

PRESIDENT: (cont'd) to refuse to permit it, and I think I should ask the opinion of the Judge Advocate on that.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: I would concur in your remarks, Sir, There is always great latitude allowed to an accused in matters of this kind. I feel that this report should be allowed in evidence merely for that reason. For technical reasons it might be objected to, but owing to the great latitude allowed the accused it should go in.

PROSECUTOR: I full agree; I feel it is my duty to object, because he doesn't know anything about it; he is giving the report of the Platoon Commander.

WITNESS: (cont'd)
May I offer a remark in that connection? While it is not possible to know every man personally, at the time when this man went to the Coy we possibly had 250 men in the Coy...you can't know them all, but we do lean considerably upon the Platoon Commander, if not all, ~~you~~ ^{you would} to get to know certain characteristics about certain men, and particularly Pte Kersey, as he had come to my attention more than if he were a white man. I would like to point out first of all that Pte Kersey came to our Coy from Chatham. I didn't know him at Chatham, but his Platoon Commander at Chatham has entered his remarks - "On drill he has very good appearance, and tries hard, but he is slow. In his physical training he tries hard, but he has bad wind, and has a bad time making it go. In his theory of first aid he has trouble explaining himself. He is consistent in his anti-aircraft work, and tries hard." What I am trying to bring out is, he tries very hard all the time. All through the ten subjects on basic training the same theme runs all the way through - he is trying;