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JAN 5 1920

THE RESIDENCY,
CAIRO.

December 24th. 1919.

HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR EGYPT.

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(7988).

Dear Eastern Department.,

With reference to your telegrams
Nos. 1291 and 1321 of the 2nd and 9th instant ,
we send you herewith a complete copy of the
proceedings of the Court of Enquiry into the
SHOBAK incident , together with copies of
subsequent correspondence on the matter .

These have reached us just in
time for the mail : they are therefore being
forwarded in this manner , as it seems better
not to hold them up for a formal covering
despatch.

Yours ever,

CAIRO CHANCERY.

27/7/19

(Signed) P. C. Palin,
Major General,
Commanding 75th Division.

(Inter-office minute)

"A"

The Commander-in-Chief has decided that in view
of Major URWICK'S fine record of service, he is to retain the
command of his battalion.

25/8/19

(Signed) R.H. Andrew, Lt. Col.
A. M. S.

Arabic
342 (full text) - 1 -
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First Witness.

ABDUL EL-LATIF ABOU EL-MAQD, having been duly sworn, states:-

"On Saturday 30th March an officer of the police named Sawi Effendi Taher sent a soldier to my father asking him to provide 30 men for the repair of the railway. My father was the Omdah of the village of HAZLET EL-SHOMAK. Before my father could collect the men the train came and stopped near the village. I was in the village at the time and I saw the train arrive. I was then with my father. I then saw some soldiers leave the train and go towards the village. Some were armed and some were not, and some had their coats on and some had not. My father met the soldiers about two minutes walk South of the village near the bridge on the Canal. My father and I accompanied the soldiers into the village. The soldiers commenced taking pigeons and fowls. As we approached the village the soldiers met a woman called Ayiza Mint Khodeir. They searched her and she shouted out for help. Her husband came out of the house with a stick and struck one of the soldiers on the head. The soldier at once shot her husband and he died. This happened inside the village. When this happened my father and I ran away to our house and locked the door. The soldiers then commenced firing in the village. These events occurred about 4 and 5 p.m. About sunset the soldiers came to the house and attacked the door but they did not succeed in entering. My father and I stopped in the house all night. We said our last prayer 1 1/2 hours after sunset. Some time after this the soldiers again attacked the house but were again unsuccessful. It was then quite dark. After sunrise next morning the Police Officer, Sawi Effendi Taher, accompanied by some soldiers, knocked at the door of my father's house. My father at first did not open the door but being reassured by the Police Officer he did so. The soldiers entered the house and searched it. My father went off with the Police Officer and I stopped in the house. After my father had gone 10 soldiers from the neighbouring house jumped on to our roof and entered the house from the roof. My brother and I took refuge in a room and locked the door. The soldiers broke the door open and took me and my brother into another room and they laid a rifle against my side. The soldiers then smashed several things in the house. The soldiers then took my money about £150 in banknotes. They then took me and my brother to the house of the late Omdah and made us sit down with other people. A whistle then sounded and the soldiers went back to the train. There are a few houses belonging to the rich people roofed with wood but most of the houses are roofed with the leaf and stalk of the palm. They are very inflammable. The rich people light their houses by the ordinary method of a loose wick floating in oil. The roofs are strong enough to bear the weight of people walking on the top."

Cross-examined by Counsel for the Military. *Ital centre*

- Q.1. How long has your father been Omdah? -
A.1. One year.
Q.2. Who was the Omdah before that? -
A.2. My cousin, Mohammed Arli Tolba.
Q.3. Are you good friends with him? -
A.3. Yes.
Q.4. When the train stopped, how far was it away from you? -
A.4. The train was 3 or 4 minutes' walk South of the village when it stopped.
Q.5. Did you see the soldiers come down from the train? -
A.5. I did not see them coming down from the train.
Q.6. Where were the soldiers when you saw them? -
A.6. About 50 metres from me.
Q.7. Did you see any soldiers returning to the train at that time? -
A.7. No.

Q.8. Did you hear any firing at that time when you first saw the soldiers?

A.8. No.

Q.9. What number of soldiers did you see come into the village when you were with your father?

A.9. I do not know the exact number but very many.

Q.10. Was it more than 10?

A.10. A lot more than 10.

Q.11. Was it more than 50?

A.11. A lot more than 50.

Q.12. Was it more than 100?

A.12. I do not know if there were more than 100.

Q.13. Do you know the difference between an officer and a soldier?

A.13. No.

Q.14. How many soldiers surrounded Asiza Mint Khedier?

A.14. I do not know the exact number.

Q.15. Were there more than 5?

A.15. I do not know because I was excited.

Q.16. You cannot tell me if there were 3, 13, or 23?

A.16. I am not able to say the number.

Q.17. Was there more than one soldier that put his hands on the woman?

A.17. There was more than one soldier who searched her.

Q.18. How far away were you when the soldiers searched her?

A.18. About 24 metres.

Q.19. Were the soldiers who searched the woman carrying rifles?

A.19. Some were armed and some were not.

Q.20. Was the soldier who received the blow on the head armed?

A.20. I do not know.

Q.21. Do you remember when you gave your evidence before the Mamour Zapt?

A.21. Yes.

Q.22. Did you not say this morning that the soldier who was hit on the head shot the husband?

A.22. Yes.

Q.23. Do you repeat what you then said?

A.23. Yes.

Q.24. When you was giving your evidence before the Mamour Zapt did you not say another soldier fired at him and killed him?

A.24. Yes. I gave evidence that the man was shot by another soldier.

Q.25. Which statement is true?

A.25. The man who shot the husband was not the soldier who was hit on the head by the husband.

Q.26. Therefore the evidence you gave this morning was not true?

A.26. It was not true. I meant to say another soldier shot the husband.

Q.27. After this husband was shot, did you and your father run away directly?

A.27. I immediately ran away to my house and saw my father coming behind me.

Q.28. Did you see anything more of the soldiers?

A.28. No. I saw no soldiers until the next morning but I heard firing in the village during the night and I also heard the fire burning in the village.

- Q. 29. When giving evidence before the Mamour Zapt you said this "the soldiers then began to attack the houses, killing the inhabitants, plundering everything that came in their sight, burning the village, animals and people, and shooting everybody that came in their way". Did you see any of that on your way to the house?
- A. 29. No, I only saw it the following day.
- Q. 30. In your evidence before the Mamour Zapt you said "The soldiers then began to attack the houses".
- A. 30. Yes.
- Q. 31. Then the evidence you gave to the Mamour Zapt was not true?
- A. 31. Yes it is true.
- Q. 32. They cannot both be true, which is true?
- A. 32. I was very upset on the day of the trouble as 6 of my cousins died that day?
- Q. 33. But you cannot know this as you went to your house directly after the soldier had killed the husband of Aziza Bint Khodeir?
- A. 33. I heard it the same day in the evening.
- Q. 34. Who told you?
- A. 34. The villagers.
- Q. 35. Where were the villagers when they told you?
- A. 35. I was amongst the villagers.
- Q. 36. At what time were you amongst the villagers when you heard of the death of your cousins?
- A. 36. I do not know the hour.
- Q. 37. Is it true or not true after you went into your house with your father and shut the door that you stayed there until the next morning?
- A. 37. Yes it is true.
- Q. 38. Then you was not in the village that evening?
- A. 38. No, I heard of the death of my cousins the following day.
- Q. 39. You also said to the Mamour Zapt "another soldier then fired at him and killed him on the spot. Murmurs of rage and discontent filled the air, especially for defaming the honour of such a woman as Aziza and others whom I have not heard and not seen. The soldiers then began to attack the houses". Did you see any of that that Sunday afternoon?
- A. 39. No.
- Q. 40. When the Police Officer came to the house the next morning with soldiers they searched the house for arms didn't they?
- A. 40. Yes.
- Q. 41. They found none and they did not take anything away from the house?
- A. 41. No.
- Q. 42. Did they take your father away?
- A. 42. Yes.
- Q. 43. When these ten soldiers came afterwards were you with your younger brother upstairs or downstairs?
- A. 43. I was in a room on the top story.
- Q. 44. Did these ten soldiers come straight into that room from the roof, or how did they get in?
- A. 44. Yes they came into the room from the roof.
- Q. 45. Why did they have to break the door to pieces?
- A. 45. I do not know.
- Q. 46. You said that they had to break the door open?
- A. 46. Yes.
- Q. 47. Is it a fact that they broke up everything in the house?
- A. 47. They broke the cupboards and empty boxes.
- Q. 48. Did they break open the clothes boxes?
- A. 48. Yes.
- Q. 49. Show me please how the soldier cut open your dress?
- A. 49. He cut the front of it.
- Q. 50. What did the soldier cut open your dress with?
- A. 50. With a bayonet.

- Q.81. Is that all you heard and saw during Sunday and Monday?
- A.82. Yes.
- Q.82. Did you not tell the Mamour Sapt a great many other things?
- A.83. No, I did not.
- Q.83. Did you not tell Mamour Sapt that you saw the train move?
- A.84. No.
- Q.84. Did you tell the Mamour Sapt that 144 houses were burnt?
- A.84. Yes, and I also told him that there were 21 natives killed and 18 wounded.
- Q.85. Are you sure that you told the Mamour Sapt that 21 people were killed?
- A.85. Yes.
- Q.86. Is that all you can say of what happened on Sunday and Monday?
- A.86. Yes.

CROSS EXAMINED BY THE COURT.

Hal centre

- Q.87. You said the soldier shot the husband of the woman Aziza Bint Khodeir?
- A.87. Yes.
- Q.88. Was that the first shot you heard?
- A.88. Yes.
- Q.89. Are you absolutely certain?
- A.89. Yes I am absolutely positive.
- Q.90. When did you hear the next shot fired?
- A.90. Immediately after the first shot I heard many shots.
- Q.91. Were all these shots fired by soldiers or were some fired by the natives?
- A.91. All by soldiers.
- Q.92. Had the natives got any arms in their hands?
- A.92. They had none.
- Q.93. Had they any ~~skags~~ scythes in their hands?
- A.93. No.
- Q.94. Therefore the only native who had any weapon in his hand was the husband who came out with a stick in his hand?
- A.94. I saw no natives carrying any weapons except the husband of Aziza Bint Khodeir who had a stick in his hand as I stated.
- Q.95. Were any natives on the tops of their houses when the soldiers approached?
- A.95. I did not see any.

Second Witness.

MARUD MOHAMMED RAOUF having been duly sworn, states:-

"On the 30th March about 3 p.m. on leaving my house I found an Egyptian soldier near the Omdah's house asking the Omdah to provide 30 men to repair the railway line. The Omdah replied that he would render the service although it was not his duty. While collecting the men a train passed by the village. On the train stopping all the soldiers left the train and entered the village. Some were armed and some were not. Some had coats on and some had not. When the soldiers entered the village the Omdah told them he would give them anything they required. There was a misunderstanding between them because neither of them could understand the other so the soldiers entered the village and began to take pigeons, fowls, etc. A little while afterwards I heard shots fired. I was then told by natives that the soldiers were interfering with the women. I went to my house, locked the door and heard firing. This was about half an hour after the train had stopped. I stayed in my house until after sunrise the next morning. All the night I heard very heavy firing by machine guns and rifles. About 7 o'clock in the morning about 40 soldiers attacked my house and burst in the door. There were 6 women in my house. The women went up to the top storey and the soldiers remained

remained on the ground floor. The soldiers searched me and took away my money \$200 in banknotes and my valuables consisting of gold bracelets, earrings and some ornaments for the breasts. They took away the carpets and some furniture and all the women's clothing and they left nothing. I was driven out of the house by the soldiers. The soldiers then went into the top storey and the women went up on the roof and took refuge in a rabbit house there. The soldiers took away all the good clothing and silks and the carpets from the upper storey. When my father and I were driven out of the house the Qadah accompanied by the Police Officer EKLE Sawie Effendi Taher came to us. The Qadah and the police officer asked the soldiers not to burn the house and my father, myself and brothers were allowed to enter the house. After a while a bugle sounded and the soldiers went away. The soldiers did not touch any of my women. The soldiers took the Qadah with them when they went to the train. I then went to my shop which is in another building. I met a native who told me 5 men had been buried near the Palm trees. I went to see them. I saw there 5 dead bodies. Their heads were lying on the ground. Their legs were under the ground as far as their waists. The bodies and head were uncovered. I saw that they had been hit with bullets and by bayonets. We removed the bodies and took them to the house of the late Qadah. The town was on fire and 144 houses were burnt down. and the soldiers destroyed the greater part of the cattle by shooting them and leaving the bodies on the ground; the sheep they took to the train. I saw no women violated or ill-treated or raped by the soldiers. I saw soldiers setting light to some of the houses. I saw many of them doing so. Some roofs were set on fire by bullets and some soldiers were carrying a tin with some liquid in it which they poured on timber and straw and then set light to it with matches.

Ital centre CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. Was this Sunday or Monday all this took place?
 A.1. From 3 p.m. Sunday until 9 a.m. Monday.
 Q.2. Were you in your house all night?
 A.2. Yes.
 Q.3. Therefore you could not see anything that took place after dark?
 A.3. The village was so bright through burning I could see.
 Q.4. There were bright flames all night long?
 A.4. Yes the flames were bright.
 Q.5. Was it Sunday or Monday that the 40 soldiers came to your house?
 A.5. On Monday morning.
 Q.6. About what hour?
 A.6. About 7 or 8 a.m.
 Q.7. Is your house a high one?
 A.7. Yes.
 Q.8. Is that how you were able to see what there was going on in the village because your house is a high one?
 A.8. Exactly.
 Q.9. Did you go on the roof to see?
 A.9. No I was looking through the windows of the top storey.
 Q.10. Is your house in the middle of the village?
 A.10. It is in the eastern part of the village near the railway line.
 Q.11. Do the windows of the top storey look out on to the railway line?
 A.11. Yes there are windows on four sides.
 Q.12. What is the name of your father?
 A.12. Mohammed Effendi Raouf.
 Q.13. What is your brother's name?
 A.13. Sidik Mohammed Raouf.

- Q.14. Were your father and your brother in the house when the 40 soldiers came ?
- A.14. Yes.
- Q.15. Is your brother here today ?
- A.15. Yes.
- Q.16. Did you see the soldiers take the Omdah to the train ?
- A.16. Yes.
- Q.17. Did you go to the train yourself ?
- A.17. No.
- Q.18. Were you in your house when you saw them take the Omdah to the train.
- A.18. I was outside my house in the eastern part of the village where my shop is.
- Q.19. Can you see the train from your windows ?
- A.19. Yes the train is very near to me - about 35 metres from my house to the train.
- Q.20. Did not the train stop at the South of the village ?
- A.20. Yes, but when the firing commenced the train made a move back North.
- Q.21. How far did it move ?
- A.21. It moved back near the village.
- Q.22. How many metres ?
- A.22. About 200 metres.
- Q.23. Did you see it actually moving ?
- A.23. Yes.
- Q.24. At what time of the day ?
- A.24. About 5 or 5.30 p.m.
- Q.25. On Sunday afternoon how many soldiers went into the village ?
- A.25. About 400. perhaps more.
- Q.26. Were there any soldiers left in the train or did they all go into the village ?
- A.26. I do not know.
- Q.27. While the 400 soldiers were in the village did you see any near the train ?
- A.27. I could not say for certain.
- Q.28. You made certain by looking out of the windows what the soldiers were doing ?
- A.28. Yes.
- Q.29. If you could make certain of what the soldiers were doing in the village, why cannot you make certain of what you saw of the soldiers near the train ?
- A.29. I could see the soldiers in the village but I could not see ~~the~~ any soldiers near the train.
- Q.30. If there had been a number of soldiers by the train you would have seen them ?
- A.30. I do not know.
- Q.31. Were you afraid of being shot at the window ?
- A.31. Yes.
- Q.32. Although you were afraid of being shot at the window you still stayed at the window and saw the soldiers burning the houses ?
- A.32. Yes, I was going from one window to the other frightened that at any moment I might get shot and I saw the soldiers surround the village.
- Q.33. You just said the soldiers surrounded the village. What do you mean by that ?
- A.33. They surrounded the village and some were plundering and shooting people. I saw them doing so.
- Q.34. You say that the soldiers surrounded the village. Were there soldiers inside the village and outside the village ?
- A.34. Yes, the soldiers surrounded the village and some were coming out and some were going in.
- Q.35. They were plundering the houses and killing the people ?
- A.35. They plundered my house and shot my brother in another house.
- Q.36. Did you see with your own eyes the soldiers plundering the houses and killing the people ?
- A.36. Yes, I saw the plundering but I did not see the killing.

- Q. 37. Did you see with your own eyes during the night soldiers pillaging and killing people ?
- A. 37. I was ~~unable~~ unable to see during the night anything outside my house as regards soldiers pillaging and setting fire to the houses or killing people ?
- Q. 38. Did you either by day or during the night see a soldier kill a single person ?
- A. 38. No.
- Q. 39. Did you either by day or during the night see a soldier carrying a carpet or a piece of furniture ?
- A. 39. Yes, during the day.
- Q. 40. How many soldiers did you see ?
- A. 40. Many.
- Q. 41. Was it a big carpet that was being taken away ?
- A. 41. I cannot say as it was rolled up on his shoulder.
- Q. 42. Did you see where the soldier carried these things to ?
- A. 42. I saw the soldiers carrying them and going South to the train.
- Q. 43. Did the train move more than once after it had first stopped ?
- A. 43. Yes, when it stopped it moved back for a time and then returned again to its first place.
- Q. 44. Where was the train when the soldiers were carrying the carpets to it ?
- A. 44. Near the Station in the South and it was in the morning.
- Q. 45. Did you not say that you saw the soldiers in the afternoon of Sunday from the windows of your house taking away the carpets ?
- A. 45. I saw them on Monday morning.
- Q. 46. There you did not see them on Sunday afternoon ?
- A. 46. I did not see them carrying carpets on Sunday afternoon, only on Monday morning.
- Q. 47. On Monday morning when you saw the soldiers carrying away the carpets how many soldiers were there in the village ?
- A. 47. Very many and the Police Officer was with them.
- Q. 48. So they were plundering the houses when the Police Officer was with them ?
- A. 48. The Police Officer was not with them on Monday morning when the plundering took place.
- Q. 49. Do you say that the soldiers did not see the women ?
- A. 49. Yes, they did not see the women.
- Q. 50. Is it true that some soldiers opened the room in which the women were hidden ?
- A. 50. It is not true.
- Q. 51. Is it true that the soldiers dragged the women out of the room and searched them ?
- A. 51. The soldiers drove the women out but they did not search them.
- Q. 52. Why did you tell the Mamour Zapt that the soldiers dragged the women out and searched them since that is not true ?
- A. 52. I mentioned the soldiers drove the women out when they heard the house was going to be burnt but they did not search them. This occurred about 20 minutes before the bugle went.
- Q. 53. Did the Police Officer arrive before or after the women were driven out ?
- A. 53. The Police Officer came before the women were driven out.
- Q. 54. Did the Police Officer speak to the soldiers ?
- A. 54. Yes, he spoke to them in English.
- Q. 55. After he spoke to them in English were there not some other people brought into the house from other houses ?
- A. 55. Yes, they were collecting people and they came to the house.
- Q. 56. So that your women folk were never driven out of the house ?
- A. 56. The women were driven from the house also myself and my father.

- Q.57. Did you say to the Mamour Zapt "The soldiers warned us
"to leave the house as they were going to set fire to it
"but the Police Officer spoke to them and it seemed that he
"requested them to spare it in order to put into it the
"other occupants of the other houses as the house was
"large enough" ?
- A.57. That is true.
- Q.58. So that the women were not driven out of the house ?
- A.58. They went out to the bridge and we returned again to
the house.
- Q.59. You said you were driven out, also your father ?
- A.59. Yes and the women as well.
- Q.60. Where did the women go ?
- A.60. They went along to the bridge.
- Q.61. Did you go out of the house at the same time ?
- A.61. Yes.
- Q.62. Where did you go ?
- A.62. Over to the bridge.
- Q.63. How do you know what took place in your house while you
was out at the bridge ?
- A.63. What happened happened in my presence.
- Q.64. Why did you say there were 144 houses burnt ?
- A.64. I counted them.
- Q.65. On what day ?
- A.65. Two days after the fire.
- Q.66. Did you count the number of houses that were not burnt ?
- A.66. No.
- Q.67. When the Police Officer came on Monday morning did you
complain to him of what the soldiers had done to your
furniture ?
- A.67. I did not say anything.
- Q.68. Were shots being fired when the Police Officer came to
your house ?
- A.68. Yes.
- Q.69. That was on Monday morning ?
- A.69. Yes.
- Q.70. Had the 5 dead bodies been buried ?
- A.70. Yes.
- Q.71. How were they buried ?
- A.71. One along side the other.
- Q.72. Were the heads towards the village or towards the railway ?
- A.72. I am not certain but I think the heads were in the
direction of S.E.
- Q.73. Where was the spot ?
- A.73. Outside the village near the train, about 50 metres off
the train.
- Q.74. Did you not say that your house was 30 metres off the
train ?
- A.74. Yes.
- Q.75. So this place where the bodies were buried was between your
house and the village ?
- A.75. It was is South of my house.
- Q.76. When did you first go to the Muderia about this business ?
- A.76. I do not know the exact date but just after it happened.
- Q.77. Who asked you to go to the Muderia ?
- A.77. No one told me.
- Q.78. How did you go to the Muderia ?
- A.78. In a boat.
- Q.79. Anybody else with you ?
- A.79. Yes there were a good many people.
- Q.80. Who were they ?
- A.80. Mahommed Kordi and Mahmoud Ibrahaim Abdul Hadi.
- Q.81. Was the first witness in the boat ?
- A.81. Yes he was.
- Q.82. Did you go more than once to the Muderia ?
- A.82. I think I went twice.

12/4/1918

FOURTH WITNESS.

MAIDMOM AHMED OOMA having been duly sworn, states:-

On the 30th March I was at Giza. I returned to the village on the 2nd April. I found the greater part of the village burnt down. My own house was burnt down. None of my family had been hurt with the exception of a daughter of my brother, a girl named Omsaad Okasha 3 years of age. She had been hit by a bullet in the left eye. She was wounded. I heard, on my return to the village, that the soldiers had attacked and violated some of the women but I know this is only hearsay evidence and of no value as I did not reach the village myself until the 2nd April.

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY

- Q1. Was your house burnt down or was it only the furniture that was burnt ?
- A.1. The house, furniture and wood-work were burnt down and I estimate the damage at £300.
- Q.2. Are you an educated man ?
- A.2. Yes.
- Q.3. Do you read and write ?
- A.3. Yes.
- Q.4. When you heard these stories on the 2nd April did you make a report to anybody ?
- A.4. I made a written report to the Muderia on the 7th April.
- Q.5. Did you go to the Muderia yourself on the 7th April ?
- A.5. Yes with the written report.
- Q.6. Did you go ~~back~~ again to the Muderia ?
- A.6. No. On my being asked I did not go afterwards to the Muderia.
- Q.7. Were you not at the Muderia on the 12th April ?
- A.7. Yes. I remember I went there with my wounded niece and her mother.
- Q.8. Did you sign your own statement on the 12th April ?
- A.8. No. I signed the statement on the 7th April. The investigation went on from the 7th to the 12th April.

FIFTH WITNESS *12/4-1918*

HUSSEIN SAYED EL MOHR having been duly sworn states:-

On the 30th March I was in my house in the village when the train approached the village. I saw the train arrive. I saw British soldiers coming dast from the train towards the village. Some were armed and some were not. Some had their jackets on and some had not. They came up to the door of my house which I locked. Before I locked the door I saw the soldiers taking some fowls. They came up to the door and found it shut. They went into the next house. There were many soldiers. When I was in my house my brother came along with some English soldiers and knocked at my door. I would not open the door because there were English soldiers there. I finally opened the door. My brother entered the house and the soldiers remained outside. While I was in my house I heard shots being fired. The soldiers then forced the door. My women were in my house. The soldiers entered the house. There were about 14 to 17 soldiers. On entering the house the soldiers forced the door of the shop at the back of the house. My brother and I took the women on to the top storey leaving no natives on the bottom storey. Some of the soldiers followed us up to the top storey and some remained below. All the women were in one room on the top storey and my brother and myself were outside holding the door fast. The soldiers broke open the door where the women were and my brother and myself were still outside. The soldiers then advanced on my wife

who shouted for help. I was standing then at the door with my brother. When my wife screamed a soldier pointed his rifle at me. The woman shouted again for help and my brother went into the room and a soldier who was already in the room shot him. My brother fell to the ground. I was still standing at the door of the room. As my brother fell I entered the room and came up to my brother when I saw a soldier had taken off his shorts and was up against a woman. I am sure that this soldier had shorts although some of the soldiers had shorts and others had trousers and puttees. The woman was on the ground and the soldier was standing. The woman was naked except for a few clothes round the upper part of the body. While I was standing at the door and I heard my wife's screams I saw the soldier taking the clothes off my wife. I saw with my eyes a soldier lying on my wife and violating her. I did not see any other soldier violate any other woman. I did not see any other woman in that room with her clothes off. There were 3 women in that room - my wife, my second wife and my mother. It was my first wife named Ayaasha who was violated. She is about 30 or 35 years old. My second wife is older than my first wife. I then took my wounded brother outside the door and the soldiers spent from half an hour to an hour in the room with the 3 women and 5 children. There were 4 boys and one girl ages varying from 12 years and below. There were about 5 or 6 soldiers who remained in the room and the rest were in the house. The soldiers then left the house. This occurred before the prayer after sunset and after 3 p.m. I am certain that no woman was violated except Ayaasha. Before sunset another group of soldiers came in as the door was open. They found nothing there as the house had already been looted. They went out again at once and did not violate or attack any woman. Two rooms of my house were then burning and I tried to put out the fire. We slept in the house and nothing happened except that I heard firing going on during the night. Next morning I saw some soldiers strolling in the streets with some fowls and saucepans in their hands. I recognised two of my saucepans in their hands. I found my donkey was shot the next morning. About 11 a.m. I heard a whistle and I saw the soldiers and they were going to the bridge near the train.

GROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSELX FOR THE MILITARY. *Jal*

- Q.1. Why did you say this to the Mudir: "I think no women escaped that disgrace as the soldiers remained in the village from the afternoon until the next morning" when you have just said "The soldiers remained between half an hour and one hour and no other but my first wife was violated?"
- A.1. It was what I heard, but my evidence is true that no woman but Ayaasha was raped in my house.
- Q.2. About what time was it your wounded brother left the house?
- A.2. He stayed the night in the house and left a little before noon on the 31st March.
- Q.3. Is your brother dead?
- A.3. He is dead and buried.
- Q.4. What date did he die?
- A.4. He died in my house before the first morning prayer on the 31st March.
- Q.5. What was your brother?
- A.5. He was Chief Ghaffir.
- Q.6. Then he had a gun?
- A.6. He had no gun when he came into my house.
- Q.7. When the second lot of soldiers came, what time was that?
- A.7. Before sunset on the 30th March.
- Q.8. Did any soldiers come to your house the next morning?
- A.8. Some soldiers did come on Monday morning and they took two saucepans.
- Q.9. What time was this?
- A.9. Just after sunrise.

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- Q. 34. During that night did you hear any noise in the village ?
 A. 34. I do not remember.
 Q. 35. Next morning did you see the Police Officer ?
 A. 35. I cannot tell as I was agitated.
 Q. 36. You came out of the oven the next morning did you not ?
 A. 36. Yes.
 Q. 37. And you came out of the house into the street ?
 A. 37. Yes.
 Q. 38. When you came out of the house into the street did you see the Police Officer ?
 A. 38. I cannot say for certain.
 Q. 39. Do you remember seeing anybody at all - any living men ?
 A. 39. I cannot tell.
 Q. 40. Who buried your husband ?
 A. 40. The villagers after the English had gone.
 Q. 41. From the village ?
 A. 41. Yes.
 Q. 42. Do you remember seeing any other soldiers except the soldiers who were between you and the pump ?
 A. 42. No.
 Q. 43. Do you remember seeing any single native that afternoon or the next morning early beside Abdul Latif ?
 A. 43. No.
 Q. 44. Did you/husband actually hit the soldier on the head ?
 A. 44. No my husband intended to release me from their hands.
 Q. 45. Did he not hit the soldier on the head or on any other part of the body ?
 A. 45. No, never.

RE EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q. 46. The house you went into the next morning, was it the ex-Omdah's house or the present Omdah's house ?
 A. 46. The ex-Omdah's house.
 Q. 47. Did you hear any firing during the night ?
 A. 47. I heard much firing.
 Q. 48. When you stand before the door of your house can you see the pump ?
 A. 48. No.
 Q. 49. Where is the pump situated, in the same street or in a lane ?
 A. 49. The pump is in another lane.
 Q. 50. Did you see the wound on your husband's body ?
 A. 50. Yes.
 Q. 51. On which part of the body was it ?
 A. 51. Under the nipple near his heart.
 Q. 52. Was there any other wound ?
 A. 52. In his hand and in his forehead.
 Q. 53. The one in his hand and forehead, was it caused by a bullet or by another instrument ?
 A. 53. It was a bullet wound.
 Q. 54. Did you not see the Omdah at all either on Sunday or on Monday ?
 A. 54. No never.

CROSS EXAMINED BY THE COURT.

- Q. 55. Did you see the train arrive ?
 A. 55. No I was in my house.
 Q. 56. Did you see the soldier fire at your husband ?
 A. 56. Yes.
 Q. 57. Was that the first shot you heard fired that day ?
 A. 57. Yes.

SEVENTH DAY.

full witness
SIXTEENTH WITNESS.

In consequence of Major W. Allard probably being demobilized and sent to the U.S. next week the Court ordered his evidence to be taken now.

Major W. ALLARD R.E. (R.S.) attached Inland Water Transport R.E. having been duly sworn, states:-

"I am an officer in the Inland Water Transport R.E. In the early part of 1919 that service brought charges against two villagers of Shobak of theft of Army cereals. Convictions were secured and a sentence of three years imprisonment on each was imposed. Subsequently Warrants were issued for the arrest of the Sheikh of the Ghaffirs and of another villager of charges connected with the abovementioned case. These men have since been arrested and released on bail."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q.1. Can you please say whether these natives belonged to the village of Nazlet El Shobak or to another village ?
- A.1. They belonged to the village of Shobak el Gharbi.
- Q.2. You told us just now that charges were brought against the Sheikh of the Ghaffirs and another villager, and that they were arrested because of something relative to this previous case. Can you please tell us any details of the charges brought against them ?
- A.2. Of complicity in the theft of the Army cereals.
- Q.3. What kind of complicity was it that they took part in - stealing or did they help those that stole ?
- A.3. I do not know.

RE-EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.4. Can you read Arabic ?
- A.4. Yes.
- Q.5. Kindly read that map. Will you please tell me the Arabic written there ?
- A.5. The dwellings of the village of Shobak El-Gharbi.
- Q.6. Do you know this part of the Province yourself ?
- A.6. I have seen it from the river.
- Q.7. As far as you know is there another village called Shobak close by ?
- A.7. There is one on the other side of the river called Shobak el-Sharqi.
- Q.8. What does that mean in English ?
- A.8. Western Shobak.

~~SEVENTH DAY~~ TWENTIETH WITNESS.

GALAL ABDUL WAHED having been duly sworn, states :-

"When they were sitting in the village in the afternoon with the ladies we heard firing. We were sitting inside the house. My father looked out and they told him that the English were taking away women. I closed five doors. This was on the Sunday after the evening prayer probably between 4 and 5 p.m. The soldiers broke four doors and came into the house and took all the fowls and all that they found inside. In the morning after sunrise they came to the door in which we were hiding and they came in. My father met them. They took hold of the women and pulled them and my father said leave them alone. My father said I will come

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down with the women wherever they go. They fired 5 shots at my father and they caught hold of me and they told me to bring out the money from my father's pockets. I took the money out and they took it away and they said to us go out as we are going to burn the house. They then sent us to the room where we receive guests and they took away the carpets. One carpet was taken by a soldier but the Police Officer took it from him. The soldiers set fire to the house and they fired at a Buffalo and a little calf and they set fire to half the house. There is a court yard dividing the house in the middle. There is a place to sit down on one side and a place to sit down on the other side and there is a place to receive guests near the embankment. I am 13 years of age. (note by the Court in the proces verbal this witness is described as 30 years of age. The Court got the Omdah of the village to identify this witness as Gelaf Abdul Wahed and the Court came to the conclusion that in the proces verbal it is a misprint for 13 years in the description of his age).

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. Did you make a statement to the Mamour at Giza?
 A.1. Yes I was sick on that day and I could not speak properly.
- Q.2. How many doors are there to your father's house?
 A.2. Five doors from the court yard.
- Q.3. How many outside doors are there?
 A.3. There is a door from the guest's room and another from the harem for the ladies.
- Q.4. You told the Mamour that there were 3 entrances?
 A.4. I was sick on that day and I did not remember distinctly. I was frightened.
- Q.5. What were you frightened of when you saw the Mamour?
 A.5. They killed my father in the front room.
- Q.6. The day you saw the Mamour was 15 or 16 days after your father died was it not?
 A.6. I do not know.
- Q.7. You told the Mamour the soldiers shattered 2 doors one day and the third the next morning. Is that true?
 A.7. I was very sick.
- Q.8. What I want to know is, is it true the soldiers broke two doors one day and the third door the next morning?
 A.8. They broke 4 doors between after evening prayer on the 30th March and sunrise the next morning.
- Q.9. And then they broke the 5th door, did they?
 A.9. The next day after sunrise they broke the 5th door.
- Q.10. Did they come into the house on the afternoon of Sunday?
 A.10. No.
- Q.11. Did they come into the house first on the Sunday afternoon or on Monday morning?
 A.11. At evening prayer, i.e., between 4 and 5 p.m. on Sunday. They fired shots and a little after the English soldiers first entered my father's house.
- Q.12. What day was it your father was killed - Sunday afternoon or Monday morning?
 A.12. It was on Monday after the had broken the 5th door after sunrise.
- Q.13. What did they do when they came in on Sunday afternoon at the hour of prayer?
 A.13. They took away money, jewellery, and brass work and a coffee set worth £5 which we only used when we were visited by notable people.
- Q.14. Where did they find the money?
 A.14. As soon as they fired at my father I took the money out of his pockets and gave it to them.

- Q.15. But they did not fire at your father until the next morning after sunrise, did they ?
- A.15. Yes.
- Q.16. What I want to know is what they did after they came into the house on the Sunday afternoon ?
- A.16. They took away rugs, carpets, and beds and they killed a buffalo and its little calf and they took away brass work.
- Q.17. They took all that away, did they on the Sunday afternoon ?
- A.17. They took these things away on Sunday after evening prayer.
- Q.18. Where was your father when they took away these things on Sunday at evening prayer ?
- A.18. He was in the Upper room which has the fifth door.
- Q.19. Then the fifth door does not go on to the street.
- A.19. No.
- Q.20. Inside the house ?
- A.20. Yes.
- Q.21. The fifth door does not go onto the street, it is inside the house. Is it the part belonging to the harem ?
- A.21. Yes.
- Q.22. So, that while they were taking away these things on the Sunday afternoon your father was upstairs in the Harem room ?
- A.22. Yes.
- Q.23. And where were you ?
- A.23. I was with them.
- Q.24. Was that fifth door shut ?
- A.24. Yes.
- Q.25. So that you could not see what the soldiers were doing ?
- A.25. We saw that they took these things after we came down.
- Q.26. It was after you came down ?
- A.26. Yes.
- Q.27. When you came down you found that these things had been taken away ?
- A.27. Yes, they had been taken away.
- Q.28. So that when you came down there were no soldiers left in the house ?
- A.28. We saw about 25 soldiers still inside the house.
- Q.29. When you came down, did your father go down with you ?
- A.29. My father was lying dead upstairs.
- Q.30. So that it was after your father was killed you saw the 25 soldiers ?
- A.30. About 10 of them came up and they were those who killed my father.
- Q.31. Did those 10 men come up in the morning after sunrise ?
- A.31. Yes.
- Q.32. So that all night long you was with your father and your mother and your brother's wife and your uncle's wife upstairs ?
- A.32. Yes.
- Q.33. You were all upstairs in the room with the fifth door all night long ?
- A.33. Yes.
- Q.34. Did you see the soldiers who came in at the afternoon prayer or did you only hear them ?
- A.34. We only heard firing.
- Q.35. I want you to answer the question. I want you to say whether you saw with your own eyes the soldiers come in on Sunday afternoon at the hour of prayer ?
- A.35. We did not see them but we heard them.
- Q.36. The next morning after sunrise, did you see these ten soldiers who came upstairs ?
- A.36. I saw them.
- Q.37. It was then they broke open the door of the room of the Harem ?
- A.37. Yes.

- Q. 38. Do you remember whether these ten soldiers were carrying rifles ?
- A. 38. Yes they were.
- Q. 39. Do you remember how these ten soldiers were dressed ?
- A. 39. Some of them had bare arms and others had shorts and others had covered arms up to their wrists.
- Q. 40. What did those men do to these women ?
- A. 40. They did not do anything, they only sent them downstairs to the guests' room.
- Q. 41. Did they touch any of the women ?
- A. 41. They did not do anything to them.
- Q. 42. Do you remember you told the Mamour "They dragged the women by the hair" ?
- A. 42. I was sick on the day I gave evidence before the Mamour and I said things mixed up.
- Q. 43. You are not sick now, are you ?
- A. 43. Yes I am still sick.
- Q. 44. Are you frightened now ?
- A. 44. Yes.
- Q. 45. It is quite true, is it, that they did not touch these women ?
- A. 45. They only sent them downstairs but they did not touch them.
- Q. 46. Did they send you down with the women ?
- A. 46. Yes.
- Q. 47. And your father stayed upstairs ?
- A. 47. My father was already dead upstairs .
- Q. 48. So they killed your father before they sent the women downstairs ?
- A. 48. Yes.
- Q. 49. And you were there when they killed your father ?
- A. 49. Yes.
- Q. 50. Do you remember how many shots they fired at him ?
- A. 50. Five shots.
- Q. 51. You told the Mamour that they fired two shots ?
- A. 51. I do not remember.
- Q. 52. Did any of the soldiers speak Arabic ?
- A. 52. Yes, some of them did.
- Q. 53. What Arabic words did they use.
- A. 53. They only made a sign with their hands to go downstairs.
- Q. 54. And when they told you to take the money out of your father's pocket, how did they tell you ?
- A. 54. They gaught hold of my hand and put it in my father's pocket and I understood what they wanted.
- Q. 55. So you think there were ten of them ?
- A. 55. Yes.
- Q. 56. Did these ten soldiers carry anything away with them besides the money from your father's pocket ?
- A. 56. They opened the chest of drawers and they set fire to four rooms.
- Q. 57. Did they take anything out of the chest of drawers ?
- A. 57. I do not know.
- Q. 58. And they set fire to four rooms, did they ?
- A. 58. Yes.
- Q. 59. Were the soldiers downstairs or upstairs when they set fire to the four rooms ?
- A. 59. They were upstairs .
- Q. 60. So there are four rooms upstairs ?
- A. 60. There are four rooms on one side and four rooms on the other side.
- Q. 61. Do you remember how they set fire to the four rooms ?
- A. 61. They had something in their hands like a bottle. I saw something like water come out of the bottle and when this liquid was being thrown the soldiers would fire at it with a rifle.
- Q. 62. Did you see the Police Officer come that morning ?
- A. 62. Yes.

- Q. 63. When the Police Officer came were any of the soldiers there ?
- A. 63. Yes they were coming in and going out.
- Q. 64. Did you hear the Police Officer speak to the soldiers ?
- A. 64. The Police Officer stopped a soldier and I saw the soldier bring back the carpet.
- Q. 65. Was the house on fire when the Police Officer came ?
- A. 65. Yes, but the Police Officer did not go upstairs, he remained at the door of the Guests' Room.
- Q. 66. Did you speak to the Police Officer ?
- A. 66. No.
- Q. 67. Did you not say to him they have killed my father ?
- A. 67. I did not speak to him.
- Q. 68. Did he speak to you ?
- A. 68. No he did not.
- Q. 69. When the Police Officer came to the door of the Guests' chamber were the women of the harem downstairs ?
- A. 69. Yes they were downstairs.
- Q. 70. Did you hear the Police Officer speak to the women ?
- A. 70. I do not remember.
- Q. 71. Do you not remember your mother speaking to the Police Officer ?
- A. 71. I do not remember.

COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES DID NOT RE EXAMINE THIS WITNESS.

CROSS EXAMINED BY THE COURT.

- Q. 72. Were the women in the harem when your father was shot ?
- A. 72. They were with my father when they shot him .
- Q. 73. Would the women have seen your father shot ?
- A. 73. Yes.
- Q. 74. Your father was shot upstairs, was he not ?
- A. 74. Yes.
- Q. 75. Was your father's body burnt ?
- A. 75. No, after the soldiers had gone away we carried it down.

TWENTY FIRST WITNESS.

MAHOMMED KHO DEIR having been duly sworn, states :-

"On Monday the 31st March, about mid-day while we were bringing water to extinguish the fire in the village, I saw Mahmud Mahommed Effendi walking by. I asked him where are you going ? He said there are five dead bodies near the palm trees in the South, come along let us go and see who they are, and we went there. We saw five bodies lying together buried up to their waists. They were shot with bullets and mutilated with bayonets. I saw one struck with a bayonet in the mouth and the Sheikh of the village was shot by a bullet in the temple and one had a bayonet wound in the right shoulder. They were covered with grass and we saw the wounds when we had taken away the grass. We took them out and we carried them away."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q. 1. Were their heads on the ground ?
- A. 1. Yes.
- Q. 2. What was it that covered them up to the ~~XXXX~~ waists ?
- A. 2. They were covered with earth as far as their waists.

- Q.3. What was the top part of the bodies covered with ?
 A.3. Grass over their faces.
 Q.4. You are quite sure there was no earth over their shoulders ?
 A.4. No.
 Q.5. All five were covered in the same way ?
 A.5. Yes. All in the same way.
 Q.6. The man who had the bayonet wound in the right shoulder,
 was he the same man who had the bayonet wound in the mouth?
 A.6. No.
 Q.7. Did each one of the five men have bayonet wounds?
 A.7. Everyone of them had a bayonet wound.
 Q.8. And one of them had a bayonet wound in the right shoulder ?
 A.8. Yes.
 Q.9. And one of them a bayonet wound in the mouth ?
 A.9. Yes.
 Q.10. Where did the third have a bayonet wound ?
 A.10. I am not sure where the other ones were. They all had
 mutilated faces smeared with blood.
 Q.11. So that their faces might have been mutilated by bullet
 wounds ?
 A.11. No. As I could distinguish which were the bullet wounds.
 Q.12. Did any of the other three have bayonet wounds in the face ?
 A.12. I am sure two had bayonet wounds and the other three were
 mutilated with cuts on their faces.
 Q.13. The wound on the shoulder, did that look as if that had been
 cut with a knife ?
 A.13. Yes.
 Q.14. The cuts on the faces of the other three, did they look as
 if they had been cut with a knife ?
 A.14. I am not sure.
 Q.15. Which way were the bodies lying, north, south, east or west ?
 A.15. Their feet were to the N.W. and their heads to the S.E.

RE EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q.16. Can you mention to the Court the names of the persons you
 found as just described ?
 A.16. Yes, Abdul Ghani Ibrahim Tolba, Abdul Rahim Ibrahim Tolba,
 El Sayed Abdul Ghani Tolba, Khafaga Marzeuk, Abdul Samad
 Aboul Secud. The last man is known by the name of El Oukby.
 Q.17. Did you see the lower part of the bodies after you took
 them out of the ground ?
 A.17. Yes, the lower parts had no wounds.
 Q.18. When you first saw the bodies when they were in the ground,
 were they in an upright position or in a reclining position ?
 A.18. They were in a reclining position on their backs.
 Q.19. Can you mention the names of the persons, or summon them,
 who assisted in getting out the bodies and burying them
 afterwards ?
 A.19. Yes, Aly Sayed Ahmed Magata, Abdul El Mouem Ibrahim Tolba.
 Q.20. I notice in the names of the dead people that the surnames
 are always the same, are they relatives ?
 A.20. They have the same family name, they are the Sheikh of the
 village, his brother and his son. These have the surnames
 of Tolba.
 Q.21. When you saw the bodies did you have the impression that they
 were buried alive and then fired at, or to the contrary ?
 A.21. I cannot say.

THE COURT DID NOT CROSS EXAMINE THIS WITNESS.

TWENTY SECOND WITNESS.

ABD el MOULIN IBRAHIM TOLBA having been duly sworn,
states :-

"On Sunday the 30th March I was sitting with my brother who was Sheikh of the village and with my other brother and with my other brother Abdul Rahim Ibrahim Tolba and El Sayed Abdul Ghani Tolba the son of Abdul Ghani Ibrahim Tolba, who is Sheikh of the village. While we were sitting at our house the Sheikh of the Ghaffirs came in and spoke to the Sheikh of the village. He said, come along because there is a native soldier who has come to the Omdah. He told him that they had come to recruit natives. The Sheikh of the village went with the Sheikh of the Ghaffirs. We remained sitting there. A little while afterwards we saw English soldiers in the streets. We went upstairs and we looked out and saw soldiers in the streets taking away chickens and fowls. A little while afterwards we heard firing in the northern part of the village. A little while afterwards the Sheikh of the village came back to our house. We opened the door and he came in and then we shut the door again. We could see the fire and could hear the shots. This was before sunset and after evening prayer. We remained there until sunset. Some English soldiers came to our house. There were many. They forced the gate and the gate fell on the ground. As soon as I saw the gate open I ran upstairs and I left the three other men downstairs. The soldiers then came inside and took them away. Their names were Abdul Ghani Ibrahim Tolba, Abdul Rahim Ibrahim Tolba, and El Sayed Abdul Ghani Tolba. I remained in the house but firing went on until the next morning. About mid-day the next day the Police Officer came. The Police Officer went away with the English soldiers and we were quiet in our minds. After the English soldiers had gone I went out to enquire about the three persons who had been taken away. The people told me they have also taken away the Omdah so I was quiet in my mind. At about midday or a little after, some people told me that there were somebodies buried near the palm-trees so we went there and found five bodies. They were buried to their waists. Some of them were shot with bullets and others were cut with bayonets. We took them out. The upper part of their bodies were covered with grass and some of them were covered with pieces of canvas. We uncovered the earth and took them out. We saw that they were the five people whose names have already been given to the Court. The witness mentioned the names. We carried them away to the village and buried them."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. Those 3 men that were in your house, did any of them say they had been struggling with the soldiers ?
A.1. No.
Q.2. Had they any signs of conflict, on them, such as wounds or cuts ?
A.2. The only man that went out of the house was the Sheikh of the village.
Q.3. You were first of all in the house, with whom ?
A.3. I was first in the house with Abdul Ghani Ibrahim Tolba, Abdul Rahim Ibrahim Tolba, and El Sayed Abdul Ghani Tolba.
Q.4. Who was it who first came to you ?
A.4. The Sheikh of the Ghaffirs.
Q.5. Was that before sunset or after sunset ?
A.5. At sunset.
Q.6. You said they had been asked to get recruits ?
A.6. The Sheikh of the Ghaffirssaid to the Sheikh of the village that the Egyptian Police had come and told him that they want to recruit some of the natives to help to repair the railway line.

- Q.7. Did you see with your own eyes that some rails had been removed ?
- A.7. No.
- Q.8. You had heard before that Sunday that the rails had been removed ?
- A.8. No.
- Q.9. You did not know that the railway had been touched at all ?
- A.9. No.
- Q.10. When you went upstairs, did you go onto your roof ?
- A.10. Not on the roof.
- Q.11. In the upper storey ?
- A.11. Yes.
- Q.12. When you were in the upper storey, you looked out of the window and saw the soldiers, is that it ?
- A.12. Yes.
- Q.13. Had you got any weapons in your house ?
- A.13. No.
- Q.14. That afternoon you had no weapons in your house ?
- A.14. No, we had no arms at all.
- Q.15. Have you got any agricultural implements that you use for the fields ?
- A.15. No.
- Q.16. Not a scythe ?
- A.16. No.
- Q.17. What is your business ?
- A.17. I am a fellah, only the labourers in the fields know how to reap. I only hire and let land.
- Q.18. You had land belonging to you ?
- A.18. Yes.
- Q.19. But you have no agricultural implements ?
- A.19. No.
- Q.20. Was there anybody else looking out of the windows when you were looking out ?
- A.20. Not from my house.
- Q.21. Did you go upstairs before the soldiers or only afterwards ?
- A.21. As soon as they forced open the door, I ran upstairs.
- Q.22. Did you go upstairs before the soldiers forced the gate or the little door ?
- A.22. Before they opened the small door.
- Q.23. You went upstairs before they opened the first door ?
- A.23. Yes.
- Q.24. Did you go upstairs before they forced the gate ?
- A.24. No, after they had forced it open I went upstairs.
- Q.25. Did any of the other three persons go upstairs before the soldiers forced the gate ?
- A.25. No, I went upstairs alone and I left them downstairs.
- Q.26. How many soldiers forced the gate ?
- A.26. Ten or fifteen I do not know.
- Q.27. Do you know the difference between an Officer and an ordinary soldier ?
- A.27. I do not know, some had their arms bare, some their knees bare, and others had long trousers.
- Q.28. How were the dead bodies lying - side by side ?
- A.28. Side by side.
- Q.29. How were they lying ?
- A.29. With their faces turned to the S.E.
- Q.30. Which way did their feet turn ?
- A.30. North - their heads were to the South, and their faces towards the East.
- Q.31. Were the faces turned over to the right shoulder ?
- A.31. I do not remember.
- Q.32. Had the Sheikh Abdul Ghani Ibrahim Tolba any wounds on him ?
- A.32. He had a bayonet wound.
- Q.33. On what part of the body was the bayonet wound ?
- A.33. I do not know because they were smeared with blood.
- Q.34. Had Abdul Rehim Ibrahim Tolba any bayonet wounds ?
- A.34. Yes.

- Q. 7. Had you seen with your own eyes that some rails had been removed?
- A. 7. No.
- Q. 8. You had heard before that Sunday that the rails had been removed?
- A. 8. No.
- Q. 9. You did not know that the railway had been touched at all?
- A. 9. No.
- Q. 10. When you went upstairs, did you go onto your roof?
- A. 10. Not on the roof.
- Q. 11. In the upper storey?
- A. 11. Yes.
- Q. 12. When you were in the upper storey, you looked out of the window and saw the soldiers, is that it?
- A. 12. Yes.
- Q. 13. Had you got any weapons in your house?
- A. 13. No.
- Q. 14. That afternoon you had no weapons in your house?
- A. 14. No, we had no arms at all.
- Q. 15. Have you got any agricultural implements that you use for the fields?
- A. 15. No.
- Q. 16. Not a scythe?
- A. 16. No.
- Q. 17. What is your business?
- A. 17. I am a fellah, only the labourers in the fields know how to reap. I only hire and let land.
- Q. 18. You had land belonging to you?
- A. 18. Yes.
- Q. 19. But you have no agricultural implements?
- A. 19. No.
- Q. 20. Was there anybody else looking out of the windows when you were looking out?
- A. 20. Not from my house.
- Q. 21. Did you go upstairs before the soldiers or only afterwards?
- A. 21. As soon as they forced open the door, I ran upstairs.
- Q. 22. Did you go upstairs before the soldiers forced the gate or the little door?
- A. 22. Before they opened the small door.
- Q. 23. You went upstairs before they opened the first door?
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- A. 33. I do not know because they were smeared with blood.
- Q. 34. Had Abdul Rehman Ibrahim Tolba any bayonet wounds?
- A. 34. Yes.

him to hand over to me these people because they were frightened. The British Officer said alright take them. I took them and put them all in a house. I, with the 6 or 7 English soldiers went out to look for the Omdah. There was then a British Officer with me. We went to the Omdah's house. I knocked at the gate and no one replied but the natives told me that the Omdah was inside the house with the door locked. Some of the natives said "Omdah, come out, this is the Police Officer". No one came out. I myself said "I am the Police Officer, come out". He came out. I said we want to search your house. He said "alright". We searched the house but we did not find any arms. The British Officer and the six or seven soldiers came into the house. Some of them stopped at the gate outside, and two or three came into the house to search, also an Egyptian Policeman, a Corporal. I forgot to mention that the Egyptian Policeman (a Corporal) had come with me that morning from the Police Station and had accompanied me throughout. This Egyptian Police Corporal had not been with me the previous afternoon.. After we went out of the Omdah's house we went to other houses which we searched. We searched the other houses but we did not find any arms or ammunition but we saw that one of the English soldiers (not one of the six or seven who were with us) was carrying a native blunderbuss and he said he had found it in one of the houses. After that I met another British Officer and I told him we have finished searching and we did not find anything. While we were passing I heard a woman shouting Effendi. I went into her house. I asked her what is the matter. I saw in her house two or three soldiers. The soldiers were standing and so was she. They were carrying their arms. I asked her what was the matter and she said I am afraid lest they should do something to me. I said have they not done anything and she said No. I do not know her name but I took her away, and put her with other woman in a house. This occurred before the bugle sounded. After I had taken the woman to the house we found in a house in the village a woman who was burnt and we also found two dead bodies. I should mention that when I spoke to the British Officer and told him that we had searched all the village about five minutes afterwards a bugle sounded and the soldiers went out from the village. The Officer to whom I said we had finished the houses took the Omdah whom he found standing with us and went to the train. The Omdah asked me in Arabic "why are they taking me away". I asked the British Officer the question and he said we want to interrogate him in the train. They took him into the train and the train moved away southwards. I went with Omdah and the Officer to the train. I got on to the train and travelled in it to Mazghouna railway station. I left the Egyptian Policeman (a Corporal) in the village when I walked away to the train with the Omdah and the British Officer. The six or seven British soldiers that had started from the train with me had been with me throughout until we had finished searching for arms I alighted from the train at Mazghouna and the train continued moving southwards. About 10.30 a.m. I mounted my horse and rode back to the village. I and some natives searched for wounded. We found the bodies of about 14 killed in the fields in the vicinity of the village. These were besides the three others whom we had already found in the village. I think we also found ten or twelve wounded. The dead were buried by their relatives. At about mid-day I returned to Mazghouna. After we had discovered the killed and wounded I wired to the Mudir. I remember a part of it. I said "H.E. Mudir. When the construction train arrived and stopped at Nazlet el Shobak to repair the line English soldiers alighted from the train unarmed and the natives attacked them and the soldiers were forced to get their arms. The English Commandant told me that he has English soldiers wounded and that of the natives 17 were dead and some are wounded and some houses in the village are burnt and we do not know the reason".

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I think on the 14th or 15th April (I do not remember the exact date) I was summoned by telephone by the Mudir saying come up to the Mudiria. I went to the Mudiria and I found them enquiring into these incidents. They interrogated me and I gave my replies. I forgot to mention that on the first day that I heard firing and when I ran to the train I found 3 natives with a British Officer saying to them "Tell us all about the arms in the village". The British Officer was speaking in Arabic. I asked the British Officer what about these arms. He said the arms with which the natives attacked the British soldiers. One of the 3 was the Sheikh of the village. I asked the Sheikh of the village how is it that the natives had attacked the soldiers. He said I do not know. I said how do you not know. He said I am an Administrative official and if there were any arms in the village I would have known. I said to the English Officer let us ask him administratively about the arms and the British Officer replied no leave him alone because he and the 2 others were inciting the natives to attack the soldiers. The British Officer then asked me did not one of the natives of this village partake in the recent events. I said on one of the days when these recent troubles occurred some people came to take by force the arms of the Police Station at Mazghouna, but I did not give them and I fired at them. They went away because they were unarmed. They went to the railway Station to destroy it. I went after them and again fired at them until I dispersed them. About half an hour or three quarters of an hour afterwards a man told me that there was a big commotion in the Market. The Market is a weekly Fair. I also went to the Market riding on my horse and I spoke to the people to stop this commotion. Some of them listened to me and some did not. I fired at them again and they were dispersed. At this very time 2 aeroplanes came by chance and seeing the big crowd at the Market they came low and the natives thinking they were going to be bombed ran away, even people who bought and sold. After this commotion I collected some native soldiers and ghaffirs to guard the railway station, and the Post Office, and the Irrigation Office every night until the construction train arrived. We understood that amongst the rioters were people from the village of Nazlet el Shobak.

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. Is there more than one village called Shobak ?
 A.1. Shobak el Gharbi, Shobak el Sharqi and Nazlet el Shobak.
 Q.2. Shobak el Gharbi means West Shobak does it not ?
 A.2. Yes.
 Q.3. Shobak el Sharqi means East Shobak does it not ?
 A.3. Yes.
 Q.4. What does Nazlet el Shobak mean ?
 A.4. Little Shobak.
 Q.5. How far is the village of Nazlet el Shobak from the railway ?
 A.5. There is only the Canal between them. The actual distance would be about 30 or 40 metres.
 Q.6. Did you actually see the train arrive ?
 A.6. No.
 Q.7. The first thing that occurred, as far as you are concerned, was that you heard the firing ?
 A.7. Yes.
 Q.8. Was the Ombashi with you when you heard firing ?
 A.8. Yes.
 Q.9. It was then you ordered your horse and rode to the train and it was then you first saw the train ?
 A.9. Yes.

- Q.10. How long did you stop at or near the train after you arrived there on your horse ?
- A.10. About three quarters of an hour.
- Q.11. When you reached the train were these 3 men you speak of already there ?
- A.11. Yes, native men.
- Q.12. Did you only see 3 native men there ?
- A.12. Yes.
- Q.13. Are you quite sure you did not see five ?
- A.13. Yes, I only saw three.
- Q.14. You spoke to a British Officer when you got to the train, did you ?
- A.14. Yes.
- Q.15. Is that British Officer you spoke to in this room now ?
- A.15. Not the Officer who I spoke to first but I recognise Major Urwick who was the Officer who spoke to me and who asked me am I the Police Officer.
- Q.16. First of all you spoke to an Officer who is not in this room ?
- A.16. Yes.
- Q.17. Would you recognize that Officer if you saw him ?
- A.17. I know his name, his name is Major Clarke. He knows Arabic.
- Q.18. Did you have this conversation with Major Clarke before you spoke to Major Urwick ?
- A.18. Major Urwick saluted me and told Major Clarke to talk with me. Then Major Clarke and I talked sometimes in English and sometimes in Arabic.
- Q.19. Was it during that conversation that you told Major Clarke what had happened during the recent events ?
- A.19. Yes.
- Q.20. You did not mention the details of that conversation to the Mudir, did you ?
- A.20. Either they did not ask me or I forgot to mention it.
- Q.21. At that time, that is to say when you saw the 3 natives, there were not any native women and children there ?
- A.21. No.
- Q.22. That same afternoon after the conversation with Major Clarke did you also speak to a third or fourth Officer ?
- A.22. Yes.
- Q.23. And some of the British Officers were describing what had taken place to you ?
- A.23. Yes.
- Q.24. Would you recognise those other Officers ?
- A.24. Perhaps I could.
- Q.25. Did you also the same afternoon speak to a Sergeant Major ?
- A.25. I do not know.
- Q.26. While these conversations were going on was there any firing going on ?
- A.26. Yes.
- Q.27. Are you sure ?
- A.27. Yes.
- Q.28. Firing by the British Soldiers ?
- A.28. Yes.
- Q.29. Did you only see the British soldiers firing or did you only hear them ?
- A.29. I saw them.
- Q.30. Where were they when you saw them firing ?
- A.30. Outside the village to the South.
- Q.31. You saw that they were firing at natives in the fields ?
- A.31. I saw some soldiers surrounding the S.E. corner of the village and some on the S.W. of the fields, both lots were firing.

- Q.49. Did you tell him that this village had been a continuous trouble to you?
- A.49. I do not think I said it.
- Q.50. Did you tell him that the village richly deserved severe punishment?
- A.50. I said if the natives had attacked the soldiers without any reason they deserved ~~xxxxx~~ severe punishment.
- Q.51. While you were talking to Major Clarke some of the houses in the village were already burnt were they not?
- A.51. No it was after six o'clock I saw the fire.
- Q.52. At the time you told Major Clarke that the villagers ought to be punished if they attacked the soldiers without reason, at that time no houses were burning?
- A.52. No.
- Q.53. Did you not say to him that you were pleased the village was now reaping the fruits of its conduct in the past?
- A.53. I am not sure. I did not say so.
- Q.54. That same afternoon before you went away from the train, did you say anything to either of the Officers about going into the village that night?
- A.54. I asked him if we should go into the village that night.
- Q.55. You asked the Officers, or one of them, permission to go into the village that night?
- A.55. Yes, they said it was night now, better leave it until the morning.
- Q.56. But you wanted to go into the village then?
- A.56. I said we had better go into the village at once and search for arms and arrest the people who had caused the disturbances. The Officer said it does not matter they have plenty of arms and they are firing and we had better leave it until the morning.
- Q.57. Did you say to Major Urwick on the evening of the 30th of March that you were glad the English soldiers had punished the villagers?
- A.57. Major Urwick said I have some soldiers who had been wounded. The natives have attacked them without reason. I said I shall very glad if you will punish them and take them out of the village now.
- Q.58. But at that time they had been punished had they not as the soldiers had been firing?
- A.58. The soldiers had been firing but I wanted to get the Offenders out of the village and have them punished because the streets were filled with women and children and I naturally knew the women and children had not fired and I wanted to save them.
- Q.59. Did you say to Major Urwick that this village was one of the worst villages in the neighbourhood?
- A.59. He asked me the reputation of this village and I replied it is a bad village compared with other villages.
- Q.60. Were the British soldiers firing at the village during the whole three quarters of an hour you were at the train?
- A.60. Yes.
- Q.61. How long did the firing go on after you had gone back to your Police Station?
- A.61. As long as I was walking I heard firing continued but not such heavy firing as I had heard as the sun set.
- Q.62. When you were at the Police Station that evening what kind of firing was it - rifle fire?
- A.62. Rifle fire.
- Q.63. No other kind of firing?
- A.63. No.
- Q.64.

- Q. 64. Was the Ombashi with you in the Police Station that evening ?
- A. 64. Yes.
- Q. 65. Would he hear what you heard ?
- A. 65. I am responsible for what I heard.
- Q. 66. You are quite sure you did not hear machine guns ?
- A. 66. No not at that time.
- Q. 67. Did you hear machine guns before you went to the train ?
- A. 67. Yes I heard continuous and heavy shooting before I went to the train. They were not single reflex shots. It was continuous shooting so I think machine guns were firing.
- Q. 68. You thought from the sound you heard that there was a machine gun firing ?
- A. 68. Yes, but I did not see the machine gun.
- Q. 69. You thought from the sound you heard after you got back that there was no machine gunfiring ?
- A. 69. Yes, because I heard shooting of one shot at a time.
- Q. 70. What time did you go to bed ?
- A. 70. I do not remember.
- Q. 71. What time do you generally go to sleep ?
- A. 71. Nine or ten o'clock.
- Q. 72. The noise of firing that night, did that keep you awake ?
- A. 72. No. I was busy making arrangements with the villagers on account of the fire so I stayed up late that night.
- Q. 73. You had been asked by the English Officers to make these arrangements had you ?
- A. 73. No, I made them myself.
- Q. 74. Did not Major Urwick give you instructions that none of the inhabitants of the other villages were to leave their village during the night ?
- A. 74. I cannot remember him saying this.
- Q. 75. Before you left the train, was it arranged that you should go early the next morning to make a search ?
- A. 75. They said come in the morning.
- Q. 76. Did they say come in the morning in order to make a search for arms ?
- A. 76. Yes.
- Q. 77. And the next morning, did you go back to the train, about what time ?
- A. 77. I think it was about seven o'clock.
- Q. 78. Did you take with you the Ombashi ?
- A. 78. Yes.
- Q. 79. And any other Police Officer ?
- A. 79. I do not remember whether there was another Police Officer.
- Q. 80. What did the search party consist of, how many people ?
- A. 80. Six or seven British soldiers, an English Officer, the Egyptian Police Ombashi, and the Omdah, and I think also there was a Ghaffir.
- Q. 81. I thought you said before that there was not a British Officer there ?
- A. 81. There was no British Officer with us when we left the train, but the Officer joined us at the village.
- Q. 82. The Officer who joined you in the village came from the train, did he not ?
- A. 82. No. The six or seven soldiers took me to the Officer who was already in the village and he (the British Officer) joined me.
- Q. 83. This Officer who was already in the village was he alone ?
- A. 83. No there were many soldiers in the village and as we entered the houses we found ~~xxxxxx~~ soldiers in the houses.
- Q. 84. This Officer you found in the village, was he with soldiers or was he alone ?
- A. 84. As we approached the village one of the six or seven soldiers spoke to some of the soldiers who were surrounding the village and one of the latter went and fetched the Officer who was already in the village.

- Q.85. Before you started off with the 6 or 7 soldiers from the train did you go and speak to Major Urwick ?
- A.85. I think I spoke to Major Clarke.
- Q.86. Did you ask Major Urwick to give orders to stop firing?
- A.86. I think it was Major Clarke I asked.
- Q.87. You are not quite sure?
- A.87. As the greater part of my talk was with Major Clarke I think it was with him.
- Q.88. When you went to the train in the morning the firing firing in the village was still going on was it?
- A.88. I heard intermittent shots in the morning.
- Q.89. In the morning?
- A.89. Yes. Perhaps there was an interval of as much as a quarter of an hour between each shot.
- Q.90. You have no doubt at all that there was firing in the morning?
- A.90. I heard some shots in the morning.
- Q.91. Before you went into the village with these 6 or 7 men did you see any natives by the train?
- A.91. Yes. I have said so in my evidence.
- Q.92. Were there men as well as women and children?
- A.92. Some were men, some were women and some were children.
- Q.93. About how many men do you think there were?
- A.93. 8 or 10 men I think.
- Q.94. About how many women and children?
- A.94. About 5 children and 7 or 8 women.
- Q.95. More than 20 people altogether?
- A.95. I am not sure.
- Q.96. Did you ask one of the officers why these people had been arrested?
- A.96. I think I asked an Officer and he told me that the soldiers had arrested them.
- Q.97. And then you asked him to liberate these people did you?
- A.97. Yes.
- Q.98. And he did so?
- A.98. Yes.
- Q.99. They were not being unkindly treated were they?
- A.99. No. I think they had been collected to be protected.
- Q.100. You think they had been collected for their sake?
- A.100. Yes I think so. It is a habit for natives to be frightened with soldiers and they were crying.
- Q.101. Did they tell you that the Officers and soldiers had given them something to drink?
- A.101. I do not know when they had been arrested and it was not the time for eating and drinking. They did not tell me anything about it and they did not tell me that the soldiers had treated them unkindly.
- Q.102. You and the soldiers and the Ombashi went towards the village directly after the men, women and children had been released?
- A.102. Yes.
- Q.103. What became of those men women and children. Where did they go?
- A.103. I put them in a place of safety and told them not to be afraid.
- Q.104. Where was this place of safety?
- A.104. In the village.
- Q.105. About the time you got to the village you were joined by a British Officer?
- A.105. Yes.
- Q.106. Only one British Officer?
- A.106. Yes.
- Q.107. And from that moment he remained with you all the time you were searching for arms?
- A.107. Yes.
- Q.108. So that whatever you saw when you went into the houses to search he could see?

- A. 108. Of course.
- Q. 109. Then when you went into a house and found three men standing and a woman standing, was the British Officer with you?
- A. 109. We were passing in the street and when I heard the shouting I entered the house but the British Officer did not.
- Q. 110. You said just now that the Officer remained with you all the time you were searching but now I understand that sometimes you went into a house when you heard cries and the British Officer did not go in with you?
- A. 110. He accompanied me when we were searching for arms but if cries from houses came I entered the house but he generally speaking did not come with me inside the house.
- Q. 111. Did the Officer go with you when you went to the house of the Omdah?
- A. 111. Yes.
- Q. 112. Was the Officer with you when the Omdah's door was unlocked?
- A. 112. Yes.
- Q. 113. Did the Officer go into the Omdah's house with you?
- A. 113. Yes.
- Q. 114. You searched the house in the presence of the Officer?
- A. 114. Yes.
- Q. 115. You left the house of the Omdah with the Officer?
- A. 115. Yes.
- Q. 116. You took the Omdah with you?
- A. 116. Yes.
- Q. 117. Did the Omdah remain with you while you were searching other houses?
- A. 117. Yes we took him with us.
- Q. 118. While you were searching the other houses, and while the Omdah was with you, did any other Officer join you?
- A. 118. I do not think so.
- Q. 119. This is the English translation of what you said to the Mamour, "When the Omdah was accompanying us during the search an Officer came to us from the armed train and enquired from the Omdah about the cause of the incidents and the latter replied he knew not"? Was that the same Officer who accompanied you for the search for arms?
- A. 119. No. This Officer came up to the Omdah and asked him a question. I think the Officer was Major Clarke. I then spoke to him and told him that the search for arms was finished and this was the Officer who ordered the bugle to be sounded.
- Q. 120. The same Officer took the Omdah away with him?
- A. 120. He said to the 6 or 7 soldiers take the Omdah to the train and the Omdah said let me stay with the Police Officer and the Officer said no go to the train with the soldiers because you will be interrogated there. The Officer spoke to the Omdah in Arabic.
- Q. 121. Did you ask that Officer not to take the Omdah away?
- A. 121. No.
- Q. 122. This is what you said to the Mamour, "I assured the Officer that the Omdah knew nothing of the matter especially as he is known to be a good man and renowned for his honesty and truthfulness".
- Q. 122. I said to Major Clarke that I have asked the Omdah if he knew anything about the events and the Omdah said he did not. Then Major Clarke asked me about the Omdah and I replied he is a good man personally.
- Q. 223. You spoke to Major Urwick about the Omdah afterwards did you?
- A. 123. I do not remember.

- Q. 124. Did you say that the Omdah was a weak man and probably not responsible for the trouble ?
- A. 124. They asked me about the Omdah, what sort of man he was, and I answered he is a good man but weak in character.
- Q. 125. The Omdah was not on good terms with the ex-Omdah and his friends, was he ?
- A. 125. The ex-Omdah was not a good man. This Omdah is all right.
- Q. 126. Were the Omdah and the ex-Omdah friends ?
- A. 126. I do not know.
- Q. 127. Did you not give Major Urwick to understand that the ex-Omdah would be pleased if the new Omdah got into trouble ?
- A. 127. No.
- Q. 128. Are you quite certain you did not say that ?
- A. 128. Quite certain.
- Q. 129. Can you say how many soldiers you met in the village that morning, besides the 6 who were with you ?
- A. 129. There were about 50 soldiers counting both those inside and outside the village.
- Q. 130. Of those how many were inside the village ?
- A. 130. I cannot say how many were inside the village as when we entered the houses we found one soldier, or 2 soldiers, or 3 soldiers inside the houses.
- Q. 131. Did you ever see as many as 30 soldiers in one house ?
- A. 131. No. I do not think a house could hold 30 soldiers, certainly some houses could not contain 30 soldiers.
- Q. 132. This house in which you found a woman with 3 soldiers, do you know her name ?
- A. 132. I do not.
- Q. 133. You told the Mamour what her name was ?
- A. 133. I personally did not know but I have heard it. I cannot ~~remember~~ remember it now.
- Q. 134. Did you see her amongst the witnesses who have been here for the last few days ?
- A. 134. Yes, it is the one identified by the Ombashi before the Court but before the Ombashi had identified her I could not have said who she was.
- Q. 135. Can you exactly say what she told you in the house ?
- A. 135. I found her very frightened and I said what is the matter and she said I am afraid lest they do some shameful act and I asked her did they do anything and she said no, and I took her to another house.
- Q. 136. What became of the 3 soldiers ?
- A. 136. They went from the house.
- Q. 137. Directly you came in ?
- A. 137. Yes.
- Q. 138. None of the 6 soldiers went into that woman's house with you ?
- A. 138. I think not.
- Q. 139. Were there any other houses you went into and found British soldiers ?
- A. 139. Yes, we found British soldiers in every house.
- Q. 140. Many ?
- A. 140. In some houses there were many.
- Q. 141. What does "many" mean ?
- A. 141. Not more than 5 in one house.
- Q. 142. When did the soldiers stop firing that morning ?
- A. 142. When we reached the village we heard a little shooting but while we were searching the houses the firing stopped. I think the shooting was not inside the village but outside the village.
- Q. 143. Do you think that morning there was shooting in the village at all ?
- A. 143. I do not think so but I cannot say for certain.

- Q.166. You do not remember speaking to anybody else ?
- A.166. Some Officers came and spoke to me and one Officer said he had seen 60 natives carrying arms and running to the West of the village in the fields and another said that the natives threw stones at the train before it had stopped. The soldiers got down unarmed and the natives quarrelled with them and shouted at them. That was on the Sunday afternoon ?
- Q.167. Yes.
- A.167. Do you remember saying to one of the officers that you were thankful that the village had been attacked for firing on the train ?
- A.168. When I heard that the natives had fired at the troops I said that they must be punished if this was so as I had given them orders to assist the troops.
- Q.169. Do you remember saying to that same Officer that these villagers had 3 times tried to attack the railway station at Mazghouna and that you had beaten them off and that you thought they should be taught a lesson ?
- A.169. I cannot say for certain but if the Officers says so I may have said it.
- Q.170. You remember I asked you on Saturday whether you were quite sure whether you did not go back to the train and you said you only went back to the troops in the South ?
- A.170. I am sure I did not return to the train the second time on the evening of 30th March.
- Q.171. So that it was during the only time you were at the train that afternoon that you saw those 3 natives ?
- A.171. Yes I saw the 3 natives under guard.
- Q.172. Are you able to tell us the names of those 3 ?
- A.172. I know one of them. He was the Sheik of the village called Abdul Ghani Tolba.
- Q.173. Can you remember the other 2 ?
- A.173. No.
- Q.174. Did you see those 3 natives brought to the train ?
- A.174. No I saw them standing at the train with Major Clarke talking to them.
- Q.175. Did you speak to these 3 men yourself ?
- A.175. Yes, I spoke to the Sheik of the village when I heard Major Clarke asking him about the guns I asked the Sheik of the village how he let the natives shoot at the troops and he swore that he had seen no arms. I told Major Clarke that he was the official employee and was responsible for letting people be in possession of arms in the village.
- Q.176. Did you speak to the other 2 besides the Sheik ?
- A.176. No.
- Q.177. Can you remember whether any of those 3 men made any complaint to you ?
- A.177. I think not.
- Q.178. You are pretty sure that neither of those 3 men made any complaint to you ?
- A.178. Yes.
- Q.179. Neither of them told you that anyone had been killed or badly dealt with.
- A.179. No.
- Q.180. You did not wish to go into the village that night did you ?
- A.180. I asked Major Clarke if we could enter the village or not and he said in the morning because the people were armed and he was afraid lest they fire on the troops.
- Q.181. About 7.30 ?
- Q.182. Perhaps 8 o'clock.

- Q.181. At hat time when you went back to your Police Station it was sunset was it not ?
- A.181. Yes, about sunset.
- Q.182. The end of March the sun sets about 6 o'clock does it not ?
- A.182. Before 6 o'clock.
- Q.183. So that if you had gone into the village you would have gone in the dark ?
- A.183. Yes, if we had entered the village darkness would have overtaken us there.
- Q.184. Do you think it was a better thing not to have gone into the village then ?
- A.184. I think it was better not to have gone into the village that night.
- Q.185. It would be, in your opinion, dangerous for English troops to go into the village that night ?
- A.185. The British Officers were the best judges if it was dangerous or not as they saw natives with arms. Personally I did not see the arms so I could not judge whether it was dangerous.
- Q.186. We will come now to the next morning. What time did you go to the train on the 31st March ?
- A.186. About 7 a.m.
- Q.187. When you came to the train that morning, do you remember speaking to an N.C.O. and asking where the Commandant was ?
- A.187. I do not remember but of course I asked different people where the Commandant was.
- Q.188. You can tell the difference between an Officer and an N.C.O. can you not ?
- A.188. I know the difference but it is such a long time since the events occurred I cannot remember everyone I spoke to.
- Q.189. You do not remember saying to an N.C.O. "Village no good, very bad people, give me lot of trouble." This was before you went to see the Commandant ?
- A.189. I do not remember.
- Q.190. I want to be quite sure about this. Who first told you that morning that there was going to be a search party ? Was it Major Urwick ?
- A.190. I think Major Clarke told me to take 6 or 7 soldiers to go into the village and search for arms.
- Q.191. You are quite sure that no Officer went with you from the train.
- A.191. I am quite sure.
- Q.192. The Ombashi was with you was he not ?
- A.192. Yes.
- Q.193. If the Ombashi says there was an Officer he would be mistaken ?
- A.193. He is an Ombashi and he does not know the difference between an officer and a soldier.
- Q.194. That morning when you started from the train there was no firing going on then was there ?
- A.194. I heard some shooting but very little - siggle shots.
- Q.195. Did you receive any complaint while you were in the village from any one native ?
- A.195. The women and children were very frightened and complained to me about their houses burning, and one said his father was killed, and another said his brother was killed, and another said please let me leave the village because I am afraid, etc. etc.
- Q.196. Can you tell us about how long you were in the village that morning with the 6 or 7 soldiers ?
- A.196. I think not less than 2 hours.
- Q.197. When did you leave the train to go to the village ?
- A.197. I cannot remember.
- Q.198. About 7.30 ?
- A.198. Perhaps 8 o'clock.

- Q.247. Every carriage of the train was carrying some poultry and I saw three lambs in one carriage but I do not know if they were from this village or from another.
- Q.248. You saw in the train fowls geese rabbits etc. Were they hung inside or outside ?
- A.248. I think they were hanging outside.
- Q.249. You said to the Major "that the train afterwards went southwards passed by all the village and down on the line with the fowls geese etc. hanging outside and anyone could see them the whole way".
- A.249. I was drawing on my imagination.
- Q.250. You said to the Mamour "2 guards from Maughouna. I remember one of them was called Ali Ali Zaki, but I do not remember the name of the other, were among many others that bore witness to all that I have said". Is Ali Ali Zaki one of your men ?
- A.250. Yes he is one of my men.
- Q.251. When you say he could bear witness to all you said you were only referring to what you saw on the train ?
- A.251. He was near to the village and I think he was holding my horse on Monday.
- Q.252. Then he did not go into the village with the search party ?
- A.252. I do not think he was with us but I am sure he was holding my horse.
- Q.253. When you went into the village with the search party how many British Officers did you see in the village ?
- A.253. Only one Officer.
- Q.254. Did Major Clarke go into the village with the search party ?
- A.254. No.
- Q.255. Did you the same day you went into the village with the search party hear anything of the death of the Sheik of the Ghaffirs.
- A.255. Yes I heard that he was killed and I heard that his house was burnt, that he tried to put out the fire, and then he was killed.
- Q.256. Can you remember who told you all that ?
- A.256. No.
- Q.257. Was it more than one person or several people ?
- A.257. I do not know. I heard the story.
- Q.258. Do you think you heard that when you was with the search party or when you went in after the train had gone ?
- A.258. I think it was while we were searching.
- Q.259. While you were searching there was no native man in the village was there ?
- A.259. I found some native men.
- Q.260. The soldiers that you saw in the village that morning both the 6 or 7 and the other soldiers, were they all armed ?
- A.260. The 6 or 7 with me were armed but some of the soldiers I found inside the village were unarmed and the soldiers who were surrounding the village were all armed.
- Q.261. You told the Mamour that they were all armed. Is that a mistake.
- A.261. If I told him I must have said so, but it was a mistake.
- Q.262. You asked some of the villagers how this trouble began did you not ?
- A.262. Yes, some of the villagers told me the soldiers had entered the village, and took some chickens and geese and they searched a woman so the trouble took place.
- Q.263. You understood from what they told you that the first quarrel was when some soldiers interfered with one of the women.
- A.263. Yes, they told me so. I told the villagers that Major Clarke had told me that the villagers had fired on the soldiers and you must tell me who fired. They all said that we did not fire, and we do not know who fired.

- Q.264. They all denied having known anything about it ?
 A.264. Yes.
 Q.265. And as a fact you have never found a man who acknowledged that he fired on the soldiers ?
 A.265. I did not find anyone.
 Q.266. Did any woman in the village complain to you personally?
 A.266. Personally no but there was a rumour in the village that some women were raped .
 Q.267. What I want to be quite sure of is that no woman complained to you personally ?
 A.267. No woman.
 Q.268. Did any man complain to you personally that his wife or his sister or his daughter had been raped ?
 A.268. No.
 Q.269. Are you not the proper person to complain to ?
 A.269. They ought to complain to me but they did not do so.
 Q.270. If any crime occurs in the village ought the villagers to go straight to the Mudir or should they come to you?
 A.270. Sometimes the natives complain direct to the Mudir in writing about their lands or their cultivation but if any of the house/catch fire or there is a quarrel in the village etc. then they must complain to me direct.
 Q.271. Did any of the villagers complain to you that their cattle had been killed ?
 A.271. I saw some cattle killed in the fields.
 Q.272. Did any of the villagers complain to you about the cattle ?
 A.272. No.
 Q.273. Did you ever hear from anyone how many cattle had been killed ?
 A.273. No.
 Q.274. Do you remember how many you saw ?
 A.274. I think I saw not less than 10 including cattle and sheep.
 Q.275. I am going to read you what the villagers said in their complaint "The cattle shot are 20 buffalos, 20 cows and 15 donkeys."
 A.275. I did not see more than 10 certainly not more than 12.
 Q.276. Did anyone complain to you that the soldiers shot the people who were trying to escape from burning houses ?
 A.276. The soldiers then began to set fire to houses in different parts of the village shooting anyone who attempted to escape "That is what the villagers say. Did the villagers ever say that to you ?
 They said that their houses were burnt, ^{and} some of them were killed but they did not ^{how} say that the houses were burnt or how the people were killed.
 Q.277. They said this "The fire and shooting lasted until 10 a.m. on Monday" that is not true is it ?
 A.277. It did not last until 10 o'clock.
 Q.278. They said this "Those men and women remaining alive were taken to the armed train together with the Omdah". That means that all the people in the village that were not killed were taken to the train ?
 A.278. That is not true, all the villagers were not at the train.
 Q.279. And you heard did you not that most of the men of the village had run away to the fields ?
 A.279. Yes.
 Q.280. The/said this "The Lieutenant of the Mazghouma Police Out-post then arrived and the women and some natives were released. On his way to the village the Police Officer heard a cry for help, went towards the voice and found 3 soldiers raping a woman". Is that true ?
 A.280. I found 3 soldiers with a woman but they were not raping her. This is quite untrue.
 Q.281. When you saw that woman, that was not on the way to the village, that was in the village itself ?
 A.281. Yes.

- Q.282. You were passing the house ?
 A.282. Yes I was passing along the street.
 Q.283. It goes on as follows "He got her released and she went
 "away choked with tears and thanking him for his
 "assistance". Is that true ?
 A.283. Yes. She thanked me for my assistance.

RE-EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q.284. You say when you were at the Police Station in the
 afternoon of the 30th. March you heard shots by rifles
 and machine guns. Is that true ?
 A.284. I heard very heavy firing, as firing was continuous I
 thought at the time that it was a machine gun but I did
 not see the machine gun firing.
 Q.285. Can you not distinguish between a machine gun shots and
 rifle shots ?
 A.285. The rifle shoots one shot at a time and a machine gun
 shoots shots rapidly one after the other.
 Q.286. Was a machine gun firing ?
 A.286. I cannot say for certain.
 Q.287. When you were on your way to the train did anyone stop
 you ?
 A.287. Yes, some soldiers stopped me and I told them I was the
 Police Officer and I was going to see their Officers.
 Q.288. When you first reached the train were all the soldiers
 firing on the inhabitants of the village ?
 A.288. I saw some soldiers shooting but I do not know the exact
 number. A part of the soldiers that had arrived in the
 train were shooting at the village and not all the
 soldiers that had arrived in the train.
 Q.289. Can you say whether there was a large number or a small
 number firing ?
 A.289. I cannot say, but I should say not less than 50.
 Q.290. On Sunday evening was any Officer standing near the
 soldiers who were shooting and giving orders ?
 A.290. I did not see any.
 Q.291. You say that you met an Officer and spoke with him on
 the first day at or near the train ?
 A.291. Yes I did. All the soldiers who were firing at the
 village did not comprise all the force. The remainder of
 the force were sitting in the train with their Officers
 so I met the Officers in the train that were not shooting.
 Q.292. Could the Officers you were speaking to hear the shooting
 or not ?
 A.292. Certainly.
 Q.293. The Officer with whom you spoke whom you took for the
 Commandant, what reason did he give you for the
 firing ?
 A.293. He said that the natives had fired at the troops who
 were unarmed and that the soldiers then fired at the
 natives.
 Q.294. Did you ask this Officer to collect his soldiers and stop
 the firing ?
 A.294. I saw some soldiers firing on some villagers who were
 running away from the village so I asked the Officer
 to stop these soldiers firing on these people who were
 running away. I was afraid they would shoot some
 innocent people.
 Q.295. On the 30th March did you see any armed native ?
 A.295. No.
 Q.296. ~~Were~~ Were the soldiers surrounding the village all round ?
 A.296. Standing at the train I could only see the Southern and
 Western sides of the village. I saw soldiers on both
 the Southern and Western sides of the village.

- Q.314. I will read a statement of yours from the proces verbal.
 "What do you know about the murder of the Sheikh of
 "the Ghaffirs. On my arrival at the village I
 "asked for him. He could not be found. At last I
 "heard that he was hiding himself in his house at
 "the time when the soldiers were firing on the
 "village. The soldiers attacked his house, broke its
 "doors open, plundered its contents and then set fire
 "to it. He then came out from the oven in which he
 "was hiding and attempted to extinguish the fire. One
 "of the soldiers shot him dead. He was one of the
 "victims I mentioned". Is that statement true or not?
- A.314. That is hearsay evidence as I heard it from the
 natives but I did not see any of these occurrences.
- Q.315. When you went to the village did you see the fire
 was still on?
- A.315. Yes in some houses.
- Q.316. Were the natives extinguishing the fire or not?
- A.316. Some were extinguishing the fires and some were too
 frightened because the troops were there.
- Q.317. Did you see any soldiers preventing the natives from
 approaching near their burning houses in order to
 extinguish them?
- A.317. No.
- Q.318. When you knocked at the door of the Omdah, did he tell
 you the reason for the incidents?
- A.318. He said he did not know the reason. He said some of
 the soldiers got down from the train and then he went
 towards them and then he heard some shooting in
 another direction.
- Q.319. Was the omdah waiting for the arrival of the train on
 the railway line according to your orders?
- A.319. I sent an Egyptian Policeman to the Omdah to tell him
 to collect the men and await for the construction
 train on the railway line. The man came back to me
 and said the Omdah was waiting on the railway line.
- Q.320. Did the men who were with the Omdah being repairing
 the line or not?
- A.320. I was not there but how could they mend the line
 without the special men of the said railway to help
 them.
- Q.321. Was fire in the house of the Omdah?
- A.321. When I entered I did not find any fire.
- Q.322. Was it burnt afterwards?
- A.322. After I went out from it I heard that part of it was
 burnt.
- Q.323. Did you not hear what was the reason?
- A.323. The natives told me the soldiers had burnt it but I do
 not know why they should have done this.
- Q.324. When you entered the house of the Omdah who was in your
 company?
- A.324. An English officer, 6 or 7 English soldiers and the
 Egyptian Corporal.
- Q.325. What did they do in searching the house?
- A.325. We searched the house for arms but found none.
- Q.326. The Officer and soldiers who were with you, did they
 not take anything from the house of the Omdah?
- A.326. No.
- Q.327. Did the Omdah come out with you?
- A.327. Yes.
- Q.328. After you left the house did the English soldiers enter
 the house again?
- A.328. I did not see them but I heard from the Omdah's son
 that the soldiers had entered the house after I had
 left it.
- Q.329. Where was the Omdah taken?
- A.329. They took him to the train. I do not know where but I

LIEUTENANT DAL.

MR. ISRAHIM again attended as Counsel for the Natives.

S/LIEUT E. J. RANDALL. 1/5th Somerset Light Infantry
having been duly sworn, states:-

TWENTY SIXTH WITNESS.

"On the 28th March last I proceeded with a detachment of my regiment from CAIRO. We arrived at SHOBAK on the afternoon of the 30th at 4.30 p.m. The train stopped South of the village of SHOBAK. I left the train and proceeded in front of the train to examine the damage that had been done to the line. While there I heard firing behind me. I doubled back to the train and put on my equipment and awaited orders. I still heard firing, occasional shots. The troops were making tea. I received orders that my platoon were to have their tea and then I was to relieve Mr. Norrington's platoon which had gone to the village. About 5.30, I relieved Mr. Norrington's platoon and took up a position N.W. of the village. I put a group of picquets, namely 6 groups of about 5 men in each group to the N.W. of the village. By the time I had finished placing my platoon it was dark. The signal Officer then contacted my Headquarters with the Headquarters on the train. I then received a message by telephone from Headquarters to allow no one to enter the village. In the night several people tried to enter the village and occasional shots were fired by my men. In the morning I reduced the number of my picquets to five. Several people tried to leave the village after sunrise and they were sent by the N.C.O. in charge of one of the picquets to me. There were about 3 or 4 women and about 3 men and 2 small children in this lot. I sent them to the train under the escort of one man. I then received a message on the telephone not to withdraw my platoon and that they would receive their breakfast out where they were. The breakfasts were sent and one picquet received no breakfast so another lot of breakfast was sent to them. This was somewhere about 9 a.m. I then received another message on the telephone from Headquarters that I personally would have to search the village with an Egyptian Officer. The Egyptian Officer arrived at my Headquarters about 9 a.m. and with him came the native men, women and children I had sent to Headquarters, and about 10 British soldiers. I received a message from the Egyptian Officer to say that the men, women, and children he had brought with him were free and could go where they liked. Accompanied by the Egyptian Police Officer I searched the village and the British soldiers who had arrived with the Police Officer and my runner, an N.C.O. (Corporal Kenham) I then searched the village for fire arms and found none. In the village I saw several ~~xxx~~ native men and women. I saw some houses that had been burnt and were still smouldering. In one of the houses I saw what I thought was a piece of wood but after close examination I found it was the charred remains of a body. It was impossible to tell whether it was male or female. Several of the houses being locked I had difficulty in obtaining entrance but they were eventually opened after the Egyptian Officer had spoken to the occupants. Finding no fire arms the Egyptian Officer then left me and I went back to my platoon. I then received a message by runner to withdraw my platoon and return to the train. I did so about 10.30 a.m. The British wounded I saw were lying along the side of the train between 4.30 and 5.30 p.m.

SEVENTH DAY.

MR. ISRAHIM again attended as Counsel for the Natives.

S/LIEUT E. J. RANDALL. 1/6th Somerset Light Infantry
having been duly sworn, states:-

TWENTY SIXTH WITNESS.

"On the 28th March last I proceeded with a detachment of my regiment from CAIRO. We arrived at SHOBAK on the afternoon of the 30th at 4.30 p.m. The train stopped South of the village of SHOBAK. I left the train and proceeded in front of the train to examine the damage that had been done to the line. While there I heard firing behind me. I doubled back to the train and put on my equipment and awaited orders. I still heard firing, occasional shots. The troops were making tea. I received orders that my platoon were to have their tea and then I was to relieve Mr. Horryington's platoon which had gone to the village. About 5.30, I relieved Mr. Horryington's platoon and took up a position N.W. of the village. I put a group of picquets, namely 8 groups of about 5 men in each group to the N.E. of the village. By the time I had finished placing my platoon it was dark. The signal officer then connected my Headquarters with the Headquarters on the train. I then received a message by telephone from Headquarters to allow no one to enter the village. In the night several people tried to enter the village and occasional shots were fired by my men. In the morning I reduced the number of my picquets to five. Several people tried to leave the village after sunrise and they were sent by the N.C.C. in charge of one of the picquets to me. There were about 3 or 4 women and about 3 men and 2 small children in this lot. I sent them to the train under the escort of one man. I then received a message on the telephone not to withdraw my platoon and that they would receive their breakfast out where they were. The breakfasts were sent and one picquet received no breakfast so another lot of breakfast was sent to them. This was somewhere about 8 a.m. I then received another message on the telephone from Headquarters that I personally would have to search the village with an Egyptian Officer. The Egyptian Officer arrived at my Headquarters about 9 a.m. and with him came the native men, women and children I had sent to Headquarters, and about 10 British soldiers. I received a message from the Egyptian Officer to say that the men, women, and children he had brought with him were free and could go where they liked. Accompanied by the Egyptian Police Officer I searched the village and the British soldiers who had arrived with the Police Officer and my runner, an N.C.C. (Corporal Kenham) I then searched the village for fire arms and found none. In the village I saw several ~~xxx~~ native men and women. I saw some houses that had been burnt and were still smouldering. In one of the houses I saw what I thought was a piece of wood but after close examination I found it was the charred remains of a body. It was impossible to tell whether it was male or female. Several of the houses being locked I had difficulty in obtaining entrance but they were eventually opened after the Egyptian Officer had ~~sp~~ spoken to the occupants. Finding no fire arms the Egyptian Officer then left me and I went back to my platoon. I then received a message by runner to withdraw my platoon and return to the train. I did so about 10.30 a.m. The British wounded I saw were lying along the side of the train between 4.30 and 5.30 p.m.

- Q.34. You remained with your platoon during the whole night ?
- A.34. Yes.
- Q.35. The first time the next morning when you saw the Egyptian Police Officer, was it in the village or outside the village ?
- A.35. Outside.
- Q.36. And you went with him inside the village ?
- A.36. Yes.
- Q.37. Accompanied by about 10 British soldiers ?
- A.37. Yes.
- Q.38. When you first entered the village did you see any other British Officer there ?
- A.38. No.
- Q.39. During your whole search with your search party inside the village did you see any other British soldier except the 10 soldiers who were accompanying you in the search ?
- A.39. No.
- Q.40. No other Officer joined you there ?
- A.40. No, I met however the Officer Commanding the Company outside the village.
- Q.41. When you met him was the search finished or was it still going on ?
- A.41. Still going on.
- Q.42. You met him outside the village ?
- A.42. Yes.
- Q.43. Therefore during the search when you intended to search the houses you were inside the village, went out of it, and then returned ?
- A.43. Yes.
- Q.44. What was your intention first to go inside the village and then outside the village ?
- A.44. I went out the village in order to go round some houses in order to get into the village again.
- Q.45. Therefore you were searching houses near the boundary/out the village ?
- A.45. Yes.
- Q.46. Which boundary, North, South, East, or West ?
- A.46. West.
- Q.47. The houses which you were searching near the Western boundary of the village what is its situation with regard to the second house. In which direction was it North, South, East or West.
- A.47. North.
- Q.48. The second house near the western boundary of the village was it situated in the same street ?
- A.48. I cannot remember about the entrance to the house.
- Q.49. Therefore you saw that it was necessary in order to go into the next house you should have to go outside the village ?
- A.49. Yes.
- Q.50. Did you go to the house of the Omdah with the Police Officer during the search ?
- A.50. I did not know which was the Omdah's house.
- Q.51. Do you remember taking one of the inhabitants of the village to the train with you on the morning of the 31st March ?
- A.51. No one except my platoon went with me to the train.
- Q.52. Do you remember if one of the villagers accompanied you during the search ?
- A.52. No.
- Q.53. Do you remember that the Police Officer on one occasion knocked at the door of a house of a villager and that at first he did not open the door and when he told him he was the Police Officer he opened the door ?
- A.53. I cannot remember.
- Q.54. The houses you saw already burnt, or still burning, were there few or many ?
- A.54. I did not take any notice as to numbers.

- Q.34. You remained with your platoon during the whole night ?
 A.34. Yes.
 Q.35. The first time the next morning when you saw the Egyptian Police Officer, was it in the village or outside the village ?
 A.35. Outside.
 Q.36. And you went with him inside the village ?
 A.36. Yes.
 Q.37. Accompanied by about 10 British soldiers ?
 A.37. Yes.
 Q.38. When you first entered the village did you see any other British Officer there ?
 A.38. No.
 Q.39. During your whole search with your search party inside the village did you see any other British soldier except the 10 soldiers who were accompanying you in the search ?
 A.39. No.
 Q.40. No other Officer joined you there ?
 A.40. No, I met however the Officer Commanding the Company outside the village.
 Q.41. When you met him was the search finished or was it still going on ?
 A.41. Still going on.
 Q.42. You met him outside the village ?
 A.42. Yes.
 Q.43. Therefore during the search when you intended to search the houses you were inside the village, went out of it, and then returned ?
 A.43. Yes.
 Q.44. What was your intention first to go inside the village and then outside the village ?
 A.44. I went out the village in order to go round some houses in order to get into the village again.
 Q.45. Therefore you were searching houses near the boundary/out the village ?
 A.45. Yes.
 Q.46. Which boundary, North, South, East, or West ?
 A.46. West.
 Q.47. The houses which you were searching near the Western boundary of the village what is its situation with regard to the second house. In which direction was it North, South, East or West ?
 A.47. North.
 Q.48. The second house near the western boundary of the village was it situated in the same street ?
 A.48. I cannot remember about the entrance to the house.
 Q.49. Therefore you saw that it was necessary in order to go into the next house you should have to go outside the village ?
 A.49. Yes.
 Q.50. Did you go to the house of the Omdah with the Police Officer during the search ?
 A.50. I did not know which was the Omdah's house.
 Q.51. Do you remember taking one of the inhabitants of the village to the train with you on the morning of the 31st March ?
 A.51. No one except my platoon went with me to the train.
 Q.52. Do you remember if one of the villagers accompanied you during the search ?
 A.52. No.
 Q.53. Do you remember that the Police Officer on one occasion knocked at the door of a house of a villager and that at first he did not open the door and when he told him he was the Police Officer he opened the door ?
 A.53. I cannot remember.
 Q.54. The houses you saw already burnt, or still burning, were there few or many ?
 A.54. I did not take any notice as to numbers.

TWENTYSEVENTH WITNESS.

MR. CHARLES HARLE, Egyptian State Railway, having been duly sworn, states:-

"On the 30th March I was on the construction train going from Cairo to Wasta. It stopped at a break on the line at kilo. 44, about 4-30 p.m., near the village of El Shobak which is on the west side of the railway line. When the train stopped some of the troops left the train and walked back towards the village. There was a bridge leading to the village towards the rear of the train. There were about 15 men. They were quite unarmed. I had left the engine by this time and was walking northwards towards the rear of the train. I heard and saw quite a fusillade from the village. These 15 men were on the outskirts of the village and they turned round and came back towards the train pursued by villagers. There was quite a large crowd of villagers. I could not see if the villagers were armed but they seemed to be attacking the soldiers. When the troops on the train saw what was happening they opened fire which had the effect of making the villagers retire. The party came back from the village and amongst them were several wounded men and from that time Major Urwick, Commanding the Train, took the necessary steps to take military operations against the village. I saw the wounded soldiers myself. The first man, who was rather a short man, had a very deep gash in the forearm, he was also gashed in the legs. An Australian was also very badly wounded in the head - knife wounds. Another man had gun shot wounds but I cannot remember where. Next morning I helped to entrain eight wounded British soldiers into a special train to go to Cairo. I walked up to the north end of the train. I saw the first armed party of soldiers that was sent down to the village; this was about 4-45 or 4-50 p.m. I saw a Police Officer coming to the train that evening sometime after 5 o'clock. I did not speak to him. I heard him in conversation with Major Urwick. As far as I can recollect the Police Officer said that this was a very bad village and he was pleased that such strong action had been taken, and that these villagers had attacked him at Mazghouna Station, but he had succeeded in driving them off., and that he had also warned them about breaking the line. After 5 o'clock I was standing at the north end of the train; even after the attacking party of British soldiers had gone into the village firing continued from the village in the direction of the train. I mean firing by the natives. Some bullets or slugs passed by me when I was standing there. After sunset and during the night there was only an occasional shot. I saw the village on fire for the first time at about 5-30 on the evening of the 30th March. The northern part seemed to be on fire. A slightly northerly breeze was blowing. I did not enter the village myself. There were 5 natives brought by the soldiers from the village. I saw them at the train ~~and~~ about sun-down. I did not speak to them. I saw the Police Officer and the Political Officer speaking to them. There were Military Stores and railway stores on the train, but I only know what railway stores were there. Amongst the latter were 2 tins of petroleum, these two tins were reserve tins and were never opened. We took them on to Wasta and used them beyond Wasta. On the morning of the 31st, I saw some natives at the train - about half a dozen women, two or three old men and a few children. They did not appear to be under guard of the soldiers when I saw them. I saw the Omdah of the village. I saw him walking on the road towards the train about 8 a.m., on the 31st March. I did not see him the previous day. He was taken to Wasta on the train.

The women and children were well treated and were given biscuits. The train was not moved all the time it was at Shobak. I did not see the five persons again after I saw them on the evening of the 30th."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q.1. You came with the train to El Shobak ?
 A.1. Yes.
 Q.2. You left with the train when it left Shobak ?
 A.2. Yes.
 Q.3. You told the Court that there were 15 soldiers who went to the village ?
 A.3. Yes, about 15.
 Q.4. What did they go to the village for ?
 A.4. They went, as they had done at previous villages, for the purpose of purchasing food.
 Q.5. They were unarmed you said ?
 A.5. Yes.
 Q.6. Were they fully dressed ?
 A.6. No, they were in shirt sleeves and shorts.
 Q.7. All dressed in the same way ?
 A.7. Yes.
 Q.8. Were they all British soldiers or were some Australian soldiers ?
 A.8. One cannot say when the men are dressed as I have just described.
 Q.9. Had they Australian hats on ?
 A.9. I could not see any Australian ~~wild~~ hats.
 Q.10. When these 15 soldiers went into the village, were you inside the train or outside the train ?
 A.10. I was outside on the railway embankment.
 Q.11. Were you still standing on the railway embankment when you heard the firing from the village ?
 A.11. Yes.
 Q.12. Were there any other persons who could hear that ?
 A.12. Yes, as most of the soldiers had detrained when the train stopped.
 Q.13. When you heard these shots, did you speak to any Officer or soldier about the firing ?
 A.13. I think I did say that I ~~saw~~ thought the firing sounded peculiar.
 Q.14. Can you tell us the name of the Officer or soldier with whom you spoke at that time ?
 A.14. No, I cannot remember.
 Q.15. Could you see from the place you were standing the soldiers when they went to the village ?
 A.15. Yes.
 Q.16. Did they reach the boundary of the village or were they inside the village or outside the village when they were fired at ?
 A.16. As far as I saw the soldiers did not enter the village before the firing commenced.
 Q.17. Directly firing commenced they returned at once to the train ?
 A.17. Yes.
 Q.18. When they returned were you still on the railway embankment ?
 A.18. Yes.
 Q.19. Of the 15 men who returned, was there any missing ?
 A.19. There were some missing.
 Q.20. Those that were missing did they return back by themselves or were they brought back by the soldiers ?
 A.20. I heard that the troops who came back from the village say that some of their company were missing.

- Q. 20. Those that were missing did they return back by themselves or were they brought back by the soldiers ?
- A. 20. I heard that the troops who came back from the village say that some of their company were missing.
- Q. 21. Did you see any of those missing men come back ?
- A. 21. I saw one British soldier who swam across the Canal.
- Q. 22. And the other missing soldiers did you see them when they came back ?
- A. 22. I saw one only.
- Q. 23. This one who was swimming the Canal, was he wounded ?
- A. 23. Yes.
- Q. 24. Where ?
- A. 24. I cannot say the nature of the wound but he had blood on him.
- Q. 25. This missing soldier that returned, what was the lapse of time from the time he arrived until the soldiers arrived ?
- A. 25. About a few minutes.
- Q. 26. When they returned you saw amongst them some wounded soldiers ?
- A. 26. Yes.
- Q. 27. Other than the person who was missing ?
- A. 27. Yes.
- Q. 28. Can you tell us the number of wounded persons whom you first saw after the arrival of the first lot back ?
- A. 28. I cannot tell you the exact number but I know there were wounded and I think that there were at least 6 cases that were attended to that night.
- Q. 29. During the whole night there were 6 cases attended to ?
- A. 29. As far as I can recollect but it is not my duty to count the sick and wounded.
- Q. 30. The next morning you said that there were 8 wounded ?
- A. 30. I had to entrain 8 wounded.
- Q. 31. You told us after the arrival of the first lot there were 6 wounded people. Were there 6 or 8 ?
- A. 31. In their excitement they may not all have reported their wounds that night.
- Q. 32. Directly after that did you see the Commandant, Major Urwick ?
- A. 32. No, he was occupied with his military duties.
- Q. 33. The next thing you saw was the attack party going to the village ?
- A. 33. The next party I saw was an armed party of British soldiers advancing towards the village.
- Q. 34. Can you tell us approximately what was the number ?
- A. 34. I cannot say exactly as they were distributed in other parts.
- Q. 35. When they came out of the train did they go out as one party or in several parties ?
- A. 35. They all had to cross the bridge over the canal.
- Q. 36. Was there one detachment or several parties ?
- A. 36. They practically all left together.
- Q. 37. Were they under the command of a British Officer ?
- A. 37. Each section had a British Officer presumably, but I cannot say.
- Q. 38. Did you see some British Officers with them ?
- A. 38. Yes.
- Q. 39. What time elapsed between the arrival of about 15 men from the village and the party who went out to the village ?
- A. 39. As long as it took the troops to prepare themselves.
- Q. 40. Was firing still going on during this lapse of time ?
- A. 40. Yes.
- Q. 41. Was the firing coming from the village to the train ?
- A. 41. Yes the fire was coming from the village.

- Q. 42. Could you see the villagers at that time when they were firing ?
- A. 42. No. I could see puffs of smoke coming from the house tops.
- Q. 43. What was the distance between the train from where you was standing to the willage ?
- A. 43. About 500 yards perhaps.
- Q. 44. The villagers who were firing were they inside the village or outside the village ?
- A. 44. The villagers ~~who~~ were firing ~~from~~ from the house tops.
- Q. 45. Did you see any other villager firing from the ground ?
- A. 45. No, the villagers had pursued the British soldiers and were now going back to the village.
- Q. 46. I am speaking about the time between the arrival of the 15 soldiers and when the armed party went out from the train. When this armed party went out from the train the villagers were outside the village ?
- A. 46. No, they had gone back to the village.
- Q. 47. Were the villagers fired at from the train before the armed party went out ?
- A. 47. Yes.
- Q. 48. The soldiers who were firing, were they inside or outside the train ?
- A. 48. They were along the railway embankment.
- Q. 49. Were they firing with rifles, Lewis guns, or what ?
- A. 49. They were firing with rifles, no Lewis gun was in action.
- Q. 50. The armed party which went to the village could you see the position which they took up with regard to the village ?
- A. 50. I saw one party go towards the village and another party formed a line on the South side of the village.
- Q. 51. The party which went towards the village, did it enter the village, or did it stop, and if so, where ?
- A. 51. That I cannot say as they were fired on by the natives as they entered the village.
- Q. 52. Did any wounded soldiers return back from this armed detachment ?
- A. 52. I did not see any.
- Q. 53. You said that some bullets and some shot passed by you.
- A. 53. Yes.
- Q. 54. Was this before the armed detachment left the train or not ?
- A. 54. After they had left the train.
- Q. 55. Was it when the deatchment was on its way to the village or after it had arrived at the village.
- A. 55. After it had arrived at the village.
- Q. 56. Did you notice more than one shot pass by you ?
- A. 56. Yes.
- Q. 57. How many approximately ?
- A. 57. I cannot say.
- Q. 58. A few shots or many shots ?
- A. 58. It was not a heavy fire.
- Q. 59. The armed troops that went to the village did they open fire when they were just beside the train or after they had arrived at the village ?
- A. 59. I did not see them open fire at all.
- Q. 60. You could see from where you were standing when they reached the village ?
- A. 60. Yes.
- Q. 61. And you could see the villagers firing at the soldiers ?
- A. 61. Yes.
- Q. 62. But you could not see the soldiers firing on the villagers ?
- A. 62. I do not know if the soldiers fired. I did not see them.
- Q. 63. Were any of the soldiers and the villagers in the same direction ?
- A. 63. Yes. If I was at the North end of the train I could see the rear of the attacking party and the faces of the villagers.

- Q.64. And the soldiers were nearer to you than the villagers ?
 A.64. Yes.
 Q.65. And you could see the villagers fire but you could not say if the soldiers fired or not ?
 A.65. The firing I saw was from the house tops and the soldiers had not yet reached the village.
 Q.66. When the soldiers had reached the village did you see any of them firing ?
 A.66. No. I did not see any soldiers firing.
 Q.67. Then they did not fire at all ?
 A.67. There was firing after they entered the village but I do not know which side was firing.
 Q.68. Therefore this party had entered inside the village ?
 A.68. Yes they went out of my view.
 Q.70. Was he the Officer who accompanied the first armed detachment that went to the village ?
 A.70. I cannot say.
 Q.71. On Sunday afternoon, when was the last time you saw Lieutenant Norrington ?
 A.71. I saw him last when preparations were being made to advance on the village ?
 Q.72. That was the last time you saw him that afternoon ?
 A.72. Yes as far as I can remember.
 Q.73. Do you know lieut. Randall ?
 A.73. I had seen him on the train.
 Q.74. After these incidents had began did you see him ?
 A.74. No.
 Q.75. When these villagers had reached and entered the village did you notice any change in the volume of firing ?
 A.75. It was heavier than it had been but it was not continuous and soon died away.
 Q.76. The first time you saw the fire burning in the Northern part of the village was it after this detachment had entered the village or before ?
 A.76. It was afterwards.
 Q.77. Did you see this detachment come back under Lieutenant Norrington ?
 A.77. No it was sun-down and I was occupied with my own duties.
 Q.78. Fire continued while you were carrying on with your own duties ?
 A.78. Desultory firing continued during the night.
 Q.79. During the night did you notice any trouble at all on the part of the inhabitants, no shots being fired at the train, or no natives coming to the train to attack it ?
 A.79. I went to sleep. I heard no report of such occurrence.
 Q.80. The occasional shots which you heard during the night were you awake ?
 A.80. I had a restless night and occasionally when I awoke I heard shots.
 Q.81. Did you see the Police Officer when he first arrive ?
 A.81. I saw him within an hour after the arrival of the train.
 Q.82. Did you see him speaking to Major Urwick ?
 A.82. Yes.
 Q.83. Did you see him speak to another Officer ?
 A.83. Yes, the Political Officer, Major Clarke.
 Q.84. Did you hear the conversation that went on between him and Major Urwick ?
 A.84. Yes.
 Q.85. Did you hear any of the conversation that took place between him and Major Clarke ?
 A.85. No.
 Q.86. Did you see him speak to Major Clarke ?
 A.86. Yes.

- Q.1. Did you see any looting?
- A.1. I saw no looting of fowls or sheep, goods etc. before the villagers attacked the troops. A few fowls and the geese only were taken by the troops next morning.
- Q.2. Do you know whether there was an undue amount of money or goods in possession of the men after the event?
- A.2. I did not notice an undue amount of money or goods in possession of the men after the event. Two or three days after arrival at Beni Suef, my Platoon-Sergeant asked me if there was going to be any pay issued, as all the men were short of money.

Beni Mazar.
4th. May 1919.

(signed) F.E. Norrington. 2/Lieut.
1/5th. Somerset Light Infantry.

Twenty EIGHTH WITNESS.

MAJOR F.E. URWICK, Commanding 1/5th.
Somerset Light Infantry, having been duly
sworn states:-

(Before reading this evidence see sketch attached.):-

"I was in command of the Construction train that left Cairo on the 28th. March. The train arrived at a break in the line short of Mazghouna Station at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday the 30th. The railway, ~~embankment~~ embankment was flanked on each side by a canal and at the rear of the train there was a Bridge on the West side with a path leading from it to the village of Shobak El Ghaffara. The distance from the rear of the train to this village was about 200 yards. On arrival of the train the men got out to make tea as we were stopping for the night at this place. The Sergeant Major was placing the guard on the bridge to prevent men crossing, but already a few men had crossed and were walking to the village. I noticed a crowd of villagers standing at the edge of the village but I did not see any women among them. When the train arrived there was no native on the railway embankment or on the bridge. The only natives I saw were those on the edge of the village. Suddenly there was an outbreak of firing from the village. A very short time elapsed and these men of mine had only arrived at the edge of the village when this unprovoked attack was made upon them. My men came running back. They were carrying nothing in their hands and they were unarmed, and as they crossed the bridge I noticed several wounded. The natives pursued them a short distance but were driven back by fire from the guard from the rear of the train, which had opened fire without orders; Firing from the village continued at the train. I immediately ordered the platoon, which was quartered in the rearmost part of the train, to clear the village. Both Companies had got their ~~xxx~~ rifles and had fallen in; one Company on the Eastern side and one on the Western side of the train. The platoon moved off to clear the village under the Command of Lieut. F.E. Norrington. I detailed another platoon to support this one under Lieut. C.A. Woodruff. Lieut. Woodruff's platoon crossed the bridge. They were about level with the rear of the train. This platoon was facing North and the section on its extreme left began firing. At this time I saw a large number of natives running away from the village. I could only see villagers who were going towards the desert owing to intervening Palm trees. I sent an order

to Lieut. Woodruff not to fire unless it was necessary. During this time there was considerable firing from guns going on in the village, but it died down to desultory firing. During this time I saw Lieut. F.E. Norrington take his platoon to the edge of the village. I cannot tell exactly what his actions were. I only saw some of them that remained in sight, the others having entered the village. Owing to local circumstances, such as intervening Palm trees, etc., I should mention that only the S.E. corner of the village can be seen from the position where the train halted. Soon after Lieut. Norrington's platoon had entered the village I saw smoke rising. After a short time had elapsed, probably between 5 and 5-15 p.m. five men were sent back to the train as prisoners by Lieut. Norrington. I cannot remember if any report came back with these men from Lieut. Norrington. I asked the Political Officer (Major Clarke) to investigate those cases. Probably about 5-15 p.m. the Police Officer - Sawi Effendi Taher - came to the train. He told me "I am very glad the village has been punished", or words to that effect, "as it is the worst village in the neighbourhood. The villagers of this village are responsible for the break in the line which you are now mending. They have also three times attacked Mazghouna Railway Station and it is only because I and my Police Officer have driven them off that the station is undamaged". I would like to add that the Police Officer said that the break in the line was caused by the villagers of Shobak and not by the people of Mazghouna. He spoke to the 5 prisoners. He said to me "They are the worst characters in the village and the ringleaders of all the trouble". The whole attitude of the Police Officer gave me the impression that the village of Shobak el Gaffara was quite out of hand so far as the Civil Authorities were concerned, and that these 5 prisoners were the fire-brands of the village. I should like to call the Court's attention to the position in which I was placed at this time. I was cut off, by breaks in the line on the south. I had an Engineer on the train who had been through to MINIA with a previous Construction train. At MINIA he rescued some Europeans, including Mr. Harle who gave evidence in this case, with his wife and family and they all went down to Cairo by Steamer. This Engineer told me that the line was now in a much worse damaged condition than it had been on a previous occasion. The Engineer is named Mr. Thomas. We both wondered what security we had that the same thing would not happen again. My Political Officer (Major Clarke) after investigating the cases of these 5 men, said to me, and subsequently he wrote it in his report to me, I am satisfied that these 5 men were seen firing at your men and were the ringleaders in the attack. I was not certain that the attack made upon us by the inhabitants of Shobak el Gaffara may not be the beginning of another rising. All these circumstances combined made me decide to have these 5 prisoners shot at dawn. In my opinion the shooting of these 5 men saved more subsequent blood shed. As I reported at the time, my action had a marked effect in the attitude of the natives afterwards and I believe it was mainly due to my prompt action that there was very little further trouble. It was only about on the 2nd that some damage was done to the line behind us. On the morning of the 2nd April Lieut. Hall, I believe of the 24th Airline Company, came on a Motor Trolley up the line to my train and reported that fish plates had been removed from 9 lengths of rail and he also reported that in another place stones had been wedged in between the rails at a crossing. I gave him a Lewis Gun and escort and the materials for repairing the damage. This Officer, Lieut. Hall, was following on in a cable train mending the telegraph line.

About 5-30 p.m. I commenced my dispositions for the night. I decided to take the village inside my picquets. I placed one platoon to the N.W. of the village under Lieut. Randall, two other platoons under Lieut. Board, and Lieut. Smart, were further South on the western side of the train, one platoon was to the south of the train on the railway embankment between the Canals, and one platoon was to the east of the railway on the eastern side of the eastern Canal. There was also a guard on the rear of the train under an N.C.O. and also a guard on the bridge leading to the village under an N.C.O. My orders were to prevent people returning to the village. I did not give orders to prevent people coming out of the village. I also gave orders to all my platoon Commanders, either personally or through the Adjutant (Captain Goodland) that as we have not got enough men to make a ~~thorough~~ thorough cordon round the train and owing to taking in the village which necessitated a very big area to protect that they were to keep their platoons together and if any snipers got inside to snipe the train they were to detach a party to stop them. When these picquets had gone out I withdrew Lieut. Norrington's platoon to the train and also Lieut. Woodruff's. I do not remember how I communicated with Lieut. Norrington but I expect a runner was sent. The three platoons not required for protection piled arms alongside of the train so as to be ready for immediate action. Some shots were fired during the night and I asked my Adjutant once to ring up the platoon to the N.W. of the Village meaning Lieut. Randall's, and Lieut. Broad in command of the platoon to the south of the village answered the telephone and said "I have to fire occasional shots to prevent the villagers from coming back to the village". I told the Adjutant to tell him not to fire more than was necessary and he rang off. I know that my Adjutant was talking on the phone to Lieut. Broad but as I was not the Company Commander I did not realize at that time that Lieut. Broad's platoon was south of the village whereas I wanted to talk to the Platoon to the N.W. of the village under Lieut. Randall. Lieut. Norrington's platoon, when they came in, brought a number of arms with them. I personally took one or two from the men and examined them. Amongst these, one was a gun or musket single barrel smooth bore, another was a short sword about 1½ feet long and it was fairly sharp, another was a 20 bore shot gun cut down into a pistol, it was a foot long, the stock was altered to a pistol stock and the cartridges had had the shots taken out and slugs put in their place, I did not look down the barrels to see if any had been fired recently. I let the men keep the arms they had taken as they wanted to keep them as trophies, and some have probably gone home with the men demobilised, but subsequently my Adjutant collected some of them which he will produce before the Court. I just looked out of my carriage window and saw the doctor attending to 2 or 3 men lying underneath but I did not pay attention to the wounded as I was too busy. I think the Police Officer stayed sometime, I should think about three quarters of an hour. The Police Officer was told by the Political Officer to see that the villagers of other villages did not come out of their villages. So far as I can remember I asked the Police Officer before he left if he would like to go into the village that night and he replied that he would sooner wait until the next morning and at the request of the Political Officer a time was arranged for the next morning.

The next morning at dawn the five prisoners were shot. There was a proper firing party detailed under the command of Lieut. Woodruff, and the execution was carried out in a proper military manner. I did not witness it myself. The Officer reported to me that he executed the order. The sound of that volley was the last firing I heard on the morning of the 31st. Soon after dawn, all the platoons for protection were withdrawn to the train with the exception of one to the N.W., of the village under Lieut. Randall in order that the men could have their breakfast. The breakfast for Lieut. Randall's platoon was sent out. The Police Officer came to the train that morning at about 9 o'clock as far as I can remember. I had a conversation with him and he knew that the 5 prisoners had been shot because he told me that he was glad as it would have a good effect on the villagers. I am not certain who told him but I think it was Major Clarke. I should also like to say that I am sure he knew I was the Commander of the train. To the best of my recollection two old men, four women and two children were brought to the train under escort. The Police Officer spoke to these natives, but I did not notice any supplications from them; they seemed to be resigned. They were sitting down and I knew they were eating biscuits which the soldiers had given them but I did not see any water given them. I told the Police Officer to let these people go back into the village when he completed his search. There was a party detailed to accompany the Police Officer to search the village and, to the best of my recollection it consisted of 12 men, a Sergeant, and an Officer, (Lieut. Randall). A runner was sent to tell Lieut. Randall to meet the Police Officer in the village. The 12 men were sent from the train. I am not sure whether the Sergeant went from the train or whether Lieut. Randall's platoon supplied him. I believe the Egyptian policeman (a Corporal), who gave evidence before the Court, accompanied the party. I gave orders, I believe, to the Political Officer, who issued them to the party, that they were to search for arms in the village. I think the Search Party left the train about 9 a.m., very soon after the Police Officer arrived. The search party were away about 1 1/2 hours. I do not think that I saw them actually return myself as I was in my carriage at the time. I believe the two old men, four women and two children were taken away by the search party to the village. The Omdah was brought back to the train. I cannot exactly say when he arrived but as far as I remember it was towards the end of the time when the search party had been in the village. He came under escort and as far as I remember the Police Officer came back somewhere about the same time, but whether he returned with him or not I cannot remember. I had a conversation with the Police Officer after the search about the Omdah. He said that the Omdah was a man weak in character and he did not think he was responsible for the trouble. He said that there was a certain amount of friction between the present Omdah and the ex-Omdah which he thought would give one party pleasure if the other party got into trouble. I decided to take the Omdah, as a Prisoner, on the train, and hand him over to the Civil Authorities at Wasta, which was done so that he could account for his actions. The bugler who sounded was just near to the train. The Police Officer reported at the train that he had finished the search, and then the bugle sounded. ~~That~~ That was about 10-30. The train moved on at 10-45. The train had never changed its position from the time it arrived until the time it left at 10-45 on Monday morning. There was some Lewis Guns with the troops on the train but they were never used. There were a certain number of poultry taken and two sheep. I saw these 2 sheep hanging up dead at the end of a carriage and I did not ask any questions but suspected they had walked into one of my picquets during the night.

With regard to poultry, I saw a certain number of poultry along the train, and, as I said when I gave my evidence before, I considered it was a just punishment for the unprovoked attack which was made upon us. I wish however to point out that I do not at all agree with the way the native witnesses say that these poultry were taken. The village had had a fight in it, most of the villagers had fled, and the witnesses vary, some say half the village was burnt, others say three-quarters. It was natural that by the next morning a certain number of homeless poultry were wandering about in the fields. If I had given orders to the men to return these poultry it would have been quite impossible to know who to give them back to. When we started from CAIRO we were supposed to be going to get to WASTA in two days and we were issued with 5 days rations. By the morning of the 31st. I knew that if everything went right we might get there in 5 days so I was really rather glad to see a certain amount of fresh rations on the train. I should also like to say that we had been issued with tinned meat and biscuits some bacon and a little cheese. I had been given no powers to requisition fresh food. I had on my train representatives of 40 to 50 different regiments. They were very representative of the British Race and its ideas of justice. By far the majority of my men had been sent to me from the Demobilisation Camp at KANTARA. The last lot of about 100 joining me just before we left KANTARA for CAIRO. Then on the 26th of March. The officers did not know the men and the men did not know the officers. The men did not know the N.C.O's. and the N.C.O's., did not know the men. We arrived at our Camp at CAIRO at midnight, 26th/27th. March. We had one day to organise the 3 companies, post the Officers, N.C.O's., and men to various companies, to re-organise the transport and Headquarters, and the next morning, the 28th., I pushed off with 2 Companies on this Construction Train. About nine-tenth of my men were demobilisable men who would have gone home but for the troubles in Egypt, and when they were on the point of starting, they had been seized from the Demobilization Camp and brought back. The total of my men on the Construction Train was approximately 460, of which there were only about 40 who were non-demobilisable. In addition on the train there were a few Engineers and a gang of native workman. The strength of the 3 Platoons that were out all night west of the railway would not exceed 150 men and the total number of men that went into the village on the afternoon on March 30th., would not exceed 50 men. If my orders had been carried out there would have been no British soldiers inside the village from sunset to sunrise, and I have no reason to think that my orders were not carried out. To the best of my recollection there was no conversation between me and the Police Officer with regard to stopping the firing on the afternoon of 30th. March. I am quite sure this Police Officer did not ask me to stop the firing."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE NATIVES.

- Q.1. The Construction Train left CAIRO on the 28th. March ?
 A.1. Yes, at about 9 a.m.
 Q.2. With orders to repair any break in the line ?
 A.2. Yes, on the up-line.
 Q.3. You had about 460 men ?
 A.3. Yes.
 Q.4. Were there some Australians among them ?
 A.4. I believe there were a few Australians among the men but not very many.
 Q.5. About what number ?
 A.5. I cannot say how many - only a few.
 Q.6. When you arrived there, you stopped to the south of the village ?
 A.6. Yes!

- Q.7. And the train remained there all the time ?
 A.7. It never moved.
 Q.8. You gave orders to certain guards to prevent the soldiers crossing the bridge to go to the village ?
 A.8. Yes.
 Q.9. What was your motive when you gave these orders ?
 A.9. My motive was that as we were passing through hostile country I did not want too many men to stray away from the train.
 Q.10. And in spite of your orders certain men crossed the bridge and went towards the village ?
 A.10. They had already crossed before the guard was put on the bridge.
 Q.11. Therefore directly the train came to a standstill before you had time to give your orders soldiers had gone towards the village ?
 A.11. Yes.
 Q.12. Do you know why the soldiers went to the village ?
 A.12. My idea is that they went to buy eggs and provisions - they had done it before.
 Q.13. Did you see them going to the village ?
 A.13. Yes.
 Q.14. How were they dressed ?
 A.14. As far as I remember they were in their shirts.
 Q.15. Did they have no arms at all ?
 A.15. No arms.
 Q.16. No bayonets even ?
 A.16. They had no equipment at all.
 Q.17. Were you inside or outside the train when they went to the village ?
 A.17. I got out of the train.
 Q.18. And most of the men had alighted from the train ?
 A.18. I should think most of them had done so.
 Q.19. When you saw them going to the village and you intended to give orders that soldiers should not cross the bridge and go far away, why did you not prevent them from going away ?
 A.19. I did not mind a few men going from the train. My principle always was that I would not allow men not on duty to carry any arms because then I knew they would not stray far away in a hostile country.
 Q.20. You did not prevent them from going there ?
 A.20. No.
 Q.21. How many men were there who went to the village ?
 A.21. I should put the number at 14.
 Q.22. The other men were engaged in making tea ?
 A.22. They were preparing tea.
 Q.23. Did the other persons who were with you come out of the train also ?
 A.23. Some of them, but I do not know exactly.
 Q.24. You were looking at the men all the time they were going in to the village, or were you busy with something else ?
 A.24. No. I afterwards walked to the front of the train and a very short period elapsed and on turning I then saw that I have already described.
 Q.25. Then you had got your back turned for a short time ?
 A.25. Yes.
 Q.26. When these soldiers came down and went towards the village before you went to the front of the train, did you notice any villagers standing outside the village ?
 A.26. I saw them on the edge of the village.
 Q.27. Was there a large crowd ?
 A.27. A good many.
 Q.28. You did not see any villager go to the train when the soldiers went to the village ?
 A.28. No.

- Q.7. And the train remained there all the time ?
- A.7. It never moved.
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- A.27. A good many.
- Q.28. You did not see any villager go to the train when the soldiers went to the village. ?
- A.28. No.

- Q.29. Then you suddenly heard fire opened, was it heavy ?
 A.29. It was what I would call a fusilade, an outburst of firing.
- Q.30. It continued for some time ?
 A.30. Yes.
- Q.31. For about 5 minutes or more ?
 A.31. I would say for about 5 minutes.
- Q.32. And directly the fire was opened the soldiers returned back in a hurry ?
 A.32. Yes.
- Q.33. And then the guards who were in the rear of the train fired at the villagers ?
 A.33. No not immediately. The villagers followed up the retreating soldiers and when the soldiers had got sufficiently far away to enable the guard to fire on the villagers, then they opened fire.
- Q.34. Therefore during the 5 minutes firing from the villagers, as you have said, you did not see your soldiers fire ?
 A.34. It was not long as 5 minutes. My soldiers opened fire sooner.
- Q.35. During the 5 minutes of fusilade fire did your soldiers fire ?
 A.35. Yes my soldiers opened fire in less than 5 minutes.
- Q.36. And then after your soldiers had opened fire the villagers ran away ?
 A.36. Yes, they went back to the edge of the village but fire continued from the village.
- Q.37. The villagers whom you say saw running back to the edge of the village, can you say for certain if they were the people who were firing ?
 A.37. Some of them were firing and other villagers were firing from the roofs.
- Q.38. When we go to the village to morrow, can you point out to us some of the houses from where the villagers were firing ?
 A.38. Yes I can point out the corner of the village.
- Q.39. The soldiers then came back among whom were some wounded ?
 A.39. Yes.
- Q.40. When they came back were you still outside the train ?
 A.40. Yes.
- Q.41. How many wounded were there among them ?
 A.41. I should say 5 or 6 I cannot say the exact number.
- Q.42. Did any die afterwards ?
 A.42. I evacuated them at 6.30 the following morning so I cannot say.
- Q.43. They all came running the same way ?
 A.43. I saw no other soldiers except the one lot running back.
- Q.44. Could you see the whole space between you and the village ?
 A.44. I could see along the path but the rest of the view was obstructed by the Palm trees.
- Q.45. Could you see the Canal ?
 A.45. Yes I could see along the Canal.
- Q.46. Did you see a soldier swimming across the canal ?
 A.46. No I did not remain outside the train after the soldiers came back. I went to my compartment to issue orders.
- Q.47. Directly after that then you ordered several Officers to form platoons to clear the village ?
 A.47. I only ordered one Officer Lieut. Norrington.
- Q.48. What was the number of this platoon ?
 A.48. It was under 50 men.
- Q.49. Were you inside the train or outside when they went ?
 A.49. I may have been outside or looking out of the window, I cannot remember.
- Q.50. You saw them going to the village ?
 A.50. Yes.

- Q. 51. And another platoon was following this to support it ?
 A. 51. They did not follow but they crossed the bridge and went due West.
- Q. 52. South of the canal that runs at right angles to the railway ?
 A. 52. Yes.
- Q. 53. The platoon under the command of Lieut. Norrington, did it fire on the villagers as it was advancing ?
 A. 53. I do not remember seeing the men firing as they advanced.
- Q. 54. When they reached the village did they enter the village ?
 A. 54. I saw for a time some men enter the village but I cannot say how many.
- Q. 55. From the time they arrived at the edge of the village did you notice any villagers still there ?
 A. 55. I cannot remember ; my attention was constantly distracted by looking at the other platoon.
- Q. 56. The platoon stationed South of the canal, did it open fire before Lieut. Norrington's platoon reached the village ?
 A. 56. I do not recollect.
- Q. 57. Soldiers of the first detachment under Lieut. Norrington when they came back were there some sounded amongst them ?
 A. 57. I do not know if they were any or not. I cannot say if all the wounded were in the first unarmed detachment or if any belonged to the other platoon.
- Q. 58. You saw fire (burning house) taking place in the village ?
 A. 58. I saw smoke rising.
- Q. 59. The first time you saw this smoke rising was it after the guards had fired at the villagers, or after ~~xxxxxx~~ the platoon under Lieut. Norrington had arrived at the village or after the fire that was opened by the West section on the canal ?
 A. 59. It was soon after Lieut. Norrington's platoon had gone into the village.
- Q. 60. You told us that you were aware that you were going through hostile country. Did you not find it more safe for the soldiers who were going to the village to have their arms when they were going there ?
 A. 60. My reply before was that I wished to prevent the men straying away from the train and if they had arms they might have wandered a long distance away.
- Q. 61. That is no answer to my question because you were aware that these soldiers were going to the village and when they were going to the village you say they were going through hostile country. I think it would have been safer for them to have had their arms with them ?
 A. 61. The village was only a very short distance away.
- Q. 62. Did you expect that some danger might happen to these soldiers when they went to the village ?
 A. 62. Up to that time there had been no attack on my men.
- Q. 63. Do you know if the soldiers had the same idea as you that they were going through hostile country ?
 A. 63. The soldiers could see the damage done to the railway line and stations as I could see.
- Q. 64. Do you think then that when they went to go to the village they should have had some arms with them ?
 A. 64. I think it would be better to be simply coming peaceably to buy things than to send them with arms. Up till then nothing had been done to my men.
- Q. 65. Did the platoon of Lieut. Norrington return back by your orders, or on its own account ?
 A. 65. By orders.
- Q. 66. What was the motive giving the order to this platoon to come back ?

- A.66. Because I did not wish to leave any troops in the village during the night and also it is the custom in the Army to relieve people who have done one bit of work so I felt it was other people's duty to do pickets at night.
- Q.67. The platoon of Lieut. Norrington entered the village, at what time please ?
- A.67. Between 4.30 and 4.50 p.m.
- Q.68. When did you give orders for this platoon to come back ?
- A.68. I sent the orders when I had made arrangements for the night.
- Q.69. What time please ?
- A.69. Somewhere about 5.45. and 6 p.m.
- Q.70. And during this time you were not in communication with this platoon between the time it arrived at the village and when it came back from the village ?
- A.70. Lieut. Norrington may have sent me some messages but it is so long ago that I cannot remember.
- Q.71. You were therefore not thoroughly acquainted with what they were doing in the village ?
- A.71. I probably did get messages, but I cannot remember how many, because I was aware of what was happening.
- Q.72. I suppose you spoke to Lieutenant Norrington before he left with his platoon ?
- A.72. Yes.
- Q.73. Can you tell us what you told him and the orders you gave him ?
- A.73. My orders to him were to clear the village.
- Q.74. Can you give us a fuller explanation of clearing the village ?
- A.74. My meaning was that I could not allow hostile and armed natives to remain within 200 yards of the onstruction train for the safety of which I was responsible.
- Q.75. Therefore the thing that was most important to you was to find out the persons who had arms and either to keep them away or to bring them to the train ?
- A.75. If any were taken prisoners, yes.
- Q.76. This is the most important thing you had in your mind at the time ?
- A.76. Yes to clear the village .
- Q.77. You gave your explanation of clearing the village which was to find out the natives who were in possession of arms ?
- A.77. Yes that was easy enough to find out because they used them.
- Q.78. You did not give Lieut. Norrington any orders with regard to the way in which he was to execute your orders ?
- A.78. No. He was a good reliable Officer who would realise the situation and would carry out what I wanted in the best possible manner.
- Q.79. When Lieut. Norrington returned back according to your orders then you thought when you gave this order that Yes I considered he had already accomplished his mission ?
- A.79. Yes I considered he had.
- Q.80. How did you come to know that he had accomplished his mission ?
- A.80. By the fact that there was no more firing from the village, that he had collected arms, has killed a certain number of natives, and I had seen a considerable number fleeing away from the village.
- Q.81. Did Lieut. Norrington search some houses for arms ?
- A.81. I really do not know what Lieut. Norrington did in the village.
- Q.82. Did he tell you that he searched the houses ?
- A.82. He did not say that but said he had had fighting in the village.

- Q.83. Did he tell you where he found the arms which he brought back i.e., from the natives in the streets or in their houses ?
- A.83. He did not specify that but I took it for granted he had taken them from people he had fought against.
- Q.84. Therefore Lieutenant Norrington did find natives in possession of fire arms ?
- A.84. Certainly he did.
- Q.85. What did he do to these natives ?
- A.85. Some of them were probably killed and some of them ran away.
- Q.86. The fire arms were not collected from dead bodies I think ?
- A.86. I cannot tell because ~~it~~ I was not in the village.
- Q.87. At any rate Lieut. Norrington did not bring back with him villagers whom he told you were in possession of the arms he had collected ?
- A.87. He sent in 5 villagers whom, as he states in his own evidence (I do not know his exact words) were firing on the troops.
- Q.88. When Lieut. Norrington's platoon returned back was the platoon South of the canal running at ~~the~~ right angles with the railway, still there in its position ?
- A.88. I do not remember which platoon came in first but they were both withdrawn somewhere about the same time.
- Q.89. During all the time that Lieut. Norrington's platoon was in the village executing your orders, was the second platoon South of the canal in its position, or did it advance forward ?
- A.89. No, it remained where it was.
- Q.90. During about an hour or more Lieut. Norrington's platoon was in the village ?
- A.90. They were out of sight of me. I do not know whether they remained in the village all the time or whether as he cleared the village they passed through it. He may have gone to the far end of the village.
- Q.91. During this one hour or more was the platoon South of the canal still firing ?
- A.91. No the firing stopped when I sent them the order to stop.
- Q.92. When did you send them this order to stop firing South of the canal ?
- A.92. ~~Before the platoon of Lieut. Norrington had arrived at the village, after it arrived at the village.~~ Before I sent them this order after they had been placed in position.
- Q.93. Before the platoon of Lieut. Norrington had arrived at the village or after it arrived at the village ?
- A.93. I cannot remember that.
- Q.94. For how long did the platoon South of the canal fire ?
- A.94. For quite a short time.
- Q.95. The last shot you observed that was fired by the villagers, as you have said, was it after the arrival of Lieutenant Norrington's platoon at the village or before it had arrived ?
- A.95. I did not see any natives firing after Lieut. Norrington's platoon had arrived at the village.
- Q.96. Did you go to bed at all that night ?
- A.96. I lay on the seat of the carriage.
- Q.97. Awake ?
- A.97. I slept part of the night.
- Q.98. During the night did you hear shots being fired ?
- A.98. Occasional shots.
- Q.99. None of the shots which were fired by the villagers as you have said, in the afternoon on March 30th reached the train ?
- A.99. Yes. Mr. Harle told me the same as he gave in his evidence

before the Court and I also heard that a man on guard at the rear of the train had 3 slugs in the arm. He did not report slugs as they were only scratches.

When these 5 men returned with Lieutenant Morrington do you remember the actual words he said to you about them?

No I do not.

You understood that they were offenders?

A.100.

A.101.

Q.101.

Did you speak to them at all?

A.102.

Q.102.

Did you come in contact with them through the Political Officer?

A.103.

Q.103.

No I asked the Political Officer to investigate the case.

A.104.

Q.104.

Were you present during the investigation by the Political Officer?

A.105.

Q.105.

No I was not withing hearing. You did not know therefore the means the Political Officer took to find out whether these people were true offenders or not?

A.106.

Q.106.

No I do not know what witnesses he called.

A.107.

Q.107.

You did not know even if he called witnesses or not?

A.108.

Q.108.

I was quite certain he did but I cannot tell you the names of the witnesses.

A.109.

Q.109.

Were you sure that he called some witnesses?

A.110.

Q.110.

I feel quite certain he did.

A.111.

Q.111.

Why did you feel quite sure, if you were not present and were not in a position to hear, what he was doing?

A.112.

Q.112.

Because he would not have made the report he did to me unless he had investigated the case thoroughly.

A.113.

Q.113.

Yes and I can produce it (Marked "D" attached.)

A.114.

Q.114.

Do you remember something of what is written on it?

A.115.

Q.115.

I quoted some words from it in my evidence.

A.116.

Q.116.

Do you think that it is stated in it that the Political Officer did call witnesses and hear them?

A.117.

Q.117.

No I do not say that.

A.118.

Q.118.

I said do you remember whether it is written in it that the Political Officer called upon witnesses ~~known~~ and heard them or not?

A.119.

Q.119.

I do not remember if it is so stated in the report.

THIRTEENTH DAY.

1. The Court visited the village of HAZLET el SHOWK on Friday the 27th day of June 1919. The Court stood in the place where the train was and looked at the ground. They found that from that place where the train was one could see all the S.E. end of the village. The view West of the place where the train was obscured by intervening Palm trees, i.e., the view on the Northern side of the Canal that runs at right angles to the Railway. South of this corner the view is over the open ground.

2. The Court visited the village and rode all round it. Many of the houses have been burnt. Nearly all the houses consist of mud structures roofed with dry dourra stalks. The latter are evidently very inflammable. About approximately half the houses in the village have been burnt. The Court also noticed that all the streets ran in the Easterly and Westerly direction and that there were no cross streets running in the Notherly and Southerly direction; therefore, a party in order to search the village would have to issue outside and re-enter.

3. The Court also visited the site where the 5 men were buried by the Military after the latter had executed them. They found 5 graves all in a row with about one foot or 18 inches between each grave. Each grave was still about 5 or 5 1/2 feet long and about 2 feet broad and about 18 inches deep. Although 3 months has elapsed since the incident, from the shape of the graves it was evident that the Military had buried these 5 men lying down. They were no holes in the vicinity in which these men could have been buried alive standing up before they were shot.

THE COURT THEN PROCEEDED TO HEAR EVIDENCE ON BEHALF OF THE NATIVES.TWENTY NINTH WITNESS.

ALI SAYED MANSOUR having been duly sworn, states:-

"On Sunday 30th. March I was in my house. I was ill. The English soldiers entered the village and entered my house and took 2 chickens away. They went out and I locked the door. This was at about 4 p.m. after the afternoon prayer. After a while there was shooting heard in the village. I was in the house all the night, shots continued, and the village was on fire. The following day the soldiers came and forced the door of my house and entered my house. When they entered the house they shot a buffalo in my house. The people who were in the house with me then left the house. I was left in the house alone and the soldiers came up to me and they took away my purse containing 27 in notes which I had in my possession and they returned the purse empty to me. I was beaten with the butts of the rifles and I was then driven out as far as the train. Seeing the Police Officer I shouted for him. He then took me to some other native people who were near the train - women and men. The Police Officer with soldiers then took me along with the other natives to the ex-Omdah's house in the village. The Police Officer left us in the ex-Omdah's house and he and the English soldiers went into the village."

CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

SEAD BINT REDWAN, having been duly sworn,
deposes :-

"I am daughter-in-law of Saada Bint Hussainein.
On the 30th March I was in my house when I heard shots being fired. We locked both doors. My husband, my mother-in-law and my father-in-law were in the house. The soldiers entered the house in the afternoon about 4 p.m. and my mother-in-law asked the soldiers "shall we get you some geese", but they replied "sig-zig". Top of the soldiers had their arms bared. When I am in my house I do not wear any under trousers. They slipped up my garment. I was standing then. I was still standing and I shouted and my husband and my father-in-law came up to me. The four soldiers who were standing shot at them. I got frightened and I fell down and since I am sick and I know nothing more."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. How many soldiers came in ?
A.1. Six.
Q.2. Were they all carrying rifles ?
A.2. Yes.
Q.3. All six of them ?
A.3. Only four.
Q.4. Where was your husband and father-in-law when the soldiers came in ?
A.4. They were in another room.
Q.5. When did they go into the other room ?
A.5. When we heard the shots and we locked the doors.
Q.6. How long did your husband and father-in-law remain in the other room ?
A.6. I cannot tell.
Q.7. Many minutes ?
A.7. I do not know.
Q.8. Did either of the soldiers catch hold of you ?
A.8. Yes.
Q.9. You say a soldier caught hold of you, is that so ?
A.9. Yes.
Q.10. And what did he do to you ?
A.10. He slipped up my garment and he slipped his pants off one foot.
Q.11. And you were standing then ?
A.11. Yes.
Q.12. Where were you standing ?
A.12. In the middle of the house.
Q.13. Was it in the middle of the room ?
A.13. In the middle of the house.
Q.14. What part of the room, near the window, or near the wall ?
A.14. I was near the door.
Q.15. While you were standing and after the soldier had pulled up your clothes and slipped down his own clothes, did he do anything to you ?
A.15. He had no time to do anything to me.
Q.16. He had no time to do anything because you screamed and your husband came, is that what you mean ?
A.16. He had no time to do anything to me because I was shouting.
Q.17. Directly you shouted did your husband come ?
A.17. Yes.
Q.18. And did your father-in-law come ?
A.18. Yes both of them.
Q.19. What did they do ?
A.19. They did not do anything but immediately they came up they were shot.
Q.20. I want to know who shot at them ?
A.20. The 4 who were standing and dressed in shorts.

WITNESS.

SEAD HINT RIZMAN, having been duly sworn,
deposes :-

"I am daughter-in-law of Seada Hint Hussain.
On the 30th March I was in my house when I heard shots being
fired. We locked both doors. My husband, my mother-in-law
and my father-in-law were in the house. The soldiers entered
the house in the afternoon about 4 p.m. and my mother-in-law
asked the soldiers "shall we get you some geese", but they
replied "SIGZIG". Two of the soldiers had their arms bare.
When I am in my house I do not wear any under trousers. They
slipped up my garment. I was standing then. I was still
standing and I shouted and my husband and my father-in-law
came up to me. The four soldiers who were standing shot at
them. I got frightened and I fell down and since I am sick
and I know nothing more."

CROSS EXAMINED BY COUNSEL FOR THE MILITARY.

- Q.1. How many soldiers came in ?
A.1. Six.
Q.2. Were they all carrying rifles ?
A.2. Yes.
Q.3. All six of them ?
A.3. Only four.
Q.4. Where was your husband and father-in-law then the soldiers
came in ?
A.4. They were in another room.
Q.5. What did they go into the other room ?
A.5. When we heard the shots and we locked the doors.
Q.6. How long did your husband and father-in-law remain in
the other room ?
A.6. I cannot tell.
Q.7. Many minutes?
A.7. I do not know.
Q.8. Did either of the soldiers catch hold of you ?
A.8. Yes.
Q.9. You say a soldier caught hold of you, is that so ?
A.9. Yes.
Q.10. And what did he do to you ?
A.10. He slipped up my garment and he slipped his pants off one
foot.
Q.11. And you were standing then ?
A.11. Yes.
Q.12. Where were you standing ?
A.12. In the middle of the house.
Q.13. Was it in the middle of the room ?
A.13. In the middle of the house.
Q.14. What part of the house.
A.14. I was near the door, near the window, or near the wall ?
Q.15. Was you were standing and after the soldier had pulled
up your clothes and slipped down his own clothes, did he
do anything to you ?
A.15. He had no time to do anything to me.
Q.16. He had no time to do anything because you screamed and your
husband came, is that what you mean ?
A.17. Directly you shouted to do anything to me because I was shouting.
Q.17. Yes.
Q.18. And did your father-in-law come ?
A.18. Yes both of them.
Q.19. What did they do ?
A.19. They did not do anything but immediately they came up they
were shot.
Q.20. I want to know who shot at them ?
A.20. The 4 who were standing and dressed in shorts.

- Q. 21. I want to know this did each of those four shoot ?
 A. 21. Each of the four.
 Q. 22. They all shot at once ?
 A. 22. They shot together.
 Q. 23. Did you hear the sound of one shot only ?
 A. 23. I only heard the sound of one shot.
 Q. 24. Was your husband hit ?
 A. 24. He was hit in the arm and in the side.
 Q. 25. Did any of the soldiers do anything to your mother-in-law before your own eyes ?
 A. 25. One soldier was with me and one soldier was with my mother-in-law.
 Q. 26. Did you see either of the soldiers touch your mother-in-law ?
 A. 26. Yes.
 Q. 27. What did the soldier who touched your mother-in-law do to her ?
 A. 27. He did the same thing to her as the other soldier did to me.
 Q. 28. The other soldier did nothing to you because he had no time ?
 A. 28. Yes, and as such an act does not please God we had to shout.
 Q. 29. You both shouted ?
 A. 29. Yes.
 Q. 30. Then neither of the soldiers completed the act which does not please God ?
 A. 30. No, neither of them completed the act.
 Q. 31. Did your husband try to strike one of the soldiers ?
 A. 31. No he came with nothing in his hands.
 Q. 32. My question was, did your husband try to strike either of the soldiers ?
 A. 32. My husband did not mean to do anything. All he said was "Shame, Shame".
 Q. 33. Did he not touch either of the soldiers ?
 A. 33. No.
 Q. 34. Did your father-in-law touch either of the soldiers ?
 A. 34. No.
 Q. 35. Was your husband quite close to you when he was shot by a soldier ?
 A. 35. He was from here to the wall (about 3 yards away).
 Q. 36. When your husband was shot where was your father-in-law close to your husband ?
 A. 36. Both of them were together.
 Q. 37. And was there a soldier between your husband and yourself ?
 A. 37. There was one soldier between me and my husband and father-in-law.
 Q. 38. Where was your mother-in-law when the soldier fired ?
 A. 38. I do not know as I was unconscious at the time.
 Q. 39. I cannot take that for an answer. If you were unconscious at the time you cannot say what you have just told me. Were you unconscious when the soldier fired ?
 A. 39. When they shot I fell unconscious.
 Q. 40. You did not with your own eyes see the soldier fire ?
 A. 40. Yes I saw the 4 soldiers shoot.
 Q. 41. When you saw the 4 soldiers shoot where was your mother-in-law ?
 A. 41. She was with me.
 Q. 42. Was there another soldier with your mother-in-law then ?
 A. 42. Yes there was a soldier with my mother-in-law.
 Q. 42. There between those 2 soldiers and the 4 soldiers who shot there was your husband and your father-in-law. Is that right ?
 A. 42. Yes.