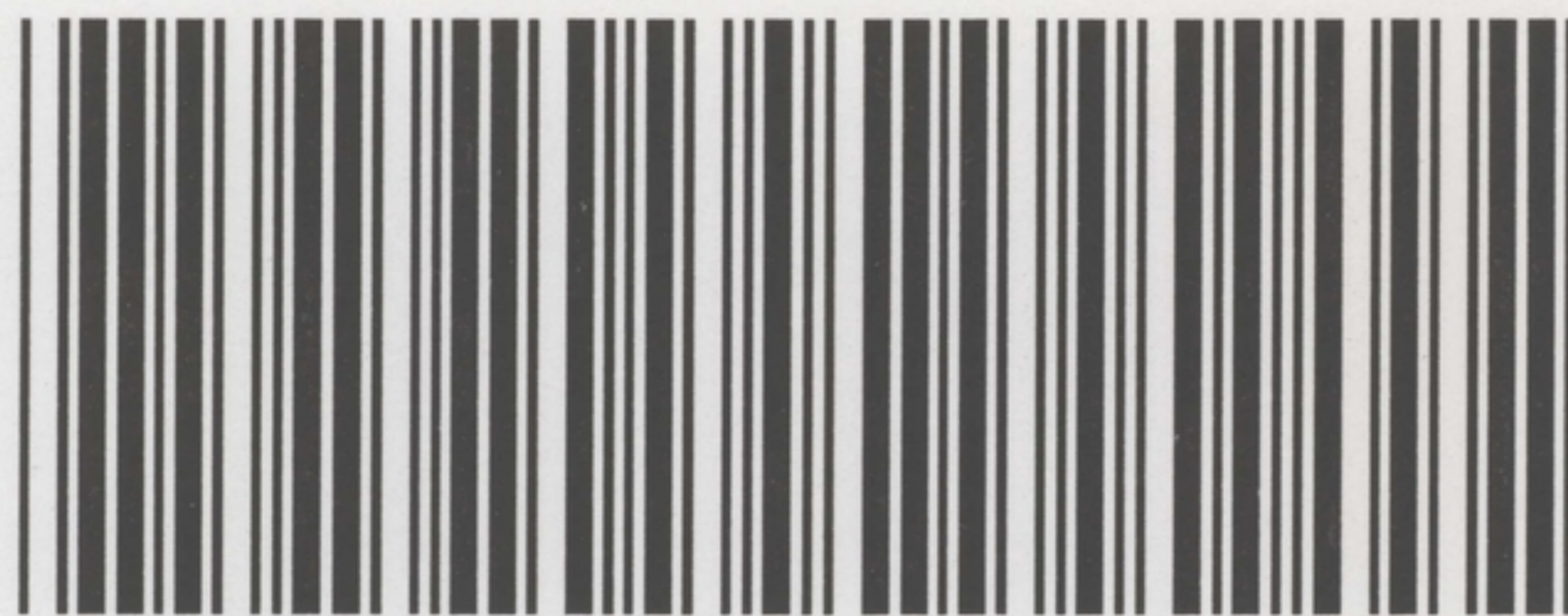


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

Lieutenant
Richard Horace
Maconchie Gibbs

59th Battalion



1151014D

ENQUIRY BLOCK

MELBOURNE.

London 27.10.19.

AUSTRALIAN LIST

Name	Unit.	Casualty	Name & Address of Enquirer.
Lieut. Gibbs. R.H.M.	59th Btn.	"Definite news wanted as to Death"	Miss Nell Watson, "Greenlees" Church Street, Malvern, Victoria.

to Aunt Bess P.O.

25. 10. 19

Dear Miss Whybrow.

The enclosed two
cases will explain themselves.

They are both from friends
of mine and I ~~will~~ wd be

awfully glad if you cd
deal with them.

of the Gibbs
case you probably have
something for 93 which

Mr Wilson will be able to
deal with the Campbell

can if you could be kind enough
to send it to him. I have
written to Major Manchester
& asked him to ask Mrs
Campbell to send her full
address to you. You will
notice that she gives it only
as 70 Westbourne Terrace.

I will call at your
office on Wed.

all good wishes.
many yrs

C. Mell
—

Greenlee
Church St

Victoria Malvern
Thursday Aug 21st

Dear Mrs. Hellicar

My fiancee Lieut. R. H. M. Gibbs
59th Battalion 15 Brigade has been
missing since July 19th 1916 -

We have had no definite news. Every
soldier seems to tell a different tale,
& although it is hope against all
reason - your sister told me that she is
sure you would not mind enclosing
this note or asking your brother,
Captain Miles, to let me know if he
does by any chance hear anything
at all about him - I do hope
you do not mind, but naturally it
means a terrible lot to me

I am

Yours sincerely
Neil Watson.

Fort. at Flower Bay, Armentieres, was
commanded by Colonel Elliot & Brigadier
General McElroy. Was tall - 6 ft. very
broad, fair, blue eyes, &
26 years of age. That's all
I can find out.

Very sincerely
Yours
[Signature]

A. I. F. 59th Btn.
5th Div.

GIBBS.
Lieut. Richard Horace
Maconochie.

Killed in Action. 19. 7. 16.

No trace Germany,
Cert by spt. Mills. 10. 10. 19.

London.
24. 10. 19.

Off M & P. I.

FRANCE.

59th Battn
A.I.F.

GIBBS. R.
Lieut.

M. July 19th 1916

I saw Lieut. Gibbs when I was coming back from trenches between the two lines at Fleurbaix, he was dead, I was lying beside him for a long time. He was a nice chap, could not wish for a better officer.

Reference; ♂ Saunders. 4588.
59th Battalion
Ward 18.
Harefield Hospital. 20/8/16.

London
25/8/16
D.P. Dickson.

Off. M.

59. A. I. F.

Gibbs, Lieut. Richard.

(M. July 19/16. France.)

Informant states that on August 23/16 he heard from Lieut. Stockfield, 59. A. I. F. now in 3rd. London General Hospital, Wandsworth, that Lieut. Gibbs got hit and fell about 80 yds. this side of the German trenches at Fleurbaix on July 19/16.

Reference:--

Capt. Gordon William Akeroyd,
59. A. I. F.
1st. London General Hospital,
Camberwell.

Home address:--

North Carlton.
Victoria,
Australia.

August 30th
Caldwell.

59. A. I. F.

A.I.F. 59.

FRANCE.

GIBBS,
Lt.R.

M. 19-7-16.

He was killed over toward the German line in the charge on the night of July 19th at Fleurbaix. I saw him go down hit either by shrapnel or a bullet. I was quite near him at the time. I don't know if his body was recovered. He was 2nd in command of A.Coy., a university man and very popular with us.

Reference;- Pte.A.Taylor, 4603.A.

Pte.Dozell, IV Platoon, A.Coy. Bombing Sect; told me he saw Mr. Gibbs' body lying out near the German lines during the charge on July 19th at Fleurbaix. He told me this next morning when he came out of the charge.

Reference;- Pte. L. Lyons, 3563.A.

No. 5.A.D.B.D. Etaples, 4.9.16. S.A.

Off.M.

A.I.F. 59th Batt.

FRANCE

GIBBS Lt. R.

Off. M. 19.7.16.

I saw Lt. Gibbs wounded by the creek in No Man's Land about 100 yards away from the German front line trenches at Fleur Baix on July 19th 1916. He went down in a heap. We were driven back at this point. The grass was high and I did not see him again. I made enquiries but could hear nothing further at all about him. I concluded that he died where he fell.

Reference: Sgt. W. Bent, 3686, A Coy.
5th A.D.B.D. Staples. 4.8.16.

586M

1.

59th Battn.
A.I.F.
A 111 Company

Off. M.

Gibbs, R
Lieut.-

Info mant states - "Lieut. Gibbs was my lieut. a very nice man. Platoon 111, Sec. 11. I saw him leave our trench and never saw him again. I was knocked out myself halfway to the German trenches. I heard on the boat that Lieut. Gibbs was killed. I do not remember who told me."

Ref.:- Pte. H. Hussey, 4974. 59th Battn. A Coy.
Lady Dundonald's Hospital 87 Eaton Sq.,
2/8/16.

Home address - South Warrandyte,
Victoria, Australia.

L. J. Jones,
London,
5/8/16.

Off. M.

French Casualty

59th A. I. F.

Gibbs, Lieut R.,
A. Company

(Missing July 19th 1916)

Informant states that "On 19th July 1916 at Fromelles, while watching men going out to attack, I saw Lieut Gibbs fall and lie still. When I passed him five minutes later, he was still lying motionless, and apparently dead."

Reference: Lieut Gerhard R. Stockfeld,
59th A. I. F.,
3rd London General Hospital,
Wandsworth, S.W.

Home address:
Blackburn,
Victoria,
Australia.

London,
8th August, 1916.
W.P. Manning.

off M

26th January

-7.

Kriegsgefangenensendung
Prisoner of War.

Lieutenant H.D.L. Cumming,
22nd Australian Infantry Battalion,
Offizier Lager,
Division II,
Friedberg,
Hanover.

Dear Sir,

We have received your inquiry for Lieut Richard
Gibbs and we regret to inform you that from several unofficial
reports which we have received, we fear that he was killed
in action on July 19th - the date on which he went amissing.

Several men have told us that they saw his dead body and from
the similarity of their reports we are afraid that he met his
death on that date.

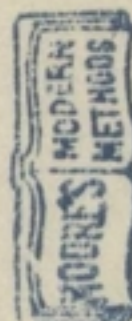
With sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

V.A.

Secretary.

L.A.W.



59th Battn
A.I.F.,

FRENCH CASUALTY.

GIBBS. Lieut.
2nd. in Command
of. A. Coy.

Off. M. July 17th 1916.

Informant states that on July 19th between Armentieres and Levantie he saw Lieut. Gibbs and Sergt, Bent who was nearer, afterwrads told him he was shot dead.

Reference;- C.W. Free, 4256,
59th Battalion, A.I.F.,
A. Company,
Marlpit Hospital,
Edenbridge, Kent.

Home address;-
43, Hodgkinson Street,
Clifton Hill,
Melbourne, Victoria.

August 18th 1916
Mrs. T. Lloyd.

Off. M.