seconds I went forward to see Lcpl Belinda & Tucker & found he was wounded. He answered "Yes I am wounded" I then reported the case to Sgt Lindsay & after that we returned. I secured Lcpl Belinda to one of our sentry posts. Pte Lindsay [illegible] weapons before leaving.

We usually lock our weapons when we meet the enemy. After cocking weapons the normal procedure is to apply the safety catch. From our front of the sentry post the presumed enemy positions was about 150 yds.

Cross examined by the Defence:

Q - At what time did you leave your side of position to go to Mt Manu Lands?

A - At about 2.30 hrs

Q - Was it very dark?

A - It was very dark

Q - Before you heard the shot what kind of ground did the section go through, did you go through undergrowth

A - Yes.

Q - Was that undergrowth thick enough to interfere with a man's movement & ensnare anything (including a weapon) he might carry?

A - Yes Sir.

Q - Would it be possible the undergrowth & branches could have depressed the trigger & so fired a shot without the knowledge of the one carrying the weapon?

A - Yes sir.

Examined by the Court:

Q - Were you ordered to lock your weapons by the pl Sgt before leaving?

A - No sir.

Q - You state in your evidence "we lock our weapons when we meet the enemy" explain exactly what we mean

A - I mean when "we meet the enemy" I mean outside our first lines when we think we see near the enemy.

Q - Is it customary to apply the safety catches after cocking at that time?

A - Yes sir.

[illegible] to lock our weapons as soon as we apply the safety catches we don't lock them.

Q - When is it customary to use safety catches?

A - We used to remove our safety catches when we meet very close the enemy, we don't need for orders to remove the safety catches.

Q - How far were you from the enemy when you heard the shot fired?