

THIRD WITNESSfor the
prosecution

Capt. R. U. Niven, Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps, an officer on the strength of MT Tech. Stores Coy., 1 Cdn. Central Ord. Depot, an officer in the Canadian Army Overseas, having been duly sworn, states:

I was Duty Officer, on Saturday, 9th Sept. 1944, and was notified of an accident involving Unit Fire Truck CZ-4209900. I did not at any time during my Tour of Duty sign a Work Ticket for this vehicle.



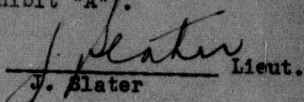
R. U. Niven Capt.

FOURTH WITNESSfor the
prosecution

Lieut. J. Slater, Royal Canadian Ordnance Corps, an officer on the strength of MT Tech Stores Coy., 1 Cdn Central Ord Depot, an officer in the Canadian Army Overseas, having been duly sworn, states:

I am acting Unit Transport Officer of MT Tech Stores Coy, 1 CCOD. I authorized WD Veh CZ-4209900, which is used on air defence or fire truck; the only other person who can send it out on duty is the Duty Officer. I recognize this work ticket as it is the only work ticket issued for that vehicle on Sep 9, and I note that the mileage travelled according to this work ticket is seventy miles whereas the actual mileage runs about 15 miles per day. I know of no reason why the mileage should be increased. I produce herewith Transport Work Ticket U.S1 (Exhibit "A").

The Accused declines to cross-examine.



J. Slater Lieut.

FIFTH WITNESS

L-53531 Tpr Weishaupt, T. Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, a soldier on the strength of MT Tech Stores Coy, 1 CCOD, (attached fap), in the Canadian Army Overseas, having been duly sworn, states:

Around 1000 hrs 9 Sep 44 I was on duty at the unit fire hall. Sgt Eldridge asked if anyone wanted to go for a drink. Pte Gasperec, Pte Pitre and myself said we would go and we all got in the truck and Sgt Eldridge said, "Let's go to a pub" or something similar to that. We got in the vehicle and away we went to one pub where no hard liquor was being served and then went to another pub where we stayed until closing time, about 1400 hrs.

We returned to the fire hall, arriving here about 1430 hrs.

Around 1800 hrs I was in front of the fire hall and the same fire truck, CZ-4209900 came down from the direction of the Sergeants' Mess. Sgt Eldridge said, "Let's go for a drink". There were Pte Pitre, behind the wheel, Gasperec in beside him, and SQMS Warren in the back with Sgt Eldridge and myself.

As we were travelling along the road I heard and felt a crash, the truck swerved into the ditch on the left-hand side of the road. I could see a bus in the ditch behind us. The truck pulled out of the ditch without stopping. We went past the pub where we had been.