

## STATEMENT BY THE DEFENDING OFFICER IN MITIGATION OF PUNISHMENT.

There are quite a few factors in his documents which point to the good side of this man's character. As far as this soldier is concerned, he did his Basic at Brantford, and all the results on the card were good or average. I quote one S.P.O.'s remarks saying that this man could be good when he tried, and he could do better but he will not. At that time he had a few scrapes but that was the first indication that his attitude was changing and the S.P.O. could not help noticing that, and he put it down on the card. It was only after this he did get into trouble, the present trouble. On a previous occasion, for good service while under a very short spell of detention, he was remitted four days off that sentence.

I would like to point out also, the man is suffering from nervous trouble. He is nervous. Not A-1 physically, although the Army might class him so; and the ordeal he has been through has not helped him at all physically. The Medical Officer has rated him as suffering from mild instability, but well adjusted, showing that he does have these nervous disorders, and they do affect him somewhat.

His greatest worry to-day is the fact he has been away from his wife this time. The child is still only six weeks old. She is very unhappy where she is in Good Fish. She has trouble with the relations she is living with and the members of the family. His greatest fear is that he is going to lose his wife. That is the last thing he wants. He is willing to work. He is willing to do hard labour and will do anything the Army can give him provided he can get back to his wife. She is up in the north country. She hasn't a cent to her name and no one to turn to.

I will remind you he has spent since Christmas here in detention.