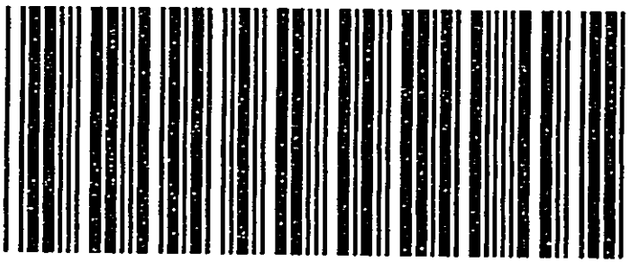
Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

1345 Driver Thomas Francis Denham

2nd Divisional Ammunition Column



0910405J

Havre 1st March 1918.

2nd Aust. Amm. Col. Denham T.F. No. 1345.

K. 20th Octr 1917. Det D/B.

Denham was killed by a shell at Sans nouccl. Corporal Patten of the 2nd Div. 1st Sect. told me he saw Denham killed while he was leading ammunition pack mules on the 20th Octr. I went with 6 others and fetched his body, which was lying alongside the Railway embankment, the next day. We brought him back to the Waggon lines and then to Reninghelst Military Cemetery where he was buried by a R.C. Padre. I saw his funeral. I knew Denham, he was fair haired, tall. He came from Geelong, Melbourne, he used to be batman to Lieut McDonald of the 2nd Section.

Inf:- Driver F. Jackson No.10896.
2nd Amm. Col. 1st Sect. Aust.
Aust. Camp.
Rouelles.

C.R.S. M Written Patten 13.3.18

2nd Ammtn. Column
A.I.F.

DENHAM
T.F. 1345

"Killed 20-10-17"

I saw him lying dead alongside the corduroy, with one leg blown off and several other wounds, dying instantly, near a lake on the Ypres side of Passchendaele. Probably buried as behind the lines. Came from Victoria, and was an ex 13th L.H., and about 5ft. 8" or 9" and fair. He was batman to Lt. McDonald.

Informant. Curtis L.H. 8030
Was in Ammtn. Column, now
105th How. Bty.

Capt. Lewis, C.O. 1st Sec. Ammtn. Column, 2nd D.A.C. probably knows where Denham is buried. He is a good sort of old chap and would be pleased to give the information.

W. Alison
London
3-3-18

Note:-
Written Capt. Lewis 7-3-18

Havre. 18th. March. 1918.

2nd. Australian Amm. Col. Denham, T. F. No. 1345.

K. 20th. October 1917. Dets. D/B.

We were at Lille Gate in Ypres on October 20th, carrying ammunition when a shell burst over us killing Denham outright. We buried him the next day; -There was a Padre in attendance - in Reninghelst. I knew Denham, he was dark, clean-shaven, rather tall.

Inf:- E. L. Ronwick. No. 6380.
2nd. Australian Amm. Col.
Australian Camp.
Rouelles.

C.S.

Amm.Col.
A.I.F.

Denham.
T.F. 1345

"Killed 20.10.17"

Passchendaele-front, on Corduroy Road, killed by shock not a mark on his body. I saw the body after and also his grave in the Cemetery at Reninghelst. He was buried on Sunday afternoon, they took a lot of trouble about him. Went in under shell fire and brought his body out and brought it down about 14 miles. Padre was present at Burial. No cross up then.

Informant:- 10486 Whitaker
W.40 Harefield.

D.P.Dickson.

London.
27.3.18.

M.

Havre. 26th. March. 1918.

2nd. Aust. Ammunition Col. Donham, T. F. No. 1345.

K. 20th. October. 1917. Detn. D/B.

He was in No. 1. Section. I knew him well, he lived in Geelong, Victoria. His number is 1345 (quoted) On the 20th. October we were carrying ammunition up to the guns between Ypres and Zonnebeke. A shell dropped near him which wounded him in the back; he asked for a drink of water, and died immediately. I was at his funeral; we buried him at Reninghelst Cemetery in a Grave by himself. A Padre buried him, and before I left the district, I saw a good Cross was put up to him.

Inf:- Driver. E. A. Sly. No. 9040.
2nd. Aust. D. A. C.
1st. Section.
Havre Hospital.

HPG.

2nd D.A.C. A.I.F.

Denham.T.F. Dvr. NO.I345.

Killed Oct 20th 1917. Det. D.B.

I saw him killed by a piece of H.E. Shell, He was hit in the spine. This happened to the right of St Julian Road, West Hoek. He was buried in the cemetry at Ronenghelst, a Pardre officiated at the grave, I could not say if a cross was erected. I knew him well in the column He came over with reinf of the 13th Light Horse, He came from Victoria.

Description. Age. 22. Height. 5-10. Complexion. Fair. Well Built.

Witness. Dvr. Lyons. F.C. NO.6738. 2nd D.A.C.

Taken at
NO.4.C.D.Hurdcott.
26-4-18.
F.G.H.

S.Whitmee.
NO.4.Command Depot
Hurdcott.

2nd D.A.C.

DENHAM, T. F.
Gnr. 1345.

Killed in action 20/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, about 5 ft. 10 ins. well built, fair complexion, known as "Tom". Casualty was taking ammunition up to the gun with pack mules near Zonnebeke. An H.E. shell exploded under his mules killing both mules and Casualty almost instantly. He asked for a drink of water and then died. I did not see Casualty killed but I had his body brought back to the waggon lines at Lille Gate. His chief wounds were in the centre of his back. He was buried at Reninghurst Cemetery and he had a Military Funeral, and I attended the funeral. A cross was erected with his name and number on it. Casualty was one of my best men."

Informant:- Sgt. A. J. Bollen,
No. 10391, 2nd D.A.C.

Private address:-
79 Pridham Street,
Prahran.

Note:- Informant would like the address of the mother of this man as he has a message to deliver.

T.C.F.
14/6/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.

DENHAM, T. F.
Gnr. 1345.

2nd D.A.C.
late 13th L.H.

Killed in action 20/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a tall man, slightly built, dark complexion, about 23 years of age, known as "Tommie". Casualty was packing ammunition at Dickiebusch. I was packing ammunition with him at the time. An H.E. shell exploded near us killing Casualty instantly. He was buried in the Renninghurst Cemetery and a cross was erected with his name and number on it."

Informant:- Sgt. T. Greigson,
No. 6717, 2nd D.A.C.

Private address:-
High Camp,
via Kilmore.

T.C.F.
14/10/18.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU--MELBOURNE.

6th Artillery Brigade
2nd D. A. C.

DENHAM,
T.F. 1345

K. 20/10/17

I knew casualty, he was a tall man, slightly built, fair complexion, about 21 years of age, known as Tom. Casualty was going up to the line with ammunition at Ypres, he was hit by an H. E. shell, which killed him instantly. I saw his body at the Waggon Lines. He had a severe wound in the back. He was buried in the Reninghurst Cemetery and I saw his grave and attended the funeral. A nice cross was erected over the grave with his name, number and unit on it.

W. Delaney,
8824
Private Address:-
BENALLA P.O.

T.C.F.
13/6/19

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

2nd D.A.C.

MENHAM, T. F.
Gnr. 1345.

K. in act. 20/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a well built man, 5 ft. 11 in. dark complexion, 23 years of age, known as "Tom". He was taking ammunition on a mule at Ypres when an H.E. shell landed near where he was working, a piece entering his body killing him instantly. I did not see him killed but saw his body at the forward waggon lines at Lille Gates. I took off his coat to examine his wound and he had a piece of shell in his spine. He was buried somewhere in the vicinity but I do not know the spot."

Informant:- Sgt. C. Hall,
No. 3651, 2nd D.A.C.

Private address:-
69 Seacombe Street,
North Fitzroy.

H.A.F.
27/6/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU—MELBOURNE.