

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

**Major  
William Twynam  
Mundell**

**15th Battalion**



1850609T

15th Battalion.  
A.I.F.

MUNDELL.  
Major.W.T.

"DIED OF WOUNDS" 19.8.17"

Re the late Major W.T. Mundell. 15th Battn. A.I.F. He was in command of the 15th Battalion. We were in the line in front of Messines. He was out visiting the outpost when a German Machine Gun opened fire. He was very badly wounded, he was taken back to dressing station about 800 yards in rear of line and it was there he breathed his last. His body was taken back to a place near Messines and there buried.,

Letter from;- E.K. Carter. Capt.  
Officer's Mess.,  
12. Training Bttn  
A.I.F.

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

London.  
14.3.18.

M. P.I.

15th Battn  
A.I.F.

Mundell.  
Major W.T.

"Died of Wounds 19.4.17"

I saw his grave at Gapard Farm near the R.A. Post at Messines. There were a number of other graves (a dozen or two) at the same spot.

Witness:-

L. Ryan 2415  
15th Battn.

L.P.J.

London.  
27.12.17.

M.  
P.I.

15th Battn.  
A.I.F.

MUNDELL,  
Major. W.T.

"Died of Wounds 19.8.17."

I saw him wounded in the front lines at Messines, just on the right of what we called "Fanny's Farm". He was caught by a bullet which penetrated the shoulder, and travelled towards the spine. He was taken back to our dressing station in the support trench, where he was operated on by Captain O'Brien the R.M.O, but he died soon after the operation. He was fully conscious right up till time of death. I knew him very well, he was a very popular officer, and was always very considerate with the men. Even whilst being carried out, he insisted on the s/Bearers having rests frequently. He was buried at our Supports at Messines, near "Fanny's Farm". I saw the grave, and it was marked with a cross, bearing his rank, name and unit.

Informant:- Cpl. G.E. Preece, 6545,  
15th Battn, B.Coy, 7th Fltn,  
3.A.A.H.  
Dartford.

M.  
P.I.

W. Oman.  
London.  
18.2.18.

NOTE We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.

15th Battn  
AIF

MUNDELL  
Major W.T.

"Died of wounds Aug 19th 1917"

He was ~~seen~~ commanding the Battn at the time of his death. He was knocked by Machine Gun Bullet whilst visiting outposts in the Messines sector. He was hit in the left shoulder. He was taken to our dressing station (RAP) and died there, and was buried just outside dressing station by our own pioneers. I saw his coat afterwards at Battn H.Qtrs. His grave had a cross etc., He was knocked during the night so I did not see him actually knocked.

Witness:-

H.M. Broune 576  
HdQtrs Signlr.  
15th Battn  
Barefield

W.G.J  
London.  
11.1.18

M & P I

15th Batn  
AIF

MUNDELL  
Major W.T.

"Died of wounds 19.8.17."

I saw him wounded on Messines Ridge. He was shot through the chest by a sniper. I assisted to carry him to the dressing station which was on our support lines, where he died a few minutes after admission. He was unconscious all the time. He was a very popular officer and very much liked by all the men in the Battn. He was buried about 100 yds from the dressing station at Messines Ridge alongside of Lieut. Whitthouse. I saw the grave and it was marked with a cross bearing his rank, name, and Unit.

Witness:-

Pte. C.H. Hewitt 6985  
3rd A.A.Hpl.  
Dartford

W. Oman  
London.  
28.12.17.

M & P.I.

15th Battn.  
A.I.F.

Mundell.  
W.T. Major.

"Died of Wounds 19.8.17"

I saw him wounded at Messines. He was shot through the shoulders with a machine gun bullet. I carried him to the dressing station at Messines and left him there. He was fully conscious when I last saw him. The bullet entered the top of the shoulder and lodged somewhere in his back. The only time he spoke after being hit was to say that he was unable to move his legs. I believe he died some little time after, but I cannot give any particulars either of death or burial and cannot refer to anyone.

Witness:-

Pte.A.S.Tighe 3449  
15th Bty.C.Coy.S.B.  
3rd A.A.Hospital.  
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.  
8.1.18.

M.  
P.I.

15th Battn.  
A.I.F.

Mundell  
Major W.T.

"Died of Wounds 19.8.17"

Left of Warneton on the top of the first line trench, hit by Machine Gun bullet in stomach. He was taken to B.S. I was talking to him at the time. He was too game that is how he got hit. He was rather a decent bloke.

Witness:-

Sig Button  
W.33 Harefield.

D.P.Dickson.

London.  
27.12.17.

M.  
P.H.

15th Bn.

MUNDRELL, W. T.  
Major

Killed in action 19/8/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, about 5 ft. 10 ins. medium complexion, about 40 years of age. Casualty was in support line at Battalion H.Q. and he went out to the front line at about 8 p.m. to view the position. He was hit by machine gun bullets in the shoulder passing down through the heart mortally wounding him. I was at the Regimental Aid Post, Cappard Farm, Messines, when he was carried in. The Battalion Medical Officer, Captain O'Brien operated on him immediately. He came out of the operation but died soon afterwards. He was buried at the Regimental Aid Post, Cappard Farm, and a cross was erected with his name and number on it. He was a very popular man and was greatly missed."

Private address:-  
Newmarket Road,  
Windsor, Wld.

Informant:- G. E. Pearce,  
No. 6545.

F.O.P.

11/5/19

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

15th Battn.  
A. I. F.

MUNDELL.  
Major. W. T.

"DIED OF WOUNDS" 19.8.17"

Re Major W. T. Mundell, that he was wounded on the 19.8.17. and on reaching the dressing station, which was about 1 mile from our front lines he died from his wounds. Major W. T. Mundell was up to time of his death was left in charge of 15th Battalion while Colonel P. T. McCherry D. S. O. MC. were away on leave, I could not say where he was buried by our dressing station, that all I can tell you, but if you write to:- Corporal Bull. A. M. C. 15th Battalion. 4th Brigade A. I. F. France. he can give you all the information of Major W. T. Mundell as he was at D/S when ~~he~~ was carried in by our Stretcher bearers.,

Letter from:- Coy. C/ R. J. Wright. ~~SA-D 7.8~~  
Warminster.,  
20.1.18.

Note:- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines.,

London. 14.3.18.

P. I.

15th Btn/

MUNDALL, W. T.  
Major.

Killed in Action 19/8/17.

"I know Casualty. He was a man about 6 ft. slightly built, fair complexion, pale face, about 40 years of age. Casualty was on out-post duty, Messines. I was a stretcher bearer. I came across Casualty with a bullet wound through the shoulder. I took him to the Advanced Dressing Station where he died a few minutes later. He was buried at Messines near the Regimental Aid Post and I helped to bury him. A cross was erected with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Pte. W. E. Tutty,  
No. 1806, 15th Btn.

Private address:-  
Carter Street,  
Townsville, Q.

T.C.F.  
20/8/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE

A.I.F. 15th Btn

MUNDELL  
Major W.

"Rept. K. 1st or 2nd Feb. 1917"

Adm. 3rd London Gen. Hpl Wandsworth 16-3-17 - Appendicitis

Discharged - Perham Downs 10-5-17  
Cert. by Hpl Index

P.I.

London  
22-6-17

15th Battalion.  
A.I.F.

MUNDELL.  
Major. W. T.

"DIED OF WOUNDS 19.8.17"

Major Mundell was caught by a traversed machine gun fire in No Mans Land, whilst visiting his men. He was badly wounded and only lived a few minutes, he was buried as he wished. Near his men quite close to the front line at Blawen Molan near Messines. The grave was registered. A wooden cross has been erected by his fellow Officers. Description. Tall and thin, clean shaven a slight catch in his speech. I trust this information may be of some use. In case it is insufficient please apply to Major Wilm Staff C/o A.I.F. Hqarters, London.

Letter from;- A. Fraser. Capt.  
4th Bagde.  
France. 12.2.18.

Note;- We regret the delay in typing the above report, but we have been obliged to hold it up on account of pressure of work and shortage of machines, m

London.  
19.3.18.

M.

15th A.I.F.

Mundell, Major W.T.

(D/W Aug. 19/17)

Informant says that Major Mundell was shot by a sniper whilst walking along the top. He was accompanied by Capt. Glasgow. It happened near Messines on Aug. 19/17."

Eye-witness: Yes.

Description:

Informant:- Pte. H. H. Morley, 6813.  
15th A.I.F.  
Southwark Military Hospital.

Home address: Brookfield. Hughendon. Queensland.

Dec. 10/17  
L. Cox.

*Miller Glasgow  
4-1-18*

Havre

11th Dec. 1917.

15th AUSTRALIANS

MUNDSELL, Major. W.2.

D/W. 19.8.17. Det. D/B.

I saw him on a stretcher, being carried to the R.A.P. at Messines on Aug. 19, 1917. He was badly wounded and was groaning as he passed me. Corpl. R.W. Wright of the 15th Bn., D Co., 15th Fltn. a runner, was with the Major when he was wounded. I heard that ~~the~~ the Major died at the R.A.P.

Informant: Pte. W. Rackham, 6833  
15th Australians, D Co., 15th Fltn.,  
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

REM

M  
P.1

Written Cpl Wright 22.12.17

Havre

21st. December. 1917.

15th AUSTRALIANS

MURDALL, Major C.T.

D/S. Aug. 19th. 1917. Det. D/6.

The burial officer of the 4th Division will be able to give the location of his grave. Sergeant T. Turner of the 15th Batt., C.Co., III. Bn. was with the Major when he was killed on Messines Ridge in August, 1917. I saw the cross, and was talking to the Pioneer who was taking it up to place on the grave.

Informant: Webb, J.A. 15. 6562  
15th Australians, C.Co., III. Bn.  
Australian Camp, Roubaix.

ADM.

J. - P. I  
written Turner  
4.1.18

15th A.I.F.

Mundell, Major W.T. A Coy.

(D/W August 19th 1917)

Informant says that Major Mundell was killed at Messines, whilst holding the line. He was buried on the Messines Ridge. He was told by and it was spoken of by many members of his Coy. The man who might be able to give information about him is Capt. Carter of the same Regt. and Coy, who is now on 6 months' training, either at, or near, Codford, on Salisbury Plain.

Eye witness: No. Several in the Coy.

Description:

Informant: Pte. Jamieson Rupert Barlow, 1921  
15th A.I.F.,  
No. 1 Hospital, (Military) Easter.

Home address: Victoria Street,  
Barnsberg,  
Queensland.

20.12.17.  
I. Turner.

Written Cpt. Carter 8-1-18.

M  
P.1

15th Battn.  
A.I.F.

Mundell.  
Mgr.W.T.

"Died of Wounds 19.8.17"

I heard that Major Mundell was sniped at Wytschate Ridge Messines and died shortly after and that he was buried ~~and~~ in the lines. The burial corporal whose name I don't know told me. Staff Capt.Fraser (4th Bgde) would be able to give this information.

Witness:-

J.Harris 7340

15th Battn.C.Coy.

Hut 11 Westham.

W.A.Rand

London.  
9.1.18.

M.  
P.I.

Note Written Capt.Fraser 2.1.18.

15th Bn.  
A.I.F.

MUNDELL  
Maj. W.T.

Died of wounds 19.8.17 Bat. D/H.

I was at D. Coy. Hqrs. when Major Mundell was brought down to R.A Post in the support line - I believe he died there - A D. Coy. runner named Wright was with him at No.2 post when he was hit. below Messines.

Informant:- Rackham, W. 6833

15th D. Coy.,

11 Hut, Westham.

Note:- Not sent on to P.I. Previous report. M.

London  
11.1.18

P.I.

Havre

14th January 1918.

15th A.I.F.

Mundell Maj. W.T.

D/W 19th August 1917. Dot D/B.

We were holding the line at Messines about the 19th August. I heard that Major Mundell was accompanying a ration party on the way up from Company H.Q. to an outpost and that he was sniped on the way. Lieut. Eric Simon of the 15th Battn A.Co. (who was up the line when I left about the 10th December) was with the Major and would be able to give full information.

Inf:- Pte I.R.Carroll No.1415.  
15th A.I.F. A.Co. 11 Fltn.  
Havre Hospital.

HFC.

15th A. I. F.

Mundell, Major W.T.

(D/W Aug. 19/17. Det D & B)

"I helped to bury Major Mundell out on the Messines Ridge."

Informant adds further to-day, 21.1.18: "We were holding the line in the direction of Warneton. At the time Major Mundell was killed he was standing on the top of the parapet, and a bullet struck him on the right side, passed through him and came out on the left side under the arm. He was buried the same day on the spot."

Eye-witness: Yes

Description: He gave me my promotion

Informant: Sgt M. Collins, 1931, 15th A.I.F., A.Coy  
Bethnal Green Hospital,  
London.

Home address:  
Great Southern Hotel,  
George St, Sydney.

18th January 1918.  
Walters.

15th Battn.

*Probably Major W. T. Mundrell*

MUNDRELL,

*D/W 19-8-17* Mjr. W. S.,

K. 19/8/17

I knew casualty, he was a medium built man, 6' in height, medium complexion about 35 years of age. Casualty was at Warneton near Messines in the front line. He was out inspecting outposts and had just left a post I was in and on his way back when he was shot in the shoulder by a machine gun bullet. He carried in and bandaged up and died a few hours later. I do not know where he was buried

ROTHMAN, A.M.,

6085

Private Address:- Rosedale, Q'land.

N.A.E.  
1/8/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

15th Btn.

MUNDELL, W.T.  
Major.

D. of Wounds 19/8/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was about 6 ft. well built, dark complexion, about 45 years of age. Casualty was coming across to our out-post at Barnston, when he was sniped through the chest. I was with him at the time, and he was buried behind Messines. I saw his grave."

Informant:- Pte. C. J. Welsh,  
No. 1091, 15th Btn.

private address:  
363 Edward Street,  
East Brunswick.

S.V.P.  
8/8/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

OC (20.12.17)

Cpl R. W. WRIGHT

DCo  
15 Inf Btu  
A I. F  
Abroad

abt

Major W. T. MUNDELL

~~15 Btu AIF~~

DW. 19.8.17

6 M.  
27.12.17

Staff Capt. FRASER

H Bgde

A.I.F.

B.G.Y.

9e

H

about.

Major W. T. MUNDELL

15 A.I.F.

Killed. 19.8.17

Gr.  
2.1.18

8-1-18

Captain Carter

A. C. Y.

15<sup>th</sup> Inf. B. L.

A. J. Y.

B. J. Y.

alt Major W. J. Mundell

A. C. Y.

15<sup>th</sup> Inf. B. L.

A. J. Y.

D/W. 19-8-17

9-1-18

Sgt. T. TURNER

P. Coy, XII pln

15 A. I. F.

B. 9. 7.

about.

MAJOR W. I. MUNDELL

15 A. I. F.

D. W. 19. 8. 19.

Sw.  
4. 1. 18

Capt. GLASPOW<sup>9C</sup>

15 A. I. F.

B. 4. 7.

about.

MAJOR W. T. MUNDELL

15 A. I. F.

Dr. W 19. 8. 17.

EW.

4-1-18

Information wanted

L. Irish Co. know if Captain W. Brundell 15<sup>th</sup> Buffaloes  
has been reported killed 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1917

Sgt W. D. Smith, 1301.

Ward A. 11

3 Aust Aust Hospital

Dartford L

21.6.17

copy PC  
23-1-18



Major W. T. MUNDALL (CJ)  
15<sup>th</sup> Bth.  
8/11/14-8-17/14  
p. 1.  
4

Name of Unit 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Camp Scotch Hill 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion D.S.B.  
Address Warminster  
Date 21/1/18

To Mr. J. Deakin

Will all I can tell you  
of Major W. T. Mundall is that he  
was wounded on 19.8.14, and  
on reaching Dressing Station, which  
was about 1 mile from our  
front lines, he died from his  
wound.

Major W. T. Mundall was up to time  
of his death was left in charge  
of 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion while Col. P. J.  
(Capt) Cherry D.S.O. M.C. was away on  
(leaf) leave.

I could not say where he was  
buried, ~~and~~ But I do think  
he was buried by our Dressing  
Station. That all I can tell  
you But if you write to



Name of Unit \_\_\_\_\_



Address \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Corporal. Paul

A.M.C.

16 Battalion

14 Bldg. AIF

France

he can give you all the information  
of Major W. J. Russell.

as he was at D. I. when Major  
was carried in by our S.B.

I am your faithful

Wm. R. J. Wright

ackd  
1-18

Major W. T. MUNDALL

15<sup>th</sup> Bttn

8/10 19-8-17



In

Officers Mess,

P. L.

12th C. B., A. I. F.

Dear Miss Drake,

4 (Ca)

Your letter of 9-1-18 to hand.  
I will write what I know of Major W. T. Mundall 15<sup>th</sup> Bttn A. I. F.

He was in command of the 15<sup>th</sup> Bttn.  
We were in the line in front of Messines.  
He was out visiting the outposts when a  
German Machine Gun opened fire. He  
was hit very badly. He was taken back  
to dressing station about 800 yds in  
rear of line and it was there he breathed  
his last. His body was taken back  
to a place near Messines and there  
buried. This is all the information I  
give. Hoping it is sufficient

Yours faithfully

G. K. Carter

(S. K. Carter)

A. J. F. 12<sup>th</sup> T. B.

(O) FORI.

February 21st, 1918.

Staff Capt. A. Fraser,  
4th Brigade, Australian Imperial  
Force, Abroad.

Dear Sir,

We wish to thank you for your letter in answer to our  
enquiry concerning :-

Major. W. D. MUNDELL, 15th Battalion, A.I.F.

The information and details you have supplied will be of much  
assistance to us, and of value to our enquirers.

We feel we owe you an apology for having written to you  
on a draft form which we use only when seeking information about  
one private or N.C.O. from another. The error occurred through  
the inexperience of one of our helpers, and we trust you will  
accept our apologies for same.

It is good of you to supply us with Major Wilton's name,  
we will write to him for further information if necessary.

Again thanking you.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

23rd June, 1917.

No. 1301, Pte. W. D. Smith,  
Ward A. 11.  
3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital,  
Dartford.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your enquiry for Major W. Mundell,  
15th Btn. A. I. F., we beg to inform you that he was admitted  
to the 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth, on the 16th March  
1917, suffering from appendicitis, and was discharged to No. 1.  
Command Depot, Peckham Downs, on the 10th May 1917.

With good wishes for your own recovery,

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

~~Manager~~. Secretary  
L.A.W.

Confidential

ackd  
12-2-18  
secretary

France

12-2-18

Major W. T. MUNDELL

15<sup>th</sup> Bn

D/W 19-8-17

m

3

(2)

A. R. C.

War Missing Inquiry Bureau

Major W. T. Mundell 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion

A. I. F. died of wounds 19-8-17

Major Mundell was caught by a traversed machine gun fire in his man's hand whilst visiting his men. He was badly wounded and lived only a few minutes.

He was buried near his grave site. He was quite close to the front line at Blawen Molan near Messmer.

The grave was registered. A wooden cross has been erected by his fellow officers.

Notes

Description

Tall and

thin - clean shaven - a slight catch in his speech.

2

I trust this information  
may be of use. In case  
it is insufficient please  
apply to Major Wilton  
Clapp C/o A.I.F. H.Q. London

Yours faithfully  
Alfred Fraser

Capt. A. FRASER.  
4th Brigade