

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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10000/100/445

15 p2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

100/445

APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS
JULY 1943 - JAN. 1944

15 pp

4492

TO: Asstd. Comdt. MGS & HC. - Region VIII - Region IX.
FROM: British Admin. H.Q., AMG. AC.
SUBJECT: Appointments - Officers.
REFERENCE: MGC/5251 (C-1).
DATE: 18th January 1944.

The attached copy of A.F.H.Q. M.S. letter 21/MS dated 9th January 1944 is forwarded for information.

J. P. Wacker
Colonel,
Commandant,
British Admin. H.Q. AMG.AC.

Subject :- Appointments - Officers.

The attached letter is circulated for information. Please initial and forward, last named to return complete to this office.

10 Jan 44 Lt.-Col R.H. ROBERTSON.

NAME	INITIALS.
Captain Moyle	<i>Charles Capoda</i>
Lieut. Wright	<i>Wright</i>
Lieut. Blair)))	<i>L. Blair</i>
Lieut(1st) Rowlands	<i>Rowlands</i>
Captain Searle	<i>Searle</i>
1st Lt. Hoyle	<i>Hoyle</i>
Lieut. Dudley-Clarke	<i>Dudley-Clarke</i>

404

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Appointments Officers.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

21/MS

9 Jan 44

1. It is desirable to emphasise that Dep. Mil. Sec. is responsible for
 - (a) all graded Staff appointments,
 - (b) promotion and appointment to the rank of Lt. Col. and above,
 - (c) appointment to Second-in-Command in Lt. Col's. commands, and
 - (d) posting of all the above in and out of this theatre.
2. 'M.S.' departments at War Office, A.F.H.Q., A.H.Q. India, and G.H.Q. M.B.F., etc., are the proper channels for these subjects and I am to request that when an appointment is, or is likely to be, vacant, requests or enquiries are made solely through M.S. channels.
3. It is apparent that in some cases these matters are still being dealt with by Branches, Services and individuals through demi-official correspondence and cables without reference to M.S.
4. Cases have occurred recently of officers arriving in this Theatre for appointments which were not vacant or did not exist with the consequent disappointment to themselves and embarrassment to M.S. Branch to whom they came for help.
5. I shall be glad if you would make this know to all officers of your Branch.

403

BCC

A.E.V. BRUMELL,
Colonel,
Deputy Military Secretary.

Subject :- Application for Commission.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

Headquar ^{rs},
British Admin
A.M.G.A.C.

ASC/3/1

5131232 H.S.M. YOUNG, J.D.

I enclose an application for a commission from the above-mentioned W.O. I along with A.F.B.2617 completed as far as possible.

Field.


R. H. ROBERTSON, Lt.-Col.,
Asst Commandant,
A. G. S. & R. C.

Jan 15.

402

TO:- Assistant Commandant, M.G.S. and H.C.

CONFIDENTIAL³⁷⁹²

FROM:- British Administrative Headquarters. A.M.G. (C).

SUB:- Candidates for OCU.

REF:- MGC/5329 (G-1).

DATE:- 6th. January 1944.

Reference your letter ASC/3/1 dated 5th January 1944., the attached A.F.B.2617 is forwarded for completion and return.

Certificate of Commanding Officer shewing willingness to accept candidate in his own Unit is required vide Appendix "B" to G.R.O. 178/43 Part III Q.5. penultimate paragraph.

J. P. [Signature]

Colonel.,

Commandant.,

British Administrative Headquarters. A.M.G.A.C.

401

Subject :- Candidates for O.C.T.U.

British Admiralty.

A. M. G. A.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

130/3/1

Reference your 130/5329 (G-1) dated 6 Jan 43 the attached
AF B.2617 is returned with certificate duly completed in accordance
with Appendix "3" to G.P.O. 173/43.

Field.

6 Jan 43.


R. H. ROBERTSON,
Asst Commandant,
H. V. J. & H. C.

Lt.-Col.

400

785015

3671

TO: OC. HQ., Coy (Br)
FROM: British Admin. HQ., AMGAC.
SUBJECT: British O.R.
REFERENCE: MGC/5328/(G-1)
DATE: 5 January 1944.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

1. Receipt of your AQ/P/2 dated 4 January 1944 is acknowledged.
2. It would appear from information at the disposal of this HQ that the W.E. for HQ Coy (Br) will disappear.
3. It is proposed therefore to take no action at present on your letter.
4. Further information will be forwarded later.

Copy to: Asst. Comdt. MGS & H.C.

Harry Cliff
Colonel,
Commandant,
British Admin. HQ., A.M.G.A.C.

*Si.
? Have you seen AQ/P/2 of 4/1/44?*

399

(CONFIDENTIAL)

To :- Colonel A.D. Parren
Commandant British Admin H.Q., A.M.G.A.C.

From :- Lt.-Col R.H. Robertson,
Assistant Commandant, A.G.S. & H.C.

Date :- 7th Jan 44

My dear Colonel,

The undernoted British Officers on the staff of the A.G.S. & H.C. are, in view of certain official remarks and current rumours here, naturally anxious to know what their respective positions will be when the A.G.S. & H.C. closes down in this locality.

I understand unofficially that the new H.C. for the Holding Centre on the other side only calls for 1 Major and 2 Captains so that at least some of these officers will be surplus. Could you let me know please what I can tell these officers?

I understand that you have already taken up the matter of my own position and am awaiting, at your pleasure, some definite word.

Yours sincerely

R.H. Robertson

Captain Doyle + On existing
" Beale, A.G.S. & H.C. N.H.

Lieut Doyle) Attached to
" Wright) A.G.S. & H.C. from
" Challenger) No. 5 In I.V.T.D.
(Authy. 024)

Subject :- Complaints.

Asst Commandant,
M. G. S. & H. C.

Enclosed herewith statement by 5834947 Private Burchnell, F.B.,
The Buffs Regt., together with certificate and correspondence.

Field.

3 Jan 44.

.....
Camp Commandant,
M.G.S. & H.C.

397

Subject :- Discipline - Complaints.

ASC/22/1

Headquarters,
Algiers Sub-District.

5834947 Private BURCHALL, F. B. - 5 Buffs.

Your letter 2068A dated 30 Dec 43 is acknowledged.

1. The above-mentioned is on the staff here.
2. A statement was made by him on oath and is enclosed herewith along with one copy.
3. The correspondence enclosed with your letter is returned herewith.
4. It is noted that no disciplinary action will be taken against this soldier in respect of the representation to "The Daily Mirror".

Field.

4 Jan 44.


R. H. ROBERTSON,
Asst Commandant,
M. G. S. & H. C.

Lt.-Col.,

Subject:- Discipline - Complaints

CONFIDENTIAL.

2068A

30 Dec 43

Condt
Mil Govt School and Holding Centre

5834947 Pte BURCHNALL FB - 5 Bufts

Reference attached correspondence.

1. It is understood that a/n man is on your staff. If this is so, please obtain a statement from Pte Burchnall giving the names of the NCOs who he alleges were present when he was beaten, and the names of the Commanding Officer and Medical Officer and Padre to whom he says he complained and of the other man who was kicked.

2. No disciplinary action may be taken against him.

3. Please return correspondence with your reply.

GED/CH.

Geo. G. Dymally
Lt-Col.,
AA & QEG.,
ALGIERS SUB DISTRICT.

1215 hrs 3/1/44

Private Burchnell was interviewed by Lt.-Col R.H. Robertson, The Black Watch R.H.A., Assistant Commandant Military Government School and Holding Centre, at 1215 hours 3 Jan 44. Also present were Captain A.F. Searle, Somerset Light Infantry, Camp Commandant and Lieut L. Wright, Green Howards, both of the Military Government School and Holding Centre.

The circumstances of the investigation were explained to Pte. Burchnell by Lt.-Col Robertson who also explained that he would be called upon to make a statement on oath to Captain A.F. Searle. Private Burchnell said he had no objection to making a statement on oath.

Field.

3 Jan 44.


Captain,
Camp Commandant,
M. G. S. & H. C.

---000---

Pte Burchnall having been duly sworn states :-

Towards the end of May 1943 my Battalion, 5th Buffs was undergoing training in the GUELLA area. One Saturday evening my name appeared in "A" Company detail to attend church parade the following day. I paraded with the men detailed at about 1500 hours on Sunday; Dress :- P.D., anklets, belts. The parade was inspected by C.S.M. Lovejoy "A" Company, he checked me for dirty boots and unpolished brass, but he did not place me on a charge; Lieut Webster (i.e. 7 Platoon) then inspected the parade, he said to me, 'You disgrace the whole parade as your boots and brasses have not been touched'. He asked me why boots and brasses were dirty; I said, "We have not been able to get any cleaning material from the M.A.A.F.I." Lieut Webster then asked me why I did not borrow from the other men in my platoon. I told him that most of the men were in the same position as I was, Lieut Webster then warned me that I was on a charge. That night my name appeared on "A" Company detail warning me for Company Office the next day. I appeared before the Company Commander, Captain Davis-Cowley, charged with having dirty boots and brasses on Church Parade. The Company Commander ordered me to report daily for a week to the orderly sergeant, showing clean boots and brasses, Sergeant Foster "A" Company was the orderly sergeant. I failed to report that day as I still had no cleaning material. On the following day the Company returned from training, at about 1200 hours; we had our meal, after which I sat in my tent, at about 1500 hours Sergeant Foster ordered me to get my forage cap and accompany him. He walked about a mile out of the camp, he did not speak on the way. He arrived at a clump of trees, and I noticed my Company Commander, Captain Davis-Cowley, 2nd Lieut Taylor, C.S.M. Lovejoy, Sgt. Cocks, another sergeant and a corporal, whose names I forget all of "A" Company coming towards us. C.S.M. Lovejoy said 'I am marching you in front of your Company Commander on your previous charge.' He marched me up to Captain Davis-Cowley who said 'I am dealing with you in my own way as you have failed to comply with my orders'. He then ordered Sergeant Cocks and another sergeant to hold my arms, which they did in such a way that my body was forced forward. Captain Davis-Cowley took a stick from behind a tree, and gave me four or five strokes across the buttocks, with one or two of the blows he also struck my hands. He then told the sergeants to let me go and said 'I hope this will teach you a lesson'. I saluted and went back to camp. When I got back to camp I told Pte Isaacs and Pte Robbins, both of "A" Company, what had happened. Pte Robbins told me that he also had been beaten by Captain Davis-Cowley in the front line.

I then tried to see the Commanding Officer Lt.-Col MacVechie. I went to the Officers' Mess and asked to Corporal i/c Officers' Mess to march me before the Commanding Officer. He said he was unable to do this and advised me to wait until the C.O. had finished tea. I waited until the C.O. left the mess and as he was going to his quarters I saluted and asked to speak to him. The C.O. stopped and I explained to him what had taken place, he said, 'I will look into the matter', and told me to wait a couple of days. I then went to the M.I. room, the M.O. Lieut White, R.A.M.C., looked at my hands, and behind, which were bruised, he said there was nothing he could do for me, but that the swelling would go down in a couple of days.

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brass, but he did not place me on a charge; Lieut Webster (i.e. 7 Platoon) then inspected the parade, he said to me, 'You disgrace the whole parade as your boots and brasses have not been touched'. He asked me why boots and brasses were dirty; I said, 'We have not been able to get any cleaning material from the N.A.A.F.I.'. Lieut Webster then asked me why I did not borrow from the other men in my platoon. I told him that most of the men were in the same position as I was, Lieut Webster then warned me that I was on a charge. That night my name appeared on 'A' Company detail warning me for Company Office the next day. I appeared before the Company Commander, Captain Davis-Cowley, charged with having dirty boots and brasses on Church Parade. The Company Commander ordered me to report daily for a week to the orderly sergeant, showing clean boots and brasses, Sergeant Foster 'A' Company was the orderly sergeant. I failed to report that day as I still had no cleaning material. On the following day the Company returned from training, at about 1200 hours; we had our meal, after which I sat in my tent, at about 1300 hours Sergeant Foster ordered me to get my forage cap and accompany him. He walked about a mile out of the camp, he did not speak on the way. He arrived at a clump of trees, and I noticed my Company Commander, Captain Davis-Cowley, 2nd Lieut Taylor, C.S.M. Lovejoy, Sgt. Cocks, another sergeant and a corporal, whose names I forget all of 'A' Company coming towards us. C.S.M. Lovejoy said 'I am marching you in front of your Company Commander on your previous charge.' He marched me up to Captain Davis-Cowley who said 'I am dealing with you in my own way as you have failed to comply with my orders'. He then ordered Sergeant Cocks and another sergeant to hold my arms, which they did in such a way that my body was forced forward. Captain Davis-Cowley took a stick from behind a tree, and gave me four or five strokes across the buttocks, with one or two of the blows he also struck my hands. He then told the sergeants to let me go and said 'I hope this will teach you a lesson'. I saluted and went back to camp. When I got back to camp I told Pte Isaacs and Pte Robbins, both of 'A' Company, what had happened. Pte Robbins told me that he also had been beaten by Captain Davis-Cowley in the front line.

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Two days later I was transferred to 'R' Company, 5th Bn The Buffs.

Shortly after this I was on a route march with my Company during a halt I saw the C.O. saw asked him if anything had happened as a result of the recent affair in 'A' Company. He said 'Yes' but told me to wait again.

The next Sunday the R.O. padre attached to my unit came round to see my Company he told me I was looking well. I said 'I look all right, but I don't feel it', and explained to him what had happened. He said he would do the best he could for me.

Signed... P. B. BURMAN. Pte.

Taken down by me, in the field, the 3rd day of January 1944.

A. F. BEAUL. Captain.

SUBJECT: Relations with Arabs

CONFIDENTIAL

2084

28 Dec 43

Distribution List 13:

1. During the first few months after the arrival of the Allied Forces in NORTH AFRICA an attitude of friendliness towards the native population was encouraged. Official advice was given regarding behaviour when taking a meal to the guest of Arabs and soldiers were encouraged to learn the few phrases of Arabic printed for their guidance in the official handbook. The advice coincided with the natural friendliness of British and American soldiers and there is no doubt that this attitude has been very greatly appreciated by the natives.

2. Since the end of the NORTH AFRICAN campaign fraternization with natives has been forbidden and various instructions have been issued in apparent contradiction of the earlier advice. The contradiction is more apparent than real and this is the explanation.

3. The attitude of the British and American soldier has been instinctively friendly throughout and it soon became clear that there never has been any change of their attitude in general giving offence.

4. It is at the same time essential for soldiers to realize that there are some dangers involved about an associating too closely with natives :- **393**

(a) Disease. - Generally speaking natives are carriers of malaria, typhus and dysentery. The germ of these diseases is often in their blood and their treatment and is spread by the mosquitoes, lice and flies that have been in contact with them. Many of their dogs are also carriers of other serious diseases. The remedy, of course, is to keep away.

(b) Women. - The attitude of natives to women is one of extreme jealousy - a look is often sufficient to excite anger and suspicion. The jealousy of the men is matched by the irrepressible temperament of many of the women (perhaps because their lives are mainly hardensons and dull in the extreme). No soldier should ever stare at a native woman or discuss any woman.

(c) Theft. - The "Lara" (the "laser") on the property of British is the best known method of stealing the property of British.

2. Since the end of the MOHAI / WIGAI campaign, information with natives has been forbidden and various instructions have been issued in apparent contradiction of the earlier advice. The contradiction is more apparent than real and this is the explanation.

3. The attitude of the British and American soldier has been instinctively friendly throughout and it soon became clear that there never has been any corner of their attitude in general giving offence.

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(a) Disease - Generally speaking, natives are carriers of malaria, typhus and dysentery. The germ of these diseases is often in their blood and their excrement and is spread by the mosquitoes, lice and flies that have been in contact with them. Many of their dogs are also carriers of other serious diseases. The remedy, of course, is to keep away.

(b) Women - The attitude of natives to women is one of extreme jealousy - a look is often sufficient to excite anger and suspicion. The jealousy of the men is incited by the irresponsible treatment of many of the women (partly because their lives are mainly burdensome and dull in the extreme). No soldier should ever stare at a native woman or address any woman.

(c) Theft - The Moai raids (the "gassu") on the property of others are in the last Mosley tradition from the time of long ago (who became powerful by raiding caravans). The natural curiosity of the natives is at the present time sharpened by a desperate famine. A raid (whether by one man or several) is easily helped if there is opportunity for reconnaissance.

(d) Murder - Murder is readily committed by natives if jealousy over a woman is aroused - it is sometimes the result of an attempted seduction. The following circumstances are almost invariably the accompaniments of a murder or robbery where a soldier is the victim :-

The soldier was entirely alone.

He was drunk.

It was at night.

Sometimes it has to be added that he was in or had just come from a native quarter where he ought not to have gone.

/5.....

Asst. Comdant

SUBJECT: - Morale.

CONFIDENTIAL.

2304

13 Dec 43

Distribution: - List 'B'

The attached copies of correspondence from AFHQ are forwarded for your information.

These letters should be retained by you for use if at any time this subject is raised by any of the personnel under your command.

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M. G. D. Sullivan

AUT/CH.

Lt-Col.,
Asst. & QMG.,
ALGIERS SUB DISTRICT.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No.

785015

2307

13 Dec 43

Distribution:- List 'B'

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392

Lt-Col.,
 AA & QMG.,
 ALGERS SUB DISTRICT.

 $k_{JT}/CH.$

SUBJECT:-

Morale.CONFIDENTIAL.ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.G1/B/5387/1/A329 Nov 43

HQ Eighth Army
 HQ 10 Corps
 HQ North Africa District
 HQ No. 1 District
 HQ No. 2 District
 HQ 1 (Br) Inf Div.
 HQ 1 (Br) Arm'd Div
 HQ 4 Mixed Div
 HQ 6 Arm'd Div

1. In order to dispel exaggerated rumours and to put the matter in its true perspective the Adjutant General was recently asked by an Overseas Commander to see if he could find out some facts and figures about the behaviour of overseas troops, particularly Canadian troops, in the UK. The problem was explained to General McNaughton and copies of his reply are enclosed.

2. It may well be unnecessary and probably undesirable to publish to all troops the full facts and figures given by General McNaughton unless there is, or is thought to be, a specific reason for doing so in a particular formation or unit. It is therefore considered that the best manner of disseminating the information is to distribute the letter confidentially to Bde and equivalent commanders who can communicate the contents to any COs who may think they can make use of them for the purpose

G1/E/3387/1/A3

29 Nov 43

HQ Eighth Army
 HQ 10 Corps
 HQ North Africa District
 HQ No. 1 District
 HQ No. 2 District
 HQ 1 (Br) Inf Div.
 HQ 1 (Br) Armd Div
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(sgd) ? Brig

for Lieutenant General,
 Chief Administrative Officer.

101/MORALE/2 HQ First Canadian Army.

20 July 1943.

COPY

On my return today from a trip to North Africa, I found your letter of 5th July. I do appreciate your telling me of this situation, which I am sure can be corrected by our giving Henry Fownall the facts.

Four specific points are raised :

- (1) "Local papers received from Sussex are full of reports of court cases of Canadian soldiers misbehaviour, assaulting women etc".

It is unfortunately true that up until some 6 months ago the British press played up spectacularly any court cases affecting Canadians. In the counties of Sussex and Surrey, during the six months ending 5th July 1943, 297 Canadian soldiers were convicted of civil offences. This is equivalent to 1 offender per 12,000 troops per week. These cases were principally minor ones such as drunkenness, driving infractions, petty theft, etc. Offences against women totalled 15 - or 1 per 200,000 men per week.

- (ii) "A local paper reported a speech by the Mayor of Brighton to the effect that 7,000 Sussex girls had married Canadians since they had been stationed in England".

We do not maintain data on the domicile of brides of Canadian soldiers, but I am quite prepared to believe the statement because some 10,200 Canadian soldiers have already married in the United Kingdom. Permission to marry is not granted unless the man has a clean bill of health and his Commanding Officer concurs. All soldiers, and most of their prospective brides, are interviewed by unit padres who counsel against the marriage unless in their judgment it has every reasonable prospect of success and permanence.

Far from being a ground for criticism, I feel that the marriage statistics constitute a real compliment to the Canadian Army. It is understandable that Sussex men should regret the shrinking in numbers of marriageable women, but they must realise that the problem is universal and applies as well to the Canadian away from home. Men from all parts of the Empire go to Canada under the Air Training Scheme and many of them marry Canadian girls.

39

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- (iii) "Men, in letters, are hearing of members of their own and other families bearing illegitimate children by Canadian soldiers".

I know of no way to establish the number of illegitimate children whose fathers may be Canadian soldiers. My only relevant information is that during the nine months ended 1st July 1943, 101 maintenance orders have been received from the entire Canadian Army Overseas. This is one order per 16,000 troops per month. It takes two people to produce an illegitimate child, and illegitimate children were being born in Sussex before the arrival of Canadian troops.

Since the Potworth bombing is mentioned, it is of interest to note that we received a great many letters of appreciation for the work done by Canadian troops during and following that barbarous incident.

/2.. ..

- 2 -

This problem of family relations is one which also plagues us. Many Canadian soldiers have now been away from their homes for over 3 years, and they too have been disturbed by letters alleging infidelities and other causes of family concern. We have set up machinery to investigate such cases, and in a considerable proportion are finding the reports to be inaccurate, frequently untruthful and often malicious.

(iv) "News has been received that the towns of Hastings and Eversham have been put out of bounds to troops on account of the prevalence of venereal disease".

This is unqualifiedly false. No town has ever been put out of bounds to Canadian troops for any such reason.

During this difficult period of over 3 years serving in England one of our greatest compensations has been the many expressions of appreciation by individuals and authorities on the behaviour of Canadian troops. Our men have entered the life of the communities, and there has been formed a very real bond between the people of Sussex and Canadian troops. As a matter of interest I enclose copies of a few typical letters from my files.

I feel that in any fair and informed appreciation the conclusion will be that the Canadian soldier has behaved, and is behaving well, under conditions which are not conducive to the highest state of discipline. However, my statements are those of a Commander who is very proud of his troops and of their discipline. I suggest that it would be helpful for you to secure from Swaine his frank opinion as to the behaviour of the Canadian troops. He also is in close touch with the civil authorities, and can give you a picture which would not only be completely unbiased but would be broader in its perspective than my own.

May I say that I understand very clearly - and sympathetically - Henry Pownall's problem, because it has been one of my greatest concerns. Our experience indicates that two factors are of the highest importance in tackling this problem. First, is the attitude of the Commanding Officer and officers of the battalion. By prompt and sympathetic investigation of cases which trouble their men, they frequently can expose inaccuracies and often malice in letters and reports. Second comes the prompt delivery of mail. This is a 'high level' problem, the solution of which contributes most importantly to maintenance of high morale.

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Thank you again for writing. If there is any further information which you feel might be helpful please let me know.

Yours sincerely

(sgd)

P.S. Walford spoke to Swayne on this matter on my behalf during my absence, and I understand he would like to write to you in support of the views I have expressed above.

Subject:- THEFTS AT GARDE MOBILE

Ref : RAGS/2

To : Asst. Comdt.

From : Camp Commandant.

May the following be read out on Monday morning Formation
Parade please :-

"THEFTS AT GARDE MOBILE.

Certain articles, i.e., Cap badges and woven pins stolen
from quarters at the Garde Mobile, have been recovered and may
be collected from Camp Commandant's office. Officers are
requested in future to report at once to the Camp Commandant's
office any losses."

In the Field,

11 Dec 43.

.....*Alfred*.....Capt.
Camp Commandant.
Mil.Cov.School & Holding Centre.

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CHARGE

Army Form B 252
(See King's Regulations)

M.G.S. & H.C.

Regiment

ACC REAR LINK

Battery
Squadron
Troop or
Company

CHARGE against No. 163395 Rank CAPT.

Name GAMBLE W.A. GEM LIST

Place FIELD Date of Offence 11 DEC 43

OFFENCE (Section 15 A.A.) W.O.A.S.

A.W.O.L. for the period 0900 hrs
11 Dec 43 until reporting to MAJOR
JACOBS on 14 Dec 43 at 2100 hrs.
i.e. 3 days - 12 hrs.

Names of Witnesses:—

MAJOR JACOBS — DOCUMENTARY

MAJOR DHLER (U.S. ARMY.)

Signature of O.C. Battery,
Squadron, Troop or Company

Punishment
Awarded none.

By whom
Awarded R. Robertson Lt Col

Adjutant.

P.T.O.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

*Severely reprimanded but no
record to be made.*

EVIDENCE

MR

REMARKS

none

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject :- Family Living Allowance - Major G.M. ROLF, R.A.S.C.

To :- C.A.O., A.F.H. .

ASC/22/1

From :- M.G.S. & H.C.

In reply to your letter 01/3/3021/139/43 dated 9 Dec 43 the above-mentioned officer is no longer at this establishment. Reference is made to this H. . letter ASC/CON/8 dated 10 Nov 43, addressed to Major Jackson, L.C. Section A.F.H. ., with which there was enclosed confidential correspondence in the above connection. It is understood that Major Rolf is at A.F.H. . and has been there for some time now. His telephone number is Freedom Ext. 251.

388

Field.

11 Dec 43.


R. H. ROBERTSON,
Asst Commandant,
M. G. S. & H. C.

Lt.-Col.

2nd REMINDER.

SUBJECT :- Family Lodging Allowance - Major G.H. RULF, RASC

OC, Mil Gov School.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

G1/B/3004/139/A3.

9 Dec 43.

It is requested that a reply may be given as soon as possible
to this HQ letter of even number dated 29 Oct 43

[Signature]
Lieutenant General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject :- Discipline - Officers.

30/22/1

Colonel J.K. Dunlop, C.B.E., A.C., T.D.
Commander Region 1A.

Sir,

I refer to my conversation with you on Saturday afternoon in regard to Lt.-Col Lynch-Blosse and I have been instructed by the Commandant to lay the facts before you and request that you will be good enough to take such action as you may consider necessary.

As you are no doubt aware, for some time past Colonel Lynch-Blosse has been unwell and during the past week he has been confined to his quarters. He has been attended to by Lt.-Col Parr R.A.M.C.

School Standing Orders state that before any meals are served to officers confined to their quarters through sickness a chit will be procured from the Medical Officer authorising the Messing Officer to issue meals to officers confined to quarters through sickness.

387

On Saturday 11 Dec 43 Colonel Lynch-Blosse instructed his batman, Pte Jeffs, to bring him his lunch from the London Officers Mess. Lieut Pratt, Messing Officer, informed Pte Jeffs that it was necessary to procure a chit for the issue of meals from the Medical Officer. Pte Jeffs proceeded to the Dispensary and requested a chit for Colonel Lynch-Blosse's lunch. Sgt Lanning was on duty in the Dispensary and informed Pte Jeffs that according to his information Colonel Lynch-Blosse had not been reported sick in quarters and that he was not authorised to issue any chits. Pte Jeffs informed Colonel Lynch-Blosse of this.

Colonel Lynch-Blosse then went down to the mess in London to see Lieut Pratt and accused him of refusing to give him lunch; this was denied by Lieut Pratt who drew Colonel Lynch-Blosse's attention to School Standing Orders. Colonel Lynch-Blosse in the presence of other officers, the mess Sgt and waiters then lost his temper, picked up a plate from the table and threw it against the wall completely smashing it, he then left the mess.

The matter was reported by Lieut Pratt to this Headquarters and his report is attached hereto.

Colonel Lynch-Blosse, owing to his state of health, thinks he was not shown the consideration due to him.

Any of the parties (x) connected with this matter will be made available at whatever time you state should you consider it necessary to see any of the personnel referred to.

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387

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Field.

12 Dec 43.

(x) Lieut Pratt
Sjt Ballard
Sjt Lanning
Pte Jeffs

Messing Officer
Mess Serjeant.
Medical Serjeant
Batman

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

R. H. ROBERTSON
R. H. ROBERTSON,
Asst Commandant,
L. G. S. & H. C.

Lt.-Col.

Lt.-Col Parr
Major Robinson
Lieut Ovedlow
Medical Officer
Medical Officer
Medical Officer

REAR ECHELON
HEADQUARTERS
2675TH REGIMENT
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(U.S. CONTINGENT) (PROVISIONAL)
APO 394

12 December 1943

SUBJECT: Complaint

TO : Commanding Officer, 2675th Regt., ACC.

386

1. It is a rule of London Mess not to serve meals to officers in bed unless the officers present a slip from the Medical Officer stating that the officer will be served in bed.

2. Four days ago a batman for Lt. Col Lynch - Blossie (British) asked me if it was possible for the Colonel to have his meals in bed. I told him no unless he, the batman, got the necessary slip. This happened every day up to yesterday noon. The batman again asked for the meal. I again told him the same story. Shortly afterwards, the Colonel came down to see me. He asked why he was refused a meal. I tried to explain, but was repeatedly cut short. The Colonel then threw a plate against the wall, completely breaking it, and walked away. This incident took place in the presence of British Mess Sergeant Mallard and several table waiters.

George K. Pratt
GEORGE K. PRATT,
1st Lt. Inf.
Mess Officer.

○
went down to the mess himself,
where he let his temper at
being so inconsiderately treated.
He will be at
the mess meeting at 1600 hrs.,
where he will bring the
matter up.

R. O. Callahan, Capt.

○

To: Lt. Col. R.H. Robertson
From: Lieut. E.W. Chalmers

Re:

Lt. Col. Lynch Blosser's
wound; his barman, Jeffs, states
that when he went for the
Colonel's lunch he was told
in the mess to get a
chick from the Dispensary &
the officer that the Colonel
was confined to his room.
Jeffs was told by the Sgt.
in the Dispensary that Lieut.
Lynch Blosser was getting up

and did not therefore require a
chit. The batman told his
office this, and as far as
Jeffs was concerned the matter
ended there, for Col. Ingham-Blossie
made no comment and returned
to bed. He knew nothing
of the trouble in the Fleet
afterwards.

As Col. Ingham-Blossie
stated that long as how before
sending down for food he
had seen the T.O., who
had advised him to stay
in his room. He was
not prepared to approach
the T.O. again so some
money for a chit, and

Confidential File
see also W.E.
 Suggested Establishment for Holding Centre based on 20 Officers and 100 O.Rs.
 (U.S. & Brit).

OFFICERS	W.O.	C.O.M.S.	SJTS.	O.Rs.
5	1	1	4 x	45 x

x This includes 1 Transport Sgt.
 x This does not include 5 Drivers.

5 Officers
 51 O.Rs.
56
 Total (all ranks) 56.

TRANSPORT.

Car.	1
15 Cwt	1
30 Cwt	2
or	
3 Ton	1
Jeep	

Detail of above -

Commandant.	1.
Adjutant.	1.
Administrative Officer.	1.
Quartermaster.	1.
Training & G.D. Officer.	1.
	<u>5. officers.</u>

W.O.	3/SJTS	SJTS	O.Rs.
------	--------	------	-------

H.Q.	1	2	6
COOKHOUSE			7
BATHEN			5
WAITERS			7
K.Ps.			4
SANITARY			2
POSTAL			4
CLERKS			10
G.D.			1
M.T.			

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383

Detail of above -

Commandant. 1.
 Adjutant. 1.
 Administrative Officer. 1.
 Quartermaster. 1.
 Training & G.D. Officer. 1.
5. officers.

15 Cwt - 1
 30 Cwt - 2
 or -
 3 Ton -
 Jeep - 1

H.Q.
 JOCKHOUSE
 BATHEN
 WAITERS
 K.Ps.
 SANITARY
 POSTAL
 CLERKS
 G.D.
 M.T.

I.O.	3/SJTS	SJTS	O.Bs.
1	1	2	- 6 7 5 7 4 2 4 10 -
1	1	4	45
-	-	-	5
1	1	4	50

DRIVERS

6 Dec 43.

6 Dec 43

complaint by Major Loett &
Capt Eastman - Reagle re behavior
of Capt Lyles Reg V in ³⁸²London
in London. Asked Reg V to move
him to Miami.

AMP

CONFIDENTIAL.

Ref. No. SIB60/A/43/725.

60 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
Corps of Military Police,
British North African Force.

SUBJECT:- Attached Report.

To:- Assistant Commandant,
Military Government School,
Tizi Ouzou.

Col. Robertson
"Washington"

Reference your call at this office on 13/11/43.
The attached copy of report by Corpl. Burgess
of this Branch, is forwarded herewith for your information,
please.

In the Field,
27th November, 1943.

William J. Coutts
William J. COUTTS.

Captain.

EW. Copies to:- A.P.M., S.I.B.
File.

O.C., 60 Special Investigation Section

CONFIDENTIAL.

REF. No. SIB60/43/725.

60 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
Corps of Military Police,
British North African Force.

SUBJECT: Alleged Larceny of Officers' Equipment and
Clothing.

To: The Officer Commanding,
60 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
C.M. Police. B.N.A.F.

Sir,

On the 13th November, 1943, Lt. Col. Aitken, Assistant-Commandant of the Military Government School at Tizi-Ouzou, called at this office. He reported that officers' equipment and clothing were missing from the officers' quarters at the School, and that the batmen employed there were suspected of stealing this and of selling it to civilians. Enquiries made into this loss by the School Authorities having proved of no avail, the assistance of this Branch was requested to investigate this matter. In order to verify his suspicions, Lt. Col. Aitken proposed that a member of this Branch be introduced into the School and be quartered among the batmen with a view to ascertaining whether they were responsible or not for the above mentioned loss.

On the 15th November, I proceeded to the Military Government School, where I was quartered among the batmen. These are about fifty in number, and are under the supervision of one British Sergeant.

The School was formerly a French College, and comprises several large buildings. These form part of the town of Tizi-Ouzou and stand well apart from each other. In them are quartered some four hundred British and American Officers in addition to the Staff.

A detachment of American Military Police provide a town picquet and guards for the executive offices. The remainder of the buildings are unguarded.

Also quartered in the same room as myself was a Corporal of the British Military Police, awaiting posting. This N.C.O., during my stay at Tizi-Ouzou, lost a suit of Battle-dress containing his A.B. 64 and documents. Suspecting one of the batmen in the room of having stolen this, he conducted a kit inspection, which was, however, unsuccessful in revealing any trace of his property. Unfortunately his presence, and this incident,

at the School, and that the batmen employed there were suspected of stealing this and of selling it to civilians. Enquiries made into this loss by the School authorities having proved of no avail, the assistance of this Branch was requested to investigate this matter. In order to verify his suspicions, Lt. Col. Aitken proposed that a member of this Branch be introduced into the School and be quartered among the batmen with a view to ascertaining whether they were responsible or not for the above mentioned loss.

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A detachment of American Military Police provide a town picquet and guards for the executive offices. The remainder of the buildings are unguarded.

Also quartered in the same room as myself was a Corporal of the British Military Police, awaiting posting. This M.C.O., during my stay at Tizi-Ouzou, lost a suit of Battle-dress containing his A.B. 64 and documents. Suspecting one of the batmen in the room of having stolen this, he conducted a kit inspection, which was, however, unsuccessful in revealing any trace of his property. Unfortunately his presence, and this incident, caused the batmen to become very reticent on the subject of improper possession or sale of W.D. property or officers kit, thereby greatly diminishing the chances of success of this enquiry.

Five days of constant mixing and conversing with batmen, gave no cause, either by word or deed, to suspect any individual of being concerned in this matter. On the other hand there is ample evidence from the number of civilians in possession of W.D. clothing and footwear, that this is being obtained from the Military Government School, which is the only Military establishment in or near Tizi-Ouzou.

As a result of my enquiries I am convinced that the general situation at Tizi-Ouzou is no worse than that which prevails in Algeria wherever British or American troops are stationed. It does not seem, however, that the security of the School buildings is perfect, and although the difficulty of policing such a large and scattered organisation with a small detachment is appreciated, it is suggested that there would be a considerable decrease in the loss of kit if a small picquet

Continued overleaf.

-2-

were detailed to patrol the School Buildings in daytime, and to keep particular watch on the activities of batmen. It is also urged that the American Military Police take action against civilians in possession of British or American W.D. property in order to recover this. With these same ends in view, it would be advisable for the School authorities to stress the gravity of the offence in question, and the severity of the punishment it entails. Occasional surprise inspections of batmen's kits would assist to keep this in mind. Until these measures are taken there seems little prospect of an improvement in the situation.

I respectfully suggest that a copy of this report be forwarded to Lt. Col. Aitken for his information.

In the Field.
23rd Nov. 1943.
HD.

J. E. Burgess
J. E. BURGESS.
60 Section, Special Investigation Branch.

Corporal.

30 Nov 43

CONFIDENTIAL

For attention of Colonel R.H. Parren.

British Admin.
H.Q. A.M.G. A.C.

With reference to our conversation this morning in regard to future organization of Military Government School and Holding Centre. The following officers are at present on Colonel Parkin's Staff :-

Major Uhler	-	Adjutant
Lieut Kearin	-	Asst. Adjutant
W.O. Brock	-	"
W.O. Ellenbast	-	S.4. (Q.M.)
Lieut Pratt	-	Messing (Officers - London)
Lieut Arens	-	Finance
Lieut Goldstein	-	Personnel
Lieut McPhail	-	Transport
Lieut Marsland	-	Mens' Messing
Lieut Keyes	-	Provost
Lieut Reed	-	Company Commander
Major Robinson	-	Medical Officer
Lieut Svedlow	-	"

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I suggest that the organization of the Military Government School and Holding Centre, excluding both British and American Companies, should consist of 8 British Officers and 5 American Officers, with OR/EM HQ Staff of 17 men. The duties to be as follows :-

Officers :-

BRITISH

Wheeler, Commandant
Dawle, Camp Commandant
Boyle, Assistant Camp Commandant
Boyle, Transport Officer
Wheeler, Training Officer
Wheeler, Messing Officer
Assistant Adjutant
Wheeler, Quartermaster

AMERICAN

Adjutant
Adjutant's assistant W.O.
Finance
Mens' Messing
Personnel

Lieut Goldstein	-	Personnel
Lieut McPhail	-	Transport
Lieut Marsland	-	Mens' Messing
Lieut Keyes	-	Provost
Lieut Reed	-	Company Commander
Major Robinson	-	Medical Officer
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Officers :-

BRITISH

Whelan Commandant
David Camp Commandant
Boyle Assistant Camp Commandant
Boyle Transport Officer
Boyle Training Officer
Boyle Messing Officer
Boyle Assistant Adjutant
Boyle Quartermaster

AMERICAN

Adjutant
 Adjutant's assistant W.O.
 Finance
 Mens' Messing
 Personnel

8

5

OR/EM :-

Clerical	2 Sjt	1 Sjt
	3 clerks	3 clerks
	1 runner	1 runner
	6 General outymen	<u>5</u>
	<u>12</u>	

In regard to OR/EM personnel for cooking, waiting, batmen, transport and general duties, I feel that more information is required before numbers could be decided upon. As far as medical arrangements are concerned, I feel that there should be 1 British and 1 American M.O. and the necessary staff to cater for an M.I. room/Dispensary.

Academic Instruction.

If only language classes are to be held then I think the appointment of Director of Studies is superfluous but the Italian instructors should remain.

Subject :- Officers Allowance.

AG/COB/3

Commandant,
British Admin. H.Q.,
A.M.G.S.C.

In reply to your AG/38(P) dated 26 Nov 43, I am enclosing herewith a copy of my letter to A.F.H.Q.

Major G.H. Rulf (B) is employed at A.F.H.Q.

Field.

27 Nov 43.

JNA

Lt-Col. D. B. Aitken,
Assistant Commandant.

378

TO:- Commandant, M.G.S., and H.Q.
FROM:- British Administrative Headquarters. A.M.G.A.C.
SUB:- Officers Allowance.
REF:- HGC/38(P).
DATE:- 26th. November 1943.

It is understood that a letter from A.F.H.Q., reference G1/B/3004/139 A3 dated 20th November 1943 has been sent to you.

A reminder has been received at this H.Q. and as it concerns Family Lodging Allowance of Major G.H. Ruff (B) it is requested that a copy ^{of the above quoted letter} be forwarded to this E.Q.



R.H. PARREN.
COLONEL.,
COMMANDANT.

BRITISH ADMIN. H.Q. A.M.G.A.C.

377

Copy

(Confidential)

Major Jackman,
Military Government Section,
A.F.H.Q.

ABC/60H/3

() With further reference to our telephone conversation of even date,
I am forwarding herewith the confidential correspondence in connection
with this matter for necessary action please.

Field.

Signed D. B. Aitken Lt.-Col

Lt-Col D.B. Aitken,
Assistant Commandant,
Military Govt. School and
Holding Centre.

10 Nov 43.

(A.F.H.Q. request for report from Major G.H. Ruff R.A.S.C. re family Alloe.)

() D.B.A.

HEADQUARTERS
2675TH REGIMENT
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(U.S. CONTINGENT) (PROVISIONAL)
APO 512

Confidential

15 November 1943

SUBJECT: Report of two officers intoxicated;

375

TO : Commanding Officer 2675th Regiment Allied Control Commission;

On the night of 14 November, 1943 at 2320 hours an American Officer was found for the third time intoxicated to the best of my knowledge. With such officer at the time also was an English Major and two enlisted men. The English Major whose name is Anthony Macchi was intoxicated to the extent that he had to be assisted. The American officers name is 1st Lt. Harvey A. Grant, OMP O-I75962.

Charles B. Keys
CHARLES B. KEYS
1st LT. INF.
PROVOST MARSHAL

*Noted
for action
to be taken
relative
Lt Grant.* } C M P col Inf.

Memo. Spoke to Maj Macchi who admitted having drunk too much and warned him a recurrence would lead to severe consequences

15 Nov.

J.D. Allen
Head

Military Government School and Holding Centre.

7 Nov 43.

Subject : Investigation into the larceny of underwear and pair of shoes from Flat 36, Garde Mobile Barracks, to prejudice of Capt. Watkins.

To : Asst. Commandant, Mil. Govt. School.

From : Lieut. T.W.M. Greenhill, Region 5.

At 0945 hrs 6 Nov 43, acting upon your instructions, assisted by Major Jackson and 1st Lt. C. Keys, Provost Marshall, I commenced enquiries regarding the subject matter.

To clarify matters, I would record that the theft took place between 0740 hrs and 1200 hrs on 5 Nov 43: was discovered by a batman named HARLEY, who reported the matter forthwith to Capt. WATKINS at Hollywood building.

Before proceeding further, it is opportune to give the geography of the wing of the building at the Garde Mobile Barracks wherein the flat in question is situated. There are five storeys with two flats on each landing, and communal entrances to the building at the front and rear. Flat 36 is on the second floor and faces a flat wherein lives a member of the Zouave Regiment. There are two other flats, occupied by personnel of A.M.G., one on the ground floor and the other on the second floor. Certain A.M.G. officers are billeted in flats situated in wings of the building, but there is no intercommunication between the wings. This is significant because several batmen are engaged in these wings, in addition to the one in question.

The barracks is surrounded by a high wall and there is a sentry posted at the main gate.

Flat 36 is occupied by Major ALLWORTH and Captain WATKINS. Entering the flat, one is faced with a passageway on the left side of which are the two bedrooms of the officers. Capt. WATKINS' room is at the end of the passageway and one must pass Major ALLWORTH'S room to reach it.

Part of the missing property, viz :-

3 bush shirts - marked J.P. WATKINS,	
2 tropical shirts - new,	
1 Khaki tunic shirt,	
3 pairs of imitation silk shorts - marked J.P. WATKINS,	
5 white imitation silk vests - " " "	
3 cotton (W.D.) vests - " " "	

was stolen from a ledge in a wall cupboard from amongst many other articles of clothing. A pair of brown shoes (new) size 8, was stolen from the floor near the cupboard and a W.D. torch was purloined from behind a photo-frame on a box by the bedstead. There was no sign of disorder.

785015

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The barracks is surrounded by a high wall and there is a sentry posted at the main gate.

Flat 36 is occupied by Major ALLWORTH and Captain WATKINS. Entering the flat, one is faced with a passageway on the left side of which are the two bedrooms of the officers. Capt. WATKINS' room is at the end of the passageway and one must pass Major ALLWORTH'S room to reach it.

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5 white imitation silk vests -	" "
3 cotton (W.D.) vests	" "

was stolen from a ledge in a wall cupboard from amongst many other articles of clothing. A pair of brown shoes (new) size 8, was stolen from the floor near the cupboard and a W.D. torch was purloined from behind a photo-frame on a box by the bedstead. There was no sign of disorder, as would be expected, and an important factor is that three other pairs of footwear were about the room, and a fair amount of clothing left behind in the cupboard. Also, that Major ALLWORTH'S room was not disturbed. This applies to other rooms in the flat. Further, a new trench coat was hanging in the passageway, in full view of the thief who must have pass it to reach Capt. WATKIN'S room.

So much for the situation of the building, flat, circumstances of the theft and important pertinent points.

I would mention that the theft was reported to Captain STABLE soon after discovery. He visited the scene of the crime and consequently caused the effects of the five batmen, employed at the Barracks, to be searched. None of the stolen property was found. It. KEYS also visited the scene, made enquiries of the sentries on duty at the main gate during the material time, but failed to elicit any useful information. He also advised the civilian police of the theft.

Having all facts in mind, I decided to make certain enquiries before interrogating the five batmen.

2/.....

File Confidential

I therefore called upon M. Jean Radenac, Chief of the Surete of the Arrondissement of Tizi-Ouzou; advised him of the circumstances of the theft; furnished him with a full description of the missing property, and sought his help, which he readily gave. M. Radenac assured me that should any information come to hand he would communicate with Lt. KEYS.

Consequently, with Major JACKSON and Lt. KEYS, I visited all cafes, used by E.M. and O.Rs., and enquired of the proprietors whether any such clothing had been offered for sale by British and American soldiers only in the possession of local habitues. No information was forthcoming. However, each proprietor promised to co-operate in the matter. Visits were also made to the local markets, but nothing came to light.

Having completed these lines of enquiry, it was decided to interrogate the five batmen engaged at the Garde Mobile Barracks. This was put into effect at the Barracks at 1430 hrs and lasted till 1730 hrs. Care was taken to see them individually and measures taken to prevent communication from one to the other after each had been interrogated.

The batmen in question are :-

Pte. A.W. MATTHEWS, No. 4867938, 2/5 Leics Regt. 373
Pus. E. HELMAN, No. 3455833, Royal Northumberland Fus.
Pte. W. HALL, No. 3606026, 6th Lincs. Regt.
Pte. J.A. PARKINSON, No. 5886186, 5th N. Hants.
Pte. W.A. HARLEY, No. 4926754, South Staffs. Regt.

HARLEY is the batman of the flat in question and he was seen last.

All were subjected to a severe examination, in fact each in turn was more or less accused of the theft, but all denied knowledge of the loss. Consequently, there was not evidence against any of them. It was learned, however, that L/Cpl. H. FOSTER, No. 4805752, Lincs. Regt., who assists Serjeant PARKER to supervise batmen, had visited the flats at the Barracks on the morning in question. He was therefore seen and interrogated at London Building. He denied knowledge of the theft and verified that he had never been left alone in No. 36 Flat. This was borne out by Pte. HARLEY.

I would mention that the financial position of the suspects was explored, but each of them was more or less solvent.

In conclusion I would observe that this investigation was fraught with difficulty, by virtue of the absence of even a tittle of evidence and the unavoidable lapse of time before this enquiry was put into effect.

The next consideration is who can be listed as the possible culprit. A retrospect of the foregoing facts (a) situation of the flat; (b) disposition of the property; (c) articles stolen; (d) persons having access and (e) opportunity of the latter, leads me to the position of suspecting that a

The batmen in question are :-

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Fus. E. HELMAN, No. 3455833, Royal Northumberland Fus.
Pte. W. HALL, No. 3606026, 6th Lincs. Regt.
Pte. J.A. PARKINSON, No. 5886186, 5th N. Hants.
Pte. W.A. HARLEY, No. 4926754, South Staffs. Regt.

373

HARLEY is the batman of the flat in question and he was seen last.

All were subjected to a severe examination, in fact each in turn was more or less accused of the theft, but all denied knowledge of the loss. Consequently, there was not evidence against any of them. It was learned, however, that L/Cpl. H. FOSTER, No. 4805752, Lincs. Regt., who assists Serjeant PARKER to supervise batmen, had visited the flats at the Barracks on the morning in question. He was therefore seen and interrogated at London Building. He denied knowledge of the theft and verified that he had never been left alone in No. 36 Flat. This was borne out by Pte. HARLEY.

I would mention that the financial position of the suspects was explored, but each of them was more or less solvent.

In conclusion I would observe that this investigation was fraught with difficulty, by virtue of the absence of even a tittle of evidence and the unavoidable lapse of time before this enquiry was put into effect.

The next consideration is who can be listed as the possible culprit. A retrospect of the foregoing facts (a) situation of the flat: (b) disposition of the property: (c) articles stolen: (d) persons having access and (e) opportunity of the latter, leads me to the position of suspecting that a batman is responsible.

I am inclined, therefore, to dismiss the possibility that the thief was (a) member of the French Garrison: (b) civilian occupant of the flats and (c) local person gaining unlawful access, because of the absence of disorder in the flat; valuable and useful property left behind and, most important, the fact that Major ALLWORTH'S room - situated just inside the flat - was not apparently entered.

The matter must now rest, ~~ending~~ with the hope that the interrogation of the suspects; visits to the Surete and local police and enquiries at the cafes might bring to light some shred of pertinent evidence.

Wm. T. L. L.
Lieutenant.

(Confidential)

Major Jackman,
Military Government Section,
A.F.H.Q.

AFG/CON/B

With further reference to our telephone conversation of even date,
I am forwarding herewith the confidential correspondence in connection
with this matter for necessary action please.

Field.

10 Nov 43.

JWA

It-Col. D. B. Aitken,
Assistant Commandant.
Military Government School & Holding Centre.

AFHQ. request for report from
Maj G.H. Ruff RASC
re. family allowances

JNA 372

Colonel V.K. Dunlop,
J.A.C.S.

ASC/CI/1

Subject :- Court of Inquiry.

Herewith Court of Inquiry proceedings held in connection with
an accident to "Jeep" No. 4768541, which, it is understood was on
the War Establishment of Region VI.

Please ask.

at

Field.

5 Nov 43.

ASG

Lt-Col. D. B. Aitken,
Assistant Commandant.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ASC/COM/6

Colonel R.H. Parren,
Asst Chief of Staff (P).

I bring the following facts to your notice regarding the move of Region 5 from Yakouren to Tisi-Ouzou.

The movement order No ANG(P.M.O. No.2 showed the party due to depart from Yakouren at 0800. The estimated time of arrival was given as approx 0950.

A baggage party was arranged from pool personnel who were due to be dismissed from this duty by the Camp Commandant for parade ordered by Capt. Watkins at 1100 hours.

The convoy did not arrive until 1115. The baggage party had waited for 1 1/2 hours at London and Miami, and were dismissed at 1100 hours as arranged. Consequently the baggage arrangements were completely upset and a party of batmen had to be taken from their work to meet with the contingency

In a conference between O.C. Staff, Major Allworth and Lt.-Col Smith it was arranged that the baggage would be loaded on separate trucks for those proceeding to Miami (Majors and Captains), and those going to the Tented Camp (Lieuts).

This was not carried out and involved a considerable amount of unnecessary and extra work.

The Camp Staff went to considerable trouble to ensure an efficient reception, and the lack of organization on the part of the Region completely nullified this.

Field.

2 Nov 43.

Copy to :- Region 5.

DM
Lt-Col. D. B. Aitken,
Assistant Commandant.

file

370

TO: Commandant, Military Government School,

FROM: D.R.C.A.O., Region 6.

SUBJECT: Unauthorized use of vehicle.

REFERENCE: Reg.6/21/HQ.

DATE: 18th October, 1943.

1. Lieutenant Challoner appeared at this office today and attempted to explain his actions as outlined in the attached communication.
2. His explanation was entirely unsatisfactory and it is recommended that prompt disciplinary action be taken.
3. A statement as to disposition of this case is respectfully requested.

HAH/mm.

Spokane Col Hale.

Henry A. Hale
Henry A. Hale,
Col., Inf.,
D.R.C.A.O., Region 6.

369
File Confidential
file

CONFIDENTIAL.

SUBJECT: Mis-use of Transport.

TO: D.R.C.A.O., Region 6.

Sir,

On request from Lieut. McPhail (A), Headquarters Transport Officer, this Region provided a 5cwt 4 x 4 Car for the purpose of an Officer proceeding to Yakouren to pay British personnel on Sunday, 17th October, 1943. On the weekly check of A.F's 3518 (Work tickets) on Monday 18th October, 1943, it was revealed that the Car had also been to Algiers.

The driver stated that he made the trip to Yakouren with Lieut. Challoner and returned to the pool at approximately 1630 hours. Lieut. Challoner then instructed the driver to re-fuel, have his tea, pick up the officer later at London and proceed to Algiers. He left Algiers at 2345 hours and arrived back at 0200 hours 18th October, 1943.

Lieut. McPhail stated that the requisition which was made by a Capt. Moyle did not include a trip to Algiers for any purpose or with his knowledge or sanction.

For your information, please.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John H. Newby Capt.

John H. Newby, Capt.,
Transportation Officer,
Region 6.

18th October, 1943.

JHN/mn.

To: Assistant Commandant

From: Mr. E. W. Chalmers

Confidential

JH

Statement for Col. Hale.

On Sunday 17th. Oct 45 I was given a jeep by Capt. Tloyle, British M.G. Company Commandant, to visit Yaloum with pay for O.R. time. As far as he was concerned it was mine for the day, and nothing was said as to it being a Pore or Regim car. I naturally presumed it was a normal Pore car. The driver said he was free for the day.

I left Yaloum immediately after lunch. Certain officers had requested me to get money for them, as they were urgently in need of it, even to pay their mess bills. I had no other duties that day and agreed to visit Alquis for them immediately.

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We stopped at Tusi Ouzon for petrol.

and at the next village picked up a French officer wanting a lift to Algiers. The back-seat of the car was broken and the officer had to sit on the floor: owing to the rough surface of the roads we could not maintain any speed without making the journey impossible for the passenger. This delayed us considerably, and when we arrived in Algiers the Field Cashier's office was closed.

I then called on P.A.D. Headquarters A.F.H.Q. to see if Major Siebert was there, as I knew that he wished to return to Tim Ousem that night. Major Siebert was there.

Neither the driver nor myself had brought ration, and since we would get no food on our return, it was imperative we eat in Algiers. Major Siebert and I tried two restaurants before finally getting a meal. The driver ate at the American Red Cross.

It was 2000 hrs. before we were through. I then called on some friends and Major Siebert went to H.Q. Algiers Sub-District. We met two British 36.

who had missed their own transport back to the School; we advised them to come back, if possible, by the officer's transport, leaving Algiers at approx. 2030 hrs. We agreed to be at the Hotel Alletti between 2200 and 2230 hrs. to pick them up if they had failed to get the other transport.

I met Thorpe Suber at the Alletti and he had not seen the two O.R.s. We therefore set out for Tizi Ouzou. This was approx. 2500 hrs.

Traffic was held up at the Roubaix railway bridge where the road is under repair, and we took a diversion with a convoy, ending up on an aerodrome. An hour was lost before we got back to the bridge and continued the journey to Tizi Ouzou. We arrived there at 0145 hrs.

22 Oct. 45

M. G. S.

R. W. Challen 3/10/45

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your ASC/Con/1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed

[Signature]

Date 2-2-42

364

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your ASC/Con/1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed P.W. Chasens

Date 31 Aug 43

363

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your AEC/Con/4 dated 30 Aug 63 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed

H. J. Padgett, Chief Clerk

Date

30/8/63

362

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your ASC/Con/1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed *W. L. ...*

Date 31/8/42

361

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your ASG Con/1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed Donald H. Haslam Capt

Date 30 Aug 43.

360

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your AGO/Oc '1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed D. Swinson Capt-RANC

Date 30 Aug 43

359

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your APO/Co. 1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed William Capone

Date 30 Aug 43

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CONFIDENTIAL

WJ/Con/1

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File

SUBJECT: ATTACHMENT ON LEAVE OR DUTY

1. Whenever it is desired to proceed out of Tish Canyon, I must be personally informed verbally beforehand. If it is intended to spend the night away from the station - permission must be obtained by a written order or application.
2. This in no way implies that permission will be refused but is merely in compliance with orders and it will often mean that the officer concerned may be of considerable help in carrying out commissions for another department or other officers thereby saving transport.
3. A "Duty or leave" book will be kept in the Assistant Commandant's office (Washington) for officers when staying away the night.
4. Officers proceeding to signers on duty for the day will also inform the Camp Commandant for reasons in paragraph 2 above.

357

JSF

Lt. Col. D. B. Aiken,
Assistant Commandant
to Commandant

30 AUG 43

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2. This in no way implies that permission will be refused but is merely in compliance with orders and it will often mean that the officer concerned may be of considerable help in carrying out commissions for another department or other officers thereby saving transport.
3. A "Duty or Leave" book will be kept in the Assistant Commandant's office (Washington) for officers when staying away the night.
4. Officers proceeding to Algiers on duty for the day will also inform the Camp Commandant for reasons in paragraph 2 above.

DSF

Lt. Col. D. B. Aiken,
Assistant Commandant
to Commandant

30 Aug 43

YOUR AIC/Com/1 dated 30 Aug 43 is hereby acknowledged.

Signed _____

Date _____

0596