

DEFENCE: Accused: A.29520, Gnr. Fairbairn, E.N., 1 Cdn. A/Tk. Regiment, R.C.A., sworn states.

On 3 Feb 1944 at approximately 1300 hours Gnr. Bryson and I started to drink Vino. We were drinking some distilled Vino. We were drinking pretty near all afternoon, then we went to supper. After supper I went back to the House where Gnr. Corbelle was. About one half hour after I arrived, Gnr. Bryson came back and we had a couple of drinks together again. While we were drinking Gnr. Bryson said to me "Lets go on the loose". He said "We will take R.G.", and I said "No". I was left at that for about one half hour. He said, come on over to the house where I was staying. On the way over we met the B.S.M. He asked where we were going. I said "Over to the billets, sir." When we got over to the billets Gnr. Bryson got his big pack and called me outside. When we got outside we had another drink. Then Gnr. Bryson went and got a jug of Vino. Said he "Lets take R.G." I did so not realizing what I was up to. When ~~was~~ we were down the road quite a way I said "Lets go back" I was lost at the time but kept on driving up to the cross roads at LANCIANO. I asked the M.P. on point duty for directions. I do not remember asking for directions to BARI. I mentioned that we were lost and asked if he could put me on the right road to our R.H.Q. and if he knew where our R.H.Q. was. There was an officer there and I asked him if he could put me on the right road to SAN VITO. That is right near our R.H.Q. He told me to go down the road and turn left at the first corner. I proceeded down the road. When I was moving down the road I saw the Jeep coming. I pulled over a little more to my own side of the road. Right after that there was a crash. Next thing I remember my truck slid sideways and ~~skk~~ rolled over. After the accident was over I was standing on my feet beside my own truck. Gnr. Bryson was sitting down. Just then some fellows came over and put Gnr. Bryson in a truck. I got in the truck myself and it took us to the Hospital.

Cross examined by Prosecutor:

- Q.1 What were you drinking after supper?
- A.1 Vino.
- Q.2 When were you drinking distilled wine?
- A.2 Before supper.

