

RED TAPE

I think the expression arose in soldier circles from the little bundle of pink tape invariably to be found on the Table at Courts Martial, and thus came to be associated in our minds with the formality as regards procedure and strict regard for the letter of the law observed at them.

So whenever the application of Regulations causes any delay in our obtaining what we want we think "D...all this red tape ", quite overlooking the fact that without laws and Regulations, no order or system can be obtained, impartial judgement is impossible, and then like kissing everything goes by favour or chance.