

Lance Corporal Alan Carlisle



No.3 Commando 4 Troop

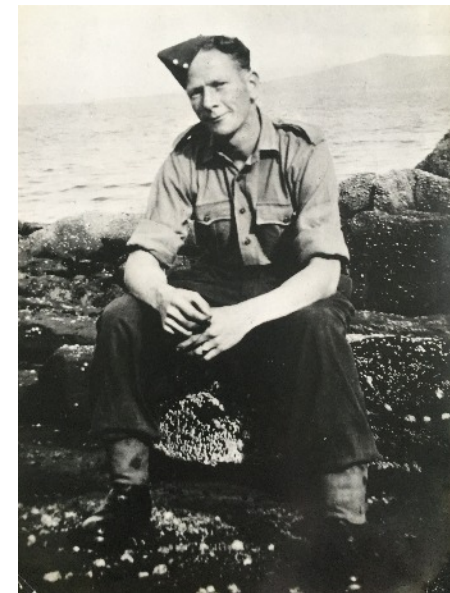
Killed in action Vaagso, Norway

27 December 1941 aged 21

Buried at Sea from HMS Kenya.

Remembered with honour Brookwood Memorial

Son of Archibald and Agnes Carlisle



Report in a newspaper

CANVEY MAN KILLED IN COM- MANDOS' RAID.



News has been received of the death in action in Vaagso, of Lance-Corporal Alan Carlisle, aged 21 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle, of Leigh Beck, Canvey. He joined the Royal West Kents in

Lance-Corpl. A. Carlisle 1937, and went to France on the outbreak of war. After Dunkirk, he volunteered for the Commandos, and was in the raid on Lofoten Island last March. He has two brothers in the Middle East, and one in Ireland.

A letter to his Parents from Lieutenant Lloyd

Wintecourse Hoet,
Newbury,
Berks.
9-1-47.

Dear Mr Carlish,
Please
excuse me for not
writing sooner but I
have just returned
from a hospital ship. Your
son was killed by my
side about three quarters
of an hour after we
landed. We had killed
5 Germans in the street
& set fire to the main
ammunition dump. We were
crossing the road, actually
the main street of the
town - myself in front,
your son, & then his

² friend Spiers. Suddenly
two shots came from
a nearby house - one
bullet hitting your son
& the other Spiers. I
ducked just in time
to stop a bullet in my
back fired from another
house. We crawled back
under cover & your son
died a few minutes
later. He looked at
me, grinned & said
"They've got me. I won't
get over this one." He
died very soon after.
Actually when he was hit
he fired his Bren gun
& sank to his knees
still firing like a good
soldier.

I cannot speak too

³ highly of your son.
He was one of my
favourite N.C.O's. He
was always cheerful,
amusing & helpful. He
was very brave & in
every respect a first
class soldier. We shall
miss him a lot.

Please accept my most
sincere sympathy in your
loss of such a fine
boy.

Yours sincerely,

N.S. Lloyd ^{lieut}

Spiers' bullet went through
his leg near the groin.
He is doing well.

^{W.C.}
Your son's bullet was
just below his heart.
He was buried at ^{W.C.}
sea after a full service.

Transcript of letter from Lieutenant Lloyd

9.1.42

Dear Mr. Carlisle,

Please excuse me for not writing sooner, but I have just returned from a Hospital ship.

Your son was killed by my side about three quarters of an hour after we landed. We had killed 5 Germans in the street and set fire to the main ammunition dump.

We were crossing the road, actually the main street of the town - myself in front, your son, then his friend Spiers. Suddenly 2 shots came from a nearby house one bullet killing your son and the other Spiers. I ducked just in time to stop a bullet in my back fired from another house. We crawled back under cover and your son died a few minutes later. He looked at me - grinned and said "They've got me, I won't get over this one". He died very soon after. Actually when he was hit, he fired his Bren gun and sank to his knees still firing like a good soldier.

I cannot speak too highly of your son. He was one of my favourite N.C.O's. He was always cheerful amusing, and helpful. He was very brave and in every respect a first class soldier. We shall miss him a lot.

Please accept my most sincere sympathy in your loss of such a fine boy.

Yours sincerely,
W.E.Lloyd. Lieut.

P.S. Spiers' bullet went through his leg near the groin. He is doing well

W.E.L.

Yours sons' bullet was just under his heart. He was buried at sea after a full service.

W.E.L.

Letters to his Parents from Lt. Komrower and Lt. Col Durnford-Slater

Breeze Hill
Holden Rd
Kersal.
Salford.

9.1.41.

Dear Mrs Carlisle,

I should like to express my deepest sympathy to you in your sad loss. Words are of little comfort but we were all very fond of "Ginger," and I can appreciate what his loss will mean.

I know that Mr Lloyd has written to you but felt that I must also tell you of the high opinion we had of your ^{son} ~~husband~~.

If there is anything we can do please let either Mr Lloyd or myself know and we shall be very happy to do it.

Yours very sincerely
Arthur Komrower.

3 Commando
Brenford House
Leaps
June 5

Dear Mrs Carlisle

I thought I would write a line to tell you how we all sympathise with you in the loss of your ^{son} ~~husband~~. He was exactly what was wanted for Commando work, fit, intelligent, reliable and full of initiative. I knew him very well personally and can feel with you in your loss.

He was doing a wonderful job when he was killed and his party were responsible for covering the main opposition at the entrance to the town.

Last Thursday about Daily Express gives an accurate account of his Troop Commanders death, which will show you what was going on.

You can be very proud of a very brave and able man. It is certainly wonderful to work with men like him.

Yours very sincerely
John Durnford-Slater

A letter from his landlady

10/1/42
The Thistle
20 Middleton Drive
Largs
Ayrshire
Scotland

My Dear Friend's
Just a wee note to say how sorry
I feel for all of you at this time
it must have been a great shock
to you all. its a very trying time we
are living in only we have started
a big job & we will have to go on
now till we finish it. I had
only Ginger & Jack with me as Bill
went back to his own place shortly
when I got word about Allan being
killed & Jack burned & the other young
man over the road being killed to
all I could say oh my it just
finished me the folks advised me
just to go away up to Paisley
to my Sister I just locked up
the house & I had all my mist
in for them coming home I had

(2)

just to take it all up with me
Jack sent me a letter from the
hospital its his hands that's burned
& he says he thinks he will be home
in about a weeks time as they are
getting better I had a letter from
Allan's chum this morning he is
in hospital to he is to go through
an operation but he was telling me
he would see to all Allan's things
when he came home & he thinks he
will not be long till he is home
please accept my sympathy how
sad I feel about Allan he was a fine
lad everybody who came about the
house liked him & so did our ones.
him & I were one with each other
I just looked on him as my own
brother's & I had 5 of them you
had a good son full of thought &
consideration what's not to be found
very ready these days he has been well

(3)

brought in the right way he
would say to me when he was going
out at night I'll not be late ma
& I would wait till he would come
in & we always had our supper to-
gether the last Sunday we were
together he came in he says ma
I put on the wireless the service
will be coming on & he started to
sing & the two of us were singing
sitting at the fire I just the day
will not be far distant when this
great turmoil will end we dont
know whether we will see it or
not that's his work finished & he
had a great outlook if he had
been spared what he was going
to do excuse me as I dont feel just
like writing I dont feel settled
I'll now close with kind Love
to all from Miss A. Bonner

A letter to his Parents from Brigadier Haydon



Lance Corporal Alan Carlisle,
No.3 Commando
Son of Archibald and Agnes Carlisle.
Remembered with honour



Headquarters
Special Service Brigade
Castle Donzlas
Kirkcaldy Brightons.
Scotland.
22.1.42.

My dear Mr Carlisle -
I am writing to tell you how
very sad and sorry I am that your son
Cpl. Carlisle should have lost his life in
the recent raid in Norway.
It is tragic beyond belief that he and
others like him, who represented all that is
good and brave, should be lost to us in
battle. Yes, without them, no battle
would ever be won or even attempted -

Your son was in my Brigade and no one
could be prouder than I am of my
Command and of those who form it.
He was a member of a very
fine Commando and I know that you
will feel the same pride in him that
they do.
I am enclosing some photographs which
were taken during his funeral service
at sea.
You will like to know that all the
ships company who could be spared from
duty; all of his soldiers and the
Admiral and his staff were there to do him
honour. No.2 Commando, some of whom
were on board, provided the firing party

for him.
My Brigade Major asked the Chaplain
to give him a copy of the prayer he
read out and this is, I know, being
sent to you separately.
Please do not think of answering
this letter.
I write only to tell you how truly
sad and sorry I am and to send
you these photographs which I think
you will like to have -
Yours sincerely
J. Haydon