

Ninth Witness - No. B76766 Pte. Tolmie, G.B., 1st Cdn. Para. Bn.

having been duly sworn, states:-

I was, in company with Pte. MacNeill, returning from Amesbury on the night of the 19th August, 1943, between the hours of 2330 and 2400. As we came opposite the A.T.S. barracks in Bulford Mil. Camp, I saw four soldiers and a little piece away, another soldier and a girl. As I drew opposite them, one of the soldiers broke away from the group of four and went over to the soldier and the girl. The girl started crying and went out into the middle of the road. I followed her. The three remaining from the original four followed the first man. I turned around and there was a bunch of fellows who appeared to be fighting. It broke up in a few seconds. The group of four then went down to Carter Barracks. We then left the soldier and the girl and returned to Carter Barracks.

Question - At a previous time, you made a statement under oath, stating that ~~xxx~~ Pte. LEE and Pte. LANTHIER were identified by you as being the assaulters; also, that the assaulted man was a British serjeant. Why have you changed your story?

Answer - I could not swear that it was a British serjeant that was assaulted nor that either ptes LEE or LANTHIER were involved. Neither did I state that I could in my evidence. I was not given a proper opportunity to read the evidence purported to have been given by me before signing my name to it.

Question - How close were you to the fight?

Answer - No closer than 15 yards.

Question - Did the assaulters ever come closer than this distance to you?

Answer No, sir.