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

4651 Private
David Bryan

12th Battalion



0600402C

12th Battn.
A. I. F.

Bryan.
D. 4651.

"Missing 10.4.17"

Was called "Dave". Was rather short. Came from Hobart (Tas) I knew him well. We came over in same reinforcements (12th) I was told by several pals of Bryan's that he was killed by M.G.bullet during the advance on April 10th. We were buried in No Man's Land near where hit. He was just covered over, no cross etc. I cannot remember the names of any of the persons who told me, but I can rely on the above statement to be correct.

Witness:-
D. J. Dennis 6002.
12th Battn.

W. G. F.

Unofficial.
Off.M.

London.
24.7.17.

Havre 29th July, 1917.

12th AUSTRALIANS BRYAN, D. 4651

A.F./10.6.17.

He was blown to pieces at Hamchies by a shell during an attack on the village. His remains were not recovered. He was a personal friend of mine and after the battle I made special enquiries about him. I cannot remember any special names of the men who told me about this, as it was seen by several men of his platoon. He came from Tasmania and was known by the nick-name of "Teddy Bear".

Informant: Pte. A.G. Seymour, 6083
12th Australians, C Co.,
H. S. Kalyan.

C.H.T.

SBS

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ROBELCB 1769/3/8

(COPY)

Statement made by No.6085 Pte Seymout A.G. 12th Btn

re No.4651 Pte Bryan D. 12th Btn
Missing 10.4.17

In reference to my knowledge of Pte Dane Bryan, I would like to state that I got a statement from one of Bryan's mates that he saw him(Bryan) blown up by a shell and my reason for making special enquiries was because Bryan left Tasmania with me and was a tent mate of mine for a long while. I cannot give any personal details of Bryan's death and I cannot recall the date or time.

Dated at Weymouth this 5th day of September 1917.

(Sgd) A.G..Seymour

Statement made and signed before me (Sgd) H.J. Storey.

A/M.

12th A. I. F. D. BRYAN, 4651

Missing 10.4.17.

I knew Bryan personally. He was a great pal of mine. Another man and I were looking through the Cemetery at Flers one day not long ago and we came across his grave there. It had a cross over it with his name, Regt. and other particulars on it.

Reference: Gunner A.H.Edwards, 870,
Z/2 A. M.T.M.B. A.I.F.
form. 12th Btn.A.I.F.

No.9 General, Rouen, 8.8.17.

WTMR.

See Records about.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON. 1769/3/8

(COPY)

Statement made by No.870 Gnr Edwards A.H. 2nd M&M.T.M.B

re No.4651 Pte Bryan D. 12th Btn
Missing 10.4.17

I knew Pte Bryan well. He was an intimate friend of my brothers. He came from Sheffield, Tasmania. About the middle of April I was looking for the grave of Lt Leslie(26th Btn) at Flers when I noticed a cross over a grave on which was the number, name of Battalion of Pte Bryan. This grave was in the Flers cemetery close to Brigade Hdqrs. At that time I was in the 12th Btn, but was later transferred to my present unit.

Dated at Codford this 12th day of September 1917.

(SGD) A.H. Edwards.

Statement made and signed before me (Sgd) J..Johnston.

12th Battn.
A. I. F.

Bryan.
D. 4651.

"Missing 10.4.17"

I saw him dead. The second time we went over at Chateau Wall, a bullet caught him killing him instantly. The ground was held, but I do not know place of burial, and cannot refer to anyone for particulars. I knew him well, there being no other of that name in the Coy.

Witness:-
Pte. G.Keogh 1132
12th Battn. D.Coy.
3rd Aust.Aux.Hospital.
Dartford.

W.Oman.

London.
9.8.17.

Off.M.

ORIGINAL STATEMENT KOHELON. 1769/3/8

(COPY)

Statement made by No.1132 Pte Keogh G. 12th Btn

re No.4651 Pte Bryan D. 12th Btn
Missing 10.4.17

I saw Pte Bryan D. lying on the top of our parapet, he was as still as a man dead, the fire being so hot from the enemy, I didn't have time to examine him, the trench being shelled all next day, I could not see if he was buried or not.

Dated at Weymouth this 19th day of September 1917.

(Sgd) G. Keogh.

Statement made and signed before me (Sgd) R.M. White. CAPT.

12th Battn,
A.I.F.

BRYAN,
D, 4651.

"Killed 10.4.17"

Was called "Dave" short build & 28/29 years of age. He came from Tasmania-was in D. Coy. He was killed instantly (knocked in the head by a bullet) during the Hop over at Lagincourt on April 10th. I did not see him hit, but was told by G.S. Keogh, now at Dartford Hospital. He was next to Bryan at the time and saw him knocked. I am certain the above information is correct.

Informant. 1587. Longergan. S.A.
12th Battn

W.G.J.
London.
17.8.17.

O.M

I2th. Batt.A.I.F. Bryan.D. Pte. NO.465I.

Missing April I0th I9I7.

I was talking to a mate of mine Pte Plunkett.I2th. Batt. about Bryan He stated he was with Bryan when he was killed. This was at Bapaune. He did not know if he was buried.I think this would be correct as Bryan, Plunkett,and myself were great friends, we knew each other in civilian life, we came over together with the I9th,Reinf.of the Batt We left on August.8-I6. on the Ballarat. Bryan came from the North-West, Coast. Tasmania. He had been a seaman in his time.

Description. Age. 24. Height. 5-2. Complexion. Dark

Witness. Pte. Deven. NO.599I.D.Coy. I2th.Batt.

Taken At.
NO.3.Command Depot.
Hurdcott.
3I-8-I7.
F.G.H.

S.Whitmee.
NO.4.Command Depot.
Codford.

Written Pte Plunkett 9.9.17

Hazebrouck

24th Sept. 1917.

12th AUSTRALIANS

BRIEF, No. 4651

No. 10.4.17.

He was in B Co., and came from Tasmania. He was killed by a shell in our trenches at Morchies. His body was recovered and buried but I do not know where. He has been reported officially killed.

Informant: Pte. A.E. Plunkett, 6071
12th Australians, B Co.;
No. 83 Amb. Train, Hazebrouck.

RBS

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON. 1769/3/8

(COPY)

Statement made by No.6070 Pte Plunkett R.G. 12th Btn

re No.4651 Pte Bryan D.12th Btn
Missing 10.4.17

I can only refer the Records Officer to Pte Burgess R.L. 12th Btn (C.Coy, No. not known) who stated to me that he saw Pte Burgess Bryan lying dead at Bullecourt.

Dated at Perham Downs this 25th day of September 1917.

(Sgd) R.G. Plunkett.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) K.J. Beckwith
Lieut

NOTE 5993 Pte Burgess R.L. 12th Btn is B.E.F. Echelon Notified.

Offcl Ed Staff

E.E. Spedding.

28 SEP 1917

ORIGINAL STATEMENT ECHELON. 1769/3/8

(COPY)

Statement made by No.5071 Pte Plunkett A.W.12th Btn

re No.4651 Pte Bryan D. 12th Btn
Missing 10.4.17

I last saw Private Bryan on the 9th of April 1917. Cpl Prentis. B.Company says he was killed in action on the 10th (thinks he was blown to pieces by a shell) I have no personal knowledge of his death, ashe was in a different company.

Dated at 8th S.G.H ospital this 18th day of October, 1917.

(Sgd) A.W. Plunkett.

Statement made and signed before me

(Sgd) E.P. Troy.
M.O. H.C.

NOTE Pte Prentice 1164a B.E.F.

A.I.F. 12th Btn

BRYAN

D. 4651

"MISSING"

Killedin action 6--10-4-17 - previously reported Missing
Cert. by A.I.F.Hqrs 28-12-17

London
2-1-18

OFF.M.

22th Btn.
A.I.F.

BRYAN
David 4651

Killed in Action 6.10.4.17

No trace Germany

Cert. by Capt. Mills. 10.10.19.

London.
27.10.19.

Off.M.

6.9.17

Pte PLUNKETT

12 Bn W A I F

B E F

for

4651

D. BRYAN

12 Bn W A I L

M. 10.4.17

L.B.H.
8.9.17.