

- why you didn't appear on parade at that time?
- A. 38 - Well, about 7 o'clock I went over to the orderly room to get a special sick report so I could see the M. O. My corporal at that time was Cpl. Carter and he came up and said I had better be getting ready for parade. I told him I was waiting for the Orderly Sergeant. I waited about fifteen minutes, got the special sick report from the Orderly Sergeant and went to the M. O. The M. O. was away the orderly said I couldn't see him and would be able to see him about 8 o'clock. I went into my billets and it was cold so I went to the drying room where it was warm. Cpl. Carter came in about 8.30 or 9 and asked me why I was not on parade. I said I had been to the M. O. and he was not in and I was too sick to go on parade. He said he would charge me with it. I went out of the drying room just after Cpl. Carter left and I never saw him any more that day sir.
- Q. 39 - Now, with regard to the second and third charges - that is that you neglected to appear on the 9.30 parade and that you didn't appear on the guard room parade, why did you not appear on those two parades?
- A. 39 - I was still too sick sir.
- Q. 40 - Now, with regard to the fourth charge of a. w. l. on the evening of the same day, 10 o'clock, will you tell the court why you went a. w. l.?
- A. 40 - Several of the fellows in my platoon got to know that the orderly corporal was going to put me under arrest and put me in the guard-room and that is the reason I went a. w. l. because I didn't like the guardroom very well.
- Q. 41 - Did you feel that if you had been charged you were not guilty of any charge which might have been laid against you that day?
- A. 41 - Yes sir
- Q. 42 - Now, with regard to the fifth charge, that you were wearing civilian clothes in London on the 30th October, will you tell the court the circumstances under which you came to be wearing civilian clothes?
- A. 42 - That day, I met an English chap in London and he seemed to be a nice fellow and he loaned me the civilian clothes as we were going out together.
- Q. 43 - You only wore the clothes to go out with him that night?
- A. 43 - Yes sir
- Q. 44 - Why did you wear the clothes that day to go out with him?
- A. 44 - Just more or less of a novelty. It had been so long since I had civilian clothes on.
- Q. 45 - You intended to resume your uniform the next day?
- A. 45 - Yes sir
- Q. 46 - Now, we come to the sixth charge which is that at New Martinique Barracks at Bordon, while under police escort to the medical officer you did escape, would you tell the court in your own words why you escaped that day?
- A. 46 - Well it was more or less on the spur of the moment sir. Pte. Rae the R. P. was taking us on sick parade. We went from the Orderly Room to the Medical Room and there was no one with us and I just did it on the spur of the moment.
- Q. 47 - Was there anything which lead up to your action in the case?
- A. 47 - Sgt. Roll and Cpl. Roberts sir. I had done 168 hours detention before that and they told me then if I ever came back they would make it tough for me. When I did come back from a. w. l. they told me I had had an easy time before and they would sure make it harder for me this time.
- Q. 48 - Did they?
- A. 48 - They made me scrub floors etc. while the others stood around.
- Q. 49 - How did you feel?
- A. 49 - I felt I did not deserve it. The other chaps in the detention room had been crimed and I didn't think it was fair for them to stand around and watch me work all the time.
- Q. 50 - Where were you picked up on the 1st of November?
- A. 50 - Near Binstead.
- Q. 51 - How far was that from Martinique?
- A. 51 - Five or six miles
- Q. 52 - How long were you absent?
- A. 52 - Three hours sir