

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

**91 Corporal
William Edward
Stillman**

5th Machine Gun Company



2630908S

5th Australian M.G.C.,

Stillman, L/Cpl. W.E., 91,

15.4.17. Det: D. & B.

"I saw Stillman shot through the head and killed instantaneously, the bullet going in the centre of the forehead. They were on outpost duty in front of Foreuil on April 13/17. The Germans attacked between 4.30 and 6 and Stillman looked over the parapet. He was buried near, but I am not certain of the exact spot. A cross was put up over the grave."

Eye Witness: Yes.

Description:

Informant:-- Pte. J.P. Haigh, 5344,
5th Australian M.G.C.,
Bath War Hosp:

Home address:--

19.8.17.
F.W. Tanner.

5th Mo/Gun Coy.
All.F.

Stillman
I/Cpl. W.E. 91

"Killed 15.4.17."

Refer to Pte. F. Morgan 5th Mo/Gun Coy who is in France
and who can give particulars of casualty and place of burial.

Witness:- Pte. R.J. Randall 747

5th Mo/Gun Coy.

3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Omen,
London.

6.9.17.

Note written F. Morgan 6.9.17.

S

5th Mc/Gun Coy.
A.I.G.

Stillman
I/Cpl. W.E. 91

"Killed 15.4.17."

Refer to Sgt. W. Ried 5th Mc/Gun Coy
who is in France and who can give particulars of his
death and burial.

Witness:-

L/Pl. J. Place.

13884

5th Mc/Gun Coy. A.M.C. D. Coy

3rd A.A. Hospital,
Dartford.

W. Oman,
London.
8.9.17.

NOTE Written Sgt. Ried
7.9.17

S

5th Machine Gun Company. A.I.F.
(Late 18th Battn.)

STILLMAN, W.R.
91. Pte.

KILLED IN ACTION. 15/4/17.

I knew Stillman well - he and I were in Zeitoun Machine Gun School together, and had our photos taken. He came from the 18th Battalion, his initial was 'W' and we called him 'Bill'. He was a fair-sized chap, growing grey.

He was killed on 15/4/17 when the Germans broke through at Lagnicourt, and I was told by men on the Gun - as I was on transport at the time - that he had been killed outright. I saw a large cross with his name on it for his grave - it was made by D.W. McQuiggen, who was afterwards killed. We re-took and held the ground where he was hit.

Informant:- L.H.DIXON, 202,
5th Machine Gun Company,
No.4 Aust.General Hospital,
RANDWICK.

H.S.O.
20/9/17.

Note: A careful witness.

SYDNEY BURKAU.

Sd
b
gulf

5th Machine Gun Coy.
Australian I.F.

Stillman. L/Cpl. W.E. 91.

K. April 15/17 Det D/R.

"We were attacked by Fritz on Apr 15/17 and Stillman was killed by a bullet, in our trench. I was on the left of him. He was buried in a gully near our line between Horeuil and Quesant., 7 or 8 miles N.E. of Bapaume. I was one of the burial party. We made a big cross for his grave. He was an Englishman."

Eye-witness:--
Description:--

Informant:-- Cpl. A. Young, 1599,
5th M.G.Coy. A.I.F.
Ampton Hospital,
Suffolk.

Home address:-- 79, Weston Road,
Rozelle,
Sydney.

1.10.17.
C.H.Hawkins.

5th Machine Gun co.
Aus. Imp Force

Stillman, L/Cpl. W. E. 91

(K. 15 April, 1917).

" I saw Stillman buried in the gully north of Moreuil -
about 500 or 600 yds from the village. The grave was
marked with a rough wooden cross, "

Eye Witness - Yes, of burial

Description

Informant :- Major A. H. Wright,
25th machine Gun co. A.I.F.
3rd London General Hospt.
Wandsworth, S. W

Home address :-
Headquarters A.I.F.
Horseferry Rd,
London, S. W. 1.

12. 10. 1917.
John R. Clark Hall.

S

5th Mach. Gun Coy.
A. I. F.

Stillman.
L/Cpl. W. E. 91.

"Killed 15.4.17"

He was killed by a bullet wound. The Germans had come over on us and he appeared to be fighting till the last. I saw the grave with brass plate erected by the Company, which is about 1000 yards N.E. of Noreuil.

Witness:-

Sgt. V.W. Thompson.
5th Mach. Gun Coy.
Dartford.

R.D.B.

London.
1.11.17.

S.

5th Mach. Gun Coy.
A. I. F.

Stillman.
L/Cpl. W. E. 91.

"Killed 15.4.17"

Killed by bullet outside Noreuil and buried where he fell. I helped to make the cross and know he is buried there.

Witness:-

Sgt. J.F. Leech

D.P. Dickson.

London.
1.11.17.

S.

5th Mach. Gun Coy.,
A.I.F.

STILLMAN
L/Cpl. W.E. 91

"Killed April 15th 1917"

I saw his grave with a cross over it and his name on it, in front of the village of Noreuil near Bullacourt. I did not know him personally. I was with Pte. Mahoney who was a great mate of Stillmans and who drew my attention to the Cross. He was buried by his mates.

Witness:-

J. Paterson 4217
18th Batn Royal Berks.
Reading.

W. Alison
London.
5.11.17.

Note written Pte. Mahoney 2.11.17.

S

5th. Machine Gun Coy.
A.I.F.

Stillman,
1/Cpl. W.R. 91.

Killed 15.4.17.

I do not know any particulars of the casualty but I saw his grave between Norial and Bullecourt facing Quéant, a cross bearing his number name and unit. Refer to Pte. W. Pietzker, 5th. Machine Gun Coy. who saw him killed at Lagnicourt, and can give full particulars. When I left France on the 20.9.17. Pietzker was in hospital over there with a slight illness.

Witness: Connelly, Pte. J.W. 459,
5th. Machine Gun Coy.
3rd. A.A. Hosp.
Dartford.

W. Oman.
London.
20.11.17.

S.

5th. M.G.C. A.I.F.

Stillman, W.E. L.Cpl.
NO. 91.

Killed April 15th 1917. Det. D.E.

He was killed whilst in the gun position in the front lines at Lagnicourt. The crew was surrounded. He was buried near Lagnicourt by a party from the coy. A cross was erected bearing full particulars. I knew him well in the coy. He came over with the 8th reinf of the 5th M.G.C. He came from N.S.W.

Description. Age. 34. Height. 5-10. Complexion. Dark. Well Built.

Witness. Pte. Lawson. G.H. NO. 83. 5th M.G.C.

Taken at
NO. 4. C.D. Hurdcott.
22-12-17.
F.G.H.

S. Whitmee.
NO. 4. Command Depot.
Hurdcott.

Ed S
Self

5th M.G. Coy.
A.I.F.

STILLMAN.
L/Cpl. W.E. 91.

"KILLED IN ACTION 15.4.17"

Re L/Cpl W.E. Stillman 91. 5th Aust. M.G. Coy. reported killed in action 15.4.17. I am pleased to be able to give full particulars concerning the above., who was an intimate friend of mine. Particulars quoted are correct and I personally visited his grave ~~at~~ which is on the field and marked by a cross., I believe he was buried in the same grave as several others, but at the time their names were not indicated at the grave., Fuller particulars can be had from the deceased's mother at 7a, Robinson Road Tooting S.W. whom I visited in June this year and left information as to the exact location of his grave., Description. Tall, well built. Hair turning grey, spoke with a decided cockney accent. If by any chance Mrs Stillman cannot furnish particulars that I have mentioned write to me again and I will endeavour to supply same., Please convey my regards to Mrs Stillman when making enquiries.,

Letter from Pte. F. Mahony. 1363.

Note;- We regret the delay in Hdqrs 5th A.I. Bde ,
typing the above report, but we have A.I.F.
been obliged to hold it up on account of
pressure of work and shortage of machines.

London.
21.17.

S.

Sgt W, REID (5.9.17)

5 Mach. Gun Co

AIF

BEF

for

91 Lt Col W. E.

STILLMAN.

5 M. G. Co

K. 15. 4. 17

L. B. H.

7-9-17

G-C 1.11.17

Rt MAHONY

Ausko
5 Mach: Gun Co
AIF
B.E.F

abt

91 Lofl W.E. STILLMAN

5 Mach Gun Co

K. 15. 4. 17

Sw.

2.11.17.

PL MAHONY

5 Dist. Mach. Gun Co.

A. I. F.

B. S. 7



about

2/cpl. W. F. Stillman

91.

5 Dist. Mach. Gun Co.

A. I. F.

Killed 13.4.17.

Sw.

2.11.17.

C - C

4. 9. 17.

Plt Y. MORGAN,

S. M. G. Coy.

A. I. F.

B. E. F.

For

91

2/cpl W. E. STILLMAN,

S. M. G. Coy A. I. F.

N. 15. 4. 17.

ack
FM. 9.11.17

91 Lt Col W. E. STILLMAN

KA. 18.4.17

5 M. G. Co

S
3.

Dear Sirs

Reference is made to your enquiry concerning "91. Lt Col W. E. Stillman" 5th Light Inf Bn reported killed in action 18.4.17.

I am pleased to be able to give full particulars concerning the above who was an intimate friend of mine. Particulars quoted are correct and I personally visited his grave which is on the field and marked by a cross. I believe he was buried in the same grave as several others but at the time their names were not indicated at the grave. Further particulars can be had from the deceased's mother at 7th Robinson Rd Tooting S.W. whom I visited in June this year and left information as to the exact location of the grave.

Description

Full, well built, hair
turning grey. spoke with a
decided Cockney accent.

If by any chance Mr. Stillman
cannot furnish particulars that
I have mentioned write
me again and I will endeavour
to supply same.

Please convey my regards to
Mr. Stillman when making
enquiries.

Hoping the above information
will meet the needs of the
enquirer.

I am

1355 Pk. of Mahony

Apr 5th A.S. Bde

A.S. F.

6C

November 19th, 1917.

1353,
Pto. F. Mahony,
H. C. B.
b A.I.F. Regd.
H. R. F.

Dear Pto. Mahony,

Very many thanks for your letter in answer to our inquiry
concerning 91 L/Cpl. W. E. Stillman, 5 H. G. Co.

The detailed information you have sent will be of much
assistance to us and of great value to our authorities. We cabled
through our Sydney Office in June last for details of death and
burial.

Should we have occasion to communicate with Mrs. Stillman
we shall certainly convey your message to her.

Please accept our sincere sympathy in the loss of your
friend.

Yours faithfully,

V.P.
SECRETARY *JL*