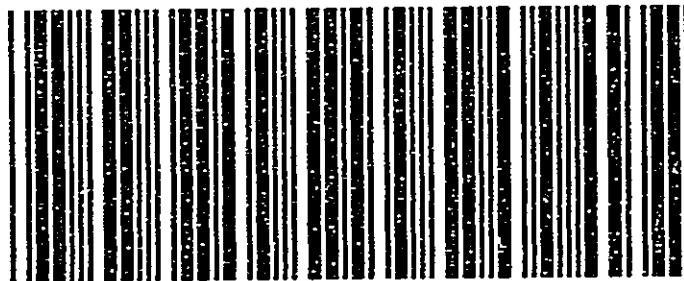


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

**1609 Trooper
William James Cook**

1st Light Horse



0790802Q

1st L.H. Regt
A.I.F.

W.J. Cook,
1609

"Missing"

Killed in action 13.8.17

Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters dated 5.9.17

London 6.9.17

S & F I

st. L. H. Regt.

COOK
Wm. Jas. 1609

"Killed in Action"

"Killed in Action" 15.8.17.

Cert. by A.I.F. HdQtrs 12.11.17.

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London.
13.11.17.

E.H.H.
1st Light Horse. A.I.F.

COOK
1609. S.S.

K. 13/2/17.

Same troop D, and same squad O as informant. Very dark chap. Home-
Town, N.S.W. He often told informant before joining up he had been
running "exiting rinks".

On the afternoon of August 13th at a place about 7 miles from
Bir-Shaba, by name "Turkia" the 1st L.H. had been out on reconnais-
sance and were just lined up before preparing to ride back to Coy at
Tel-el-Fara. The enemy, who were in trenches about 2000 Yards away,
sent a couple of shells at the party; one got Cook who was near infor-
mant. Informant says it nearly cut the poor man in half just above the
stomach. He lived for a minute or two only. His body was brought in
by the 8th to Tel-el-Fara. Informant says his body was buried that night
at the cemetery at Tel-el-Fara, informant saw him buried and saw his
grave, it is marked with a nice cross, so informant says.

Informant:- 1584. N.A.O. Ross.

I.A.L.H.

S 14 A. G. H. Abbassia.

Cairo 10/11/17.

Duplicate

7. H. H. H. H. H.

1884
1st Light Horse, A.I.F.

COOK
1809, W.I.

K. 13/8/17.

Same troop, D, and same squad as informant. Very dark chap. Home-
Tant, N.S.W. He often told informant before joining up he had been
running "skating rink".

On the afternoon of August 13th at a place about 7 miles from
Bir-Shaba, by name "Turkia" the 1st L.H. had been out on reconnais-
sance and were just lined up ~~back~~ preparing to ride back to Coy
Tel-el-Fara. The enemy, who were in trenches about 2000 Yards away,
sent a couple of shells at the party; one got Cook who was near infor-
mant. Informant says it nearly cut the poor man in half just after the
stomach. He lived for a minute or two only. His body was brought in
by the 9th to Tel-el-Fara. Informant says his body was buried that night
at the cemetery at Tel-el-Fara. Informant saw him buried and saw his
grave, it is marked with a nice Cross, so informant says.

Informant:- 1884.K.A.O.Ross.

I.A.L.H.

14 A.G.H. Abbassia.

S *Leve* Cairo 10/11/17.

J. H. Downes.

E. E. F.

(K. 13/8/17)

COOK.

1609. N.J.

I. A. L. H.

He was in C. Squad. The 1st L.H. were at that time camped at Gamli. Early on the morning of Aug: 1st there was a reconnaissance stunt to Bi Saba made by the Bde: They were driving back enemy's outposts. Informant was quite near Cook at the time & says he saw Bishell burst quite near him killing him outright. His body was brought back to Gamli that on a sand cart & buried that night at the cemetery there on a hill behind the camp; informant saw the burial & and afterwards the grave, it was fully marked.

Informant: 2418. Smith A.A.V.

1A.L.H. D. Troop. B. Squad.

14. A.G.H. Abbassia.

CAIRO. 13/11/17.

J.N. Downes.

RECEIVED

4 - DEC 1917

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etw

1st Light Horse.
A.I.F.

COOK, W.J.
1609. Trooper.

KILLED. 13/8/17.

I met Cook in Heliopolis Camp in January, 1916. I was in C. Squadron - I used to see him nearly every day. He was dark, fairly tall, clean-shaven.

I was with him at Beersheba on 13th August, 1917. I saw his dead body on that date. His body was in the sand-cart (Ambulance) - he was quite dead. I was not at his burial. I know him well. He was a good fellow - one of the best, always cheery and willing.

Informant:- Trooper H.W. Barnes, 854,
1st Light Horse,
No. 4 Aust. General Hospital,
RAHMYA.

F.B.W.
14/2/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

1st Light Horse.
A.I.F.

COOK, W.J.
1609. Trooper.

KILLED. 13/8/17.

I left Sydney with Cook on 9th November, 1915, in the S.S. 'Beltana'. We were in C. Squadron - he was a great friend of mine. He was about 5ft. 10ins. in height, and dark, and wore a moustache sometimes.

On 13th August, 1917, we were at Beersheba. We were sitting down together when a shell struck him and killed him instantly - the Ambulance took his body away. I know he was buried at TEL-EL-FARA. I was told this by Taylor who saw him buried. Cook was a very good fellow and liked by everyone. He played football. He lived at Alectown, via Parkes. He wrote his address in my pocket-book (produced).

Informant:- BARTLEY, Tpr. P.D., 1701,
1st Light Horse,
No. 4 Aust. General Hospital,
RAHMYA.

Private address:-
North Hill, Forbes.

F.B.W.
14/2/18.

written
Tpr. Taylor
121 Lill. Hrs.
9-4-18 a . . . F E.E.F.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

1st Lt HORSE.
A.I.F.

COOK.
Tpr. W.J. No. 1609

"Killed in action 13.7.17."

Informant described Cook as about 5 ft 9 inches high, medium build, aged about 24/25.

Informant states that on 13.7.17, the 1st Regiment of the 1st Light Horse were near Beersheba Palestine engaged in a reconnoitring stunt against the Turks. Informant was in "A" Squadron and Cook in "Q" Squadron. While engaged in the stunt a shell burst near Cook and wounded 3 men including Cook, who died just after. Informant did not see him actually struck but afterwards when passing by, saw his dead body. A burial party afterwards buried him not far from where he fell, at a place called Shelal.

Informant described Cook as a very nice and popular fellow.

Informant: Tpr. J.H. Athorn, 2303
"A" Squad, 1st Light Horse.

W.E.G.
22.2.18.

Home address: "Stonycroft", Australia St.,
Camperdown.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

S. Ed. Sullivan

Navys

EGYPTIAN CASUALTY.

27th March 1918.

1st Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

Cook W.J. 1609.

K. 13th August 1917. Det D/B.

He came from Sydney. He was killed while skirmishing out with his troop a few miles north of Larkah (Palestine) the first oasis across the Syrian Desert. His body was never brought in.

Inf:- Pte J. Sceris No. 1553.
1st Aust. Light Horse.
No. 2. Gen. Hosp. (Quail).

RBS.

S. Ca sup

~~#PC~~
///
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

WOUNDED & MISSING INFORMATION BUREAU

CABLE ADDRESS:

"ETGYX-CAIRO"

EGYPT.

E.E.F.

(K. 13/8/17)

COOK W. J.

Tpr 1609

1st L. H. Regt.

Informant says:- He was killed outright by a shell when we were on a demonstration out from Beersheba. He was brought right back to where we were camped and buried there.

Everyone liked him.

He was tall, dark and about 26.

Informant:- BAKER Tpr 3047.
1st L. H.

14th A. G. Hospital.
18th July 1918.

Mrs A. Hayward.

C.S.W.
S.

108. 187

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

WOUNDED & MISSING INFORMATION BUREAU

CABLE ADDRESS:

"ETGYX - CAIRO"

EGYPT.

E.E.F.

1st.L.H.Regt.

(K.I.S.E.)

COOK
W.J. 1609

Informant says:- "I came over with Cook, we were the same Reinforcement. We were on a reconnaissance towards Beersheba and the Turks started shelling. Very few shells came over, so he was unlucky to be hit. He was killed outright and didn't suffer at all. He was a very nice chap, quiet, and well liked. Was tall and fair about 25 or 26. The chaps in his Squadron brought back his body to Tel El Fara where he is buried. The Grave is marked with a Cross."

Informant:- L/Cpl.Little 1635
1st.L.H.Regt.,A.I.F.

14th.A.G.Hospital,

PORT SAID.23.7.18.

Mrs.A.Hayward

C. Smith
S.

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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

WOUNDED & MISSING INFORMATION BUREAU

CABLE ADDRESS:
"ETGYX-CAIRO"

EGYPT.
E.E.F.

1st.L.H.Regt.

(K.13.8.V)

COOK
W.J. 1609

Informant says:- "We were on a reconnaissance stunt and the Turks were shelling us. He was killed outright by a piece of Shell. I helped to carry him to the Field Ambulance, about a mile back, and from there his body was sent to Shellal, where he is buried. The Grave is marked with a Cross with his name on it. He was about 33, fairly tall, medium colouring, and was well liked"

Informant:- Tpr. Jones 2941
1st.L.H.Regt., A.I.F.

14th.A.G.Hospital,
PORT SAID. 23.7.18.

Mrs. Hayward

C. Smith
S.

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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

WOUNDED & MISSING INFORMATION BUREAU

CABLE ADDRESS:
"ETGYX-CAIRO"

EGYPT.
E.E.F.

1st.L.H.Regt.

(K.13.8.17)

COOK
W.J. 1609

Informant says:- I saw him hit by a piece of shell. It was at a place called El Turkeyeh? We were out on one of the usual stunts, and the Turks were shelling us. He got hit in the chest by a piece of shell. Major Smith carried him back on horseback to a dressing Station just behind the lines. I don't know where he died, but he is buried at Tel El Para. There is a cross on the Grave with his name, number, and the date.
Was a tall dark chap, about 32 or 33. Came over with me on the same Boat. Was very well liked, a jolly, fine chap."

Informant:- Dvr. Elyton H.W. 1599
1st.L.H.Regt., A.I.F.

14th.A. G.Hospital,
FORT SAID. 20.8.18.

Mrs.A.Hayward

C. Smith
S.

R. 2. 13.

223

1st Lt. A. L. H.

(K. 13. 8. 17)

COOK
Was: 154

154

Informant says: "We were forming up Delouins about twenty miles from a place called Conki, on the Reddy Coast. He was killed by a shell, almost instantly. We brought his chest and buried him in a cemetery at a place called Weli Shokk Hara. I helped to make the grave for his grave; it has his name, number, date, and age on it. Was a tall, thin man, about 50. Was very popular in the Squadron."

Informant: S/S. Smith 1201.
1st Lt. A. L. H., Regt. A. I. P.

1st Lt. A. S. Hamilton.
1st Lt. SAID, 15. 8. 18.

1st Lt. A. H. G. W. H.

no 154 Cook with
obviously
1609

Cairo has sent S