

Appendix "B"

K-65560 Sigmn Fowler, W.E., on strength First Cdn Army Signals, having been duly sworn states:

"On the night of August 26/27, 1943, I was on duty as night fireman at Delville Officers Mess, Delville Barracks, Cove, Hants. At approximately 0200 hrs, 27 Aug 43 while in the kitchen of the Officers Mess I heard a rifle shot followed by cries of "Help". I took my flashlight and ran out the door towards the sentry post approximately 50 feet from the mess, from whence the cries of "Help" were coming. I found the sentry, Gnr Weaver, lying on the ground immediately in front of the sentry box with his rifle on the ground beside him. I helped Gnr Weaver to a sitting position in the Sentry Box. I asked Gnr Weaver where he got hit. He replied, "In my leg." I asked him how it happened and he replied that he was taking his rifle from the slung position and did not know whether or not it had caught in his pouch. He also remarked that he thought he had had the safety catch on. I asked if there were more rounds in the rifle and he replied, "Yes". I then unloaded the rifle and stood it up against the sentry box. I gave Gnr Weaver four live rounds and one empty which I had taken from his rifle to hold while I went for help.

I went into the kitchen of the Officers Mess and tried to call one of the cooks. While so doing I heard Sgt Currie moving in the next room and I reported to him what I had seen. We then went out to help Gnr Weaver. I stood by while Sgt Currie phoned to the Sgt of the Guard and the F.A.P. A few minutes later Lieut Carson arrived and proceeded to administer first aid. While Lieut Carson was bandaging the guard's foot I heard Gnr Weaver say, "I guess I'll get hell for having my rifle loaded."

I saw Gnr Weaver take the four live rounds and one empty cartridge case from his pocket and hand them to Sgt Ross. Shortly after we helped Gnr Weaver into the kitchen of the Officers Mess and a few minutes later transport arrived to take him to the F.A.P. Above statement is read out to the witness.

Date 27 Aug 44

H E Fowler
(K-65560 Sigmn Fowler, W.E.)

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