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

Lieutenant
Vincent Charles Callen

34th Battalion



0670810M

A.I.F. 34th Btn

CALLEN
V. C Lieut.
Vincent-C

"K/A. 20-8-18"

Killed in action 20-8-18 - buried Bailleul Wood British Cemetery
4½ miles S.S.E. of Albert.
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 9-12-18.

London
10-12-18

A.I.F.
34th Bttn.D.Co.

CALLEN.
Lieut.V.C.

"Killed 20.8.18."

Callen was in front line at Bray sur Somme, and killed by Machine gunbullet about 10 p.m. on Aug. 20/18. I saw his dead body on a ~~st~~ stretcher in front of my dugout at Bray sur Somme. I did not see the wound. He was buried in a gully off the Main Corbie-Peronne Road, in the cemetery on 21.8.18. I do not know if a cross was erected.

Informant:- S.W. Cavander. 3019.
34th Bttn. H/Qs.
B. E. F. 7.2.19.

O.S.W.
London.
15.2.19.
J.E.A.

S.

A.I.F.
34th Battalion.

CALLEN, [illegible] Lieutenant.

"Killed, 20/8/18."

I was in Lieut. Callen's Company, "D", and I knew Lieut. Callen well. In August we were in the trenches at Bray and Corby Roads. We were just changing over from the supports to the front line, and whilst changing over the Lieutenant was hit by several machine gun bullets, which killed him outright. He was buried in Daily-le-Sec. Cemetery.

Informant - S.T.Ross, No.3371.
Present address - No.21 Hut, No.4 Australian General Hospital.
Randwick.

Private Address - 203 Riley St.,
Surry Hills.

B.M.
12/3/19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

34th BATTALION, A.I.F.

CALLEN,
Lieutenant Vincent C

"KILLED, 20.8.18."

Mr Callen was my Platoon officer in D.Company, 16th Platoon. His name was 'Vincent' and he was the only officer of that name in the Battalion. He was killed instantly by Machine Gun fire about the 18th or 20th August 1918 on the hill this side of "Happy Valley" on the left side of the River from Villers Bretonneux, well up in front of Sailly le Sec. I was not in the trench at the time but heard of it the following night; he was killed at night-time as he was inspecting the trench. Sergeant Page, since deceased, saw it happen and told me about it. Page said Mr. Callen was killed instantly. We advanced from this position and he was taken back for burial.

INFORMANT: Sergeant A.E. Dorrell, 3284,
D.Coy, 16th Platoon,
34th Battalion, A.I.F.

Home Address: 48 Terminus Street, PETERSHAM.

H.S.O.
No.4 Australian General
Hospital, RANDWICK.
14.3.19.

Sd copy
SYDNEY BUREAU.

34th. BATTALION, A.I.F.

CALLEN,
Lieutenant V.C.

"KILLED, 20.8.18."

I knew Mr. Callen; he was a 1st Lieutenant and his initials were V.C. He was the only officer of that name in the Battalion.
He was killed about a mile this side of Bray, the other side of Corbie. He was brought back to the Battalion Headquarters in a chalk quarry, near Bray, for burial, and I saw his body. He was buried on the edge of the quarry alongside the grave of Sergeant Gates, 7572. Corporal Laddicombe, the Pioneer Corporal took all particulars of the men who were buried there, and had crosses made for the graves. His things were put in at Battalion Headquarters, including his watch.

INFORMANT: Lance-Corporal P.G.Coppock,2291,
M.M. & Bar,
34th Battalion Headquarters Runner,

Home Address; No. 8 Edward Street,
Merewether, NEWCASTLE.

H.S.O.
No.4 Australian General
Hospital, RANDWICK.
14.3.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Havre. 18th. March 1919.

34th. Australians. Callen. Lieut. V. C.

K. August 20/1916. Det. D/B.

He was killed by shell fire near Bray, and was buried near a White Quarry. Chaplain Capt. Calder, has all the particulars, and also the location of the grave. He is still with the Battalion.

Enf:- Corporal A. A. Gaudin, 1387,
34th. Australians. C. 9.
Australian Demob. Base.

CRR.

RRB.

34th Btn.

CALLEN, V.C.
Lieut.

K. in act. 20/8/18

3019 L/Cpl. Cavander, S.W. reports that he furnished the Red Cross Searcher at No.3 A.A.H. Dartford, England with particulars re above Officer.

Private address:-

52 Wigram Rd., Glebe Pt.,
Sydney.

R. Matthews
H.H.A.T. Shropshire
17/5/19

Vincent

34th Battalion A.I.F. LIEUT. CALLEN V.C.

"Killed Aug. 20/18"

Short, medium build, had a glass eye, dark complexioned, very popular.

Near Morlancourt in front of Bray, we had just gone into the line to take over. Mr. Callen was giving us orders and then went on to give orders to another gun team. Just as he went to get into the trench, a M.G. bullet hit him in the chest killing him instantly.

I don't know where he was buried.

Informant:- L/Cpl. Coleman E.B.C. 2547
34th Battalion

Searcher:-
R.W. Pfeiffer,
Adm. Hdqrs.,
on board H.T. "Ceuritza" 23/5/19

The above statement is confirmed by me.
Inf:- Pte.A.Langwell 1866
34th Battn

Adelaide
23/5/19

"Mayfield"
Stockton
N. S. W.
Australia
8th Nov. 1918

RECEIVED
1 JAN 1919

3.1.19

The Secretary
Red Cross Society,
London.

Dear Sir

I have been informed of the death in action of my cousin Lieutenant Vincent Charles Callen M.M. 6 boy 34th Battalion A. I. F and am writing to know if you could give me any details as to his death and where he is buried.

Thanking you in anticipation for the favour of an early reply to the above address.

I am
yours faithfully,
(Miss) Margaret Callen.

Miss M. Callen 3.1.19
Mayville
Stockton
N.S.W.

Re Lt. V.C. Callen 34th Batt A.I.F
Kia 9.20.8.18.

Australia Offerant.

Egan, H. J. 1071.	M. Aug. 18/18.
*Ellis, L. G. 4002.	K. Aug. 18/18. Det.D./B.
Foots, J. M. 4104.	D/W. April 23/18. Det.D./B.
Fouracre, R. S. 3829.	K. Aug. 14/18. Det.D./B.
Fraser, J. L. 6798.	K. May 19/18. Det.D./B.
Halfyburton, A. 391.	K. July 27/18. Det.D./B.
Hancock, F. 4720.	M. May 19/18.
Heffernan, Sgt. J. 398.	M. Aug. 18/18.
Hill, V. G. 6360.	M. Aug. 18/18.
Hurst, A. S. 6361.	M. Aug. 18/18.
Jackson, L.-Cpl. J. D. 6101.	M. Aug. 18/18.
Kelly, E. J. 6946A.	M. Aug. 18/18.
McCartin, Lieut. L. A.	K. Aug. 18/18. Det.D./B.
McIntyre, A. J. 518.	W. and M. Aug. 18/18.
Morris, A. 1979.	W. and M. Aug. 18/18.
*Morris, J. 873.	K. Aug. 18/18. Det.D./B.
Reyment, E. J. 6885.	M. May 19/18.
Rowley, P. R. L. 3870. (Att. 8th M.G.C.)	K. Mar. 22/18. Det.D./B.
*Russell, L. 681.	D/W. July 27/18. Det.D./B.
Sargeant, H. 5681.	D/W. Sept. 3/18. Det.D./B.
Swift, T. G. L. 3942.	W. and M. Aug. 18/18.
Tyler, L.-Sgt. R. J. 6904.	K. June 9/18. Det.D./B.
Westaway, Lieut. H. W.	M. Aug. 18/18.

23rd BATTALION A.I.F.

Burniston, H. M. 5548.	K. Aug. 7/18. Det.D./B.
Cock, F. W. 6801.	K. Aug. 18/18. Det.D./B.
*Cornell, E. 6310.	D/W. Sept. 2/18. Det.D./B.
Edwards, H. J. 1511.	K. Mar. 22/18. Det.D./B.
*Ellis, Cpl. W. C. 5815.	K. July 4/18. Det.D./B.
Ford, C. W. 1923.	D/W. Sept. 10/18. Det.D./B.
*Frith, R. 6832.	D/W. Aug. 19/18. Det.D./B.
Grohs, R. H. 5984	K. July 4/18. Det.D./B.
Jones, E. 6873A.	K. July 4/18. Det.D./B.
Kelly, J. 1232.	M. Sept. 3/18.
*Nelson, Lieut. F. M.	K. June 26/18. Det.D./B.
Parker, H. W. 6388.	D/W. April 15/18. Det.D./B.
Pleasance, E. H. 1119.	K. Aug. 31/18. Det.D./B.
Tymms, E. F. 6765A.	K. Aug. 17/18. Det.D./B.