

lad who leaves home at the tender age of 17 years, does two years active service with the Air Force, return to Canada, is unfortunate enough at the age of 19 to be married and then his marriage and his home is broken up, comes back into the services with all good intentions and has a series of blows, losing his brother, his mother very ill, his father bed-ridden and he takes it upon himself to be absent upon several occasions.

I would like to point out that the accused during all his service has been of a little immature nature, no doubt due to his tender years. I have no material witness I can present to the Court to corroborate these statements but I believe they are authentic, and the accused has been advised that he is at liberty to call civilian counsel if he wishes or to call any witnesses. He has declined on both accounts.

I would like in closing to ask the Court to take all these extenuating circumstances into very strict account and be as lenient as possible in determining the sentence. The accused has assured me he likes the army and if conditions at home permit he would like to soldier.

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*John*