

Former Ayr Resident Killed

A former Ayr resident, Stanley Grant McConnachie, 45 years was one of the eight unfortunate men who died in the landslide that swept 45 men into the raging Pinei River at Kieta, Bougainville Island, last Friday.

The late Stanley McConnachie was employed by a Melbourne firm of earth moving contractors and was at the time of his death engaged in driving a machine which was being used in constructing a road to the copper mining field.

At the time of the landslide it was raining heavily and as the side of the mountain slid towards the flooded river it took everything including men and machinery into the raging torrent of the river.

The bodies of two Australians and two natives were recovered after a very intensive search. Heavy rains and the threat of further danger from landslides caused the search to be temporarily abandoned.

Stan McConnachie is one of four including an American and two natives who are still missing.

Stan McConnachie is one well known in Ayr where his wife at present is residing in Wilmington Street. A married daughter, Mrs E. Richardson (Joyce) lives at Old Clare Road and a teenage daughter Adelle is a student at Blackheath College, Charters Towers. To them we extend sympathy in their sad loss.