

Defending Officer's Statement.

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Re G-52709, San Martin PW.

Sept 18/42

4. In short, this simple ignorant lad was not going A.W.L. wilfully, but with one idea in mind, to keep the possibility open of his joining his brother, fearing, in his ignorance that if he were sent out to the field that he could not get a transfer.

5. I therefore plead with this court for leniency in this case. As shown, his crime sheet is absolutely clear, except for these three A.W.L. charges. He claims he will be happy to go A.W.L. if he joins the Pioneers. I feel sure that if the accused had been able to explain his case clearly before ~~that~~ ~~the~~ that his crime sheet would be clear.

J. H. Rose Lieut.
Defending Officer.