

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

1008 Private  
John Keenan

14th Battalion



1480603M

A.I.F.  
14th. Batt.,

KEENAN. 1008.  
Pte. John.,

*Missing*  
"Killed in Action 8.8.15".

Killed in Action 8.8.15.  
No burial.

Cert. by H.C. List 26.8.19.

London.  
21.10.19.

M. Alex.

14 A.I.F. A/c D. Coy.  
Keen A  
M. 8/8/15.

✓  
KEENAN  
J. 1008.

John

Pte J. Doyle, 1010, D Co, 14th Btn, told witness he saw Keenan shot dead in a charge near the salt-lake, at Knoll 60. They were lying together on the crest of a small hill when this occurred. Keenan called out "Good bye, jack" and rolled over dead with a bullet through his head. Keenan was described as a big fellow, with a fair moustache.

Ref:- Pte S.C. Bliss, 950,  
D Co, 14 A.I.F.  
O/S Base, Giza, CAIRO.

S.A.  
13/3/16.

M. & P.I.

M B D .

14 A.I.F. H of D. *Doyle*  
K in A.  
M. 8/8/15.

KEENAN  
J. 1008

*John*

Pte J. Doyle, D Co, and Keenan fell together in the charge on Sunday morning Aug 8. They lay close to one another. Doyle, who has since been sent to Australia, permanently unfit, tried to bind up Keenan's wounds. While he was doing this a bullet came along and finished Keenan off. He died in Doyle's arms. Doyle told witness of these happenings soon after they occurred.

Ref:- Pte J. McG. Stewart, 1058, D Co, 14 A.I.F.  
Pte R. E. Antill, 1228, do  
Tel el Kebir Camp.

S.A.  
17/3/16.

M. & P.I.

Cairo, March 23rd 1916.

Dear Mrs Cornish,

I am afraid it is but bad news we can send you about Pte Keenan, for we have received unofficial evidence that he was wounded in the charge on Sunday morning Aug 8th. He and Pte Doyle were both wounded at the same time and the latter was binding up Pte Keenan's wound when he was killed in Doyle's arms by another bullet. Pte J. Doyle, 1010, of D Co. 14th Btn., has since been sent to Australia permanently unfit, and perhaps Mrs Keenan might be able to communicate with him in Australia. Another witness has told us the same story except that there is a little more description. The charge was near the Salt Lake at Knoll 60 and the men were on the crest of a small hill when they were wounded. The poor boy called out: "Good bye, Jack", and rolled over dead. He is described as a big man with a fair moustache. I think you will agree there is little doubt that he must have died fighting for his country.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) W. F. J.

As. Secretary.

Mrs Cornish,  
The Waterworks,  
Alexandria.