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First
Witness for
the Defence

The Accused, No. M.66303, Pte. Edward Horst Chieduch, A20 Canadian Army Service Corps Training Centre, C.A., M.D. 13, C.A., being duly sworn, is examined by the Defending Officer, -

Q.11 Will you tell your story to the Court?

A.11 I am M.66303 Private Edward Horst Chieduch, of A20 Canadian Army Service Corps Training Centre, C.A., Military District No. 13, C.A.

I am 18 years old, and before joining the Army lived at Rich Valley, Alberta, where my father owns a farm.

For approximately two years previous to my enlistment I had been working on farms in my home district. My average earnings during that time were about \$40.00 a month. As my father was in ill health I sent home about \$30.00 a month to help support my family.

I enlisted in Edmonton, Alberta, about the 15th of September, 1941. I was at that time 17 years old, but gave my age as 19 to the recruiting officer. My reason for doing this was that I wished to serve in the Canadian Army.

I was sent to No. 131 Basic Training Centre, at Camrose, Alberta. From there I proceeded to A20 C.A.S.C. T.C., C.A., at Red Deer, Alberta, where I was posted to No. 3 Training Company; later I was posted to No. 1 Training Company. At the end of my training, I expected to be posted to the Holding Company to proceed overseas on draft, which I was keen to do. However, I was then informed by one of the No. 1 Company Officers, a 2nd Lieutenant whose name I do not remember, that I could not go on draft as I was under age.

At this I became very annoyed, and decided to go