

Wednesday September 20 12916

H Q 26th Divisional Cyclist Company

Orderly Room 9.20 am.

Pte Harold Gladstone Knapp brought before his Commanding Officer

CO No 7443 Pte H G Knapp 26th D C C; you are charged for causing a nuisance while on Guard at 26th Divisional Head Quarters.

Pt Knapp Yes Sir

C O I am informed Knapp while on guard at Divisional H Q's you used the G V C's (26th Division) latrine.

Pt Knapp Yes Sir

CO Are you aware that the General's latrine is a sacred place. He will not even let his Staff Officers use it.

Pt Knapp Yes Sir

CO Well why did you use his latrine?

Pt Knapp Well Sir I was in this predicament. While on Guard over the General's Marquee in the early hours of yesterday morning (19/9/16) I took short. It would have taken at least ten minutes to have waited for a relief and then reach the Men's latrine, which is some three hundred yards away. I could not leave my post, and I had two minutes to consider I should evacuate my bowels in the open within the vicinity of the General's Marquee or use his latrine. If I was found out I thought the General would be less annoyed if I used his latrine than if I went out in the open. I had to do something so I used the General's latrine.

CO Under those circumstances you ought to have run down to the Guard Tent and let them send another man up in your place.

Pt Knapp Impossible

CO Well Knapp I must give you something. Fourteen days "CC"

Thursday 21st September 1916

H Q 26th Divisional Cyclist Company.

Orderly Room 9.20 am

After informing the S M that he received punishment while at Divisional H Q, Pte H G Knapp No 7443 was again brought before his Commanding Officer.

CO I understand that you made an additional statement to the S M after being at the Orderly Room yesterday?

Pt Knapp Yes Sir

CO Well.

Pt Knapp After taking the liberty of using the General's latrine I explained the circumstances to the General and to his A D C who both understood the predicament I was in of having a latrine done for the sentry's use. Which I dug on my hours of rest as punishment for my impudence.