

J. H. J.

The accused Pte THOMPSON has had an unhappy youth leaving home at the age of 13 and spending most of his time until he joined the army as a wanderer. The reason being that he could not get along with his step mother. His older brother left home for the same reason and his father finally separated from his step-mother in 1920. As a result the accused has never had much education and very little parental discipline. He joined the army when he was 16 and he is now only 19 although his paybook shows him to be 24.

The accused served in Canada for two years with the Victoria Rifles and was in Category B because of flat feet. Just before coming overseas he was given a medical board and his category was raised to A. All this can be verified in Part I of his paybook. When he arrived ~~over here~~ at the R.A.C. field unit he started having trouble with his feet occasioned by Battle Drill. He went to the M.O. who recommended that he be transferred to the Forestry Corps. The necessary papers were signed by the accused and when nothing came of it he applied to his Coy command for a job as D.R. or D.R.C. As nothing came of this word as he was still having trouble with his feet he was continually being put in charge. At this time he heard that his brother who had been missing from Dieppe was definitely killed. Feeling upset at this news and believing that he was not getting anywhere with the unit he conceived the idea of getting transferred to the holding unit by incurring a stiff enough sentence to be S.O.S. the field unit. As an F.P. man ^{was secured back drill by the M.O. and as he} he had plenty of opportunity to walk out ~~so~~ he took a convenient moment.

The accused is anxious to get a crack at the Germans on account of his brother and if he can get a job where his physical