

*The President:* The Court wishes to give you every opportunity of calling further witnesses. Those are all the names you wish to give?

*Captain Knyvett:* Yes, at present.

*The President:* read over the questions and answers as they had been taken down.

*The President:* Well, the Court has no more questions to ask you. Do you wish to give any further evidence on this point?

*Captain Knyvett:* No, sir. I have got tired of giving evidence on points.

*The President:* Do you wish to call the officers?

*Captain Knyvett:* Yes. I will call Captain Dawson first.

Captain THOMAS HENRY DAWSON, Captain of the College Rifles and Signalling Staff Officer for the Auckland District, was called in, and sworn.

*The President:* The charge against the accused—

*Captain Knyvett:* The witness is mine, and it is for me to ask him.

*The President:* What is the question you wish to ask?

*Captain Knyvett:* I want to ask Captain Dawson what service he has had.

*The President:* That practically goes without saying; it is in the Army List.

*Captain Knyvett:* Yes, but I want it brought out in evidence.

*The President (to Captain Dawson):* Are you an officer of considerable service?

*Captain Dawson:* Two years active service, and fifteen years other service—really two years and three months active service, two years of which were as subaltern in the 1st Border Regiment.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to ask if he is Staff Officer in this district without pay.

*The President (to Captain Dawson):* Are you a Staff Officer in this district without pay?

*Captain Dawson:* Yes.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to ask if, after the Easter manoeuvres, Captain Dawson sent a signalling sergeant-major to instruct—

*The President:* You cannot ask that.

*Captain Knyvett:* I want to show how Colonel Robin interfered with something which was done for the good of the corps.

*The President:* The Court will not allow that question. The question is: Have you been approached by Captain Dawson as to experience of unwarranted interference?

*Captain Knyvett:* I ask you to ask Captain Dawson if, after I arrived back from Wellington, he approached me, and said he had experienced the same unwarranted interference by the Chief of General Staff, and gave to me what his experiences were. I take it that you will not allow me to bring out what the experiences were?

*The President:* No.

The question was put to the witness.

*Captain Dawson:* Yes, sir. I may say that we were all very upset over what occurred at Wellington, and I, among others, saw Captain Knyvett. He told me what had happened in Wellington, and I told him that I had a grievance against the Chief of General Staff, complaints of interference, or what I considered to be interference.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to call Captain Shera, sir.

Captain Shera was called in.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to get the incident, sir, if the Court will permit me?

*The President:* No, I will not allow that.

Captain LOUIS MURRAY SHERA, Officer Commanding No. 3 Company, New Zealand Engineers, was then sworn.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to ask Captain Shera what previous service he has held.

The question was put.

*Captain Shera:* Twelve years in the College Rifles, and about twelve months in No. 3 Company, to which I was transferred from the College Rifles. Active service from February to August, 1902.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to ask if Captain Shera was mentioned in despatches

The question was put.

*Captain Shera:* No, sir.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like to ask if, since my return from Wellington, he approached me, and told me that he had a similar experience of unwarranted interference by the Chief of General Staff.

The question was put.

*Captain Shera:* Yes, sir.

Colour-Sergeant Mackerras was then called in and sworn.

*Captain Knyvett:* I would like the whole of his services put in, sir.

*The President (to Colour-Sergeant Mackerras):* What is your service?

*Colour-Sergeant Mackerras:* I have fifteen years' broken, and ten years' consecutive service, sir. In the Dunedin Highland Rifles 1888, then as a private in the Clutha Mounted Rifles, then as a sergeant in the Feilding Mounted Rifles, and then as a colour-sergeant in the Newton Rifles.

*Captain Knyvett:* Before I put the question I would like the Court to decide. The evidence would bear out the question exactly. I want the Court to ask Colour-Sergeant Mackerras if he approached me since my return from Wellington, and gave me an instance of unwarranted interference by Colonel Robin.

*The President:* The answer must be Yes or No.

The question was put.

*Colour-Sergeant Mackerras:* Yes.

*The President:* The Court will adjourn until 9.30 to-morrow morning.