

The case of the accused is very similar to the case of the other we had this morning (D-3842 Tpr G.D. Kelsner), in the fact that before he joined the Army he tried to join the Air Force and was turned down, and he was told that if he joined the Army it would be easier for him to get into the Air Force.

He, previous to enlistment, was separated from his wife six weeks before enlistment, and he joined the Army as a single man. He had a quarrel and joined the Army as a single man and was expecting divorce proceedings.

He left his wife with approximately \$500.00 to support her, and up to the time he came to Debort he had had no correspondence with her, but he knew that his father was looking after her.

When he got to Debort he got a letter from a friend who was a neighbour telling him that his wife, who is a semi-invalid, was not very well, and that his father had died, and he wrote to his wife and they decided to try and make a go of it again.

He went to the Paymaster and made out the necessary papers, and in due course his wife received her marriage allowance plus the back marriage allowance from April, but when the accused got to England he received on the first mail a letter from his wife which stated that she had not got any allowance for the month of August, and got another letter more recently that she did not get her allowance for the month of September.

He went to the Paymaster on receipt of the first letter, and the Paymaster being away he consulted with the Pay Sergeant, and the Sergeant told him it would be much faster to write to his wife and give her the address where to write to in Ottawa, which he did, and I have a letter, a copy of a letter, stating that there was an investigation on her allowance; that was some time ago, and she has not had any further allowance so far as he knows up to date.

He was, as a civilian, in the Merchant Service, and he thought by going to the Merchant Navy that he might be able to look after his wife without depending on anyone else to do it for him.

He had the same intention as Kelsner that if he could not get a job he was coming back to the unit.

I would like you to bear in mind that he has a clean conduct sheet, and that he has had an education, a very good education, he was graduated from Public School in the States, and from my own point of view, I have had experience working with him, he was with me on a scheme and proved to be an excellent D.M. and a good driver and was careful and shows a definite sense of responsibility, and with these remarks I close my address.

THE COURT IS CLOSED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SENTENCE.

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