

"H" 2 J. Hillen Major 17
I am M-5863 Pte GERBRANDT A.J.

A G.S. soldier of the Canadian Army charged with desertion, and I make the following statement in my defence.

Before I joined the army I was working on my uncles farm just outside of Calgary, there I met a few fellows older then myself We became great friends, we worked together and had our pleasure together, none of us ever went anywhere without the others.

The day came when I was called up and became a N.R.M.A. soldier, and was 18 the day I joined. After joining I went to Dundurn Sesk, and after a stay there awhile I was sent back to Calgary shortly after this I was discharged because I was under 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ and of my feet bothering me.

I went back and worked at my uncles place and was among my friends again, after a short while about 2 months approximately. I again joined the army because I liked army life, (about 6 months^{after} I re-enlisted on the 25 July,

My friends from the Ranch who had been trying ever since I joined the army the second time to get me to leave the army, came to the barracks for me to go up town to have some fun. I recieved my pass and went with them, They started drinking Whiskey and offered me some I had never taken anything like this before, and this was my first drink, one drink led to another I guess, because I remember nothing more after what I think was my third drink until I suddenly came to sometime the next day feeling very very sick, later when I felt better I wanted to return to Barracks. They told me I couldn't return to my

(Con't)