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OPENING ADDRESS BY PROSECUTOR

The accused, Captain R.E. S. Chambers, Holding Establishment, Royal Canadian School of Artillery (Coast and Anti-Aircraft) an officer of the Canadian Army Active Force has been arraigned before this Court to be tried on two charges which fall under Sections 40 and 19 of the Army Act. The charge under Section 40, -- conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, in that he appeared in a dishevelled condition at a Reserve Force military establishment, and thereby brought discredit to the officers of the Canadian Army, Active Force. The second charge under Section 19 of the Army Act is that at this same time he was drunk.

Every charge laid against a person subject to military law has attached to it a degree of seriousness. The atmosphere of seriousness which surrounds the charges in question is very great because -- and I repeat -- they are levelled at an individual who holds the King's commission in the active army of this Dominion.

It has been decided to deal with the two charges together because of the fact that the witnesses to both charges are the same. Undue repetition will thereby be avoided.

It is my intention to lay before the Court evidence to show that Captain Chambers was dishevelled and unshaven at the Sergeants' Mess of the 75th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, and that at the same time he was drunk, thereby proving the accused guilty as charged.

