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

5659 Private Frederick Thomas Watson

20th Battalion



2870701P

A.I.F. 20th Btn

WATSON
Fredk. Thos. 5659

"MISSING"

Killed in action 7-4-18 - (by C. of. Enq) previously reported Missing.
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 28-10-18.

S

London
30-10-18

A.I.F. 20th Btn

WATSON
F.T. 5659

"Wounded"

Admitted Edmonton Military Hospital 6-5-17 - gun shot wounds right shoulder and S. wound left foot severe
Cert. by Hospital Index

Progressing favourably
Cert. by 'phone 8-6-17.

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London
8-6-17

	Killed in Action	
	~~"Missing~~ 7-4-18"	WATSON.F.T.5659.
	"Died of Wounds 8-4-18"	Wells.J.H.4786.
	K "~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Wood.C/S/M.W.1371.
20th Battn.	"Killed in Action 7-4-18"	Young.H.A.6694.
A.I.F.	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Craggs.J.T.712A.
	"~~Missing~~.7-4-18"	Doyle.T."M.M" 57A.
	"Killed in Action 8-4-18"	Drew.G.4395.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Greig.J.5458.
	"Killed in Action 7-4-18"	Heywood.G.4147.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Horton.R.N.6913.
	"Killed in Action 7-4-18"	Innes. .G.4705.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Justice.R.V.6358.
	"Killed in Avtion 7-4-18"	Lee.H.6920.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Linsley.Sgt.G.31.
	"Died of Wounds 8-4-18"	Mackander.S.H.4188.
	"Killed in Action 7-4-18"	McKinnon.F.N.6208.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Neary.A.J.6395.
	"~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Scott.Cpl.N.R.996.
	"Died of Wounds 8-4-18"n	Smith.C.J.4771.
	K "~~Missing~~ 7-4-18"	Waters.E.R.693A.

I went over with C.Company and one platoon of A.Company.No.I. at Hangard Wood. on the morning of April 7th 1918. about 3.a.m. dark. Captain Portman.C.Company was in Command. Lieut Treatcher was in charge of No I Platoon.A.Company. The French were immediately on our right but did not participate in this attack. We took ourobjective, a copse, about 5.30.a.m. and held it for about half an hour, but had to retire back to our lines. We went over again almost immediately, reinforced by D.Company. and again

took the Copse about 7.a.m. but could not hold it. The Germans were in the Wood with strong Machine Gun Posts. We retired almost immediately to about half way back and dug in and held that position. We lost very heavily. I should say 80% of our strength. Numbers of our men were taken prisoners of War. The second time we went over, we were in Command of Lieut Burdus."D.S.O" D.Company. He got back with us all right. Captain Portman was wounded in the first attack and did not come over the second time. Lieut Treatcher was in both attacks and got back all right. Several of our wounded were brought in under the White Flag, but most of them were taken prisoners of War. The Germans would bury our dead.

Informant:- Pte.A.McDonald. 5443.
20th Australians.C.12.
Australian Convalescent Depot.
ROUELLES.

R.D.M.
London.
18-1-19.
H.G.

S.

20 A.I.F. Watson F.T. 5659.

M. April 7/18.

"I kept a full diary of the daily position of my Batt., He was killed at Hangard on the River Luce near the Somme. East of Amiens. The action was on a Sunday. April 7th. 1918. He was buried quite close and the grave marked.

Eye-witness:

Description:

Informant: Capt. C. Morgan Jones.
20 A.I.F.
3rd London General Hos.,
Wandsworth.

Home address: Rev. D. Morgan-Jones
St. Colomb's Rectory.
Clayfield.
Brisbane.

18.6.18.
W.H.Butcher.

A.I.F.
20th. Battalion.

WATSON. 5659.
Frederick Thomas.

"Killed in Action 7.4.18".

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
20.10.19.

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