

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

**35 Corporal  
Phillip Gillman**

**13th Battalion**



1170202D

13th Battalion A.I.F.

GILLMAN P.F., Pte. 35

Killed in Action 29.8.16.

I knew Gillman -- he was a Corporal in D. and was in original Battalion, and I think had been on Gallipoli. He was rather tall, thin, fair, and had rather bad front teeth and came from North Sydney.

On the night of 29.8.16, I remember the date well, about 11.5 p.m., we were in the trenches near Mouquet Farm, he was about 20 yards to my right, when a shell came over just as we were "hopping over". He was just starting out bombing. The shell killed him and three others instantly and I helped to bury his body, near the trench. I am quite certain it was Gillman - we called him "Gillie" We put a wooden Cross with his name on it over his grave, just behind the parapet. I am quite sure he was killed outright.

Informant:-- W. Wood, 3511,

13th Battalion A.I.F., D. Co.

No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

A careful reliable witness.

H.S.O.  
10.5.17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Ed.  
S  
Jeff

FRANCE.

A.I.P. 13.

GILMAN, P.E. 35.

Aug. 29. 1916.

He was a Cpl, and was in charge of the bombing section of XIV Pl, D.Co. A party of which he was a member were told off to bomb one of the German trenches on the night of August 29th. at Pozieres. The party were waiting in the front line when a shell came over and blew him and some of the others to pieces. Pte. E.O. White, 3497, D.Co., saw parts of his body. I was only about 20 yards away from him when he was killed. White came along to look for the stretcher bearers, and told me what had happened.

Reference: Pts. 2. Folkes, 3565.

Pte E.O. White, 13th. Batt:

26 Gen. Hosp. Staples.

7.12.1916. SA.

*Written Pte White 19.12.16*

13th A.I.F.

Gillman, P.E. 35  
D.Co.

(K. Aug. 29/16)

Informant states that on the night of August 29th, Cpl. P.E. Gillman was killed outright by a shell which burst on the parapet of the trench just as the Co. were about to charge. He was buried with two or three others who were killed at the same time in the lines. Informant picked Gillman up and also helped to bury him. Gillman came north Sydney.

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description: Tall, thin, fair with rather bad teeth.

Informant:- Pte. W. Wood, 3511  
13th A.I.F. - D.Co.  
3rd London General Hospital,  
Wandsworth

Dec. 23

R. R. Moffrey

13th Battalion A.I.F.

GILLMAN P.N. 35.

Killed in Action 29.8.16.

I knew Gillman - he was in D. Co., and was a Corporal. On 29.8.16, at night, about 10.45 p.m., I was in a bomb trench, leading from our trench towards the German lines. A shell came over our heads, and burst further back in the ~~the~~ Bomb trench and then word was passed up to the Officer, that Gillman, another Corporal, whose name I think was Body, and four other men had been killed outright by the same shell, which killed these six, but did not wound anyone else. Gillman was a fine figure of a fellow, but I do not know where he came from. I think he was in the original Battalion.

Reference:-- L.H. Gillett, 3101,  
13th Battalion A.I.F., D. Company.  
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

A very careful witness.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

H.8.O.  
1.3.17.

13th Battn.  
A. I. F.

Gillman.  
Phillip Edward 35,

"Killed in Action 29.8.16."

I have just received your letter dated Dec. 20th 1917 enquiring about a man of my Battn. P.E. Gillman 35. You ask for a short description of Gillman, which I will give to the best of my ability. He was about 5 feet 10., high and rather slender build, pale complexion light hair. I am sorry to say I was within a couple of yards from him when he and four others were killed by a shell which fell in the trench on Aug. 29. 1916. This is all I can say in the matter, as half an hour later we left the trench in a charge in which I was wounded and taken prisoner. I am doing all right at present, my wound which was in the left foot is nearly well.

Better from:-  
Pte. E. G. White 3497.  
D Coy.  
13th Battn.  
A.I.F.  
Grafenwohr. 31.3.17.

S.

London.  
22.5.17.

13th Battalion. A.I.F.  
A.I.F.

GILLMAN, P.E.  
35. Pte.

Killed in Action 29/8/16.

Gillman was a bomber in D.Co. which was my Company. About the 29th August we were in the trenches together at Mouquet Farm. A shell burst in the trenches and killed 3 or 4 men, Gillman being one of the 3 killed. He was killed outright. He was buried just at the rear of the trenches. I think he was a corporal of bombers when Killed. He was a very thin tall fellow, fair complexion. He was a very good chap well liked by all the men.

Informant: Dunn Cpl. 3295,  
13th Battalion. D.Co.  
No.4 Australian General Hospital,  
RANDWICK.

B.M.  
30/7/18.

SYDNEY BUREAU. *fd. 30/7/18*

Ack  
T.M. 16.5.17

Grafenwohr.

March 31<sup>st</sup>/17.

U.

Dear Sir.

I have just received your  
letter dated December 20<sup>th</sup>/17. enquiring about  
a man of my battalion P. E. Gillman (35).

You ask for a short description of Gillman,  
which I will give to the best of my ability.

He was about 5ft 10 inches high & rather  
slender build, pale complexion, light  
hair. I am sorry to say I was within a



couple of yards from him, when he &  
four others were killed by a shell which  
fell in the trench, on August 29<sup>th</sup>/18

This is all I can say in the matter has  
half an hour later we left the trench on a  
charge in which I was wounded and taken  
prisoner. I am doing alright at present my  
wound which was in the ~~right~~ left foot

is nearly well. I hope this letter finds  
you in the best of health as this leaves  
me.

I remain Yours Faithfully.

Private E G White (3497) D Compny  
13 Batt A I F.

35/ Phillip Edward GILMAN

13 Batt AIF

C.K.A. 29. 8. 16.

S. 2 (cd)

18.5.17

Kriegsgefangenensendung

Pto. E.G. White D.Co.  
13. Batt. A.I.F. n 12  
British Prisoner of War  
Gefangenlager *Grafenwöhr*  
Bayern  
Germany.

Dear Ego. White. D.Co.

Very many thanks for your letter of March 31st just received in answer to our enquiry about

35. P.E. Gillman.

The information and description you have sent will be of much assistance.

We are very pleased to hear that you/foet was nearly well when you wrote, and hope by this time you are feeling quite fit again, and that the weather is now much warmer and more summerlike with you as it is with us at present..

When you were missing we received an enquiry about you from our Sydney office, so are sending a copy of your letter to Sydney, and it will be sent on to whoever enquired there in case you have not been

able to write home by the same mail.

We trust your parcels reach you regularly and that they contain  
what you desire.

*With all good wishes,*

Yours faithfully

V.D

Secretary.

*J.W.*