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

Captain
Eric Arthur Collins

12th Field Artillery Brigade



0770701M

A.I.F. 12th F.A.B.

COLLINS
E.A. Captain

"D. of Wds 4-5-17"

Died of wounds 4-5-17 - at 3rd C.C.Stn France
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 30-7-17.

M

London
1-8-17

12th Fld. Art. Battery.
A. F. A.

Collins.
Capt. E. A.

"Died of Wounds"

Admitted 4.5.17 G.S.W. arm and penetrating ~~shoulder~~ chest. Died 4.5.17 Buried 5.5.17 in Military Cemetery Grevilliers.

Letter from:-
The Chaplain.
No. 3 C. C. Station.
B. E. F.

London.
13.8.17.

M.

12th Arty.
A.I.F.

Collins.
Cpt. E.A.

"Died of Wounds 4.5.17."

Killed by Aerial Bomb while in officers mess in waggon lines right of Sunken Road near village of Bengnatre and saw him killed but not buried. He was an excellent officer.

Witness:- Sgt. Osborne.
982
Ward 40.
Harefield

D.P. Dickson.
London.
4.9.17.

M

Havre 10th Sept. 1917.

FIELD ARTILLERY, A.I.F. COLLINS, Capt. E.A. 12th Bde.

D/W. 4.5.17. Det. D/B.

I knew him well. He was my Battery Captain. He was wounded at Bapaume on the 4th May 1917 and was taken to a Field Ambulance close by. He died the next day. Major Ellis, J.K. of the 45th Battery, now with the Brigade, can give further details.

Informant: Q.M.S. Manchester, C.H. 7787
12th Brig., 45th Bty., A.F.A.,
Havre Hospital.

L de D.

A.F.A. 12 Bde

COLLINS, Capt E.A.

D/W May 4th 1917. Dets. D/3

On the evening of May 4th Capt Collins was standing outside of a dugout at Bapaume talking to Lt Fallinger of the infantry who had called to see his brother who was a fellow artillery officer of Capt Collins. While they were talking an enemy airman dropped a bomb which killed Lt Fallinger and severely wounded the others. Capt Collins was taken to an ambulance in Bapaume where he died. I saw the whole occurnace but with regard to the Captain's burial I am unable to give any account, but no doubt Major Ellis of the same battery could supply details of the same.

Inf: A. Pulham, 3464.
No. 67 General
BOULOGNE. 12.9.17. HH

12th Brigade
48th Battery
A.I.F.

COLLINS
E.A.. T/Capt.

"Died of Wounds 4.5.17"

I saw him wounded at Bapaume by bomb fragments, which were dropped from an enemy aeroplane. He was wounded in the chest and was taken to a dressing station close by, where he died after a few hours. He was buried in the Cemetery at Bapaume, and his grave was marked by a large white wooden cross, bearing his rank, name and Battery. I did not see the grave but refer to Capt Callanan 12th B.A. Collumn who is in France and who was at his burial and can give particulars.

Witness Sig. J.J. Bergin 20767
12th Brigade 48th Batty A.F.A.
3rd A.A. Hosp Dartford.

M.
P 1

Note written to Capt Callanan: 20.9.17

W. Oman
19.9.17

12th. Brig. 45th. Btn.
A.F.A.

Collins.
Lieut Capt. E.A.

D/W May 4th.

Was hit by a bomb from an aeroplane at Bapaume, and was badly wounded - I saw him just after the bomb dropped. I also saw him lying dead the next morning. He was taken to the dressing station and died there - was buried just outside the dressing station near Bapaume. I saw his grave. It did not have a cross up when I saw it, but one would be put up later.

Ref. Mc.Unnes E. 600.
12th. Brig. 45th. Battg.
A.F.A.
12.9.17.

W.C.J.
London.
19.9.17.

M., P.I.

48th Battery,
A. F. A.

Collins.
Capt. E.A.

"Died of Wounds 4.5.17"

re death of Captain E.A.Collins on the night of the 4th May 1917. Capt.Collins and I were attached to the 45th Battery at the time and had just come out of the line for a rest. A Hun aeroplane dropped a bomb in our lines and Eric Collins received wounds in the right arm and right breast. He was taken away to the Hospital and lost consciousness on the way. I visited the Hospital next morning and found that he had died during the night. He was buried in the Hospital cemetery adjoining. This cemetery is situated just in front of Grevilliers near Bapaume. I had a cross erected over his grave with his name on it. I think if you applied to the Graves Registration Committee giving the whereabouts of the grave they would be able to supply you with a photo of the grave. I am sorry that I did not write personally to his relatives, but I was rather worried at the time for I not only lost a pal but my brother was killed by the same bomb. Major Ellis the O.C. of the Battery wrote to his relatives and to his fiance.

Letter from:-
Lt. H. ~~Allman~~ Callman M.
112th How.Bty. P.I.
A.F.A. 26.9.17.

London.
3.10.17.

Captain E. A. Collins

12th Field Artillery

Per Sweden

3772 Pte. A. Boyd 24th Batt

15/8/14

ack by letter of 2-10-17

Capt E. A. COLLINS
~~11th Hony Battery~~ 112th Howitzer Bty
48 Battery Aus F. A.
D/W 4-5-17 M. 26-9-17
Pi 4 (cd)

To the Secretary
Aust Red Cross Society
London.

Yours of the 18/9/17 to hand re death of Capt. E. A. Collins on the night of the 4th May 1917.

Capt Collins and I were attached to the 45th Battery at the time and had just come out of the line for a rest. A Hun aeroplane dropped a bomb in our lines and Eric Collins received wounds in the right arm and right breast.

He was taken away to the Hospital and lost consciousness on the way.

I visited the Hospital next morning and found that he had died during the night. He

was buried in the Hospital cemetery adjoining. This cemetery is situate just in front of Grevillers near Bapaume. I had a cross erected over his grave with his name on it. I think if you applied to the Graves Registration Committee giving the whereabouts of the grave they would be able to supply you with a photo of the grave.

I am sorry that I did not write personally to his relatives but I was rather worried at the time for I not only lost a pal by any brother was killed by the same shell. Major Ellis the O.C. of the battery wrote to his relatives and to his fiancé

I am

Yours Faithfully

L Hallinan

September 28th, 1917.

Mlle A.Perrot,
C/o.Mdle Gpain,
Ilvis Rue A'Angleterre,
Nice, France.

Dear Madam,

We very much regret to tell you that Captain E.A.Collins, 46th Battery, Australian Field Artillery, died of wounds on May 4th at the 3rd Casualty Clearing Station and we have obtained these unofficial details of his death and burial.

From reports given by men in his battery we learn that Capt.Collins was fatally wounded in the chest by fragments of a bomb dropped by an enemy aeroplane while he was standing at the door of his dug-out on the evening of May 4th, conversing with brother officers. He was removed in an ambulance to the Casualty Clearing Station wher he died a few hours after admission, his burial taking place next day in the Grevillers Cemetery at Bapaume. His greve is marked by a large white cross bearing his name and regimental particulars and we have applied for a photograph of it to be

sent direct to his Mother as soon as circumstances will allow.

Should we obtain further information we shall advise you immediately and in the meantime we trust that it will be some consolation to know that he is buried in a registered Cemetery.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY, R. M. for L A W.

G.C.

3rd October 1917.

Capt. L H.Callinan,
112th Howitzer Battery,
A.F.A. B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you for your letter in answer to our enquiry concerning - Capt. E.A.Collins, 48th Battery, A.I.F. The information and details you have sent will be of much assistance to us and of value to our enquirers. We shall now apply to the Graves Registration and Enquiries, asking them to forward a photograph of the grave to the late officers' next of kin.

We are glad to hear that Major Ellis had written to Capt. Collins' people, we are sure they will appreciate his thoughtfulness very much.

Will you accept our sincere sympathy in the loss of your brother and your friend,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

October 9th, 1917.

Mdle A.Perrot,
C/oMdlle Gouni,
11Bis Rue d'Angleterre,
Nice, France,

Dear Madam,

We are again writing to tell you of another unofficial report which has been received from one of his brother officer about the death of Capt. E.A.Collins,
48th Battery,
A.F.A.
and we trust that these details will be of some assistance to you.

Lt. H.Allmann, 112th Howitzer Battery, A.F.A. wrote to this effect:- "Capt. Collins and I were attached to the 45th Battery at the time and had just come out of the line for a rest A Hun aeroplane dropped a bomb in our lines and Eric Collins received wounds in the right arm and right breast. He was taken away to the Hospital, and lost consciousness on the way. I visited the hospital next morning and found that he had died during the night. He was buried in the hospital cemetery adjoining. This cemetery is situated just in front of Grevillers near Bapaume. I had a cross erected over his grave withhhis name on it. I think if you applied to the Graves Registration Committee, giving the

"whereabouts of the greve, they would be able to supply you with a photo of the grave".

Lt. Allman adds that he would have written at the time but his own brother was killed by the same bomb.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy in your great loss.

Yours faithfully,

V.P.

SECRETARY.

LAW.

A. Derrott
C/o Mlle Gouin
11 bis Rue d'Angleterre
Nice
Alpes Maritimes.

Dear Sir -

I should be very gratefull if you would kindly put my name down in your books and inform me should anything happen to Capt. E. A. Collins 45th Battery A-F A — A-1-F. you kindly gave me news once before when I wrote to you

Yours very sincerely.

Alex Derrott

Special Notification
Card in Cabinet

22 FEB 1917