

Joseph H. Hough
Lt.-Col.,
President, D.C.M.

CLOSING ADDRESS BY THE DEFENDING OFFICER

et al

Mr. President and Members of the Court: You have heard the evidence of Major Hough in regard to the family background and upbringing of the accused. He has told us that the accused has come from what might be termed a poor home life--poor family circumstances. He has not had the advantages of a normal growing boy and was more or less thrown upon the mercy of the elements at an early age.

He has stated that in his opinion the accused is perhaps under a mental stress, and has suggested that his recommendation would be, in the normal course of events, that the accused be attended by a psychiatrist.

I make no claim that the accused is either sane or insane. That is not my province to say. The accused was under mental stress according to Major Hough at the time he went absent without leave.

I ask you to bear this fact in mind if you find him guilty.

That is all, sir.

JH