

"signature, together with an envelope and a gummed, sealed label addressed to the District Paymaster. Shortly afterwards Lieut. MacAllister handed me the envelope addressed to the District Paymaster, which was then sealed and which I then took to the mailing room and mailed. The letter which I typed did not set out the new combination and I at no time prior to the shortage being discovered learned that combination. During the course of the investigation I was shown an envelope which had been sealed with sealing-wax, which was alleged to be the envelope containing the combination and which had been inserted in the larger envelope, together with the letter which I typed. This was the first time that I had seen the second envelope.

"On the morning of 5 Jan 45 at approximately 1150 hours I was in the room where the safe was kept and where I am quartered, preparing to leave on weekend leave. Lieut. MacAllister came into the room with the cash box which was closed, put it in the safe, locked the door and spun the dial and made a remark to the effect "That's that until Monday morning." Although it was impossible for me to see the dial at all times while Lieut. MacAllister was in the room because his body intervened between me and the safe, I did see the dial turn. It appeared to turn fairly easily and I heard it rattle. During the course of the investigation after the shortage was discovered on 8 Jan 45, I was asked to turn the dial myself. I found that it was stiff and did not seem to work as easily as when I was in the room where the safe was and saw Lieut. MacAllister turn it on the previous Friday. After locking the safe Lieut. MacAllister left the room where the safe was and eventually left the Pay Office and did not return. Sgt. Grier and Tpr. Badard returned to the room and were there when I left at 1230 hours to proceed on weekend. I was in Newmarket and Toronto over the weekend and did not return until approximately 0100 hours 8 Jan 45. Tpr. Badard was in bed in the room where the safe was kept and I went to bed and got up at 0630 hours in the morning. I noticed nothing unusual about the room on my return or when I got up. The partition between the Paymaster's office and the room where the safe was kept does not go right up to the ceiling but there is a space of approximately sixteen inches. There were smudges on the ceiling in the dust but these were not of recent origin and were likely caused at an earlier date when it was necessary for personnel who slept in the inner room to get into the sleeping quarters when they did not have a key. Since the shortage was discovered and during the course of the investigation I climbed over the partition and found that it would be practically impossible for me to do so without leaving fresh smudges on the ceiling or disturbing the dust on the top of the partition, and it would be very difficult for any other person to do so.