

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

5297 Private
Frank Francis
Bratchley

25th Battalion



0510605H

(17.6.18)

B

Pte Micherson

a Coy.

25th Batta. A.17

No 1 Command Depot

Sutton Veney ~~Abroad~~

abt

5297

Pte T.F. Bratchley

25th Batta. A.17

W/M. 7.10.17

17.6.18
a.17

25th Batt. A.I.F.

Bratchley, E.F. Pte. NO. 5297.

A. Coy.

Wounded and Missing. Oct. 7th 1917.

He was badly wounded by a shell whilst we were in the lines at Zonnebeke, and was taken out on a stretcher and as far as I know the stretcher was blown up by a shell whilst on its way out. I knew him in the coy, He came from Queensland.

Description. Age. 37. Height. 5-10. Complexion. Dark. Well built.

Witness. Cpl. Moore, R.J. NO. 3147. A. Coy. 25th Batt.

Taken at
NO. 4. C.D. Hurdcott.
2-2-18.
F.G.R.

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

25th Battn.
A.I.F.

BRATCHLEY.
P.F. 5297.

"Wounded and Missing" 7-10-17.

He seemed to me to get most of a shell pretty nearly to himself about 500 yards from the Church at Zonnebeke, and I was close to and saw it, but I did not have the chance to go up to him, so I could not swear he was killed instantly, though I am sure he was. Pte Micherson of A. Coy. 25th Battn. was right alongside of him and he told me he was sure he was killed cut-right too, but he could not swear to it either. The stunt was on and we were attacking and Bratchley was acting S/B at the time. I do not know what became of him after that, and I did not know him at home. He was a big chap 6 ft about, and very thick set. He was in A.IV.

Note:-(Written Pte Micherson, 17-6-18.)

Informant:- Hassell, Cpl. M. Ill.
A. Coy. 25th Battn.

No I Command Depot.
SUTTON VENEY.

~~Written Pte Micherson~~

17.6.18

Letter returned

No Trace HQ

L. nson.
19-6-18.

Off. M.

A. I. F. 25th Btn

BRATCHLEY
P.F. 5897

"Wded & Missing"

Killed in action 6-10-17 - previously reported Wded & Missing
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqrs 30-7-18.

London
2-8-18

OFF.M.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON.

4AFC/1737/4/2.

C O P Y

Statement made by No. 5675 Pte Mitcherson A.C. 25th Btn.

re No. 5297 Pte Bratchley F.F. 25th Btn.
Wounded and Missing 7.10.17.

K.A.

No 5297 Private Bratchley F.F. 25th Battalion,
was killed on the 7.10.17. by shell-fire. I was close
by at the time and can therefore speak definitely.

For Red Cross

*diff
led
K.A.*

Dated at SUTTON VERNY.

(SGD). A.C. MITCHERSON

Statement made and signed before me

(SGD). R. DOOLEY.
Lieut & Adjutant.
No.1. Command Depot. A.I.F.

RD

C O P Y

Statement made by No. 111 Cpl Hassett M. 25th Btn.

re No. 5297 Pte Bratchley F.F. 25th Btn.
Wounded and Missing 7.10.17.

K-17

On 5th October 1917, at Zonnebeke, No. 5297 Private Bratchley F.F. 25th Battalion, was stretcher-bearing, and he was blown up by shell.

Dated at No 1. Command Depot.

Statement made and signed before me

for Red Cross
(SGD). X Cpl Hassett.

(SGD). R. Dooley,
Lieutenant & Adjt.
No. 1. Command Depot. A.I.F.

*off all
got
K-17*

not seen

17

25th A.I.F.

Bratchley. 5297. FF

(W/H. Oct. 7/17)

"On Oct. 4 /17 I was ^{K.A.} at Polygon Wood. I heard that Bratchley had been blown up by a shell. Pte. Mitchelson of 25th A.I.F. A Coy. was with him (Bratchley) at the time, and was wounded by the same shell that killed Bratchley, and could give full details."

Eyewitness:

Description:

Informant: William G. Truce. 5926.

25th A.I.F.

1st Southern General Hospital,
Birmingham.

Home address:

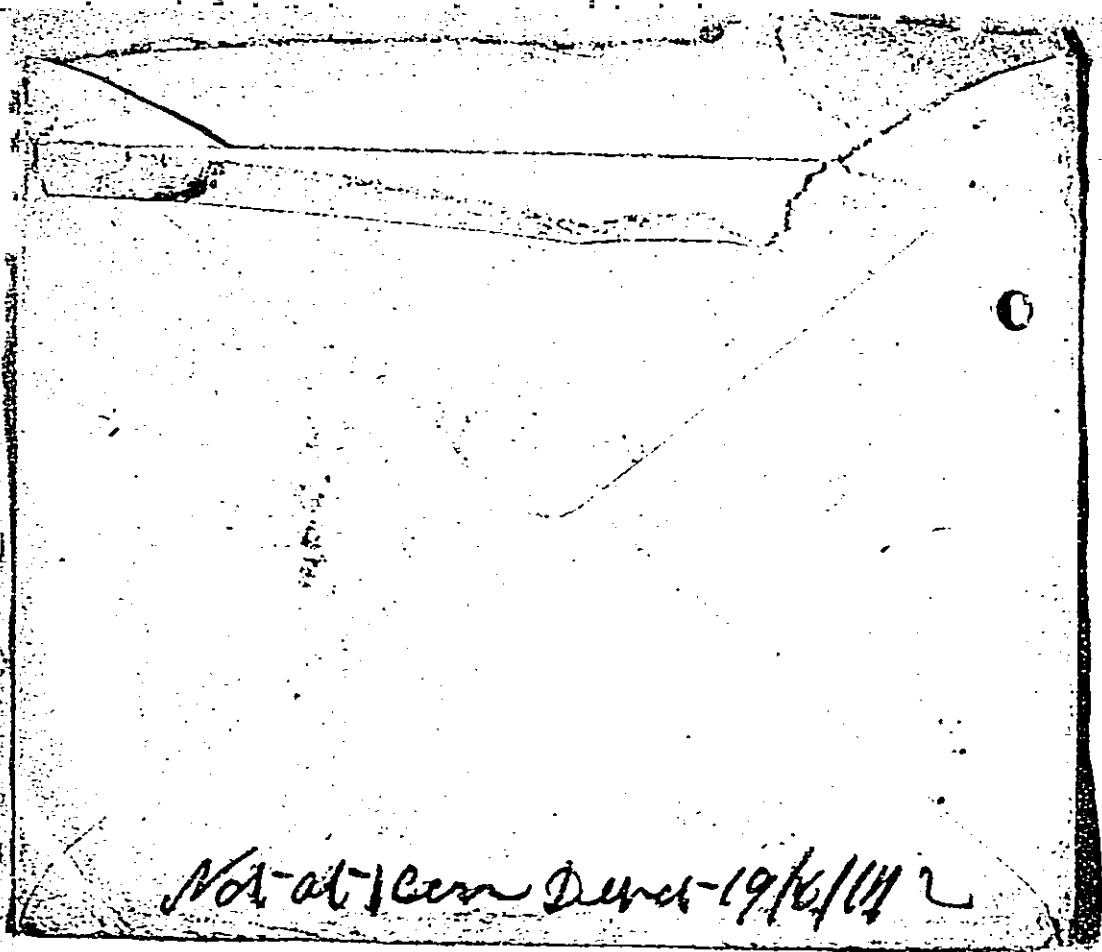
Reid's Creak,

Gayndah, Queensland, Australia.

17.8.18.

J.W.R. Greatwood.

Handwritten:
Hall
6
K...



Not at Corn Depot - 19/6/11

17.6.18.

AUSTRALIAN-RED-CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU).

54, VICTORIA STREET,

LONDON, S.W. 1.



Pt. Micherson
A Coy. 25th Batta. A.I.F.
abroad

40

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your Unit

3297 Pt. F. F. Bratchley 25th Batta. A.I.F.
~~and have been told that you may be able to help us by supply-~~

ing some information.

W/M. 7.10.17.

We should be most grateful for any details you could send us concerning Pt. F. F. Bratchley and would also be glad if you could add a short description of his personal appearance, or any points that would help us to prove his identity.

With best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

Vera Deakin

per W. F. Johnson
SECRETARY