

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

In the case of No. B-9097 L/Sgt. LONG, James.
53 Battery, 3 Lt. A.A. Regt., R.C.A.

1st. WITNESS. No. B6464 Gnr. EASBY, Edwin, 53 Battery, 3 Lt. A.A.
Regt., R.C.A.

The witness was duly sworn.

On the night of Monday 29th day of Sept. 1941 I went on duty at 2200 hrs. at Gun Site L-162, V.P. 519, Biggin Hill Aerodrome. At about 2300 hrs. I halted L/Sgt. Long at the barrier to the Gun Site. He was recognised and I allowed him to come forward to the Bofors Gun Pit. He asked if everything was correct. I said "Yes." He said he was going to look at the Lewis Gun. The next thing I heard were two bursts of fire from the Lewis Gun. Sgt. Long came back to the Bofors Gun Pit. Immediately afterwards two N.C.O.s from the R.A.F. arrived. They asked me where the N.C.O. in charge was. I replied that the Detachment Commander, Sgt. Long, was the N.C.O. in charge.

(Signed) *Edwin Easby Gnr.*

2nd. WITNESS. No. 909381 Sgt. TANFIELD, Edward, Manser, Service
Police, R.A.F.

The witness was duly sworn.

On the 29th of Sept. 1941 at 2015 hrs. I was on guard at the North Camp main Gate, Biggin Hill Aerodrome. I heard a burst of Machine Gun fire of about five seconds and observed tracer bullets rising into the air at an angle of about 60 degrees. This was followed shortly afterward by a short burst; tracer bullets being observed. (A number of R.A.F. personnel asked what it was all about.) I called Cpl. Davies from the Guard Room. We proceeded to the Sports Field by the Power Station from hence direction the shots had come. We entered the field and on approaching some barbed wire Cpl. Davies flashed the torch and was challenged from the Gun Post which was approximately 100 yards away. We approached the Gun Post and were halted about 15 yards out by a Gunner on duty. I informed him that I was the R.A.F. Police Sergeant and wished to investigate regarding the shots heard. On entering I asked if anyone had heard machine gun fire from that area. They replied in the negative. I asked for the N.C.O. in charge of the Gun Post and the accused, Sgt. Long, said he was in charge. I asked him if he knew who had fired the gun. He replied, "Maybe I did, that is all there is to it." I asked him to accompany me to his Lewis Gun Position and on entering the post which was not manned I felt the barrel which was still warm. The Sgt. repeated that he had fired the gun and gave no reason for so doing. I collected some spent cartridge cases and observed they were tracer. I asked Sgt. Long to accompany me to the R.A.F. Guard House to see the Orderly Officer. We proceeded to the Guard Room and at the entrance to the field we met the Orderly Officer. I explained the incident to the Orderly Officer (W.O. Wells).

Cross Examined:- Question by the accused: "How many asked you what it was all about?"
Answer: "About a dozen."
Question by the accused: "Were they aroused from their sleep?"
Answer: "I couldn't say."
Question by the accused: "Did you notice how they were dressed?"
Answer: "The majority were in slacks and shirts, without tunics."

(Signed) *Edward Manser Tanfield*