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

5652 Private
Thomas Francis Bevis

5th Battalion



0370701I

5th Battn.

Pte Bevis T. F. 5652

K Aug 10/18 Det D/B.

He dropped down in front of me as we advanced with a Machine Gun bullet in the stomach, dying instantly; he is buried on the field where he fell and we marked his name and number on a piece of board making it secure, and also leaving his identity disc there too. The Pioneers who were following up would mark the spot with a durable wooden cross.

He was nicknamed "Sonna" in order to distinguish him from another Bevis in the Battn. He was a lively chap well liked by all; came from Vic

1770 L/C F. W. Jackson, 7 Plat B Coy, 5th Battn.

Dartford, 5/10/18.

N. B. P.

M.

[redacted]

5th Battn

Bevis T. F. 5652.

K Aug 10/18 Det D/B.

I saw him killed alongside me by Machine Gun bullets through the stomach, the same day that I got knocked; he only lived a few minutes and was unconscious. It was at La Motte near Villiers Bretonneaux he was in my platoon and we knew him as "Sonna": he was very well liked I know nothing about his burial.

6521 Pte Kendall J. G. B coy 8 plat.

Dartford, 11/10/18.

N. B. P.

M

F. A.

Havre.

16th. October. 1918.

5th. Australians.

Bevis. T. F. 5652.

X. August. 10/1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew Private Bevis, B. 6. M.G. No. 1. on the gun. I made a Cross for his Grave when we were in Billets at Aubigny near Villers Bretteneux in August 1918. I heard that he had been killed and buried in the field where he fell. His name was printed on the Cross.

Inf:- Private. C. A. Williams. 6839.
5th. Australians. B. 5.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

RDM.

2/Cpl.

5th Batn.A.I.F. Bevis, T.F. No.5652.

Killed in Action 10.8.18.

Villers Brettoneux killed by Machine gun bullet, going into no mans land in the afternoon on an attack he was a machine gunner, I saw him killed, I knew him well he was in B.Coy.

Inf:- Wallace, No.6814.
W.35,
Harefield.

D.P.Dickson,
16.10.18.
London,
29/10/18.
J.E.A.

M.

[redacted]

A.I.F.5th Battn. BEVIS
T.F.5652

"KILLED IN ACTION 10/8/18"

Bevis was killed on the Lihons front - He was shot through the head by a Machine Gun Bullet and died instantly - We buried them in a little wood close by. Ground was held.

Eye-Witness:- Yes
Description:-

Informant:- 4433 T.A. Hutchinson, (Reliable)
5th. Battn., A.I.F.,
Duston War Hpl.,
Northampton.

Home address:- None in England
Gertrude Mackinnell
8/10/18
London
29/10/18
JEA

Not sent on.

[redacted]

Havre. 2nd. November. 1918.

5th. Australians. Bevis, T. F. 5652.

K. August. 10/1918. Dets. D/B.

I knew Private Bevis, B. S. he came from Fitzroy, Victoria; about 22, medium height and build, fairish, clean-shaven, and single. I saw him hit by a bullet in 'No Man's Land' near Harbonieres about August 10th. 1918, daylight. We were advancing and took our objective and held it. I came back about two days after and saw his body lying where ~~he~~ was it hit. We held the ground. I do not know where he was buried.

Inf:- Private. P. Roberts. 7547.
5th. Australians. B. S.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

C. Sull

M.

RDM. C.E.W.

CP.

5th Btn.

BEVIS, T.F.
Pte. No. 5652

Kld. in act. 10/8/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a short man, well built, medium complexion about 22 years of age, known as "Sona". Casualty was advancing at Libons. I was in the same advance and was casualty's Platoon Sgt. He was hit by a machine gun bullet which killed him instantly. I was 20 yards away from Casualty at the time of his death and I saw Casualty's body afterwards. He was buried near where he fell, and I helped to bury him. A cross was erected with his name, number and unit on it."

Informant:- Sgt. W.M. Moodie.

Private address
15 Imperial Avenue,
Caulfield.

W ed Sull

T.C.F.
29.11.18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

5th Btn.

BEVIS, T. F.
Pte. 5652.

K. in act. 10/8/18.

"I knew Casualty. He was a man of medium build, about 5 ft. 4 ins. dark complexion, about 23 years of age. Casualty was at Rosieres in advance. He was going forward in the attack when he was killed instantly by a machine gun bullet. I was a few yards away at the time and saw him killed. He was buried near Rosieres and a cross was erected over his grave."

Informant:- Cpl. H. Cole,
No. 3077, 5th Btn.

Private address:-
Richardson Street,
Albert Park.

M. Ed. Sutt.

M.A.T.
30/6/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.