

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

3762 Driver  
Denis Ambrose  
Hanrahan

5th Divisional Ammunition  
Column



1260605K

Field Artillery, A.I.F.  
Ammunition Column.

HARRAHAN  
D.A. Harahan. 3762,  
5 Div.

K. Oct. 16/17.  
Det. D/B.

"I believe that Dvr. Denis Harahan (5 Div 2 Sect) was killed outright by a shell while he was driving a team of horses loaded with ammunition. I was working at Taylor's Dump and he was carting from our Dump, to a forward dump. Some of our men went up to bring him back but he had already been buried by some 5. Pioneers, on the Menin Rd, by Hell Fire Corner. I have not seen his grave but the others all told me about it. I think he was killed on the 5th Oct, but I may be mistaken. It was in the day time about 2 p.m. I always called him Harahan, so it may not be the same man."

Eyewitness: No. Told by: Inf. was near and heard all about it at the time.

Description: Single, an original, 5 D.A.C. "Denny" I can give no further particulars.

Informant: Dvr. J. May. 2331,  
5 Div. E Sect,  
Field Artillery, A.I.F.  
Coxley Sec. Oxford. Ammunition Column. 3rd Southern Gen. M

Home address:  
Walloon Banana,  
Via. Rockhampton, Queensland.

4/12/17.  
H.M. Pickard-Cambridge.

5th Div. Am. Col.  
A. I. F.

D. A. HANRAHAN  
Hanrahan.  
3762

"Killed 16.10.17"

About that date Denis Hanrahan of No. 2 Sec. 5th Div. (Capt. L. A. O. C) was killed outright by a shell at Menin Road while taking up ammunition to one of the batteries. I don't know anything about this burial.

Witness:-

V. H. McNamara 1499

5th Div. Am. Col.

Hut 18 Westham.

W. A. Rand

London.

21.12.17.

H.

5th Amm.Col.  
A.I.F.

D.A. HANRAHAN  
Hanrahan.  
3762

"Killed 16.10.17"

His initial was D. I saw his body on a stretcher at the side of the Corduroy Road on the way to Westhoek. Sgt.Green or Cpl.J. Innes of his section No.2 will know re burial. He was a very well known and popular chap. We were mates, I knew him in Victoria.

Witness:-

C.Douglas 2214  
5th Div. Amm.Col.

L.P.J.

London.

10.1.18.

Note Written Green & <sup>Innes</sup> James 2.1.18.

M.

5  
late 7th B

HANRAHAN (HQ)

HARAHAN

Denis Ambrose

3752?

3762(HQ)

"K/A. 16-10-17"

Killed in action 6-10-17

Cert. by A.I.F. Hqs 17-1-18.

M

London  
18-1-18

5th Amm. Col.  
D.A.C.

HANRAHAN  
D.A. 3762

"Killed Oct 16th 1917"

Hanrahan was in No. 2 Sec. and Joe Button were killed by same shell at Hell Fire Corner just coming on to Menin Road, and was buried just off the Menin Road cemetery started there. Crosses were erected. I saw casualty and grave with crosses but not see actual burial.

Witness:- Dvr. A. Beldon 1143  
5th Amm Col. 2nd Sec.  
Hut 9  
Westham

W.A.Rand  
London.  
21.1.18

M

5th D.A.C.  
A.F.A.

Hanrahan.  
Denis Ambróse 3762

"Killed in Action 16.10.17"

Re Driver D.Hanrahan. I have to inform you that he was killed in action on the 6.10.17 and was buried in a soldier's cemetery at Burr Cross Road near Ypres. This cemetery is registered. Reference as follows:- Sheet 28.1/40,000 i 17 C. 50.80. The deceased was about 20 years of age, 5'11", proportionately built, fair hair, ruddy complexion, slight impediment in speech and of a quiet and agreeable disposition. He came from near Welchpool Victoria. I notice the name, No. and date of casualty do not correspond but he is the only man of that name or anything like it in this section and I am of opinion that you refer to Dvr.D.A. Hanrahan.

Letter from:- Sgt. F.P. Grear  
France 8.1.18.

London.  
29.1.18.

M.



5th D. ~~A.~~ Column  
A.F.A.  
A.I.F.

HANRAHAN  
D.A. 5762

"Killed 6.10.17."

Refer to Driver Ed. De Rose 43- 5<sup>A</sup> D.H.C. who was wounded, and is now in England, he saw him killed and can give full details of casualty. Refer also to Chaplain Capt. P.F. Moore, 5th A.H.C who is now in France, he buried him at Popperinge, and can give full details of burial.

Informant: - S/Sgt. Etheridge, E.H. 1126,  
5 D.A. Column,  
3 A.A.H. Dartford,

W. Oman.

London.  
2.2.18.

H.

5th D.A.C.

HANRAHAN, D. A.  
3762

K. 76/10/17.

I knew casualty, he was a well built man, 5'10" in height, fair complexion, about 24 years of age, known as Dinny. Casualty was driving along Mehin Road with lumber, carrying ammunition to the guns when a high explosive shell landed alongside, he was killed instantly. I was in the lumber behind, about 30 yards away and drove up, dismounted and had a look at his body but he was quite dead. He was buried on the side of the road near C.C.S. There was a cross erected over the grave with his name, number and unit on it. He had volunteered to take a sick man's place for the trip.

LAY,  
A. 4228

Private Address:-  
CASTERTON

N.A.T.,  
4/7/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

OK  
16-17-17

3762 Denis Ambrose HANRAHAN

Casualty

5 D.A.C. 11/A 16-10-17

16-17-17  
3

to the  
to the

Reference is made to your report concerning Denis  
H. Hanrahan No 3762. It has been ascertained that  
Private Denis Hanrahan No 3762, was killed  
in action on the 16-10-17 and was buried  
in a soldiers cemetery at West Cross Road near  
Offans. This cemetery is protected.

Reference is also made to the fact that on 10.10.17  
50.80. The deceased was a good looking  
left hander, proportionately built, fair hair,  
medium complexion, slight impediment in speech  
and of a quite respectable disposition.

He came from near Bachelpool, Victoria.  
I notice the name, No and date of casualty  
are not correct and that he is the only man  
of that name or anything like it in this section  
I am of opinion that your report is to D.A.  
Hanrahan. Checking this information will help  
you in your continuing efforts in tracing  
those for whom no further news can be obtained by  
any means. Pay Book No 77474.

Yours faithfully  
J. J. [Signature] (Sgt)

Sgt. F.P. Green,  
Sect 2 Ammunition Column,  
5th Div. A.F.A.,  
Australian Imperial Force, B.E.F.

January 17th, 1918.

Dear Sir,

We wish to thank you for your letter in answer to our enquiry concerning :-

3762 Driver D.A. HARAHAN, 5th D.A.C., A.I.F.

The information and details you have supplied will be of much assistance to us, and of value to our enquirers. We regret that we made a mistake in giving the late soldier's name as Harahan it had come through to us like that on the Melbourne Cable, but now we have got it corrected.

Again thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

SECRETARY.

JS