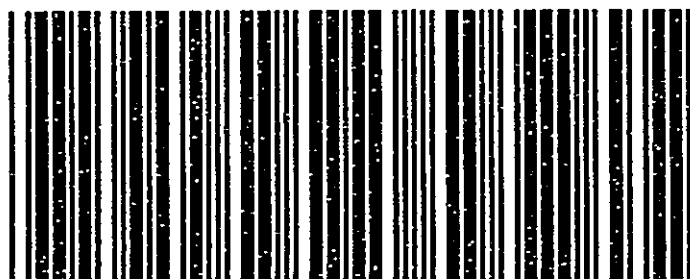


Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**5380 Private  
Louis Randall McCoy**

**20th Battalion**



1900307K

A.I.P.  
20th. Battalion.

MC. COY. 6380.  
Louis Randall.

"Filed in Action 3.5.17"

No trace Germany.

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.  
17.10.19.

S.H.

A.I.F. 20th Bn

McCOY  
L.R. 5380

"MISSING"

Killed in action 3-5-17 - previously reported Missing  
Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 5-10-17.

S & P.I

London  
10-10-17

NOTE TO MELBOURNE.

20th Battn.  
A.I.F.

McCoy.  
L.R. 5380

"Killed in Action 3.5.17"

Reports already sent to Sydney.

London.  
13.12.17.

A.I.F. 20th Btn

C. Coy.

L.R. McCOY  
5380

"Is there any casualty"

Proceeding overseas 13-12-16 - No report of casualty  
Cert. by A.I.F. Headquarters 31-5-17.

P.I.

London  
13-6-17

20th A.I.F.

L. R. MCCOY, 5380.

M. 3.5.17.

At Bullecourt he was by the side of Lt. Shaw who was hit. He ran to help him, but a shell burst killing both Lt. Shaw and McCoy. This was told me by A. McDonald, Signaller.

Reference: J. J. O'Neil, 4325.

No.12 General, Ronan. 20.7.17.

FS.

S  
P.1-

Havre

30th July. 1917.

20th AUSTRALIANS

No. 607. L.R. 8580

M. May 3rd. 1917.

He was in C. or D. Company. I knew Mc.Coy well; he came over with me in the 14th reinforcement. He called him "Loo". I know his initials well - L.R. In front of Bullecourt about 4a.m. on the 3rd May we began our attack on Bullecourt. I saw Mc.Coy killed by shell fire; he was hit about the body and killed instantly. I walked right up to him; he was killed about 300 yards from our line. We were relieved that night. The Germans were never over this part of the ground as we eventually held their first line.

Informant: Pt. A.H.S. Shields 5412

20th Australians, B.Co., V.Btn.

~~Australian Camp, Revellon.~~

*Havre Hospital*

HPO.

P.I. S.

1 copy.

20th A.I.F.

L. R. MCCOY, 5380.

M. 3.5.17

He was last seen just behind Lt. Shaw at Bullecourt during the attack, to whom he was runner. Lt. Shaw was killed by a shell bursting, and it was generally supposed that McCoy was killed by the same shell.

Reference: Pte. E. Dunstan, 5923.

No. 11 Con. Camp Buchy Nr. Rouen. 3.8.17.

FS.

S.



Bayre

4th August. 1917.

20th AUSTRALIANS

McCOY, J. R. 5389

M. May 3rd. 1917.

He was in C. Company. He came from about Bathurst, N.S.W., and had done farciere work. I had known him for about 12 months. We were in the same Company in Australia, and came over in the 14th reinforcement to the 20th Battalion. His christian name is Lewis, and the number given is about his. I was told by Lt. A. McEhee of the 20th Batt., C. Co., that he had seen Mc. Coy killed at Bellecourt. Mc. Ehee is with the Battalion now.

Informant: Lt. J. G. Ebbett 5334  
20th Australians, A. Co., I. Pltn.  
Australian Camp, Bouclles.

CH. S.

Written by Mr. D. W. H. 18.8.17

Havre

16th August. 1917.

20th AUSTRALIANS

Mc. COY, L.R. 5380

W. May 3rd. 1917.

He was in C. Co., XII. Pltn. I think he came from H.S.W. He was a labourer. I had known him for about 4 months. I knew him well. He was Company runner for Lt. Shaw when he was killed. We called him "Loo". 5380 is his number. He came with the 13th reinforcement to the 20th Battalion and was about 35 years of age. I was told by Pt. L.A. Hickey of C. Co., XII, Pltn. that he had seen him killed in action at Bullecourt about 8th May, 1917. Hickey is with the Battalion now.

Informant: Sarge. I.I. O'Neill 4325  
20th Australians, C.Co., XII.  
Pltn.  
Australian Camp, Rouelles.

CMR.

Written by P. Hickey 5.9.17

P.I.  
S. 1st.

20th Battn  
A.I.F.

Mc COY  
L. R. 5380

"Missing 3.5.17"

Re a man of this Unit C. Coy 20th Battn No 5380 Pte L. R. Mc Coy.  
He has been reported missing since the 3rd of May through the Battn.  
I was with him in the line on that date - did not see him getting  
Killed, but am nearly sure that is what happened to him. There  
was a shell fell just where he would be at the time, did not see him  
after. We had to go on. We were on an advance at the time. I had  
no chance to go to him to see what happened. I am almost sure he was  
not taken prisoner, as we were a long way from the Hun line when I  
missed him. About his appearance would think he was about 6 ft in  
height, 13 stone or over, a very strong and healthy man in appear-  
ance. Would think he was about 30 years old. Think that is all  
I can give you about him.

Letter recvd from Pte K. E. Mc Phee  
C. Coy

France 1st Sept 1917  
S.

Havre  
20th. AUSTRALIANS

12th. September 1917  
Mc COY. L.R. 5380

N. May 3rd. 1917

pt. Lewis E McCoy (we called him Loo.) came across with me in the 14th. to 20th. reinforcement. I saw him killed instantly by shell at Bullecourt on the morning of the 3rd. May, 1917, about 5 a.m. daylight. We were attacking, and had got about half way across when he was killed. We lost the ground. I saw a cross which had been prepared for his grave, but do not know where exactly he was buried; it was somewhere about our front line. The Church of England Padre was at the Burial.

Informant: Pt. A.N.S. Shields 5412  
20th. Australians, B.Co. V.Pltn.

Written Chaplain 19.9.17

S.  
P.I.

2 for copies

Filing Copy . 1 for H. Q.  
1 " P.I.

Havre

12th September.1917.

50th AUSTRALIANS

McCOY, L.R. 5380

M. May 3rd.1917.

St. Lewis ? Mc.Coy (we called him Loo.) came across with me in the 14th to 20th reinforcement. I saw him killed instantly by shell at Bullocourt on the morning of the 3rd May, 1917, about 5a.m. daylight. We were attacking, and had got about half way across when he was killed. We lost the ground. I saw a cross which had been prepared for his grave, but do not know exactly where he was buried; it was somewhere about our front line. The Church of England Andre was at the burial.

Informant: Lt. A.H.S. Shields 5412  
20th Australians, B.Co., V.Pln.  
Australian Camp, Bouelles.

EDM.

*S. P.I.*  
*Written Chaplain 19.9.17*

14th Rfts.  
20th Battalion.  
A.I.F.

McCOY, L.R.E. 5380

"Killed 3/5/17"

McCoy was blown up, when the Town Hall of Bapaume was blown up by the German Mine, and killed. McCoy was a short, nuggetty red haired fellow and spoke very broad Scotch.. I think he came from Sydney.

Informant:- BARLOW, T.H. 5632  
534 Cleveland Street, Sydney.

No.4 Australian General Hospital,  
(SYDNEY.) RANDWICK.

J.V.M.  
28/6/17

SYDNEY BUREAU.

*Miss  
M. C.*

20th Battalion.  
A.I.F.

McCoy.  
L. R. 5380

"Missing 3.5.17"

Regret that no further information received yet by C.Coy. 20th  
Battalion.

Information given by:-  
The Presbyterian Chaplain,  
20th Battalion, A.I.F.  
26.9.17.

London.  
4.10.17.

S.  
P.I.

20th Battalion.  
14th Reinf.

McCoy, L.R.M.  
Private No. 5380.

"Killed. 3.5.17".

Informant states that he believes that McCoy was killed when the  
Bapaume Town Hall was destroyed. McCoy was attached to Headquarters.  
Headquarters stayed behind when the Battalion went on, and were quartered  
in the Town Hall when it was blown up.

Informant:- Private T.P. Murphy, 2194,  
20th Battalion.

Home Address: Brookvale, P.O.,  
VIA. MANLY.

C.E.W.  
No. 4, Australian General Hospital,  
RANDWICK.

5.11.18.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

M  
S  
J  
C  
d

✓

1.9.17

Pa (A HICKEY) C. Co 12 Pal

20 Bator H F  
B E F

for

5380

L. P. M'COY

20 Bator H F

M. 3. 5. 17

UV

P.L.  
4.9.17



GC (17.8.17)  
RAK McPHEE

C. Co  
20 Batt AIF  
(20) B E F

for

5380

L R McCoy

20 Batt AIF

M 3 5.17

AWA  
21.8.17

HOSPITAL

5340

Ple George Gervally  
20<sup>th</sup> Bn A.S.F.  
1 A A H. Harefeld

Re 5380 L. R. the Coy 20 Bn.  
M 3. S. 14.

28.4.14.

100  
W.P.C.  
FM 89

5380 L. R. McCoy

To The Secretary

20 Ball's France

Wounded Missing Bureau. 1<sup>st</sup> Sep 1917

M 3.5.17

S 4

Your letter to hand yesterday making enquiries for a man of this Unit. C. Coy. 20 Batt (5380) Pte L. R. McCoy. He has been reported missing since the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May through the Batt. I was with him in the line on that date did not see him getting killed. but am nearly sure that is what happened to him. there was a shell fell just where he would be at the time. did not see him after, we had to go on, we were on an advance at the time I had no chance to go to him to see what happened. I am almost sure he was not taken prisoner as we were a long way from the Hun's line when I missed him. about his appearance would think he was about 6 ft in height 13 stone or over a very strong and healthy man in appearance would think he was about 30 years old. Think that is all I can give you about him.  
Yours Faithfully J. E. Mc Phee C. Co

GC

October 3rd, 1917.

Capt. Chaplain P. Hope,  
20th Battalion,  
A.I.F., B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We have to thank you for your reply in answer to our  
enquiry sent to the Church of England Chaplain concerning

5380 L.R. McCoy,  
20th Battalion,  
A.I.F.

we note that no further information has yet been received  
in regard to the Missing man.

Yours faithfully,

VB  
SECRETARY.  
OS

340 Pte. George Gervilly,  
1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital,  
Herefield.

Oct. 11th, 1917.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your inquiry for -

5380 Pte. L.R. McCoy - 20th Battalion. A.I.F., previously reported missing 3.5.17 we regret to inform you that he is now officially reported as having been killed in action on that date.

We are forwarding a further unofficial report concerning his death. 5412 Pte. A.E.S. Shields 20th Battn. states "Pte. Lewis McCoy (we called him Loo) came across with me in the 14th Reinforcement to 20th Battalion. I saw him killed instantly by shell at Bullecourt on the morning of 3.5.17 about 5 a.m. daylight. We were attacking and had got about half way across when he was killed. We lost the ground. I saw a cross which had been prepared for his grave, but I do not know exactly where he is buried. It was somewhere about our front lines. The Church of England padre was at the burial."

We have written to the Chaplain concerning Pte.

McCoy and will advise you as soon as we hear from him.

With our sincere sympathy in the loss <sup>of</sup> your friend.

Yours faithfully,

MR.

Secretary.

ack/

26/5/17

B. S. Ward  
3rd London General  
Hospital  
Wandsworth

The Secretary  
Missing and Wounded Soldiers Bureau  
London

Dear Sir,

Would you  
kindly let me know if either of the two  
men mentioned below are killed or  
wounded and oblige

yours truly

5-340 Pte Geo. Gerathy

B. S. Ward

3rd London General

Hospital

Wandsworth

No: 5-340

Pte J. R. McLoe

Pte A. E. J. Davis

Bath. Co. Company

14th Reinforcements

20th Battalion

August 1st 1917.

No. 5340 Pte. George Geratty,  
1st. Australian Auxiliary Hospital,  
Harefield,  
MIDDLESEX.

Dear Pte. Geratty,

We are very sorry to tell you of an unofficial report which has been received about your friend :-

No. 5380 Pte. L.R. McCay. 20th. Batin. A.I.F.

which leads us to fear that he was killed in action on 3.5.17. Informant who was given this information by an eye-witness of the casualty reported that at Bullecourt on May 3rd. when Lieut. Shaw was wounded Pte. McCay who was beside him ran to his assistance, but just then a shell burst, killing both of them instantly.

We have at present no further details which will help to establish the truth of this report, but we are making other enquiries in hopes of learning less distressing news and will send you any information that we receive about him.

With every good wish for your own recovery.

Yours faithfully,

V.D.

L.H.W.

August 25th, 1917.

No 5340 Pte. George Gerathy,  
1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital,  
Harefield, Midx.

Dear Sir,

We very much regret to inform you of further unofficial  
evidence about

No 5360 Pte. L.R. McCoy,  
~~20th Battalion,~~  
I.I.F.

from which there seems little hope of his being alive.

Informant states that he saw Pte. McCoy killed instantly  
by shell fire during the attack on Bullecourt about 4 a.m. on  
May 3rd and he walked right up to him to make certain that he  
was dead. They were relieved that night and the ground has  
always remained in our hands since then. He called Pte. McCoy  
"Loo" and said that he had come <sup>from</sup> Australia with him, as  
part of the 14th reinforcements to the Battalion.

We are still continuing our inquiries for details of  
his death and as soon as we receive any information we shall  
advise you. With good wishes.

Yours faithfully,

V D,  
SECRETARY,  
A.D.



ask  
Unit  
OS

Received 7-10-17

C.C.



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

(WOUNDED AND MISSING INQUIRY BUREAU)

54, VICTORIA STREET,

LONDON, S.W. 1.

The Chaplain

Ch S. Camp

20 Aust. Inf. Bde.

A.I.F.

17-9-17.

B.E.F.

Dear Sir,

We are making enquiries for a man of your Unit

5380

L. R. McCoy 20th Bde A.I.F.

Missing 3-5-17

and have been told that you may be able to help us by supplying some information.

We should be most grateful for any details you could send us concerning L. R. McCoy. 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 Seaton.

SECRETARY.

Regret that  
No further  
information  
received by  
Co. 20th Bde

26/9/17

P. Hoke  
Presbyterian Chaplain  
20th Bde

S  
Pl  
5

September 27th, 1917.

No 5340 Pte. George GERALTY,  
1st Australian Auxiliary Hpl.,  
Warefield.

Dear Sir,

We are very sorry to send you another unofficial  
report No 5380 Pte. L.R. McCoy.  
20th Battalion,  
A.I.F.

from which we fear that there is little hope of his  
being alive.

Informant states that he saw Pte. McCoy killed instantly  
by a shell during the attack about 5 a.m. on the morning of  
May 3rd, 1917. The casualty occurred in day light, about  
half way across No Man's Land at Bullecourt and he has seen  
the cross which was made for his grave while he thinks is  
somewhere near the front line at Bullecourt. He adds that  
the Church of England Padre was at his burial.

We are pursuing our inquiries further and as soon as we  
receive any news we shall advise you. At the same time we  
fear that the above reports must be only too true for we should  
have heard from him had he been a prisoner.

Assuring you of our sincere sympathy.

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

*M M for L A W.*

Tel.: VICTORIA 8858.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO

"THE SECRETARY,"  
"WOUNDED AND MISSING"  
— ENQUIRY BUREAU —

STRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
"QUESTMAN, LONDON."



AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

54, VICTORIA STREET.

LONDON, S.W. 1.

November 19th, 1917.

53-0 Pte. George GERALTY,  
20th Battalion,  
2nd Command Depot,  
Weymouth.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your inquiry for

5360 Pte. L.R. MCCOY,  
~~20th Battalion,~~  
A.I.F.

previously reported missing 3.5.17, we regret to inform you  
that he is now officially reported as having been killed in  
Action on that date.

We are forwarding a further unofficial report concerning  
his death. 5-12 Pte. A.J.S. Shielas, 20th Battalion, states "Pte. Lewis  
McCoy, (we called him Loo) came across with me in the 1st Reinforce-  
ment, to 20th Battalion, I saw him killed instantly by shell at  
Bullecourt on the morning of 3.5.17, about 5 a.m. daylight. We were  
attacking and had got about half way across when he was killed. We  
lost the ground. I saw a cross which had been prepared for his grave,  
but I do not know exactly where he is buried. It was somewhere about  
our front lines. The Church of England choir was at the burial".

We have written to the Chaplain concerning Pte. McCoy and  
will advise you as soon as we hear from him.

With our sincere sympathy in the loss of your friend.

Yours faithfully,

*Mason*

SEC. (Rm)

LONDON, W.C.

7 215 PM

19 NOV 17

64, VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON, E.W. 1.



DELIVERABLE  
A.B.P.O.  
RETURN TO SENDER

5340 Ste. George Gerald

20th Battalion

2nd Canadian Division

Weymouth

*Australia  
10.9.17*

NO RECORD  
VERMOUTH