

Sgt's Besumont's statement cont'd...

Continuing this enquiry on Wednesday 17th Nov 43, accompanied by L/Cpl Langton, S.I.B., I interviewed No. B.17297 Gdem Waananen, L.N. 22 Cdn Armd Regt, 4 Cdn Div, at Steelhouse Lane Lockup, Birmingham, and after I had cautioned him he made a voluntary statement which I took down in writing and he read it over and signed it. In it he explained how Gdem Norland told him to take some cigarettes off his bed in room 12a at Columbia House, on the morning of the 16th Nov 43, and how he took 3 packets of 25 each (Sweet Caporal Brand) but he did not know that they were stolen property. He further explains how he had smoked two of them packages and had given one of them to his girl friend who lives at Perry Barr, Birmingham. (See attached statement by Waananen). Waananen was then released without prejudice.

On the 17th of Nov 43, accompanied by L/Cpl Langton, S.I.B. I visited 54 Glendower Rd, Perry Barr, Birmingham, where I saw Margaret Connally, I told her who I was and the nature of my enquiry and she admitted that she knew Waananen and that he had given her a packet of 25 Sweet Caporal Brand Cigarettes, which she produced and gave to me.

I respectfully ask that a copy of this report together with all original statements be forwarded to the Officer Commanding, No. 2 Sqn 22nd Cdn Armd Regt, The Royal Cdn Grenadier Gds, Can Forces, for his information and action.

Also a copy of this report and statements to Major Talbot Butler, A.P.M. 168 Provost Company, C.M.Police, for his information.

Respectfully submitted,

R.A. Besumont, Sgt,
Special Investigation Branch

Birmingham
18 Nov 43

CERTIFICATE AS PER R.P. 4(G)

I certify that the above signed witness cannot readily be procured owing to the exigencies of the service, the expense and the loss of time involved.

MacLennan
Major
(T H C MacLennan) Major
22 Cdn Armd Regt (GSC)