

- A. I can't swear to that, but whenever I pick up the receiver I always identify myself on the telephone.
- Q. In other words, there might be some doubt in the accused's mind that he might or might not have been talking to you?
- A. There should not be any doubt because Sgt. Ripley, in these words, said: "Hold the line! Here's Major Bitterworth who will speak to you".

The Prosecutor declines to re-examine.

Questioned by the Court.

- Q. What did you say to Pte. Altenhofen when you identified yourself?
- A. "Major Bitterworth speaking."
- Q. And when you told Pte. Altenhofen that he was to report back at 1200 hours on the 26th, what did he say?
- A. I can't say definitely, sir, whether he said: "Yes, sir", or what his words were. He did make some statement, but I can't recall what that statement was.
- Q. Did you send anyone from this Centre to check up on his story?
- A. No, sir.
- Q. How far is Albert Park from Currie Barracks?
- A. Not more than five or six miles.
- Q. It is between five or six miles?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. When did you first notify the Provost Corps as to the absence?
- A. Well, they are notified by the Adjutant from our absentee reports, and it was not until the day before yesterday, the 18th of April, that in order to avoid a Court-Martial on the illegal absence that I contacted No. 44 Provost Coy.
- Q. You are Pte. Altenhofen's Company Commander?
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. What did you do when Pte. Altenhofen did not report at 1200 hours on the 26th of March, 1945?
- A. When I learned that he did not report I instructed the Administrative Sergeant to have him shown absent on the report.
- Q. And that goes to whom?
- A. That goes to the centre office.

The witness withdraws.