

L 10003 Gnr Axtell, N.R. having been duly sworn states :-

Q.1 On the night of 29 Aug 42 in the Burrell Arms Hotel were you drunk?

A.1 No.

Q.2 Will you tell the Court what occurred that night?

A.2 I went into the Burrell Arms alone and met a friend and we had a couple of beers. I then went out to the lavatory and coming out of there I met Gnr Munro, Brooks and Murray. Being friends of mine we decided to have a few drinks together. As it was crowded in the Saloon Lounge we decided to go into the Smoke Room which has a door opening into the Lounge. As there was one empty table I sat down at it while the others went to get the drinks. The same time as I sat down I recognized a friend of mine who I hadn't seen for some time. As the others had come back with the drinks they also sat at the same table. I was still talking to the friend when the table was upset. As far as I know it was an accident. The glasses being full of beer broke. The bar maid came over and picked up the one unbroken glass after which they refused to sell us any more drinks. So I got up out of the chair I was sitting in and accidentally knocked another chair over. I Kicked this one out of the way. I didn't deliberately break glasses by throwing them on the floor. I then went into the other bar and the windows were smashed when I went into it. I came out of there and ordered four drinks which they refused to sell me. But they set one round up on the house. They still wouldn't let me buy any. I was the first to leave the Lounge, it was dark outside and I didn't see or hear any windows being broken. We went into the public bar and Munro asked for the drinks. When I came in the door somebody made a remark and I went back to speak to the person. When I came back to the bar the manager flashed this blunder buss. Munro wasn't on the bar when I came back. About this time three Rhodesians asked us what the trouble was so we told them we couldn't get another drink because of the broken glasses. As I was having an argument with the Rhodesian I didn't hear what happened between Munro and the manager. The Rhodesian soldiers were behind the bar when the civil police came in behind them again. Sgt. Porrell came in behind me and handed me my tunic, he put his arm around my shoulders and said, "Let's get out of here before we get into trouble," and I left with him. The rest followed out behind.

Re-examined.

Q.1 After you came out of the Saloon Bar you went into the latrine?

A.1 No.

Q.2 How long between your two visits to the latrine?

A.2 Twenty minutes to a half hour.

Q.3 Were the windows broken then?

A.3 Yes

Q.4 Did your friends leave you at any time?

A.4 I don't know sir as I was talking to my friend, they could have left one at a time?

Q.5 When you left the Smoke Room for the lavatory did your friends go too?

A.5 I don't know whether they went to the lavatory or not. They left the Smoke Room ahead of me. There was a large crowd and I didn't see.

Q.6 When you came out of the lavatory, where did you go?

A.6 Up to the Bar in the Saloon Bar.