

Eighth Witness - No. P28353 Pte. MacNeil, J.F., 1st Cdn. Para. Bn.

having been duly sworn, states:-

On the night of the 19th of August, 1943, I was accompanying Pte. Tolmie on our return from Amesbury. As we were coming opposite the A.T.S. Bks., I saw a soldier and an A.T.S. and a group of four soldiers a short piece away from them.

Question - How far away from the A.T.S. were you before you recognized her as such?

Answer - About the width of the street; 25 feet.  
Continue, please.

I heard words between the companion of the A.T.S. and one of the four in the other party. One of the four then broke away and went over to the soldier with the A.T.S. and got into a fight with him.

Question - Did you see any blows passed?

Answer - I saw blows but could not tell who was hitting who.

Continue, please.

I went over to the fight and by that time, the remainder of the group of four were about the fight, I tried to part them but did not succeed but as soon as I left, it broke up. I went over to the A.T.S. and Tolmie and the other party of four left. The soldier, originally with the A.T.S. joined us. Then, I left for Carter Barracks with Tolmie.

Question - Could you identify anyone in the group of four you mentioned?

Answer - Yes; Ptes LEE and LANTHIER whom I point out.

Question - Could you identify either the A.T.S. or her companion?

Answer I was able to identify them the next day.

Question - At the time of the fight, could you identify the companion of the A.T.S. in any way.

Answer - When he joined us after the fight, I identified him as a sergeant.

Question - How far away from him were you during the fight.