
4th Battn.
Harefield.

W. G. J.

London.
31.7.17.

Note Written Pte. O'Mara 20.7.17. S.

Havre 17th August.1917.

4th AUSTRALIANS RAMSEY, W.B. 6319

K. April 15th. 1917. Det. D/B.

I believe he was in C. Company. I think he came from about Sydney. I had know him for about 15 months. I knew him well. We were mates, and were in the same company in the reinforcement and always together. His christian name was William. 6319 is his number. He came with the 20th reinforcement to the 4th Battalion. I was told by Pt. W.B. Chappelo of A. Co., I believe III. Pltn., that he had seen his grave near the Dressing Station at Bapaume. Chappelo was with the Battalion a month ago.

Informant: Pt. T. Wright 6349
4th Australians, B. Co., VII.Pltn.
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

CMR.

S.

Written Pte Chappelo 26-8-17

4th A.I.F. W.B. 6319
RAMSEY W.B. No.6319.

K. 15th April 1917. Det D/B.

He was blown to pieces by a shell at Hermies. Daly was with him and was killed at the same time. I saw Ramsey's remains. There was no chance of burial.

Inf:- Pte A. Smith No. 6348 D. Co.
Amb.T. 'Newhaven'.
Calais. 25.A.17. RAK.

S

4th A.I.F. Ramsey Pte. W.B. 6319.

(K. Apl. 15/17 Det D/B)

I saw missing man killed by a shell about April 16th. He was buried at Borcies.

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: Little dark man.

Informant: Sgt. R.C. Robinson 5439,
4th A.I.F., D. Coy.,
1st London General Hospt.,
Camberwell.

Home address:
231 Bell St.,
Coburg,
Melbourne.

Nov. 5/17,
C. Baldwin.

4th Battn.
A. I. F.

Ramsay.
W. B. 6319

"Killed 15.4.17"

I received your correspondence inquiring about Pte. W.B.Ramsay 6319
I have not seen Pte.Ramsay since I left England.

Letter from:-
Pte.W.Chappelow
A.Coy.
France 9.8.17.

London.
25.9.17.

S.

Pat.

19.7.17

Rte. O'MARA. D. Co

4th Battn AIF

BEF

for

6319

W. B. RAMSAY

4th Battn AIF

K. 15. 4. 17

26/7/17.

Rtd. W.B ~~CHAPPLE~~ 23.8.17

CHAPPELO

A Co

4 Battn AIF

B E F

For

6319

W. B. RAMSAY

4 Battn AIF

K. 15. 4. 17

N

L.B.H.
5.9.17.

Ack'd A.R.C. 14-9-17

France.
9. 8. 17.

To the Secretary. Australian Red Cross. Society.

Dear. Miss. E. Deakin.

I received your correspondence Inquiring about Pte. W. B. Ramsay 6319 I have not seen Pte Ramsay since I left England

Yours Faithfully
Pte W Chappelow
A & Co
W. Chappelow

6319 W. B. RAMSAY
4th Batt. A.I.F.
K. 15-4-17
S.S. 3