

ACC

10000/120/3949

412

10000/120/3849

4/13/4A

Court of Enquiry - Traffic Accident

Oct. 1945 - Mar. 1946

(6126-77)

(Cpl. Donber
S/SGT. Ringwood)



Tel No VALJEAN 43.

APB

027/56492 /DF

15 MAR 1946

HQ
4

B.L.U.

14280374 S/STT RINGWOOD H.E. REMERef your 4/B/4(TA) dated 4 Feb 46.

Will you please inform this HQ of the present position in this case.

CTF

689
[Signature]
 Brigadier,
 DAG,
 CHC 2nd Echelon.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Subject : Traffic Accident,
Summary of Evidence.

4 British Liaison Unit,
CIP.
12 Mar 46.

4/B/4(TA).

CHQ,
2nd Echelon.

Ref your OZE/56432/DP dated 2 Mar 46.

Herewith AFs B117/A2 and CIP statements in respect of accident involving 14230574 S/Cgt RINGWOOD H. and 1574369 Cpl POWELL A.C.

/hj

[Signature]
Lieut-Col 28
65.

CONFIDENTIAL.Subject : Summary of Evidence.Headquarters
60 Sub Area
CLP.
Tel No 34826/10/A
28 Feb 46.4. DLU15280374-1 S/Lt HIRSHOOD R.

The Commander directs that the case of the a/n HCO may be dealt with summarily.

(Signed) [Signature]
For Major,
BAMONG.

677

(4248) WL12083/2221. 930m. 5/44. C.A.S.L.P.&P.Co., Ltd. T51-408.

Army Form A2.

*N.B. — The Form being applicable to any Board, or Committee, or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The proceedings should be signed by the President and by each Member of the Board, etc.

Attention is particularly drawn to the Rules for Courts of Inquiry contained in Rules of Procedure 124-125A, and especially to Rule 125A(b); also to paragraph 764, et seq., King's Regulations, 1940.

PROCEEDINGS of a Court of Enquiry
assembled at Detachment (R.E.M.E.) of 4 B.L.U. Trento
on the Eleventh of February 1946
by order of Colonel A.J.L. Purves M.C. Commander
60 Sub Area C.M.B.

for the purpose of investigating the circumstances
of a traffic accident in which 14280374 S/Sgt.
Ringwood H. and 1574869 Cpl. Dawber H. R.E.M.E.
were injured, eighteen civilians were injured and
PRESIDENT. one civilian killed.
198105 Capt. J.M. Hills R.A. 13th A/Tk Regt. R.A.

MEMBERS.

225087 Capt. A.V. Denyer R.A. O.C. 4 B.L.U.
262343 Lt. E.J. Winterbotham R.A. 5 Med. Regt. RA

IN ATTENDANCE.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to
take evidence on oath.

The first witness 14280374 S/Sgt. RINGWOOD H.E. after being duly sworn states: I am an Armament artificer at detachment 4 B.L.U. TRENTO. On the 9th of October 1945 I left the Folgore workshops at Trento at about 07.30 hrs on an authorized journey to FERRARA via PADUA to collect stores. I stopped at 50 B.L.U. DEVICO to refuel on completion of refuelling I drove out on the road and waited for Cpl. Dawber, who was accompanying me on the journey, to rejoin me. Whilst waiting I was approached by an Italian woman, who, I gathered, wanted a lift to PADUA. This I refused. A man also approached me, and I also refused him. The woman, who had walked away returned with Cpl. Dawber, who stated she was in possession of a permit and wanted to take her daughter to hospital. I saw she had a paper in her hand and agreed. I pulled up to where she had her luggage to pick her and her daughter up. There were a number of civilians there and before I had time to get to the back of the vehicle they were climbing in and would not get out of the vehicle when I indicated it was not possible to take them. As I had no load and knowing they had no other means of transport, I decided to drive on and returned to the cab. In the co-driver's seat I found a girl sitting, I said to the corporal that she could not ride in front but he pointed out that as she was sick riding in the back would be bad for her and that she could sit in front of him. As this took no more room and made no difference to my driving I agreed. When still about eight kilometres from PADUA I saw a horse and cart on the right hand side of the road and some children in front of it. I sounded my horn accelerated and pulled out to pass as the road was clear. When I tried to return to the right hand side of the road, the steering wheel seemed to twist to the left and I struck a tree on the left hand side of the road. I climbed from the vehicle but owing to my injuries was unable to assist the injured, and was picked up by a civilian vehicle, which conveyed me to PADUA where I contacted the C.M.P.'s before being taken to hospital.

sgd.: H.E. Ringwood S/Sgt. 14280374 4 BLU

Questioned by the Court.

Question No1. Q. Were you driving Bedford 3 ton 4x2 G.S. Lorry no I 4883361 at the time of the accident?

mit and wanted to take her daughter to hospital. I saw she had a paper in her hand and agreed. I pulled up to where she had her luggage to pick her and her daughter up. There were a number of civilians there and before I had time to get to the back of the vehicle they were climbing in and would not get out of the vehicle when I indicated it was not possible to take them. As I had no load and knowing they had no other means of transport, I decided to drive on and returned to the cab. In the co-driver's seat I found a girl sitting, I said to the corporal that she could not ride in front but he pointed out that as she was sick riding in the back would be bad for her and that she could sit in front of him. As this took no more room and made no difference to my driving I agreed. When still about eight kilometres from PADUA I saw a horse and cart on the right hand side of the road and some children in front of it. I sounded my horn accelerated and pulled out to pass as the road was clear. When I tried to return to the right hand side of the road, the steering wheel seemed to twist to the left and I struck a tree on the left hand side of the road. I climbed from the vehicle but owing to my injuries was unable to assist the injured, and was picked up by a civilian vehicle, which conveyed me to PADUA where I contacted the C.M.P.'s before being taken to hospital.

sgd.: H.E. Ringwood S/Sgt. 14280374 4 BLU

Questioned by the Court.

- | | | |
|---------------|----|---|
| Question N°1. | Q. | Were you driving Bedford 3 ton 4x2 G.S. Lorry no L 4883351 at the time of the accident? |
| | A. | Yes. |
| Question N°2 | Q. | What was the state of the road? |
| | A. | The surface was good, and it was dry. |
| Question N°3 | Q. | At what speed were you travelling when you were overtaking the cart? |
| | A. | About 25 m.p.h. The vehicle had been governed to a maximum speed of 30 m.p.h. about a fortnight prev. |
| Question N°4 | Q. | How many years driving experience have you? |
| | A. | Twenty years. |
| Question N°5 | Q. | What in your opinion caused the accident? |

Sheet 3

Question N°5 A. At first I thought a puncture or a broken spring. But since I have been assured that neither could have been the cause. I can only conclude that a fault must have developed in the sheering.

sgd.: H.E. Ringwood S/Sgt.
14280374 4 B.L.U.

The interpreter T/273417 Cpl. LUCCESE 4 B.L.U. R.A.S.C. was duly sworn.

The second witness Ariella ARIANI having been duly sworn states:

I live in Strigno. On the ninth of October 1945 I was waiting with my mother on the main road by Strigno station, at about 09.00 hrs, when a British military lorry stopped about twenty metres before it reached us, travelling towards Bassano. On my mother's request I went to the vehicle to ask for a lift for myself and my mother to PADUA. I spoke to a tall soldier with glasses. He told me that I could see for myself that the vehicle was full, but when I asked him again he said that one of us could ride in the back and one in the cab. I rode in the cab sharing the seat with the soldier with the glasses, whom I have already mentioned. We did not talk in the cab from the time I got in until we reached CITADELLA, where the vehicle stopped to allow some passengers to alight. We started off again and very shortly afterwards the accident happened, I cannot remember anything about it.

sgd.: Ariella Ariani

I have translated and read the above statement to Ariella Ariani and she has agreed that it is correct.

sgd.: Cpl. Lucchesi T/273417 4 B.L.U.

Questioned by the Court.

Question N°1 Q. How fast do you think the vehicle ^{was} travelling immediately before the accident?

The second witness Ariella ARIANI having been duly sworn stated:
I live in Strigno. On the ninth of October 1945 I was waiting with my mother on the main road by Strigno station, at about 09.00 hrs, when a British military lorry stopped about twenty metres before it reached us, travelling towards Bassano. On my mother's request I went to the vehicle to ask for a lift for myself and my mother to PADUA. I spoke to a tall soldier with glasses. He told me that I could see for myself that the vehicle was full, but when I asked him again he said that one of us could ride in the back and one in the cab. I rode in the cab sharing the seat with the soldier with the glasses, whom I have already mentioned. We did not talk in the cab from the time I got in until we reached CITADELLA, where the vehicle stopped to allow some passengers to alight. We started off again and very shortly afterwards the accident happened, I cannot remember anything about it.

sgd.: Ariella Ariani

I have translated and read the above statement to Ariella Ariani and she has agreed that it is correct.

sgd.: Cpl Lucchesi T/273417 4 B.L.U.

Questioned by the Court.

Question N°1 Q. How fast do you think the vehicle ~~was~~ travelling immediately before the accident?

A. I do not know. sgd.: A.A.

T/273417 A. Lucchesi, Cpl.

Question N°2 Q. Can you remember noticing anything in the road immediately before the accident occurred?

A. I cannot remember anything. sgd.: A.A.

I have translated and read the questions and answers above to Ariella Ariani and she has agreed that they are correct.

sgd.: T/273417 A. Lucchesi Cpl. 4B.L.U.

The third witness DALSASS, Lino having been duly sworn, states:
 I live at Vigolo Vattaro and on the morning of the ninth of October 1945 I was standing with about fifteen other civilians near the "Posto di Blocco" at the eastern end of Levico, awaiting a lift to Padova. A British Military vehicle came along and stopped. Four or five women with permits were picked up. The remainder of us asked for permission to travel as well the corporal signalled to us to mount and the truck moved off, stopping at Strigno near the station, where more people got on. Very shortly after a short stop at CITADELLA to put down a few passengers the accident occurred. I was thrown from the vehicle landing on my feet in water about ten metres from the lorry. I did not lose consciousness.

sgd.: Dalsass Lino

I have translated and read the above statement to DALSASS, Lino and he has agreed that it is correct.

sgd.: T/273417 A. Lucchesi Cpl. 4 B.L.U.

Questioned by the Court.

- | | | |
|------------|----|---|
| Question 1 | Q. | Could you see the road in front of the vehicle? |
| | A. | No. |
| Question 2 | Q. | At what speed was the vehicle going immediately before the accident? |
| | A. | From what I could see from the back of the truck I would estimate it at about 50 kms to the hour. |
| Question 3 | Q. | When you recovered yourself from the ditch, did you notice anything on the road? |
| | A. | I do not remember seeing anything. |

sgd.: Dalsass Lino

I have translated and read the questions and answers ~~above~~ to DALSASS, Lino and he has agreed that they are correct.

sgd.: T/273417 Cpl. A. Lucchesi 4 B.L.U.

currea. I was thrown from the vehicle landing on my feet in water about ten metres from the lorry. I did not lose consciousness.

sgd.: Dalsass Lino

I have translated and read the above statement to DALSASS, Lino and he has agreed that it is correct.

sgd.: T/273417 A. Lucchesi Cpl. 4 B.L.U.

Questioned by the Court.

Question 1 Q. Could you see the road in front of the vehicle?

A. No.

Question 2 Q. At what speed was the vehicle going immediately before the accident?

A. From what I could see from the back of the truck I would estimate it at about 50 kms to the hour.

Question 3 Q. When you recovered yourself from the ditch, did you notice anything on the road?

A. I do not remember seeing anything.

sgd.: Dalsass Lino

I have translated and read the questions and answers ~~above~~ to DALSASS, Lino and he has agreed that they are correct.

sgd.: T/273417 Cpl. A. Lucchesi 4 B.L.U.

The first witness 14280374 S/Sgt. Ringwood N.E. on being recalled for questioning.

Question 1 A Q. Where did you pick up the girl who was riding in the cab immediately before the accident?

A. At Levico.

Question 2 A Q. Did you pick anyone up at Strigno station?

A. I don't think so, I don't remember.

sgd.: H.E. Ringwood. S/Sgt. 14280374 4 B.L.U.

Sheet 4

The second witness Ariella ARIANI recalled for questioning.

Question 1 A Q. Are you certain that it was near Strigno railway station that you boarded the vehicle?

A. Absolutely sure.

Question 2 A Q. Had you a permit to travel on a British Military vehicle?

A. No; I had none.

sgd.: Ariella Ariana.

I have translated and read the questions and answers above to Ariella ARIANI and she has agreed they are correct.

sgd.: T/273417 A. Lucchesi Cpl. 4 B.L.U.

The third witness recalled for questioning, DALSASS, Lino.

Question 1 A Q. Had you a permit to travel on a British Military Vehicle?

A. No.

Question 2 A Q. How did you know some of the civilians had permits to travel?

A. I saw one woman produce an authority at Levico.

Question 3A Q. Did you at any time see a civilian enter the cab, and if so who and where?

A. I saw a young lady, whom I now recognize as Ariella ARIANI, also giving evidence as a witness before this Court-to-day, enter the cab near Strigno railway station.

sgd.: Dalsass Lino

I have translated and read the questions and answers above to DALSASS, Lino and he has agreed they are correct.

sgd.: T/273417 A; Lucchesi, Cpl. 4 BLU

The Court having considered the evidence before it is of the opinion that:

- a) 14280374 S/sgt. Ringwood H.E. R.E.M.E. and 1574869 Cpl. Dawber H. were on duty at the time of the accident and the vehicle was on an authorized journey. A.F.G. 3518 Mark A attached.
- b) There is insufficient evidence to show the cause of the accident.
- c) A.F.G. 998 attached Marked B.
- d) There were civilians being carried on the vehicle. Some of them appear to have been in possession of an authority of sorts, but others had no authority.

President: J.M. Hills R.A. Capt.

198105 13th A/Tk Regt. R.A.
11.2.46

A.W. Denyer R.A.O.C. 4 B.L.U.

226087 11.2.46.

Members:

E.J. Winterbotham Lt. R/A.

252343 5 Med. Regt. R.A.
11.2.46.

Opinion of P.C. & P.L.E.

I concur with the opinion expressed by the Court in view of the specific points enumerated in the foregoing order.

In the vehicle was a complete write-off as a result of the accident (vide A.F.G. 998 attached) it may be assumed that it was impossible to determine from an examination of the chassis whether or not some mechanical defect may have been the cause. No decision therefore as to the cause of the accident can be satisfactorily arrived at.

President: J.M. Hills R.A. Capt.

198105 13th A/Tk Regt. R.A.
11.2.46

A.W. Denyer R.A.O.C. 4 B.L.U.

226087 11.2.46.

Members:

E.J. Winterbotham Lt. R/A.

262343 5 Med. Regt. R.A.
11.2.46.

Opinion of O.C. 4 B.L.U.

I concur with the opinion expressed by the Court in answer to the specific points enumerated in the convening order.

The vehicle was a complete write-off as a result of the accident (vide A/C 9398 attached) it may be assumed that it was impossible to determine from an examination of the driver's vehicle or witness' statements the cause of the accident. No decision therefore as to the cause of the accident can be satisfactorily arrived at.

Bolzaro.

15 Feb. 46.

671

Lt. Col. R. A. C. L.
Capt. 4 B.L.U.

Opinion of Sub Area Comd - see over /

OUTLOOK OF SUB AREA COMD.

I consider that No. 14-280374 S/Sgt H.B. RINGWOOD was to blame for the accident in that he had insufficient control of the vehicle as he was impeded by an unauthorized passenger in the cab. He is also guilty of disobedience of orders in carrying unauthorized passengers.

A Summary of Evidence will be taken and S/Sgt RINGWOOD will be remanded for trial by HCOM

228446

Col

Commander

HQ 60 Sub Area

Subject:- 1574869 (1. DOWBER AG. REME

4 B.L.U.
MIA
B o l z a n o

4/B/4 - TA/.
7. March 46

TO: GHQ 2 Echelon.

Ref. your ORE/56492/DP.

AFs B117/A2 ad CMP statements in respect of accident in which a/m was involved are awaiting decision by the Sub Area Commander. It is hoped however that they will be available for forwarding within a few days.

JS
Captain
for Lt. Col.
GS.

4/B/4(TA)

Tel.No:VALJEAN 43.

AFS.

O2E/56492/DP.

2 MAR 1946

HQ.,
4 BLU.

1574869 Cpl. DOWHER A.G., REME.

Ref. your letter 4/B/4(TA) dated
7 Feb. 46.

AFs B117/A2 and CMP statements in
respect of an accident in which the a/n was
involved, have not yet reached this HQ.

Will you please forward the documents
immediately or state reasons for present delay.

Sir, can be forwarded
as soon as letter
received from Sub Area
Cand dispensing with
FGCM. *fgm*

CMF.

A handwritten signature in ink, appearing to be "Brigadier".

Brigadier,
DAG,
GHQ 2nd. Echelon.

669

Subject:- Cour of Enquiry.

4/8/4

23 Feb 46

Headquarters,
60 Sub Area,
G.M.F.
Tel No: 3482
6/10/A

4 B.L.U.

22 Feb 46

1. The original and one copy of the Proceedings of the Court of Enquiry held on 11 Feb 46 are returned duly endorsed by the Sub Area Commander.
2. The Summary of Evidence will be taken as soon as possible, and the original and 2 typed copies forwarded to this HQ.
3. A list of witnesses together with address and age/service group where applicable will be forwarded with the Summary.

K.P.R. - *[Signature]*
for Major
DAA & JMG

Arranged with S.C. / A 60 Sub Area for a Officer of
with to take the Summary of Evidence.

All arrangements & coming of witnesses to be done

by 4 B.L.U.

Attending to do summary
by 60 Sub Area, 27 Feb 46

26 Feb 46

28 Feb 46

Subj At- Traffic Accident-
Court of Enquiry.

To- H.Q. 60 Sub-Area

Headquarters

4 BLU BOLZANO

Ref 4/3/4(TA)

Feb 15 '46

Reference your 6/10/A of 5 Feb., herewith proceedings of
Court of Enquiry for Sub-Area Comd's opinion.

667

Lt. Col.
G.S.

M40730/144 3504 11/43 M Ld 31-2553

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large) MESSAGE FORM

Call 3500	Srl. No. 072089	Priority 070001	Transmission Instructions 070001	Register No.
FROM			Office of Origin	
(A) 6 BR ARMD DIV PROVOST COY			Date-Time of Origin 071200A	
OC 4 BLU RENE			Message Instructions — 42	
TO			GR	

Originator's No.

PRO/104/C O Reference your MESSAGE

4/13/4 dated 5 Feb 46 O Whelan

therein mention are already

Lento O No transport required

from this unit O suggest you

contact civil police there

with view of contacting witnesses

given in our letter 4/17 dated

30 Nov 45

PRO/104/C0 Reference your MESSAGE

4/13/44 dated 5 Feb 44 @ witnesses

therein mentioned are already

under O No Transport required

from this unit @ suggested you

contact civic police units

with view of contacting witnesses

given in our letter 4/17 dated

30 Nov 45

Recd w/ 2030

11/9/44

This message may be sent
AS WRITTEN by any means
except

WIRELESS.

Signed.

If liable to be intercepted or to fall
into enemy hands this message must
be sent by CIPHER.

Signed.

Originator's Instructions,
Degree of Priority.

Time

THI or TOR

System Op.

Time Cleared

Subject: Traffic Accident - Injuries to
1574869 Cpl Dowber AG - RSM

Headquarters
4 D.D.I.U.
BOLZANO
Ref: 4/D/4(TA)
7 Feb 46

To: CHQ 2nd Echelon GMT

Ref your ORE/56492/DP of 11 Dec 45, 4 Jan 46 and 2 Feb 46.

It has not been possible for the documents requested in the above quoted letters to be returned to date as they are required at this HQ for Court of Enquiry which has been convened by 60 Sub Area for 11 Feb 46.

The delay in convening the Court has been due to the detention, in hospital, of material witnesses, both military and civilian.

Jr Lt Col
GS
662

Tel No VALJEAN 43.

APS

02E/56492/EP.

4/8/4 (m)

2 FEB 1946

CC,

53 Brit. Liaison Unit.

Observations - AF B117

1574869 Cpl. DOWHER, A.G. REME.

Reference this HQ Letters of even number dated 11 Dec. 45, and
4 Jan, 46, to which no reply has as yet been received.

Will you please return ~~documents~~ ~~XXXXXXXX~~ to this HQ as soon as possible
or state reason for delay.

Please treat this case as extremely urgent.

CMF.



[Signature]
Brigadier,
DAG
GHQ 2nd Echelon.

664 -

ARMY FORM 2210 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

(M)

4 BLU

Originator

Date/Time of Origin

051132A

Office Date Stamp

For Action

04PM 6 And Low

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

60 Sub Area

Message Instructions

Originator's No.

4/8/4 (TA) O Under O Ref your L/AD/PRO/P and
 27 Dec 45 O Army witness therein mentioned
 report by 4 BLU. REDE TIENTO 1030 hrs 11 Feb 46
 '46 O Please regard as urgent for Court of
 Inquiry

* 11 Jan 46 manual copy

663

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT

WIRELESS

IS LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS. THIS MES-
SAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHERORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Immediate

SIGNED

CAP FEMH
A GLOZ

SIGNED

Time System On

THI or TOR

Time cleared

Subject: Court of Inquiry.

4. British Liaison Unit,
CSP.

5 Feb 46.

6/10/46.

60 sub area,
5 and Regt.
13 4/11 Regt.
Capt BROWN, & RU.
LIEUT. COL. A. B. B.

Reference 60 sub area letter 6/10/46 dated 3 Feb 46.

Court of Inquiry will be held at 4. RU Detachment Officers' Mess, CSM.

ASST. ADJUTANT will arrange accommodation and stationery for the court and detail 4/11 Regt. to attend.

4. BROWN will be detailed to act as interpreter.

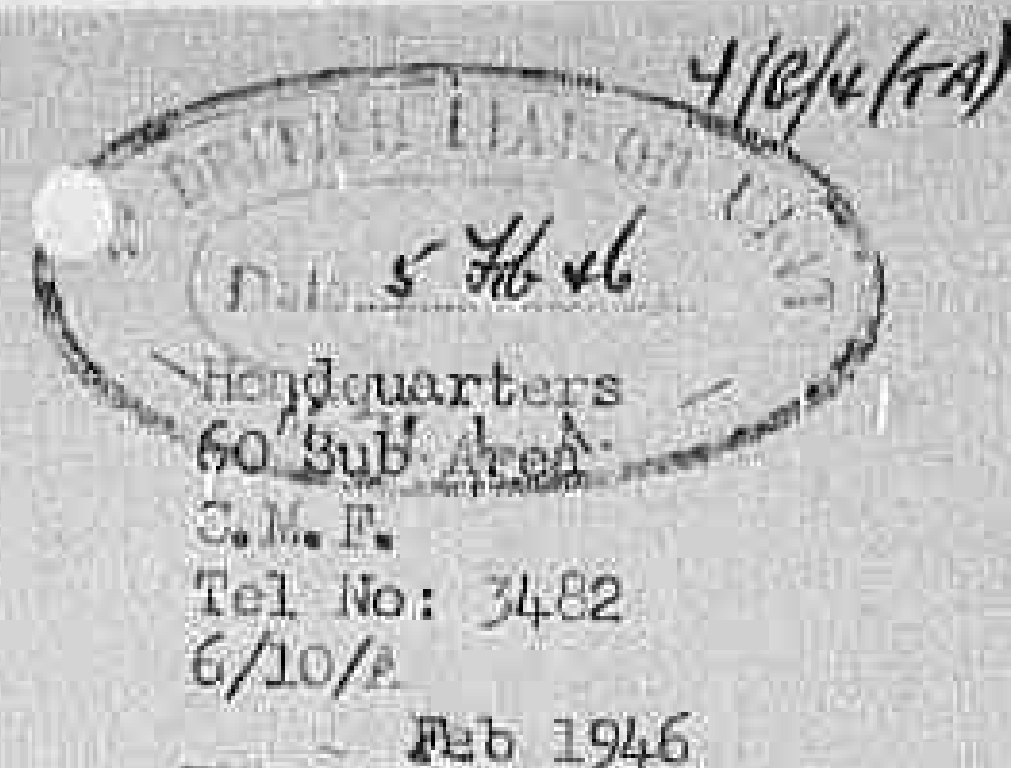
Capt BROWN will act as member of court.

WSP/435

662
R/2
Adj-Gen,
CSP.

Subject: - Court of Enquiry

4 B.L.U. (3)
5 Med Regt RA (2)
13 A/Tk Regt RA (2)



1. A Court of Enquiry, composed as under, will assemble at TRENTO at 1100hrs 11 Feb 1946 to investigate the circumstances of a traffic accident in which

14280374 S/Sjt RINGWOOD H REME
and 1574869 Cpl DOWBER H REME were injured,
18 civilians were injured,
and 1 civilian killed. -

PRESIDENT: Captain to be detailed by O.C. 13 A/Tk Regt RA

MEMBERS: Lieutenant to be detailed by O.C. 5 Med Regt RA
" " " " " O.C. 4 B.L.U.

2. The evidence will be taken on oath.
3. The Court will answer the following questions
- (a) Were the a/n British soldiers on duty at the time of the accident, and was the vehicle on an authorised journey?
 - (b) Was the accident due to (i) carelessness
(ii) gross carelessness
(iii) negligence
(iv) gross negligence of any person or persons?
 - (c) What is the cost of the damage to the vehicle?
 - (d) Were there any civilians being carried on the vehicle, and if so, on what authority?
4. O.C. 4 B.L.U. will arrange to have all necessary witnesses and evidence available, and will provide accommodation and stationery for the Court.
5. O.C. 4 B.L.U. will notify all addressees and this Hq of the exact location at which the Court will be held.
6. On completion the Proceedings will be forwarded to this Hq after the opinion of O.C. 4 B.L.U. has been recorded.

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Major
DAA & QMG.

Subject : Court of Inquiry.

4. British Liaison Unit,
GDF.

4 Feb 46.

4/3/4 (TA)

CHQ,
2nd Echelon, GDF.

Ref your OTR/56422/DE of 25 Jan 46.

14280374 S/Sjt Ringwood RF, (R&M)

A Court of Inquiry is now being convened by HQ 60 Sub Area into the above case and will be passed to you as soon as possible on completion.

Unavailability of civilian witnesses has been cause of delay.

RA/hj

RLD
Major,
GSO II.

660

4/8/4(TA).

Tel No VALJEAN 43.

KPS

02E/ 56492 /DP

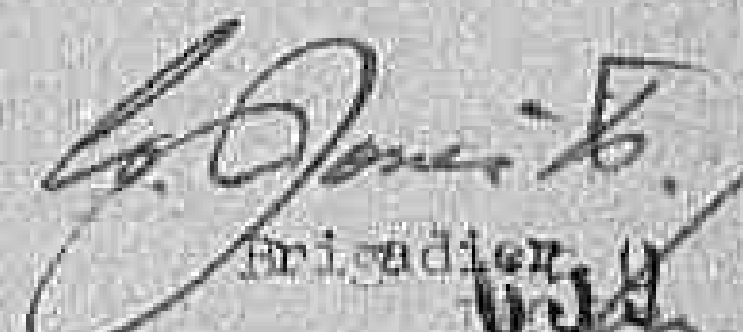
25 JAN 1946

H.Q.
4 B.L.U.14280374 S/Sgt Ringwood H.E. - REME

Ref your 4/B/4(TA) dated 20 Dec 45.

Will you please inform this HQ of the present position in
this case.

CT


Brigadier
CHC 2nd Echelon.

Subject: Court of Enquiry.

Headquarters,
4 B.L.U.
BOLZANO
Ref. 4/B/4 (TA)
Jan. 19th. 46.

To: 60 Sub Area
"A" Branch

1. Reference your 6/10/A of 7 Dec. 45 and telephone conversation Staff Capt "A" - Major Fenn of 15 Jan 46.
2. May Court of Enquiry now be convened in accordance with a/n letter.
3. Witnesses are available from this unit and civilian witnesses can be called for through DAFM 6 Brit Armd Div - their letter reference 6/AD/Pro/8 of 22 Dec 45, refers.

Maj.
G.S.

658

Tel No VALJEAN 13.

AFS

02E/56192 /DP.

OC,
53 Brit. Liaison Unit.

4- JAN 1946

Hep(m).

Observations - at B117

1574869 Cpl. DOWHER A.G. ROME.



657

Reference the observations raised in this HQ memo of 11 Dec 45... att.

Please expedite your action and return the form in order to avoid delay in the publication of the casualties concerned.

W. Marshall
Brigadier,
D.G.,
HQ 2nd Echelon.

CMP.

A P S

Tel. No. VALJAN 43.

02E/56492/DP.

11 DEC 1945.
Dec 45.OC,
53 Brit Liaison Unit.1574869 Cpl DOWBER A.G.

Reference the attached AF B117 in respect of injuries sustained by the a/n NCO.

The CMP statement referred to at Pt 3 was not attached to the form when received at this HQ.

Regarding your remarks at Pt 4(g) of Military advice being obtained before completion at Pts 4 (b)(c)(d) and (g) of the form, will you please retain AF B117 until this information is received and should you consider that a Court of Inquiry be convened, forward the AF A2 and AFB117 when completed, to this HQ.

If, however, you consider that such Court of Inquiry would not elicit any further information than that contained on AFB117 and statements, please record an opinion to that effect at Pt 4 (g) of the form and forward it to Brigade or equivalent Commander for confirmation in accordance with GRO 40/44 para 3.

AFB117 should then be returned to this HQ.

CMP.

H. Marshall
H Brigadier,
DAG,
GHQ 2nd Echelon.

Wing
030

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large)

Transmission Instructions

Priority

Srl. No.

Call

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

Office Date Stamp

Date-Time of Origin

Originator

FROM

(A) 53 B2U

For Action

APM

6 BRITISH ARMD DIV

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

47-355. O Rad you 6/ADPC/Pro/S at 18 Oct 0. Carburer report indicates details of capture were not established by a civilian witness not included in previous forward these positions immediately

655

Originator's No.

NY-355. ① Refers 6/ADPC/Pro/18 dated
18 Oct ① Contains report indicating
details of evidence involved and statement
by a civilian witness not enclosed ②
Please forward these particulars immediately

655

This message may be sent
AS WRITTEN by any means
except

WIRELESS.

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or to fall
into enemy hands this message must
be sent IN CIPHER.

Originator's Instructions.
Degree of Priority.

Time	System	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Subject: Accident Report

53 B.L.V.
Ref. A7-336
27 Oct 45

To :- St. Claims and Hirings

Herewith traffic accident report in connection with an accident in which a 3 ton vehicle of this unit struck a tree, killing a civilian, injuring others, and seriously injuring two British soldiers.

The driver of the vehicle has signed the accident report but he is not capable of drawing diagrams or giving statements at the moment as he is still severely injured in hospital.

Statements of witnesses, particulars of killed and injured, and all further details are being collected together and you will be informed of these as soon as possible.

Delay in submitting the AF 4.3676 is regretted but this was unavoidable owing to the condition of the driver and difficulty in finding where the injured persons were taken etc.

12
DAGGE
for Lt.Col.
G.S.

654

Subject:- POSTINGS

To:- O.C. 22 General Hospital.
O.C. 4 B.L.U.

413/4 (TA)

REME 4 BLU
 C M F
 Trento 2052
 Ref 4/ME/8/95
2 Jan 45

Reference enclosed copy of my letter to DAG 2nd Echelon.

Please may it be arranged for the S/Sgt in question to be retained until a reply is received, or if possible, it would be appreciated if the N.C.O. could be returned temporarily to this unit pending instructions from DAG 2nd Echelon.

A. W. St.

S/Capt.,
 REME., 4 British Liaison Unit

653

*While present in the
 to say that the
 back with REME Inc.
 etc*

Subject:- Postings

4/3/4 (TA)

RECE 4 BLU
CIB

Trento 2092

Ref 4/ME/8/96

2 Jan 46

To:- D.A.G.
6th 2nd Echelon.

S/3gt RINGWOOD 14250374

The a/m previously on the strength of RECE Trg Increment attached 53 BLU was posted to X2 list 9/10/45 Part II Orders Serial No 3157 dated 4 Nov 45 after he was admitted to 22 Gen Hosp having been involved in a motor accident.

It is requested that he be returned to this Unit on discharge from hospital so that a Court of Enquiry may be held.

At Whit

S/Capt,

RECE 4 British Liaison Unit.

Field.

Copy to:- O.C. 4 B.L.U.
O.C. 22 Gen Hosp.

652

Subject :- Traffic Accident.

6/AD/PRO/S.

4/8/4

TO:- Headquarters.
4. BLU. (Ex 53 BLU.)
BOLZANO.

Ref Your A7. Dated 30 Nov 45.

As a result of enquiries made by this Unit the following is passed to you for information, as requested in your above mentioned letter.

GRIGGIO Virginia.	-	Available to give evidence when called for.
DAL SASS Angelina.	-	Available to give evidence when called for.
ARIANI Ariella.	-	Available to give evidence when called for.
BARUCCELLI Maria.	-	Unable to attend Court of Inquiry to give evidence owing to present physical condition.

Padua.
22 Dec 45.

(F. S. ROGERS.)
6 Brit Armoured Divisional Provost Company.

for,  Lieut.
Captain, DPM.
Officer Commanding.

Copy to :- Hq. 60 Sub Area.
APM. 6 Brit Arm Div.

650 651

Subject: Injury - 1487 1/2 2/3rd Division 24

Headquarters

4 B.L.D.

300000

Ref: 4/3/4 (21)

23 Dec 45

To: HHC 603 2nd Division 24

Copy to: H. 60 Sub Area - your 6/10/4 of 7 Dec 45 refers.

Reference your 025/542/45 of 14 Dec 45.

1. The court in question has not yet been held owing to the detention in hospital of witnesses.
2. As soon as possible it will be convened by 60 Sub Area, and you will receive a copy of the proceedings.

Major,
HHC 603
for Lt. Col.
G.D.

649

Tel. No: VALJEAN 43.

APS

OZ/ 56192 /DP.
14 DEC 1945O.C.,
53 British Liaison Unit.14280374 S/Sgt. RINGWOOD H.E. REAM.

1. Reference AF B117 in respect of an injury sustained by the above named on 9 Oct 45.
2. Will you please forward to this HQ a copy of the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry to which reference is made at Part 4 of the form.

CMR

Hint bapt
Brigadier,
DAG,
GHQ 2nd Echelon.

648

Subject:- ENQUIRIES PATIENTS

No. 22 (Br) General Hospital,
C.M.F.

Reference No:- 78/45

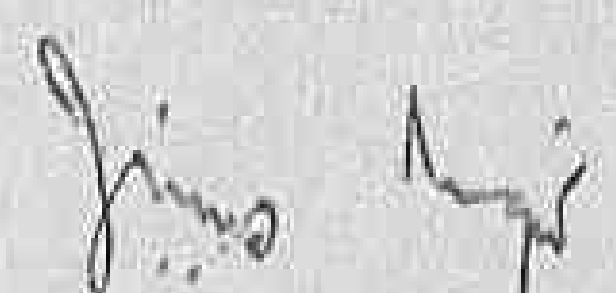
10 Dec 45

H.Q.,
4 B.L.U.,
C.M.F.

Reference your A7 dated 30 Nov 45, received in this office on
9 Dec 45.

No. 1574869 Cpl. G.A. DAWBER, R.E.M.E. was transferred to No. 64
(Br) General Hospital on 3 Dec 45, for evacuation to U.K.

Notification will be forwarded when No. 14280374 S/Sgt. H.E. RINGWOOD
is due for discharge.


(J.W. ORR)
Colonel,
Commanding, No. 22 (Br) General Hospital.

Copy to:- H.Q. 60 Sub Area.
Attach to documents.

647

Subject: - Court of Inquiry

Headquarters

60 Sub Area

C.M.F.

Tel No: 3482

6/10/A

7 Dec 1945.

4 B.I.U.

*Re Traffic
Accident
Sgt. R. J. Wood
one witness.*

Ref your A 7 of 30 Nov 1945.

1. This HQ will convene the Court of Inquiry when all witnesses are available.

Amending
Major
DAA & QMG
Capt

SUBJECT : Traffic Accident.

To : CC, 53 BLU, TRUNTO.

6/ADPC/Pro/8

Reference your A7-355 dated ??, and further to this office even number dated 18 Oct 45.

Herewith statements of civilian witnesses, as requested.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

PADUA

7 Nov 45.

GHV.

W. Alexander.

(W. Alexander) Capt (for) Major.
Assistant Provost Marshal.
6 Brit Armoured Division.

Copy :- APM 217 Area
DAD 41 Claims & Hirings.

645

Royal over R. of Padua
Stationed at Piazzola sul Brenta
Piazzola sul Brenta 12/10

Ref: 68

Subject:

The death of:

I) Parrotto Lino of Paratto Ottilia, born on the 28/5/1925 at Ivano Fracene di Strigno (Trento), there living. Peasant.

Bergher Enrico of Giacinto and of Bucarelli Virginia, born on the 7/6/1922, in Porcellino (Trento), living at Vigolo Vattare, Bachl6.

3) Romagna Cornelia Alda of Egidio and of Repelati Fanni, born on the 8/12/1926 at Ivano Fracene (Trento), there living. And wounds received by other 18 persons on account of a motor accident.

To: The MILITARY POLICE OF PADUA.

At about 12.30 Hrs. on the 9/10/45 Doc. Luigi Saio of Campo S. Martino informed this station by phone that on the road Padua-Bassano del Grappa and exactly near Campo S. Martino and S. Giorgio in Bosco, an Allied truck travelling from Cittadella towards Padua had crashed into a tree and that there was one dead person and about 20 injured, whom he was able to get into the Civil Hospitals of Cittadella and of Padua. Certificate is attached.

As soon as we received this signal I^a and the CC.RR. Iacolla Giovanni and Moro Mario went to the a/m place where we found out that an Allied truck had crashed into a tree the number of it was 488336I Tow Bedford it had gone against a tree and was smashed. On the ground was the body of a boy later identified as Parotto Ivano of Luigi, who had been taken from the ditch and although treated by the a/m doctor died.

The body was fully dressed and on it was found a wallet containing 564 liras, some personal photos, his identification card and a card of the C.L.N. of Strigno.

To keep the road clear we had the body taken to the obituary in the Campo S. Martino Cemetery.

I later went to the Civil Hospital of Cittadella and the following were being treated for the following wounds:

- 1) Romagna Cornelia Alda, visceral commotion, a few minutes later she died.
- 2) Ianeselli Alda of Noe and of Paterno Teresa, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 2/7/1925, there living. Large wound on head, curable in 30 days.
- 3) Dal Sas Lino of Angelo and of Ianeselli Maria, born in Vigolo Vattare (Trento) on the 1/1/1924, there living, driver. Various small wounds on hands, legs, neck, curable in 6 days.
- 4) Andreazza Ancilla of Gelso and of Ianeselli Angelina, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 31/8/1919, there living. Contusion on left ankle curable in 10 days.

informed this station by phone that on the road Padua-Bassano an Allied truck and exactly near Campo S. Martino and S. Giorgio in Bosco, an Allied truck travelling from Cittadella towards Padua had crashed into a tree and that there was one dead person and about 20 injured, whom he was able to get into the Civil Hospitals of Cittadella and of Padua. Certificate is attached.

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- 4) Andreazza Ancilla of Gelso and of Ianeselli Angelina, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 31/8/1919, there living. Contusion on left ankle curable in 10 days.
- 5) Mangerda Mario of Giuseppe and of Franceschini Maria, born in Sommana Valsugana (Trento) on the 1/1/1906, there living, peasant. Large wound on left cheek down to neck, curable 30 days.
- 6) Dal Sas Angelina of Angelo and of Ianeselli Maria, born at Vigolo Vattare (Trento) on the 19/12/1921, there living, contusions and wounds on back curable 8 days.
- 7) Ianeselli Iole of Giovanni and of Pirazzoli Giuseppina, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 9/10/1927, there living, contusions and wounds on back. Curable 10 days.
- 8) Baruchelli Maria of Guerrino and of Fontana Rachel, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 25/12/1916, there living, wound on right eye brow and wound on right leg, curable in 10 days.

Afterwards went to the Civilian Hospital of Padua where another

ten persons had been recovered, and exactly:

- 1) Baruchelli Aldo of Lino and of Ianeselli-Teresina, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 21/1/1924, there living. Contusions and broken skull, cerebral commotion, reserved judgement.
- 2) Bergher Enrico of Giavinto and of Baruchelli Virginia, born in Porcellino (Trento) on the 7/5/1922, living in Vigolo Vattare (Trento). Broken skull, judgement reserved. He died the same evening.
- 3) Lorenzon Dario of Attilio and of Tassero Pierina, born at Ivano (Trento) on the 23/7/1927, there living, peasant. Broken shoulder, curable 60 days.
- 4) Ducati Aldo of Giuseppe and of De Mattei Maria, born at Vigolo Vattare (Trento) on the 17/3/1917, there living, peasant. Broken spine, judgement reserved.
- 5) Lorenzon Alfredo of Pietro and of Perotto Luisa, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 30/3/1927, there living, peasant. Grave thorax contusion, wound on left leg, reserved judgement.
- 6) Pabbro Arturo of Severino and of Perotto Ester, born in Fracene di Strigno (Trento) on the 2/2/1926, there living, peasant. Wound on head, cerebral commotion, reserved judgement.
- 7) Ariani Ariella of Dionigi and of Boso Alvira, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 12/10/1927, there living. Various wounds, suspect thorax contusion, slight cerebral commotion, fractured . reserved judgement.
- 8) Boso Alvira of Francesco and of Paternotti Anna, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 8/5/1900, there living, shock, various contusions, reserved judgement.
- 9) Sottopietra Guido of Angelo and of Renzi Emilia, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 8/2/1908, there living, left shoulder fractured, suspected fracture of , curable 90 days.
- 10) Purin Cesare of Zaccaria and of De Giorgio Annunziata, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 24/2/1905, there living, peasant. Slight wound on cheek, suspect fracture of left leg, cerebral commotion, curable 90 days.

Among the wounded there were also two British soldiers and exactly:

- 1) Sgt. Ringwood
- 2) Cpl. Alan Gordon Dowber

Both taken to the Civil Hospital of Padua and then taken to the Military Hospital of same town. The certificates will be sent to the Procura of Padua by the Military Police H. of Padua, which promptly arrived and is already investigating the accident.

Questioned by the C.C. of Cittadella, the injured Baruchelli Maria and Dal Sass Angelina stated that: "the truck was travelling at about 60 Km per hour and that the could say nothing about the cause of the accident because all those that were injured and on the truck were covered by a the canvas which covers the truck itself. None of the injured except two had a regular pass to travel on P. D. vehicles.

The only witness at the moment of the accident is Mrs. Grigio Virginia of Luigi, living at Campo S. Martino. Via Provinciale N. 1, who when interrogated stated that: at about 11.45 Hrs. was standing in front of her house, when she noticed an Allied truck, coming from Cittadella and going towards Padua, it was on her right, and travelling at a very high speed (she was not able to state how many M.P.H.:) went crashing into a tree which is just in front of her house.

- commotion, reserved judgement.
- 7) Ariani Ariella of Pionigio and of Boso Alvira, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 12/10/1927, there living. Various wounds, suspect thorax contusion, slight cerebral commotion, fractured reserved judgement.
- 8) Boso Alvira of Francesco and of Paternotti Anna, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 8/5/1900, there living, shock, various contusions, reserved judgement.
- 9) Sottopietra Guido of Angelo and of Renzi Emilia, born in Bosentino (Trento) on the 8/2/1908, there living, left shoulder fractured, suspected fracture of , curable 90 days.
- 10) Parin Cesare of Zaccaria and of De Giorgio Annunziata, born in Strigno (Trento) on the 24/2/1905, there living, peasant. Slight wound on the K, suspect fracture of left leg, cerebral commotion, curable 90 days.

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- 1) Sgt. Ringwood
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The only witness at the moment of the accident is Mrs. Grigio Virginia of Luigi, living at Campo S. Martino. Via Provinciale N.1, who when interrogated stated that: at about 11.40 Mrs. was standing in front of her house, when she noticed an Allied truck, coming from Cittadella and going towards Padua, it was on her right, and travelling at a very high speed (she was not able to state how many M.P.H.:) went crashing into a tree which is just in front of her house, and the twenty persons who were on board were thrown out into the ditch, each of them being injured. Mrs. Grigio said that in the driving cab there were two British soldiers (including the driver) on the lap of one of these a woman was sitting. The road was clear, no vehicles, no pedestrians. When questioned about sitting on one of the soldiers lap Ariani Ariella denied doing so, she said she was sitting next to the driver and that on her left was sitting the other soldier. She was not able to give any information about the accident because it was too sudden. By means of the Sgt. of the Military Police, in charge of the case, we were able to know that the s/m Sgt. Ringwood was driving, who also said that the girl was sitting on his mate's lap.

About the accident the driver said that just before getting near the spot of it, noticed that a cart was coming out of a lane on the right hand side, to avoid investing it he turned left and was not able to get back on the road because the steering did not work, so he crashed against a tree.

It has been ascertained, by the under-named, that a little lane does exist, but is about two meters from where the truck crashed, which means it was impossible, for the truck to stop at a few meters going at such a speed. Not only but when the truck was found behind the tree, with its left wheels along the edge and parallel with the ditch into which the passengers were thrown into Mrs. Grigio is said in saying that the road was clear there were no pedestrians and no cart was coming out of the above mentioned lane. It is evident that the cause of the accident was Miss Ariani sitting on one of the soldiers' lap, or sitting between the two, the driving cab is made only for two, whilst she was sitting on the soldiers' lap she perhaps moving or turning she may involuntarily have knocked the drivers left arm or leg, which made him lose control of the steering wheel.

The dead body of found at near the truck and taken to Cittadella, was later as that of Romagna Corneglia, has been handed over to the local Civilian Law Authorities, the bodies of Parotto Lino and Benigno Enrico, with the

regular permission of the Procura del Regno of Padua, were buried. All the personal things found on Parotto were given to his relations. We attach a copy of the drawing of the accident. The truck belonged to R.E.M.E. INCREMENT 53 BLU TRNPO it was coming from Trento and probably going to Ferrara.

Il Maresciallo D'Alloggio Comandante
Lanola Pietro

id. k. g. d.

3-10-1945
and statement made by O.

Translation of Statement made by:

Grigio Virginia of Luigi and of Mariotta Antonia, born at Campo S. Martin on the 13/3/1897, living at Campo S. Martino Via Provinciale N. I. At 09.00 Hrs at the station of the CC.RR. in Piazzola sul Brenta, on the 10/10/1945, before the CC. RR. Imola Pietro and Moro Mario, Grigio Virginia made the following statement:

At about 11.45 Hrs. on the 9/10/1945, whilst I was in front of my house situated along the Strada Provinciale Padua-Bassano, I saw an Allied truck coming from Cittadella and going towards Padua, it was on the right hand side and was going at a very high speed, I cannot say how many Km.P.H. because I am not competent. In the driving-cab I noticed two British soldiers and a girl sitting on the lap of one of them, they were face to face, she had her back turned towards Padua. Suddenly I saw the truck crash against a tree which stands just in front of house, in the truck were about 17 or 18 Italian Civilians who were thrown out into a ditch near the road, all of them were wounded, some badly some slightly. One of them died on the spot half an hour afterwards. I cannot tell where the persons in the driving-cab got to during the crash because as soon as it happened I rushed indoors to ask for help. But ~~as~~ I am sure that also they were injured. I state that at the moment of the accident the road was quite clear of pedestrians, vehicles and of any other thing. I ignore the cause of the accident. The above ~~is~~ written statement is the truth.

Signed:

GRIGIO VIRGINIA.
MORO MARIO
IMOLA PIETRO

Translati off Statement made by:

Baruchelli Maria of Guerrino and of Pontana Rachel, born
at Bosentino (Trento) on the 25/12/1916, there living, in N.4
Via Venezia, declares what follows:
At about 8.30 Hrs. I got on board of the truck near Levico.
After some short haltings we arrived at Bassano del Grappa
where the two British soldiers had a meal.
The truck was travelling at about 55 or 60 K.P.H.
The truck was covered with a canopy that is why those who
were inside were not able to see what was happening along
the road. I only remember a sudden crash and finding myself
in a ditch upon some other passengers.
I was helped by some people and taken to the Hospital of
Cittadella.
The driver was not drunk.
I had no F.D. permit to travel on W.D. vehicles.
Two ladies who were with me had a regular permit.

Cittadella 10/10/1945

Signed: BARUCHELLI MARIA:

Translation of Statement by:

Dal Sas Angelina of Angelo and of Ianeselli Maria, born at Vattare Vigolo (Trento) on the 19/12/1921, there living, declares what follows:

I got on board of the Allied truck at about 8.30 Hrs. near Levico, and I was going to Padua.

During the journey we halted for short intervals, when we got to Bassano del Grappa we stopped longer because the two British soldiers had a meal there.

The truck was travelling at 50 or 60 KM.P.H.

I cannot tell the reason of the accident because the truck was covered with a canopy, those that were inside could see nothing.

Before the accident the truck was travelling quite regularly

I only know that after the crash I found myself in a ditch.

I think there was a woman in the driving-cab.

I had no permit to travel on M.D. vehicles.

Cittadella 10/10/1945

Signed: DAL SAS ANGELINA:

Certified True Copy of Statement made by:-

No. 14280374, S/Sgt. RINGWOOD, H.E.,
R.S.M. N. INCREMENT,
53, B.L.U.

I was driving a 3ton BEDFORD, No. L4883361 on the main road from TRENTO to PADOVA proceeding to FARRAR when a horse and cart pulled out from a side track, and I was overtaking this cart when the steering seemed to pull me over to the left. I tried as hard as I could to pull the vehicle over to the right, but it had hit the tree before I knew what had happened.

I am in an Italian Liaison Unit and we always give civilians lifts, and we stopped at 50 B.L.U. to collect petrol where a number of civilians were asking for a lift. Two had passes and we let them get on when all the others also got on. One of these civilians felt queer and she was put in the front cab with Cpl. DOWNER, A.G. who was riding with me as passenger.

(Signed) H.E. Ringwood S/Sgt.
14280374

The above statement dictated by S/Sgt. RINGWOOD was written by me on the 10 Oct. 45.

(Signed) 832037 G.A. Titmus Sgt.
G.M. POLICE.

10 Oct. 45.

638

Subject- Accidents.

REHE 53 B.L.U. CMF.
TRENTO 2092.
Ref- 53/ME/2/21.
II Oct 45.

To- O.C. 53 B.L.U. CMF.

Lorry 3ton 4X2 G.S. BEDFORD W.D. No.4882201.

1. The a/m vehicle, driven by S/Sgt Ringwood (I4280374) of REHE Training Increment was involved in an accident on 9 Oct 45 approx 20 Kilometres north of PADOVA whilst proceeding to FERRARA to collect stores.
2. S/Sgt Ringwood, his passenger Cpl Dowber (I574809) and a number of civilians were injured, it is understood two of the civilians died later.
3. The two British personnel are now in No.22 General Hospital MESTRE and the vehicle has been recovered to a 6th Arm Div W/Shop at PADOVA.
4. The 6th Arm Div Provost Coy have taken on the responsibility of obtaining all particulars and statements etc. and will, I have been informed, forward this information to this unit for further action.
5. The damaged vehicle is being transferred from PADOVA to the ME W/Shop FOLGORE.

A. J. White
S.O. REHE 53 B.L.U. Capt.

*If found
Camp. Trento
a) 117 a for Ringwood and Dowber
b) 4x 3676 when information is at hand.
to form should help you in other cases
PADOVA
037*

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..... Capt.
S.O. RHEE 53 B.L.U.

1. Conf. 117 - for Kingwood and Lumber
 2. Ar 3676 when in formation Southward.

Subject: Army Form F.117.

OFFICER COMMANDING,

53. B.L.U. RENE.

No. 22 Br General Hospital, CWP
Reference: 4/1/45.

Date: 17 Oct 45

14280374. S/597. RINGWOOD. H.E.
I forward herewith A.L. F.117 in respect of the above named
OR. for completion and onward transmission.

James
Commanding No. 22 Br General Hospital. 636

For-

COPY

REPORT
THE OFFICER COMMANDING,

6th (DB) ARMD. DIV. PROV. COY.

Sir,

I have to report that at PADUA on the 9th. Oct 45. about 1200 Hrs I was on duty at Company H.Q. where I was instructed to proceed to the scene of an accident, reported to have occurred approximately 12 miles north of PADUA on the TRENTO road. (Route 47).

Accompanied by 1/Cpl Page A. G.M. Police I was on my way to this incident when I saw in PADUA a soldier whom I know now to be No. 14280374 S/Sgt MINWOOD H.B. of R.N.M.A. Increment 55 R.L.G. TURNING sitting in a civilian vehicle his face covered in blood.

I questioned him and he stated that he had been involved in an accident which I presumed was the one to which I was proceeding. I arranged for an ambulance to take him to the 22 (BR) General Hospital and then proceeded to CARGO ST., MARTINO where the accident had occurred.

On my arrival I saw a (three) 3 to Bedford H.D. No. 1428356 the front of which had crashed into a tree. This vehicle was a total wreck. By the side of the road, in front of the vehicle lay a body which was recovered.

A civilian doctor GAV. DOTT. LUIGI SALA of CARGO S. MARTINO, who was also at the scene, informed me that the body was that of a civilian and was dead. I then sent for the Carabinieri and whilst awaiting their arrival the doctor informed me that several civilians had been on this vehicle (approx 20) (twenty) all of whom had been sent to hospitals at PADUA and CITTADELLA critically injured.

On the arrival of the Carabinieri, I arranged for the dead body to be removed by them and leaving 1/Cpl Page on the scene I proceeded to CITTADELLA endeavouring to locate the other injured soldiers.

At the Civil Hospital (CITTADELLA) I was informed that a number of civilians had been admitted but no Military personnel. The Carabinieri obtained details of the civilians injured.

I then returned with the Carabinieri to PADUA where I contacted the 101 W/shops and arranged for the removal of the 3 ten Bedford, proceeding on to the Civil Hospital where I discovered the remainder of the civilians involved had been admitted together with a British soldier who was unconscious. His condition was grave so I contacted the 365 R.L.S., and together with Major Stony. P. returned to the hospital where the soldier was examined by the M.O. He was later transferred to the 22 (BR) General Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and dislocated left hip.

The Carabinieri again obtained details of the civilians involved and informed me that one of the civilians had been riding in the cab of the Bedford with the two soldiers.

I arranged for an ambulance to take him to the 22 (Br) General Hospital and then proceeded to CAMPO ST., MARTINO where the accident had occurred.

On my arrival I saw a (three) 3 to Bedford W.D. No. 140835 the front of which had crashed into a tree. This vehicle was a total wreck.

By the side of the road, in front of the vehicle lay a body which was recovered.

637

A civilian doctor CAP. DON. LUIGI SAIA of CAMPO S. MARTINO, who was also at the scene, informed me that the body was that of a civilian and was dead. I then sent for the Carabinieri and whilst awaiting their arrival the doctor informed me that several civilians had been on this vehicle (approx 20) (twenty) all of whom had been sent to hospitals at PAVIA and CITTADILLA critically injured.

On the arrival of the Carabinieri, I arranged for the dead body to be removed by them and leaving 1/4 of page on the scene I proceeded to CITTADILLA endeavouring to locate the other injured soldiers.

At the Civil Hospital (CITTADILLA) I was informed that a number of civilians had been admitted but no Military Personnel. The Carabinieri obtained details of the civilians injured.

I then returned with the Carabinieri to PAVIA where I contacted the ICI W/shops and arranged for the removal of the 3 ton Bedford, proceeding on to the Civil Hospital where I discovered the remainder of the civilians involved had been admitted together with a British soldier who was unconscious. His condition was grave so I contacted the 865 F.D.S., and together with Major Story, P. returned to the hospital where the soldier was examined by the M.O. He was later transferred to the 22 (Br) General Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and dislocated left hip.

The Carabinieri again obtained details of the civilians involved and informed me that one of the civilians had been riding in the cab of the Bedford with the two soldiers. Apparently as far as could be ascertained, none of the civilians were in possession of permits to travel on W.D. vehicles.

On the 10th Oct 1945 about 1000 hrs I visited the 22 (Br) Gen. Hosp. (MFSHS) where I saw 1/4 Sgt Ringwood who was suffering from facial injuries and fracture of the right hand as he appeared to be suffering from shock. I did not question him too closely but he was able to dictate a statement which was taken down by me.

The other soldier whom I now know to be Col. DOMENICO A.C. of the same unit was still unconscious. He was not in possession of any means of identity, and what clothes he had I collected from the Civil Hospital PADOVA and are held by me.

The road where the accident occurred is a first class metalled one approx. 18 wide with a water filled ditch on the left side. The surface was dry and visibility good at the time of the accident. No other vehicle was involved.

The Carabinieri report including details of civilians involved and injuries sustained are attached together with a statement from a civilian said to have witnessed the accident. Sketch map attached.

IN THE FIELD 12 OCT 45.

REPORT NO. 532057 G.M. TIMES SET
G.M. POLICE

Certified true copy of statement made by:-

No. 14280374 S/Sgt RINGWOOD, R.E.
B.E.M.E. Incentive .. 53 B.L.U.

I was driving a 3 Ton Bedford W.D. No. 14283361 on the Main Road from TRENTO to PADOVA proceeding to FARRAR when a horse and cart pulled out from a side track, and I was overtaking this cart when the steering seemed to pull me over to the left. Tried as hard as I could to pull the vehicle over to the right, but it had hit the tree before I knew what had happened.

I am in an Italian Liaison Unit, and we always give civilians lifts, and we stopped at 50 B.L.U. to collect petrol where a number of civilians were asking for a lift. Two had passes and we let them get on when all the others also got on. One of these civilians felt queer and she was put in the front cab with Spt. DOWSER A.C. who was riding with me as passenger.

(Signed) H.E. RINGWOOD
14280374 S/Sgt.

The above statement dictated by S/Sgt Ringwood was written by me on 34
the 10th. Oct. 45.

(signed) 832037 G.E. Titmes Sgt.
C.M. Police.

10th. Oct. 45.

COPY

Translation of Statement made by:

GRIGIO VIRGINIA of Luigi and Mariotta Antonia, born at Campo S. Martin on the 13/3/1897, living at Campo S. Martin, Via Provinciale N.I.
At 0900 hrs at the station of the CC.RR. in Piazzola sul Brenta, on the 10/10/45 before the CC.RR. Imola Pietro and Moro Mario, Grigio Virginia made the following statement:

At about 1145 Hrs on the 9/10/45, whilst I was in front of my house situated along the Strada Provinciale Padua-Bassano, I saw an Allied truck coming from CITTADELLA and going towards Padua, it was on the right hand side and was going at a very high speed, I cannot say how many KM.P.H. because I am not competent. In the driving cab I noticed two British soldiers and a girl sitting on the lap of one of them, they were face to face, she had her back turned towards Padua. Suddenly I saw the truck crash against a tree which stands just in front of the house. In the truck were about 17 or 18 Italian Civilians who were thrown out into a ditch near the road, all of them were wounded, some badly, some slightly. One of them died on the spot half an hour afterwards. I cannot tell where the persons in the driving cab got to after the crash because as soon as it happened I rushed indoors to ask for help. But I am sure that they were also injured. I state that at the moment of the accident the road was quite clear of pedestrians, vehicles and other things. I ignore the cause of the accident. The above written statement is the truth.

Signed:

GRIGGIO VIRGINIAMORO MARIO
IMOLA PIETRO

8777.

Subject: Army Form E. 117.Co. 22 Lt General Hospital, CEF
Reference: 4/4/45.

Officer Commanding,

Date: 25 Oct 45.

53. B.L.U.1576869. CPL. DOWB&R. A.C.1 Forward herewith A.F. E. 117 in respect of the above named
CPL for completion and onward transmission.

632

Major, R.A.M.C. for Colonel,
Co. 22 Lt General Hospital.

COPY

Translation of Statement made by:

GRIGIO VIRGINIA of Luigi and Mariotta Antonia, born at Campo S. Martin on the 13/3/1897, living at Campo S. Martin, Via Provinciale N.I.
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I ignore the cause of the accident.
The above written statement is the truth.

Signed:

GRIGIO VIRGINIAMORO MARIO
IMOLA PIETRO

Certified true copy of Statement made by:-

No. 14280374 S/Sgt H.WOOD, H.E.
P.E.M.E. Increment .. 53 B.L.U.

I was driving a 3 Ton Bedford W.D. No. L4883361 on the Main Road from TRENTO to PADOVA proceeding to FARRAR when a horse and cart pulled out from a side track, and I was overtaking this cart when the steering seemed to pull me over to the left. I tried as hard as I could to pull the vehicle over to the right, but it had hit the tree before I knew what had happened.

I am in an Italian Liaison Unit, and we always give civilians lifts, and we stopped at 50 B.L.U. to collect petrol where a number of civilians were asking for a lift. Two had passes and we let them get on when all the others also got on. One of these civilians felt queer and she was put in the front cab with Cpl. DOWLER A.G. who was riding with me as passenger.

(Signed) H.L. RINGWOOD
14280374 S/Sgt.

The above statement dictated by S/Sgt Ringwood was written by me on the 10th. Oct. 45.

(Signed) 832037 G.L. Titmas Sgt.
G.M. Police.

10th. Oct. 45.

630 . -

To:-

CONFREPORT.
THE OFFICER COMMANDING.6th (BR) ARD. DIV. PROV. COI.

Sir,

I have to report that at PADUA on the 9th. Oct 45. about 1230 Hrs I was on duty at Company H.Q. where I was instructed to proceed to the scene of an accident, reported to have occurred approximately 12 miles north of PADUA on the TRENTINO road (Route 47).

Accompanied by L/Cpl Page A. C.M. Police I was on my way to this incident when I saw in PADUA a soldier whom I know now to be No. 44280374 S/Sgt RINGWOOD H.M. of R.A.M.C. Increment 53 B.L.U. TRENTINO sitting in a civilian vehicle his face covered in blood.

I questioned him and he stated that he had been involved in an accident which I presumed was the one to which I was proceeding.

I arranged for an ambulance to take him to the 22 (BR) General Hospital and then proceeded to CALTO ST., MARTINO where the accident had occurred.

On my arrival I saw a (three) 5 to Bedford W.D. No. L488356 the front of which had crashed into a tree. This vehicle was a total wreck.

By the side of the road, in front of the vehicle lay a body which was recovered.

A civilian Doctor CAP. DOM. LUIGI SALA of CALTO S. MARTINO, who was also at the scene, informed me that the body was that of a civilian and was dead. I then sent for the Carabinieri and whilst waiting their arrival the doctor informed me that several civilians had been on this vehicle (approx 20) (twenty) all of whom had been sent to hospitals at PADUA and CITTABELLA critically injured.

On the arrival of the Carabinieri, I arranged for the dead body to be removed by them and leaving L/Cpl Page on the scene I proceeded to CITTABELLA endeavouring to locate the other injured soldier.

At the Civil Hospital (CITTABELLA) I was informed that a number of civilians had been admitted but no military personnel. The Carabinieri obtained details of the civilians injured.

I then returned with the Carabinieri to PADUA where I contacted the IOI W/shops and arranged for the removal of the 5 ton Bedford, proceeding on to the Civil Hospital where I discovered the remainder of the civilians involved had been admitted together with a British soldier who was unconscious. His condition was grave so I contacted the 365 F.D.S., and together with Major Story, P. returned to the hospital where this soldier was examined by the M.O. He was later transferred to the 22 (Br) General Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and dislocated left hip.

The Carabinieri again obtained details of the civilians involved and informed me that one of the civilians had been riding in the cab of the Bedford with the two soldiers. Apparently as far as could be ascertained, none of the civilians were responsible for the accident.

I arranged for an ambulance to take him to the 22 (BR) General Hospital

and then proceeded to SALFO ST., MARTINO where the accident had occurred,

On my arrival I saw a (three) 3 to Bedford H.D. No. L428376 the front of which had crashed into a tree. This vehicle was a total wreck. By the side of the road, in front of the vehicle lay a body which was recovered.

A civilian doctor CAP. DOTT. LUIGI SALA of CAMPO S. MARTINO, who was also at the scene, informed me that the body was that of a civilian and was dead. I then sent for the Carabinieri and whilst awaiting their arrival the doctor informed me that several civilians had been on this vehicle (approx 20) (twenty) all of whom had been sent to hospitals at PADUA and CITTADELLA critically injured.

On the arrival of the Carabinieri, I arranged for the dead body to be removed by them and leaving 14021 Page on the scene I proceeded to CITTADELLA endeavouring to locate the other injured soldiers.

At the Civil Hospital (Olt. ALBANA) I was informed that a number of civilians had been admitted but no Military personnel. The Carabinieri obtained details of the civilians injured.

I then returned with the Carabinieri to PADUA where I contacted the RCI W/shops and arranged for the removal of the 3 ton Bedford, proceeding on to the Civil Hospital where I discovered the remainder of the civilians involved in the accident together with a British soldier who was unconscious. His condition had been grave so I contacted the 365 A.D.S., and together with Major Story, P. returned to the hospital where the soldier was examined by the M.O. He was later transferred to the 22 (Br) General Hospital suffering from a fractured skull and dislocated left hip.

The Carabinieri again obtained details of the civilians involved and informed me that one of the civilians had been riding in the cab of the Bedford with the two soldiers. Apparently as far as could be ascertained, none of the civilians were in possession of permits to travel on M.D. vehicles.

On the 10th Oct 1945 about 1000 hrs I visited the 22 (Br) Gen. Hosp. (ALBISTRE) where I saw S/Sgt Ringwood who was suffering from facial injuries and fracture of the right hand as he appeared to be suffering from shock I did not question him too closely but he was able to dictate a statement which was taken down by me.

The other soldier whom I now know to be Cpl. DOWDER A.G. of the same Unit was still unconscious. He was not in possession of any means of identity, and what clothes he had I collected from the Civil Hospital PADOVA and are held by me.

The road where the accident occurred is a first class metalled one approx. 18 wide with a water filled ditch on the East side. The surface was dry and visibility good at the time of the accident. No other vehicle was involved. The Carabinieri report including details of civilians involved and injuries sustained are attached together with a statement from a civilian said to have witnessed the accident. Sketch map attached.

IN THE FIELD 12 OCT 45.

SIGNED No. 852057 G.A. FILIAS SGT
G.M. POLICE

Tel. No. VALJEAN 43.

O.C.,

50 Brit Liaison Unit.

A.P.S.

02E/56L92/DP

ACCIDENTAL INJURIES:

14280374	W/S/Sgt	RINGWOOD	H.	REME.
1574869	W/Cpl	DOWBER	H.	REME.

1. It is noted from your AF W3012B, Serial No. 3 dated 12 Oct 45 that the above named has received accidental injuries. AF F117 (and AF A2 if necessary) have not however been received at this HQ.
2. Will you please arrange for action to be taken in accordance with GRO 40 of 1944, and the papers forwarded to this HQ as soon as possible.
3. You will appreciate that should any disability have occurred, or should it occur in the future and be in anyway attributed to this accident, serious financial hardship may be caused if the facts of this accident are not available at the Ministry of Pensions, for their consideration when assessing pension.

G.M.F.

[Signature]
Brigadier.
D.A.C.,
G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon.

Despatched
15 DEC 1945

628

Subject : Draffio Accident

To : Adm. Div.

Copy To : HQ. 60 Sub Area.

Headquarters.
4. D.I.U. (ex 53.ELI)
BOZZANO.
Ref: A7
30 Nov 45.

9022

Reference your 6/ALPO/PRO 3. dated 7 Nov 45 and attached copy of letter to 60 Sub Area.

1. The following witnesses will be required for a Court of Inquiry :-

GRIGGIO Virginia. - Campo San Martino, Via Provinciale 1.
DAL SASS Angelina. - Vattaro Vigolo (TRENTO).
BARJONELLI Maria. - Bosentino (TRENTO) 4. Via Venezia (TRENTO).
ARIANI Ariella - Strigno (TRENTO).

2. I should be most grateful if you could inform 60 Sub Area by signal copy this HQ whether they are fit to give evidence, and if you would be prepared when the Court is convened to assist through the CO.RR. in obtaining their attendance.

CLZ
Lt. Col.
6327

Subject : Traffic Accident.

To : O.C., 22 General Hospital.

Copy To : HQ., 60 Sub Area.

Headquarters.
4. E.I.U. (ex 53.ICH)
BOLZANO.
Ref: A7.
30 Nov'45.

14280374 3/Sgt. Ringwood, U.S.
1574869 Cpl. Dowber, A.C.

Reference your 4/0/45 dated 23 Nov'45, and attached copy of letter to 60 Sub Area.

In view of the circumstances will you please inform 60 Sub Area and this HQ, by signal immediately any change in location of these O.Rs occurs, and, if you can do so without detriment to his recovery, will you please delay any action with regard to evacuation to UK of Cpl. Dowber?

Rls?
Lt. Col.
G.S.

626

Subject : ENQUIRIES-PATIENTS22 (Br) General Hospital,
C. M. F.
Ref :- 4/G/45O.C.,
53 1/2 U.

23 Nov, 45.

14280374 S/Sgt RINGWOOD, HE.
1574869 Cpl DOWBER, AG

Reference your A7-365 dated 18 Nov, 45.

Present condition and further hospitalization
in respect of the above named is as follows:-S/Sgt RINGWOOD, HE. Condition good. Hospital expectancy
is less than 14 days.Cpl DOWBER, AG. Condition satisfactory. Will be
evacuated to U.K. through medical
channels.

Q, S, O 1	
HW	

(J.W. ORR)
Commanding No.22 (Br) General Hospital: Colonel.

520

8957
23 NOV 1945

Copy to APAC (Amesbury)
 The following witnesses will be required for a court of inquiry.
 GRIGIO, VICTOR, Lando S. Mottis Via Provincetown, MA. DALLAS, ANGELINA DE VATTARE VIGORDETRENTO
 BARUCHELLI, MARIA, BOSENTINO (TRENTO) Via Venezia, N. ARIANI, ARICILLA STAGNO, TRENTO
 2. I should be most grateful if you could inform me of the date and time of the court of inquiry, and if you would be prepared when the court convenes to assist in it through the CRR in obtaining their attendance. Ktlo PGS.

10 22 Dec. 45. Hqs. 100 203421
 Copy 60 Sub Area S/Sgt
 Attached copy of report of the court of inquiry, dated 23 Nov 45.
 In view of the circumstances, it was determined
 that a summary of the court of inquiry was prepared and possibly a
 summary of the court of inquiry leading to a
 report may be necessary.
 Will you please
 inform the Sub Area and this
 HQ by signal immediately any change
 in location of these ORs occurs, and if
 you can do so without detriment to his recovery, will
 you please delay any action in regard to evacuation
 to the ORs. Ktlo PGS.

Subject ; Court of Inquiry - Accident.

To ; 60 Sub Area.

Copy to ; C.O., 22 General Hospital (Br)
A.P.M. 6 Armd. Div.

Headquarters.

4. B.L.U. (ex 53.BLU)

Ref: A7.

Date : 30 Nov'45.

14280374 W/A/Sgt. RINGWOOD.H. - RMR.
1574862 W/Cpl. DOWDER.H. - RMR.

Reference your 6/10/A dated 17 Nov'45 returning papers in connection with an accident involving the a/m O.Rs.

1. 22.General Hospital states that Staff Sgt.Ringwood will shortly be discharged but that Cpl.Dowder (condition satisfactory) will be evacuated to UK.
2. It will be recalled that the case demands a Court of Inquiry with the presence of these two O.Rs., who's conduct is open to question and may lead to a summary of evidence and PGM.
3. In view of the nature of this Unit (naturally an Hq Staff) it is not possible for a court to be convened by me.
Will you please be prepared to convene a court when confirmation is received that certain witnesses are fit?
4. 22.General Hospital are being requested not to take any action involving evacuation of Cpl.Dowder until the court and any consequent proceedings have been carried through, and to inform both our Hq's of their future movements.
5. APM 6 Armd is being requested to inform our Hq's of the availability of civilian witnesses, and to be prepared to assist in mustering them for the Court when it is convenient.

6293
Lt.Col.
G.S.

SUBJECT:- Court of Inquiry

8825

Headquarters,
60 Sub Area,
C.M.F.
Tel No: 3482
6/10/A
17 Nov 45

53 B.L.U.

Reference the papers which you forwarded
on 10 Nov 45.

It is considered that a Court of Inquiry
will have to be held to investigate the
circumstances under which the veh crashed.

Later a Summary of Evidence can be taken
if it is found in the Court of Inquiry that
the driver was driving dangerous.

*The delay in returning the papers is
unjustified.*

R. H. P. J. Cap
Major
DAA & QMG

623

Subject:- Road Accident.

To:- O.G. 22 Br. General Hospital.

53 B.L.U.
Ref A7-365
Nov 18. 45.

No14280374 S/Sgt Ringwood H.E.
No1574869 Cpl Dowber A.G.

The above mentioned N.C.Os were admitted to you hospital suffering from injuries sustained in a road accident.

Can you please advise this H.Q. of their present condition and also pass an opinion on when they are likely to be considered fit again.

Q. Ch
1 Lt. *Don*
G.S.

Subject:- Court of Enquiry-Road Accident.

To:- DAA/QM 60 Sub-Area

53 B.L.U.
Ref A7-364
Nov. 18. 45.

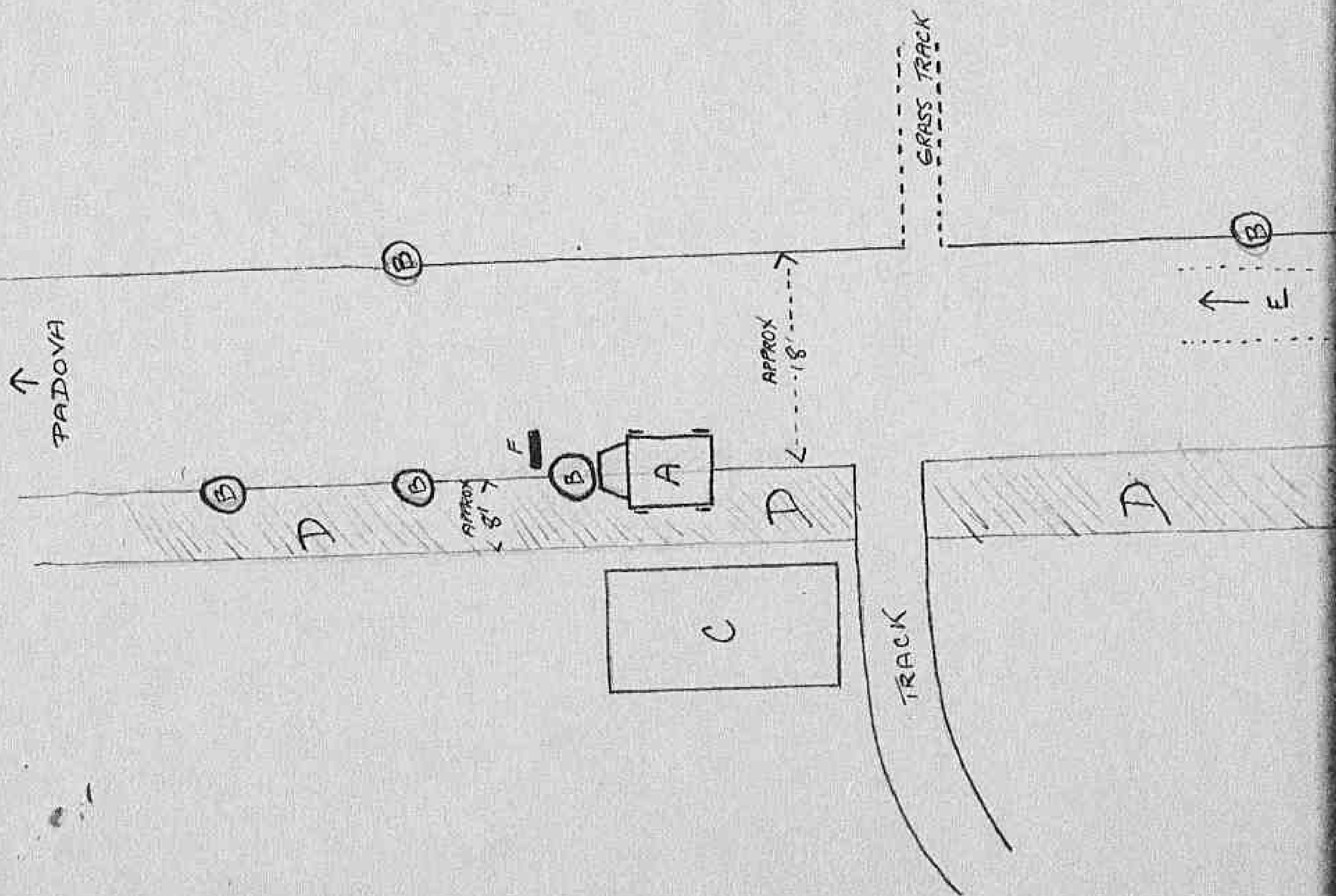
Reference your 6/10/A dated 17 Nov. 45.

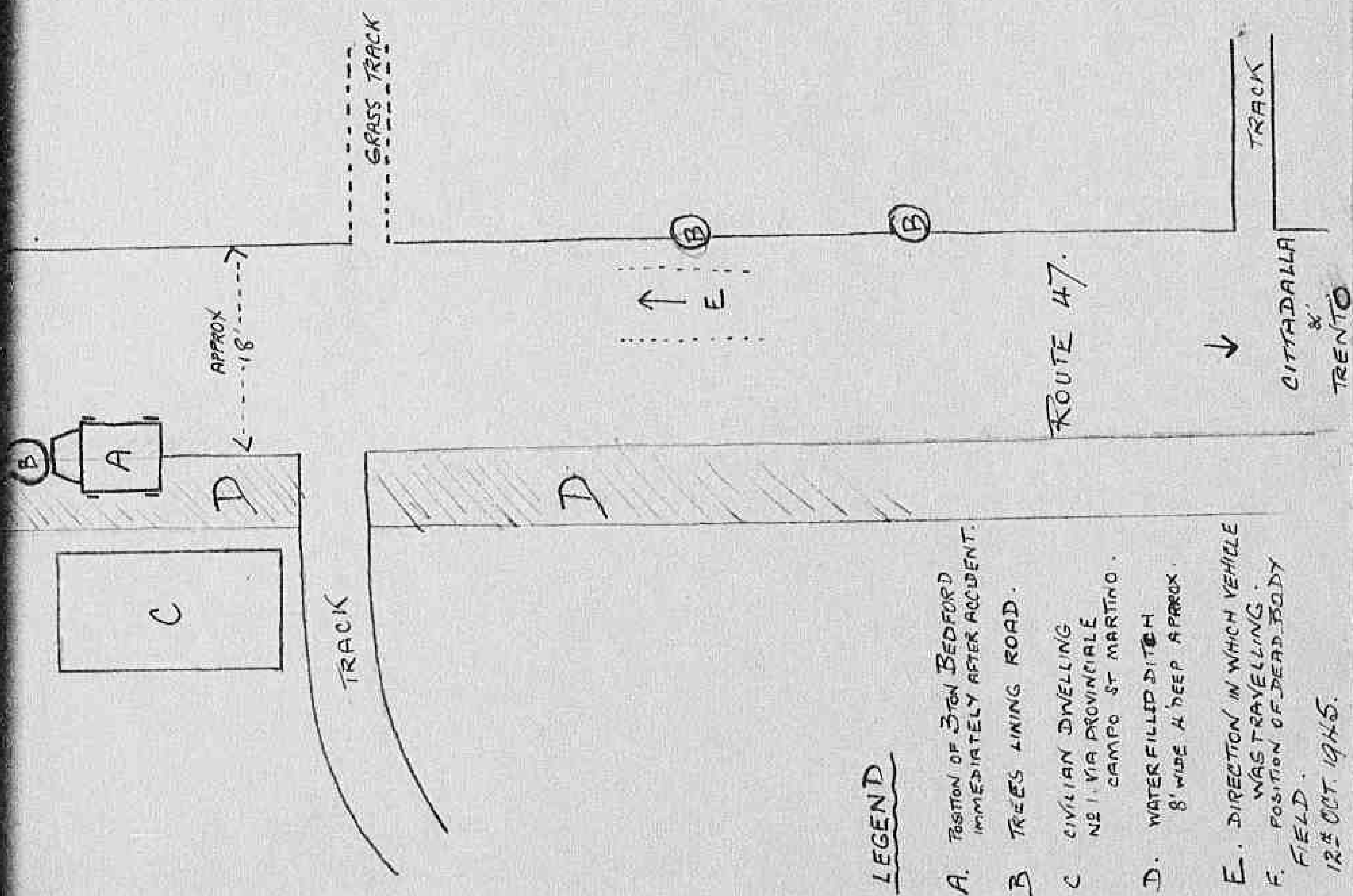
Enquiries are being made concerning the present condition of No 14280374 S/Sgt Ringwood H.E. and No 1574869 Cpl Dowber A.G., but it is felt that neither will be available for a Court of Enquiry for some time.

When further information is received you will be informed accordingly.

G. C. W.
Lt. Col.
G.S.

621 -

SKETCH MAP OF ACCIDENT



Use this space for SKETCH and parti- s for which there is no room on Page 1.
Put in all the measurements, skid-marks and details possible.

This Report must be accompanied by the signed statements of the Driver and any Service Witnesses.

From perforation at bottom to top of page is 1 foot.

Wc 45808/806 2/43 51-6292

TO BE COMPLETED ON RETURN TO UNIT.

N.	Name in full (all Christian Names) KINGWOOD Harold Ephraim		Number 14280374	Unit REME 53 BLU	Driving Experience Years 13 9 Mths. 1	Date of entry into Service 17 Sep	Age 34	Rate of Pay per day 12/3	
O.	SERVICE or HIRED VEHICLE	No. of Service Vehicle GS Truck	Type of Bodywork GS Truck	Load capacity 3 ton	Make Bedford	H.P. 24	Present Location of Vehicle RIGHT HAND DRIVE		
P.	JOURNEY	If a motor-cycle, were all those on it wearing crash helmets? A.F.G.3518		Serial No. 6 From Trento To stores from 165 A.B.W/S		Nature of Duty To collect			UN-Map reference of scene of accident LOA-DED

I declare that the above particulars and my signed statement are true in every respect. I hereby authorize the War Department if they so desire to instruct the Treasury Solicitor* to act on my behalf if any proceedings which may be instituted against me arising out of the above traffic accident. Further, I authorize the War Department and the Treasury Solicitor* to take such action as may be considered proper and generally to do what may be considered necessary in my interests by the Treasury Solicitor* in his capacity as my Solicitor and legal adviser. This retainer includes my authority to admit liability if deemed advisable at a later date, after the facts have been fully investigated by the Treasury Solicitor*.

*Or, the War Department Law Agent in Scotland or the Chief Crown Solicitor for Northern Ireland, as the case may be.

Date **16 Oct 45** Driver's Signature **194**

Q.	UNIT	Name	Address	Telephone	Unit's telephone	Command
R.	HIRED VEHICLE	Hired through	Contractor's Name & Address	Name & Address of Insurance Co. (if applicable)	Insurance Cert. No. or Policy No.	Rate of Hire per day
S.	DAMAGE TO SERVICE or HIRED VEHICLE and/or LOAD CARRIED	Engine pushed back, all front of vehicle smashed in, including cab. Vehicle will probably be write off.		Will probably be repaired by :-		No. of Vehicles on charge to Unit
T.	I certify that the Service Vehicle was being driven	ON DUTY	NOT ON DUTY	Name of Officer who gave authority for issue of A.F.G.3518 S/Sgt Ringwood		Number of previous accidents in which Driver has been : concerned to blame

Any correspondence concerning this accident should give all the particulars set out on the other side of this slip and be addressed to :—
THE SECRETARY, CLAIMS COMMISSION, WING HOUSE, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1. (In Northern Ireland to: 2, Malone Park, Belfast.)

Should any person have been injured, full particulars should be given together with the address at which the person could be examined if necessary.

Should a vehicle have been damaged, the following information should be given :—(i) the name and address of the Insurance Company ; (ii) the number of the Policy ; (iii) whether this is comprehensive, third party only or Road Traffic liability only ; (iv) the amount of the excess (if any).

Army Form A3676

(Revised August, 1942)

To be carried in an addressed envelope by every driver.

A.C.I. 1312, 1940

Cross out those words in ITALICS which do not apply.

WAR DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC ACCIDENT REPORT

THIS SIDE TO BE COMPLETED AT SCENE OF ACCIDENT. IF SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT, WRITE ON BACK.

A. ACCIDENT		Date 9 Oct 45	Time 1140	Place Trento-Padova Road County	Surname of Service Driver RINGWOOD	No. of Service Vehicle 4883361
B. OTHER VEHICLE <i>None</i>		Lorry Motor Car Motor Cycle Bicycle Horse Van	Make	H.P.	Registration No.	Name and address of Insurance Co.
C. DRIVER OF OTHER VEHICLE		Name	Year	Driving Licence Date	Address and Occupation	Insurance Certificate No. or Policy No.
D. OWNER OF OTHER VEHICLE		Name	Address and Occupation			
E. INJURED PERSONS State whether civilian or in Armed Forces. If the latter, give number and Unit.		Name	Age (approx.)	Address and Occupation	Telephone	Injury Slight Serious Fatal
1. S/Sgt Ringwood i. Cpl. Dowber		53 BLU. AA Veh 53 BLU Dvr Mech				Telephone Serious Fatal
2. 2 Civilians						Telephone Slight Serious Fatal
3. A number of other civilians						Telephone Slight Serious Fatal
F. WITNESSES Name, address etc., of every person present must be obtained.		Name	Address	Telephone	Age approx.	Occupation
1. None						
2.						
3.						
G. PARENT DAMAGE TO OTHER VEHICLE		(in greatest detail possible)				
H. INJURY TO ANIMALS		(Note any previous defects)				
I. DAMAGE TO PROPERTY		Damage				
J. POLICEMAN		Name				
K. LIGHTS		Name				

Civilian or in Armed Forces. If the latter, give Service, number and Unit.	2 Civilians	Patal	Slight Serious Fatal	Age approx.	Occupation
2. A number of other civilians		Slight	Slight Serious Fatal		
3.					
F. WITNESSES Name, address etc., of every person present must be obtained.	Name None	Address	Telephone	Age approx.	Occupation
G. PARENT DAMAGE AND OTHER VEHICLE	(In greatest detail possible)				
H. INJURY TO ANIMALS	(Note any previous defects)				
	LED	How many	Condition	Injuries	Telephone
	HORSE	COW	STRAY-ING		NAME & ADDRESS of OWNER or OCCUPIER
	POULTRY	PIG			
	SHEEP	DOG			
I. DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	Nature of Property	Exact Location	Damage	Property is NOT requisitioned	Telephone Landlord Tenant
J. POLICEMAN	Name	Police Station	He did NOT see accident	A statement was NOT made to him	Association
	No.	Service Vehicle	Other Vehicle	UN-NECESSARY	NOT GIVEN BY ME
K. LIGHTS	DAYLIGHT	NOT LIT	NOT LIT	WARNING	NOT GIVEN BY OTHER
	NIGHT	NON BUILT UP AREA	TRAFFIC LIGHT	GOOD	TRAFFIC LIGHTS
L. SPEED OF VEHICLE	28-30	m.p.h.	Other	ROAD SUR-FACES	STRAIGHT
	m.p.h.	m.p.h.	TRAFFIC LIGHTS	DRY	TRAFFIC LIGHTS
M. I GAVE THE ACCIDENT SLIP BELOW TO Mr.	Address				

MAKE SKETCH ON BACK WHILE ON SCENE OF ACCIDENT

Instructions to Driver

- (a) You must not admit liability by word or deed, or even discuss the question of blame, nor must the Service personnel with you.
- (b) Should a Police Officer appear on the scene, await his permission before continuing your journey. If he requires the location of your Unit or a statement from you or any Service personnel, this may be given to him, but only to him and out of the hearing of any other person. If your unit has a closed address you should, when giving the Police Officer its location, inform him that it must not be disclosed by him.
- (c) Report the accident immediately on your return. If you have been unable to give the Accident Slip below to the other person involved or to a Police Officer, you must inform your Commanding Officer of this so that he may report the accident to the Police within 24 hours in accordance with Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930. If you are not returning to your Unit within 24 hours, report the accident to the nearest Police Officer or Station.

Insert here
Initials of
Command

This Accident Slip must be given to the other person involved or to the Police Officer, if one appears on the scene.

SERVICE DRIVER	Name	Rank	Number	Unit	Vehicle No.	Code
ACCIDENT	Date	Time	Place	This slip is handed you for your convenience and is not to be taken as an admission of liability. [Please Turn Over.]		

Subject: Traffic Accident on 9 Oct 45 on the Trento - Padova road involving W.D. vehicle
L 4883361 driven by No. 14280374 S/Sgt. Ringwood, F. which collided with
a tree causing injury to civilians.

91/51009/23/A

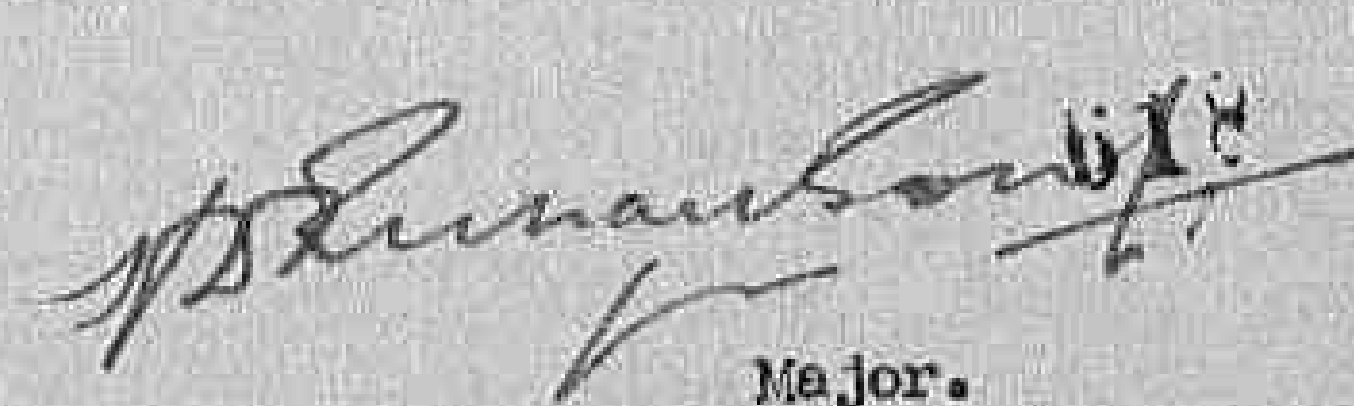
O.C.
R.E.M.E. Increment,
53 B.L.U.
C.M.F.

Reference the above-mentioned traffic accident involving a vehicle which it is
believed was on the strength of your unit. Will you please forward to this office:-

1. AFA 3676
2. Witnesses statements.

G.R.O. 96/44 refers.

C.M.F.
1 Nov 45.


Major.
D.A.D. 91 Claims and Hirings.

ARMY FORM C-36 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

Pri

Transmitt

RECTIONS

8641

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date - Time of Origin

OFFICE DATE STAMP

53 BLV

050930 A

For Action

APM

6 British Army Dir.

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions

GR

Originator's No.

AD/A7-357 U Unclassified O Ref your 6/ADPC/Pro/3 dated 18 Oct and the HQ A7-355 dated 27 Oct O. May the Caribbean report including details of civilians involved and statement by a civilian witness now be forwarded please

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESSIF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MES-
SAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHERORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time

System

Op.

THI or TOR

617

Time cleared

SIGNED



SIGNED

Subject:-Traffic Accident.

BF 31/10/45
27/10
6/ADPC/Pro/8.

To:- O.C.,
53 B.L.U.,
TRENTO.
=====

84/2
22 OCT 1945

Herewith Military Police Traffic Accident Report together with relevant statement, for your information and such action as you may consider necessary, please.

W. Alexander. C.A.T.

PADUA,
18 Oct. 45.
FRC.

for Major.
(W. Alexander). A.P.M.
6 British Armoured Division.

Copy to:- APM., 217 Sub-Area.
DAD., 41 Claims & Hirings.

616

MESSAGE FORM

ARMY FORM C 2135 (Large)

Register No.

Transmission Instructions

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM

(A)

Originator

53 BLO

Date-Time of Origin.

27 1430 R

Office Date Stamp

For Action.

APM

6 BRITISH ARMD DIV

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions.

GR

Originator's No.

NY-355: 0 Ref your 6/ADPC/Pro/8 dated
 18 OCT-0 Carburers report including
 details of carburetors involved and statement
 by a carburetor witness not enclosed
 Please forward these particulars immediately

613

Originator's No.

NY-355. O Ref your 6/ADPC/Pro/8 dated
 18 Oct- O Carthage reports including
 details of Cuban's involvement and statement
 by a Cuban witness not enclosed O
 Please forward these particulars immediately

613

This message may be sent

AS WRITTEN by any means

except *WIRELESS.*

Signed.

If liable to be intercepted or to fall
 into enemy hands this message must
 be sent IN CIPHER

Signed.

Originator's instructions:
 Degree of Priority.

Time

THI or TOR

System Op.

Time Cleared

Translation of Receipt

I Parotto Elio of Erminio, age 26, living in Strigno(Trento) declare to have received by wish of hte parents, from the Sgt. i/c of the C.J. RR. station of Piazzola sul Brenta, the under-written documents which belonged to my cousin Parotto Lino of Luigi, age 20, who died on the 9/10/1945 at Campo S. Martino in a motor accident.

I leather wallet.

564 liras.

Some personal photos.

Identity card.

A small religious chain(metal)

4 stamps.

A document issued by the C.N.L. of Strigno(Trento)

Piazzola sul Brenta 12/10/1945

Witnesses:

Nicolai Enrico.

Pagliazzo Firminio.

Signed:

PAROTTO ELIO.

Subject: Accident Report

53 B.L.U.
Ref. A7-356
27 Oct 45

Re: 34 Claims and Hirings

Herewith traffic accident report in connection with an accident in which a 3 ton vehicle of this unit struck a tree, killing a civilian, injuring others, and seriously injuring two British soldiers.

The driver of the vehicle has signed the accident report but he is not capable of drawing diagrams or giving statements at the moment as he is still severely injured in hospital.

Statements of witnesses, particulars of killed and injured, and all further details are being collected together and you will be informed of these as soon as possible.

Delay in submitting the AF A.3676 is regretted but this was unavoidable owing to the condition of the driver and difficulty in finding where the injured persons were taken etc.

R. Hance
DAAG36

for Lt.Col.
G.S.

8557

Army Form A3676
(Revised September, 1943)
To be carried in an
addressed envelope
by every driver.
A.C.1.1312/1940

Cross out those words in *ITALICS* which do not apply.

THIS SIDE TO BE COMPLETED AT SCENE OF ACCIDENT. IF SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT, WRITE ON BACK.

A. ACCIDENT		Date 9.10.45	Time 11.40	Place TRENT TO PADDOVA ROAD		County R. NGWSD		Surname of Service Driver R. NGWSD		No. of Service Vehicle									
B. OTHER VEHICLE		Lorry Motor Car Motor Cycle Bicycle Horse Van	Make	H.P.	Registration No.	Name and address of Insurance Co.		Insurance Certificate No. No. or Policy		Telephone									
C. DRIVER OF OTHER VEHICLE		Name		Year	Driving Licence Date	Address and Occupation		Telephone											
D. OWNER OF OTHER VEHICLE		Name		Address and Occupation		Telephone													
E. INJURED PERSONS State whether civilian or in Armed Forces. If the latter, give Service, number and Unit.		Name		Age (approx.)	Address and Occupation		Telephone	Injury Slight Serious Fatal	Hospital (if known)										
F. WITNESSES Name, address etc., of every person present must be obtained.		Name		Address		Telephone		Age approx.	Occupation										
G. APPARENT DAMAGE TO OTHER VEHICLE		(In greatest detail possible)										Can be seen at							
H. INJURY TO ANIMALS		HORSE		COW		How many		LED	Condition		Injuries		It was not killed Property is NOT requisitioned		NAME & ADDRESS of OWNER or OCCUPIER		Telephone		
I. DAMAGE TO PROPERTY		POULTRY		PIG		DOG		Exact Location		Damage		A statement was NOT made to him		He did NOT see accident		Road PATROL		Branch	
J. POLICEMAN		Name		Police Station		Service Vehicle		Other Vehicle		He did NOT see accident		A statement was NOT made to him		Name		Association		Telephone Landlord Tenant	
K. LIGHTS		DAYLIGHT NIGHT		NOT LIT		NOT LIT		WARNING		UN-NECESSARY		NOT GIVEN BY ME		NOT GIVEN BY OTHER		BY OTHER			

OWNER OF OTHER VEHICLE		Name		Age (approx.)		Address and Occupation		Telephone		Injury		Hospital (if known)	
1.													
2.													
3.													
F. WITNESSES		Name		Age (approx.)		Address		Telephone		Occupation			
1.													
2.													
3.													
G.		(in greatest detail possible)											
APPARENT DAMAGE TO OTHER VEHICLE													
H.		(Note any previous defects)											
INJURY TO ANIMALS		HORSE		COW		How many		LED STRAYING		Injuries		Telephone	
POULTRY		PIG										NAME & ADDRESS of OWNER or OCCUPIER	
SHEEP		DOG										Telephone Landlord Tenant	
I.		Nature of Property		Exact Location		Damage		IT was not will not have to be KILLED		Property is NOT requisitioned		He did NOT see accident	
DAMAGE TO PROPERTY												Association 612	
J.		Name		Police Station		He did NOT see accident		A statement was NOT made to him		ROAD PATROL		Branch	
POLICEMAN												NOT GIVEN BY ME	
K.		DAYLIGHT		NIGHT		NOT LIT		NOT LIT		WARNING		UN-NECESSARY	
LIGHTS												NOT GIVEN BY OTHER	
L.		Service		Other		NON BUILT UP AREA		ROAD SURFACES		GOOD FAIR BAD		STRAIGHT BEND CROSS ROADS	
SPEED OF VEHICLE		m.p.h.		m.p.h.				TRAFFIC LIGHTS		TRAFFIC SIGNS		Visibility CLEAR FOGGY RAIN	
M.		I GAVE THE ACCIDENT SLIP BELOW TO Mr. Address											

MAKE SKETCH ON BACK WHILE ON SCENE OF ACCIDENT

Instructions to Driver

- You must not admit liability by word or deed, or even discuss the question of blame, nor must the Service personnel with you.
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Insert here
Initials of
Command

This Accident Slip must be given to the other person involved or to the Police Officer, if one appears on the scene.

SERVICE	Name	Rank	Number	Unit	Vehicle No.	Code
DRIVER						
ACCIDENT	Date	Time	Place	This slip is handed you for your convenience and is not to be taken as an admission of liability.		

Please Turn Over.

0965