



## **PERSONAL INFORMATION SHEET**



**Name: Frederick (Frank) Milner BURGESS**

**DOB: 1918**

**Rank: Gunner**

**Service Identity Number: 3528355**

**Service/Regiment/Corps: Royal Artillery**

**Unit: 8 Coast Regiment RA**

**Died: 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> October 1942**

### **Personal history before the war:**

Little is known of Frank's early life however records indicate that he was born in 1918 in Chester.

He was the son of Percy and Constance May Burgess and lived at 5 Chariot Street, Higher Openshaw, Manchester and is known to have worked at Fergusons Pailin who produced electrical switchgear.

Frank joined the Royal Artillery in 1937 and was posted out to 8 Coast Regiment in Hong Kong shortly afterwards.

### **Wartime experience:**

Records indicate that Frank was captured on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1941 when the Hong Kong garrison surrendered to the Japanese. He was interned in Shamshuipo POW camp.

### **Personal history post war (if survived):**

Sadly Frank did not survive the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and his name is inscribed on column 3 of the Sai Wan War Memorial.



Additional photos:

**Fate of Two  
Hong Kong  
Prisoners**

**Presumed Lost When  
Jap Ship Sank**

Two local men who were taken prisoner at Hong Kong are now officially presumed to have been killed in action at sea whilst prisoners of war. They are Private Kenneth T. Hodgkinson, 168, Moor-side-street, Droylsden, and Gunner F. Burgess, 5, Chariot-street, Hr. Openshaw.



Pte. Hodgkinson      Gunner F. Burgess

After the fall of Hong Kong on Christmas Day, 1941, they were noted missing. Some five months later their relatives were relieved to learn that they were prisoners of war in Japanese hands. There was no news of them again until January, 1943, when the War Office notified their relatives that they had been reported missing by the Japanese authorities following the sinking of the S.S. Lisbon Maru, a vessel engaged in transporting British prisoners of war from Hong Kong to Japan.

The latest communication from the War Office states that after a careful review of the available evidence, the department has reached the conclusion that all hope of their survival must be abandoned, and there can no longer be any alternative but to presume they were lost when the ship was sunk.

Pte. Hodgkinson was brought up by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hodgkinson. In 1938 he gave up his job at the Harley-street (Openshaw) branch of the Droylsden Co-op. to join the Army. Two months before the outbreak of war he was drafted to Hong Kong with the Royal Scots Regiment. Educated at Fairfield-road Council School, he was a popular member of Moorside Methodist Church and Sunday School, Droylsden.

Gunner Burgess, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Burgess, left his job at Ferguson Pullin's to join the Army in 1937. He was attached to the Royal Artillery, and soon after joining up was drafted out to Hong Kong, where he remained until the Garrison fell. He was an old boy of Water-street School.

The above information was provided by Jean Clements.



Reproduction of this Personal Information Sheet or the information or pictures contained within it without the express permission of LiMMa and the family of the relative concerned is prohibited. Relatives providing information regarding the above person do so on the understanding that it will only be used for the purposes of LiMMa in producing their website and not passed to any third party. For further information please contact [limmauk@gmail.com](mailto:limmauk@gmail.com)