

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

**4245 Private
William Coller**

27th Battalion



07703011

A.I.F. 27th Bttn.

COLLIER.
William 4245.

Killed in Action. 13.6.18.

Buried Heath Cemetery. 62D. SE. Q29. d. 5. 4. Plot 7. Row G, Grave 10.

Cert by Captain Spedding. 7.7.19.

London.
25.7.19.

A.

27th A.I.F.

Coller. W. 4245

(K. June 13/18)

"I was told by Pte. Percival Gilbert (27.B.VIII) that Pte. Gollor (27.B.VIII) was killed instantaneously by a shell about June 12th & 13th at Morlencourt, while out on a ration party. He was buried at the back of the line. I saw the cross ready to be erected. It was a white wooden cross with black letters. Bn. Colours - chocolate and blue."

Eyewitness: No. He saw the Cross.

Description: Port Adelaide, married, little, short, thin face, a driver.

Informant: Pte. K. Phillips. 6667
27th A.I.F. B. VIII.
3rd Southern General Hospital,
The Base, Oxford.

Home address:
12 Sussex St.
Lower H. Adelaide, S. Australia.

19.8.18.
H.M.P.C.

A
Written Gilbert
10.9.18

27th Battalion.
A.I.F.

W. COLLIER.
4245.

"Killed 13-6-18"

He was in B. Company, and I saw him killed at Morlancourt when death was instantaneous, his head being blown off by a shell about 11 o'clock on the night of June 13th 1918. We were ration carrying to front line at time of casualty. I knew him well and he came from Port Adelaide, South Australia. He was an English boy and was a married man, his wife lives at Port Adelaide, South Australia. We held the ground so he was sure to be buried, but I did not see his grave. Refer to S/B Dello. W. B. Company. 27th Battn. and now in France, for he can give details of burial.

Informant:- Pte White. H.G. 6344.
B. Coy. 27th Battn.
No 3 A.A.H. DARTFORD.

W. Oman.
London.
28-6-18.
H.G.

A.

Note:- Written Dello. 28-6-18.

27th Battn.
A.I.F.

W. COLLIER
4245

"Killed 13-6-18"

He was in B. Coy., and I saw him killed at Morlancourt, when death was instantaneous, he being hit by pieces of shell which cut his head off. Casualty happened at night-time about 11 o'clock at which time he and several others who were wounded, were on ration fatigue. I knew him fairly well, and I think he came from Adelaide, S. Australia, where I think he worked in a livery stable. I did not see his grave, but he was buried near place of casualty and grave was marked.

Informant. Meehan. Pte. W. J. 6366
B. Coy. 27th Battn.,
3rd A.A.F.,
DARTFORD.

W. Oman
London
5-9-18
S.A.

A.

Havre

Australians. 27.

18th Sept 1918.

Collar W. 4245.

K. 13th June 1918. Det D/B.

He was killed by a shell at Morlancourt. He was taken out and buried but I can't say where, but I saw the cross made for him with his name and number on it. He was a mate of mine and came from Port Adelaide. He was married, and had a family.

Inf:- Pte R. Cottrell No. 4266.
A.I.F. 27. B. V171.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

CRR.

PP.

Havre

Australians. 27.

19th Sept 1918.

Collar W. 4245.

K. 13th June 1918. Det D/B.

He was in B.Coy. I believe his people live in Blighty, his wife lives in Port Adelaide, S. Australia. The Regiment were in trenches at Morlancourt about the 2nd week in June. About 2 p.m. in the afternoon of the 13th June Coller got his head blown off by a shell. I saw his dead body it was buried at Morlancourt that same day. He was buried by his Company 'B'. His grave was marked by a cross.

Inf:- Pte G.F. Peirce No. 2481.
A.I.F. 27. H.Q.
Ambulance Train.

JND.

PP.

27th Battn.
A.I.F.

COLLER.
William. 4245.

"Killed in Action 13-6-18"

All I can tell you about my mates is that they were buried on the battle field where they had fallen. They were killed by shell fire and they were buried at Morlancourt. That is all I can tell. All property has been sent home to their people. Kindly let me know if this is all that you require.

Letter from:- E.P.A. Delc. *4694 B. Coy. 2nd Bn.*
A.I.F. FRANCE. 10-9-18.

London.
19-9-18.
H.T.

A.

27th Battn.
A.I.F.

COLLER.
W. 4245.

"Killed (in Action) 13-6-18"

At Morlancourt. Killed by shell. Hit in Mc Man's Land. near Fritz trench. We went over in an advance - he was killed at once. We took the trenches and then lost them for 3 days but took them again. I was talking to him just before he was killed. I did not see him buried.

Informant:- Smith, I.G.H. 6689.
W.28. HAREFIELD.

D.P. Dickson.
London.
1-10-18.
J.E.A.

A.

27th Battn.
A.I.F.

COLLER
Wm. 4245

"Killed in Action 13-6-18"

Re Pte. W. Collier. There is not much I can tell you about him, but will do my best. One of our S/B's said he had received an enquiry also from you and had given you details as well as he could. I can't say exactly when Collier was killed, but it was on the night of the 12th or 13th June, while he was carrying rations up the line. I was in the same party. As to his initials, number, I know nothing. He was rather short, and slightly humped backed as we say, or had a stoop. He had I believe, lived in England at one time, and then went out to Australia and joined the Australian Army. His grave would be rather hard to find as he is not buried in a soldiers' Cemetery.

Letter from:- Gilbert, Pte. P.E. 1709
B. Coy. 27th Battn.,
FRANCE. 21-9-18.

London
3-10-18

J.E.A. Ch. Suff

A.

27th Battn.
A.I.F.

COLLER.
Wm. 4245.

"Killed 13.6.18."

I saw Collier killed at Morlancourt on June 13th last. He was buried there. I saw the stretcher bearers take him away for burial. His head was blown right off. I had my last London leave with him. I have a diary recording the event. He died most painlessly. The ground was held.

Eye-Witness, Yes.

Home address.
224 King William Street.
Adelaide.

Informant:- P. E. C. Pearce, 4257,
27th Battn. D Coy. 15th platoon
Bath War Hospital.

Richard Adcock.
London.
4.10.18.
J.E.A.

A

27-9-18

4245

Am. Oller

27 Bth

13

See under

6670

J. S. Bird

27 Bth