

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

**1997 Sergeant  
William Michael Quirke**

**14th Battalion**



2230111A

A.I.F. 14th Bttn.  
5th wfs. B. Co.

QUINCE.  
William Michael. 1907

Killed in Action. 8.8.15.

K. in A. 8.8.15. No burial.  
Cert by A.I.F. Hdqrs List. 26.10.19.

London.  
23.10.19.

M.

14th A.I.F.  
5th Rfts. B Coy.

Quirke,  
Sgt. Wm. Michael 1997  
Kia A 8.8.15

M. August :

Missing 8/8/15,  
A.I.F. Headquarters, 130 Horseferry Road.

Previously reported "Missing" now "Killed in Action" 8/8/15.

Court of Enquiry,  
A.I.F. Headquarters,  
130 Horseferry Road,  
4/7/16

London,  
4/7/16-

M.

M E D

14th Australian Imperial Force      Quirke, -Sergt W.M., 1997,  
B. Company      5 y/h  
Kia A.  
(M. 8th August 1915)

Informant states that on 21st August 1915 at Suvla Bay Gallipoli, Informant states that during an advance to take a trench that Sergt Quirke was killed by a bullet from a machine gun. The body was not recovered and thought to have been burnt with several others in a fire, caused by the bursting of a shell in the scrub. Informant was next Sergt Quirke in the charge and knew him well and gives Quirke's home address as "Sydney Road, Coburg, Victoria, Australia."

Reference: Pte Harry White, 2225,  
14th Australian Imperial Force,  
A. Coy,  
5th Southern General Hospital,  
Portsmouth.

Home address:  
22, Sargood,  
Coburg,  
Victoria, Australia.

London,  
12th July, 1916.  
E.H. Townsend.

11. cd

Havre

27th June 1916

14th AUSTRALIANS

QUIRKE, Serjt. W.E. 1997

Missing 8.8.15 (Med. List)

There was a Sergeant Major Quirke in Camp at Tel-el-Yebir in the 14th Battalion. I saw him there last April, and I think he is there still with the same Battalion. I never heard of his being wounded, but remember he was away on sick leave for about six weeks. He is short (about 5'6") rather dark, cleanshaven and 34 years of age.

Informant: Bombardier Bridger No. 34  
Formerly with the 14th Bn. A. Co  
now attached to the 30th Battery,  
Field Artillery  
No. 1 Camp, Havre

WJ

14th Btn.  
5th Rfcts.  
B. Coy.

K in A 8.9.15

✓  
QUIRKE,  
Sgt. W.M. No. 1997.

Reported Missing, August.

Informant states that he saw casualty on or about the  
8th October at Weymouth Depot, England, ready to return to duty.  
He was wounded in the elbow.

Ref:- Pte. C. Foxcroft,  
No. 582,  
14th Btn/ A. Coy.  
Red Cross Rest Home,  
Wirth's Park.

H.A.B.  
27/3/16.

M.  
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE. 29 MAR 1916  
*Sent London Quarterly.*

14th Btn.  
5th Rfcts.  
B. Coy.

K in A 8.9.15

✓  
QUIRKE,  
Sgt. W.M. No. 1997.

Reported Missing, August.

Informant states that he knew casualty well, and that he  
was in No. 1 A. G. H. Heliopolis. He (the casualty) was warned  
to return to his battalion by the "Lintana" in July, but did not  
turn up. He is probably in Egypt for the reason that he got  
married to an Egyptian or French Dancing girl.

Ref:- King's Sgt. J.B. Johnson,  
No. 1880,  
14th Btn. C.Co.

H.A.B.  
27/3/16.

3  
M  
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE. 29 MAR 1916

5/14th Btn. A.I.F.  
B Co.

Med.

Kia A.  
M. 8/8/15.

QUIRKE  
Sgt. W.M. 1997.

*Wm Michael*

Informant states that casualty left with the coy. on the 6th August, and went to Suvla Bay. On arrival, Sgt Quirke went out in charge of some men from our platoon, to attack a small hill on the same day. He never returned.

Informant is strongly of opinion that he was killed.

Ref:- Pte H.H. Biggins, 424,  
D Co., 14th Btn.,  
De Carlo St., Coburg.

H.A.B.  
7/4/16.

MELBOURNE.

M.

5/14th Btn. A.I.F.  
B Co.

Med.

Kia A.  
M. 8/8/15.

QUIRKE  
Sgt. W.M. 1997.

Informant states that casualty was Sgt. in B Co, and he was killed at Suvla Bay on the morning of the 8th Aug. Informant states that they were making towards Hill 971. Casualty's body was left out there where it fell.

Ref:- Sgt. A. McWilliam, 1397,  
D Co., 14th Btn.,  
206 Young St., Fitzroy.

H.A.B.  
12/4/16.

MELBOURNE.

M.

14th Btn.  
5th Rfcts. B. Coy.

Kin A 8.8.15

✓  
QUIRKE,  
Sgt. W.M. No. 1997.

Reported Missing, August.

Informant confidently states that casualty is a prisoner of war, and was taken on the 7th August at Suvla Bay in the morning. Informant states that he actually saw him taken prisoner. Informant does not know whether casualty was wounded at the time.

Ref:- Pte. E. ~~RYAN~~ Ripper,  
No. 2001, 14th Battalion.

Private address,  
50 Roden Street,  
W. Melbourne.

H.A.B.  
3/5/16.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU MELBOURNE

14th Btn.  
5th Rfcts. B. Co.

Kin A 8.8.15

✓  
QUIRKE,  
Sgt. W.M. No. 1997.

Reported Missing, August.

Informant states that casualty was ~~injured~~ <sup>wounded</sup> on the 14th August at the wells near Hill 971 at midnight. Informant saw casualty wounded in the head by a shell. Informant spoke to casualty, who was conscious at the time, and helped him down to the 4th Field Ambulance, and heard subsequently that casualty died four days after on board the hospital ship "Glasgow".

Casualty was a friend of informant and was an old British Tommy.

Pte. W. West, No. 1270, 14th Btn.

5 Railway Cottages,  
Essendon

5/5/16.  
H.A.B.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

Med.

14th Btn. A.I.F.

Kin A.

M. 8/8/15.

✓  
QUIRKE

Sgt. W. M. 1997.

hm. Michael

Witness states that he saw Quirke get hit on the 6th Aug. at Hill 971. This occurred as the company was going round the top of the hill (round the Wheat Crop). He saw Quirke drop and fall over down the other side of the Hill. As the ground was not uncovered again, nothing was ever seen of Quirke. Witness knew him well. He came from Sydney Rd., Coburg, Vic. Witness came over with Quirke on the Hororata. They left on 17th April 1915, and arrived on the Peninsula early in July. He was thick set, about 5'7 or 8, about 26/27. Was in DCCo.

Ref:- Pte W.W. Ross, 2204,  
B Co., 14th Btn. A.I.F.  
4th Training Btn.,  
Tel el Jebir.

E.A.W.  
16/5/16

M.