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

305 Corporal Frank Wentworth Watson

16th Battalion



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A.I.F.D.Coy. 16th Btn

WATSON
Cpl. Frank Wentworth 305

"K/A. 3-5-17"

Killed in Action 3-5-15 - no burial
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 26-8-19.

London
17-10-19

16th Australians. D. Co. Watson, Cpl. F.W, 305.
M. 3rd May 1915. Frank Wentworth

I have seen him with the Battalion, and we went to the Somme. He is now a Sergeant, and I have no further news.

Informant:- G.H. Sullivan No.1339. EMR.
No1 35, General Hospital.
Calais. 3rd October 1916.

written to Sgt. Watson 11-9-16.

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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH).

PRESIDENT:
LADY BARRON,

HON. TREASURERS:
RANKIN MORRISON & CO.,
EMANUEL BUILDINGS,
ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE,
PERTH.

TELEPHONE, A2545.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO
THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE AND DEPOT:
NATIONAL MUTUAL BUILDINGS,
ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE,

PERTH, 24th February, 1916.

The Hon. Sec. British Red Cross Society,
Australian Branch,
Enquiry Bureau,
Gresham Buildings,
Sharia Soleiman Pasha, CAIRO.

Dear Sir,

The undermentioned soldier has been reported missing since May 2nd and his sister's letters have been returned, endorsed "killed". Recently, however, she received a Field Service Post Card, all particulars being crossed out with the exception of "I am well". It was dated with the Field Post Office stamp "Nov." and had no signature, nor was the address written in her brother's handwriting. This has led her to hope that he may be a prisoner somewhere in Turkey, and is not in a position to communicate with her. She states that she has no one else at the Front who would write to her.

We should be glad if you could have enquiries made into this, and let us have your opinion on the matter.

The following are the particulars:-

Watson, Frank Wentworth
Corporal
No. 305,
"D" Company
16th Battalion
4th Brigade.

M. 3-5-15
L.I.

Yours faithfully,

For and on behalf of
Executive of the AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY
(W.A. BRANCH.)

Henry Greig

General Secretary.

1st November

Sgt. Watson,
16th Australian Inf. Battn,
B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

We have been making inquiries about the fate of No. 305 Cpl. F.W. Watson, 16th Battalion, A.I.F., who is officially reported Missing 3-6-16, and when Soldiers of the Battalion are questioned they state "he is now a Sgt. and was at the Somme" We fear there is little chance of your proving to be the man for whom we are enquiring, but we would be much obliged if you would send us your number, full name and regimental address, and tell us whether you were on Gallipoli and know anything of 305 Cpl. F.W. Watson, so that this rumour which is sure to reach Australia may not give his people false hope of his being alive. The fact that they are keeping the enquiry open shows they are not certain of his death.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully,

V. S.

SECRETARY 7/10