

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

Summary of Evidence in the case of L-53427 Tpr Trygve RAAEN, a soldier of the Cdn Army o/s on the strength of No 1 C.A.C.R.U.

THE COMMANDING OFFICER DIRECTS THAT ALL EVIDENCE BE TAKEN ON OATH

1st Witness
for the
Prosecution

Mr Charles G. Linsdell, Proprietor, Feathers Inn, Laleham, Middx, having been duly sworn, states,

"In this case I Charles Linsdell, licensee of the above premises had occasion to speak on Thursday 6th July 1944 to a trooper of the Canadian Armoured Corps who was in an outer bar of my premises behaving in a disrespectful manner with an A.T.S. girl stationed on a local search-light site. I asked him and the girl to leave as I did not approve of his conduct. He thereupon picked up a pint glass and threw it at my feet and adopted a fighting attitude. He after left the premises threatening me as he did so.

So Saturday evening 8th July 1944 he again entered my premises in company with another trooper and a Corporal also of the Canadian Armoured Corps. My barman had served them with beer before I was aware of their presence. I approached them and asked them to consume their drink and leave as I did not wish for them to remain. They endeavoured to create an argument and refused to comply with my request.

I saw Lieut Stephen of the Canadian Provost Corps and explained to him the situation mentioning the incidents of the 6th July aforesaid. Lieut Stephen spoke to the men concerned and they became most disrespectful in the attitude and speech and point blank refused to do as Lieut. Stephen requested although Lieut Stephen acted in every diplomatic manner.

Having failed in his request Lieut Stephen sent for Military assistance. When men of the Provost Corps arrived the three men concerned became very aggressive and stood against the building and all adopted fighting attitudes. Lieut Stephen and his men approached and the Corporal struck Lieut Stephen on the face with his fist. There was a general fight and after a considerable time the men were overpowered but remained very violent. The men were not in my opinion under the influence of drink.

Cross-examined by the accused.

- Q.1 Why did you come up to us and tell us to get out of your pub that night 8 Jul 44?
A.1 Owing to the disturbance on 6 Jul 44, when Tpr Stewart was present, As the Cpl and you were in his company on 8 Jul 44 I asked you all to leave. The Cpl and yourself obviously were unaware of the previous muddle and did not understand my request and no doubt thought it unusual. Being busy at the time I did not feel disposed to any body.
- Q.2 Where were we standing when the fight took place?
A.2 On the concrete surrounding the outside of the building.
- Q.3 How far were we from the building?
A.3 Not more than 15 feet away from the building.

Chas G. Linsdell
(Charles G. Linsdell)
The Feathers Inn,
Laleham,
Middx.

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