

(5)

STATEMENT BY MR. W.R. REEVE  
ASST. SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, ACCRA.

- 28.2.48 1.30 p.m. Paraded at Government House with 1 Inspector, 2 N.C.O.s. and 20 men.
- 4 p.m. (approx.) Was relieved at Government House by the Military and proceeded to Castle Road X'borg Road junction with my detachment. A large crowd was present, but quite orderly.
- 4.30 p.m. (approx.) Proceeded with a lorry and 12 men to High Street to assist Major Ames who had reported looting at Kingsway Store. Area completely quiet on my arrival, though the Kingsway Store had been badly damaged and looted. I then proceeded to United Africa Company main warehouse at Korle Lagoon and found that a very large crowd (mainly women and children) had commenced to loot the building. A main door had been fired. Crowd decamped leaving the contents of store almost intact. Extinguished fire and posted sentries to guard the building. Four arrests made.
- 6 p.m. Patrolled town to Salaga Market area where I found wholesale looting by large crowd in progress. Made continual baton charges, but as fast as one area was cleared the crowd re-appeared in other streets. Saw two stationary cars overturned and one other set on fire.
- 6.40 p.m. Received information that Major Lane and men with one European civilian (Mr. Wilmot) were trapped by large mob at Horse Road. Proceeded there and was heavily stoned. Made baton charges and reached Major Lane. Secured ambulance and got Wilmot removed. With Major Lane and men made baton charges at Horse Road to Station Road where I made contact with Military who had then taken up posts at Post Office area. Made further baton charges at Station Road to secure a way for fire brigade to fight fire at United Africa Company Swanmill.
- 7.30 p.m. (Approx.) Received orders to return to main Barracks with men. Arrived 7.45 p.m.
- 8 p.m. Went to town with men to bring out Europeans and remove them to Ridge area. Engaged so till 10.30 p.m.
- 10.30 p.m. Went with Major Ames and men to John Holt main store where looting was in progress. Cleared the area. Proceeded to U.A.C. Horse Road - Station Road junction to clear mob who were hampering and threatening fire brigade.
- 11.30 p.m. Joined Mr. Bailey and Mr. Hockley at Derby Avenue to clear crowd looting stores.

- 12.48 12.5 a.m. Heavy rain drove mob to shelter. Remained at Station Road till 3.30 a.m. and then returned to Barracks.
- 5 a.m. (approx.) Looting started again all over town. Proceeded with men and Military firing party to High Street. Cleared mob from Kingsway Store and patrolled central Accra till 9 a.m. Made several baton charges during that period.
- 10 a.m. Went to Boundary Road to clear looters.
- 10.30 a.m. Removed all Police from streets to permit Military to open fire.
- 12 noon to 3.30pm. Evacuated Europeans from Kaneshie, Korle Bu area  
Photographs of some of the damaged cars referred to above attached.

(Sgd). W.R.Reeve.  
ASST.SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

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STATEMENT BY MAJOR A.G.AMES,  
AG.SUPT.OF POLICE, DEPOT.

28.2.48 3.35 p.m. I received a telephone message from the Commissioner instructing me to proceed to Christiansborg cross roads with all available men from the Depot.

I at once fell in all men available who numbered about 65, and as there was only one lorry to transport them I proceeded with the first party consisting of about 35 men and arrived at the Christiansborg cross roads at about 4.30 p.m. The lorry then returned to the Depot to bring down the remaining men under Inspector Attokro.

On arrival at the cross roads I reported to the Deputy Commissioner and shortly afterwards saw the Commissioner who instructed me to take a party of men and go to the town to see what the situation was like there.

I took 15 men and proceeded by lorry along the Christiansborg Road in the direction of the Supreme Court and then along High Street. On approaching the Kingsway Stores I saw a crowd of some 400 or 500 composed of men and women. I debussed my party and advanced on the crowd ~~the~~ which started to disperse when they saw the Police. There were still some people looting the Kingsway stores which by the time I arrived there was completely wrecked and a large quantity of the stock removed, and the remainder broken and lying about in confusion. Everything breakable appeared to have been broken and the telephone removed. Shortly after my arrival at the Kingsway stores three Europeans, Messrs. John, McHardy and Griffiths came out of a room at the back and informed me that they had been in the room during the looting. I sent these three gentlemen back to their homes in my lorry which was the only transport available.

I then reported to a Police Officer, I cannot remember who, at Government House by telephone from an adjacent store, what I had done and where I was and stated that I proposed to stay where I was until I received further instructions. I was now without transport as the lorry which I had sent away with the three Europeans did not return for about an hour.

I stayed at the Kingsway stores, where the situation was under control, until I received instructions to return with my party to the Central Barracks. I received these instructions at about 7.30 p.m. but am not certain of the time.

My reason for staying at the Kingsway Stores was that I could be called on the telephone at Ussher Fort Police Station which is near by, and I considered it necessary that the whereabouts of my

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My party should be known in case they were needed elsewhere. After my return to the Central Barracks I remained there until about 10 p.m. when I proceeded to Station Road with Mr. Reeve and a party of men in an endeavour to stop the looting which was going on in all the stores. This was impossible with the men at our disposal as no sooner did we clear one store and move on to the next than the looters were back in the store just cleared and we had not enough men to guard each store.

We moved gradually to the South end of Station Road where the crowd was very dense and would not disperse in spite of several baton charges.

There were some troops at the junction of Station and Horse Roads and in an endeavour to disperse the crowd two shots were fired by Military personnel but it was too dark to see whether these took effect. The troops then stayed in position at this road junction and Mr. Reeve, myself and our party then moved back down Station Road towards the North end. The looters were again at work in the stores and although many of the stores were again cleared it was quite impossible to keep them so.

At about 11.15 p.m. I was instructed to return to the Central Barracks. This I did leaving Mr. Reeve and his party engaging a crowd down one of the streets leading off station road.

After a short interval at the Central Barracks I proceeded round the main centres of disturbance with the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent, Accra. By this time it was raining heavily and the crowds had dispersed.

After this I returned to the Depot where I arrived at 2.45 a.m. on 29. 2. 48.

29. 2. 48. I arrived at the Central Barracks at about 7 a.m. and was detailed for duty as Liaison Officer with O. C., 1 G.C.R., at the Ridge Post.

All available members of the division which includes airports, Airforce, Police, and other departments were detailed to assist in the dispersal of the crowd in the Ridge area. The crowd was dispersed by 10 a.m.

(Sgd) A.G. Ames, PROVOST MUSKETEER

AG. SUPERINTENDENT,  
GOLD COAST POLICE.

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STATEMENT BY MAJOR A.W.FORDYCE,  
ASST.SUPT. OF POLICE.

28.2.48. At approximately 5 p.m. I received a telephone message from Mr. Govan, the Asst. Commissioner who stays in the adjacent bungalow to mine. He asked if I had any information regarding a disturbance in Accra. I phoned Station Road Police Station and ascertained from the Corporal on duty that looting had broken out in the town. Mr. Govan and I then proceeded to Accra where we found Station Road in an uproar. Prior to this I posted 1 N.C.O. and 4 Constables with arms to patrol New Cantonments to stop any infiltration towards that area.

2. I remained in Station Road in charge of 50 Police until approximately 11 p.m. During this time I was endeavouring to keep Station Road as clear as possible by leading baton charges down the side streets. The Swanmill which contained large quantities of kerosene had been set alight about 6.30 p.m. and the town Fire Brigade ordered out. As this was so late in appearing the Commissioner of Police on my suggestion sent word back to the Main Barracks asking for the Airport Fire Brigade. This arrived about eight p.m. Heavy rain started at 10.40 p.m. and the mob cleared from the streets. I reported back to Main Barracks at approximately 11 p.m. when I proceeded to Cantonments area to check the guard in that area.

3. I returned to Main Barracks at approximately 12 O'clock when I was ordered to pick up the Deputy Commissioner at his bungalow. I then proceeded round the town with Mr. Imray, Superintendent, Accra, and Capt. P. Eckel the Deputy Commissioner, after this reconnaissance I was posted at the General Post Office to work as a liaison officer with Lt. Col. Colbeck, 1st G.C.R. The G.P.O. was then being used as Military Headquarters. At approximately 5 a.m. on the 29th February I moved with Col. Colbeck to the Ridge Police Post which was to be used as Advance Headquarters. I remained on duty there until 2 p.m. when I was relieved by Major Ames.

4. All available men from my Division which includes Airfield, Airport, Labadi, X'borg, Achimota, Dodowa and Prampram were called to Main Barracks for duty in Accra. On the morning of the 29th I closed down Achimota, Dodowa and Prampram Stations and the men reported at Accra for duty.

(Sgd). A.W.Fordyce.  
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE

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STATEMENT BY MR. E. J. DOXAT.  
SNR. ASST. SUPT. OF POLICE.

8.2.48

On 28.2.48, I was stationed at Kibi and at 3.00 a.m. on 29.2.48 I received a telephone message to proceed as soon as possible to Accra with 20 Depot personnel who were then on duty in the Nsawam district. I left Kibi about 6.00 a.m. and proceeded to Nsawam where I collected the Depot personnel, after a short delay in arranging transport I left with the men for Accra where I arrived about 8.45 a.m. and reported myself to Superintendent Mr. Imray. About 15 minutes later I was detailed with a party of about 20 Police in a lorry to go to Ussher Fort Prison where it was reported that the prisoners had broken out assisted by looters and that the military who were then there required reinforcements. I went in the lorry by way of Boundary Road which was thick ~~was~~ very unruly hooligan elements of the population. I saw a large crowd armed with sticks and iron bars gathered round the door of a Syrian store trying to break their way inside. I slowed down the lorry and fired two rounds from my revolver at the legs of the crowd on which they dispersed, I did not observe that anyone was injured; I was unable to take any further action either to deal with the incident when I saw it or afterwards as to ~~s~~ do so would have meant a considerable delay in reaching Ussher Fort Prison where I believed the situation to be very serious.

I proceeded further via Pagan Road and Salaga Street passing several cars that had been smashed and over-turned and a lot of stores that had been broken into and looted.

On arrival at Ussher Fort Prison I found a platoon of troops surrounding the Prison; there were sounds of a good deal of disturbance from inside the Prison and such prisoners as I would see at the bars of the cell windows were very drunk and abusive. The Main Gate was closed and appeared secure when I arrived. I posted some Police to guard the main gate and posted the remainder to strengthen the military window round the Prison. I contacted the Prison Superintendent who informed me that he did not require Police assistance at that time inside the Prison; I told him that I would guard the gate and prevent any further breaking in or out and that I would assist him inside if necessary.

Whilst on duty I saw lots of people carrying off goods that they had looted from the stores but as the majority were some distance from the Prison I would not ~~s~~ take any effective action without dissipating my force and leaving the Prison inadequately guarded. However, I did assist arrest several persons who were found with loot near the window and these were all handed over for prosecution at Ussher Fort Police Station.

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STATEMENT BY MR. F.J.HOCKLEY,  
ASST. SUPT. OF POLICE.

28.2.48 4 p.m.

At my bungalow, I received a telephone message from Mr. McIntyre, Mechanical Engineer, Accra Town Council stating that Mr. Crowe, Transport Manager, Accra Town Council, his wife and child were in the Municipal Bus Shelter opposite the Post Office and were surrounded by an extremely hostile crowd who were threatening them with violence. I promised immediate assistance and phoned the Duty Officer, Superintendent Mr. Widdup, at Main Barracks. I was told that the situation in the town was serious and that I was to report at once for duty.

I reported at about 4.6 p.m. and shortly afterwards A.S.P. Mr. Bailey and Superintendent Mr. Franklin arrived.

A civilian, name unknown but an employee of Messrs. John Holt & Co.Ltd., was asked to man the telephone at the Main Barracks and after Mr. Franklin and Mr. Widdup had inspected the area in and around Station Road, all European Officers, together with two small parties of Police left for the area. The time then was approximately 4.20 p.m.

Station Road, on the hill by Messrs. W. Bartholomew & Co.Ltd., was completely blocked by a mass of people and repeated attempts to drive them back failed owing to the numbers who were breaking into the Indian Stores and generally filling the area at the junction of Station and Horse Roads. There were also a considerable crowds on either side of Station Road, in both Selwyn Market Street and Derby Avenue. Many premises had been broken into and goods were being carried away by men, women and children.

Repeated baton charges temporarily dispersed the crowds but owing to the very limited number of Police available, as soon as one section of street had been cleared the other immediately filled up. There was some stoning.

The above conditions continued until about 5.30 p.m. when, on the instructions of Mr. Franklin, I proceeded in the Jeep to Prince of Wales Gardens and reported the position at Station Road. I was directed to the Kingsway Stores where I saw Supt. Major Ames with a party of Police. There was evidence of much damage having been sustained but there were no crowds then present although there was considerable noise from the direction of Horse Road.

Having then been informed that A.S.P. Mr. Reeve was with a party of Police at or near the Lighthouse, I proceeded there but was unable to contact him and, assuming that he would attempt to drive the crowds back towards Station Road, I returned via High Street, Pagan and Boundary Roads to Station Road area; on the way back I saw a number of cars overturned in Horse Road and one lorry on its

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its side and burning in Pagan Road. Horse Road, from the Post Office to Station Road was completely filled by a yelling mob.

The position in Station Road had not changed materially and with the arrival of Ag.A.C.P. Mr. Govan and A.S.P. Major Fordyce, baton charges were again resorted to but were fairly ineffectual.

With darkness, looting became more general in the area and as fast as we cleared one store, the crowd immediately entered another. There were no special incidents, proceedings being a repetition of the above, until about 8 p.m. when the "Swanmill" Stores was set on fire. The Fire Brigade were a long time in arriving - I understood from the Fire Officer that the No.1 crews were injured by the crowd South of Horse Road and that scratch crews had to be organised - and the whole store was ablaze although it appeared that all showcases were empty and smashed. Kerosene drums were exploding at the rear of the premises and it seemed that G.B.Ollivant & Co. would also be affected. However as there was very little breeze this did not happen although one of the shutters was shoulderering. Punjabi stores, immediately adjacent to Swanmill, was gutted but the fire was confined to that area.

Repeated drives were made to keep looting to a minimum but these could not be termed successful and it was not until the arrival of A.S.P. Mr. Reeve and Major Lane with two parties of Police, that we were able to make any impression on the crowds who, even then, returned as soon as Police moved off to another place.

**29.2.48 1 a.m.** It commenced to rain very hard and this, coupled with the fact that the mass hysteria which had prevailed up to then was wearing off and considerable numbers of both men and women were very drunk, did more to disperse the crowds than we had been able to achieve. There were small isolated incidents until 4 a.m. when we returned to the Main Barracks.

**7 a.m.** I returned to the Main Barracks with A.S.P. Mr. Bailey. All European Officers were warned that the Military might have to open fire on the crowds who were again in large numbers and had re-commenced looting.

At about 8.30 a.m. I received a telephone call from the Swiss Manager of S.A.T., Station Road, who stated that his store was being looted and that he and his wife were afraid that they would be injured.

Mr. Bailey, Major Lane and myself, together with about 20 men, left on foot for the scene and drove off the crowd. The Manager and his wife were sent away by car and we then attempted to clear Station Road, being only partially successful.

Messars. U.T.C. was then intact although a small section of expanded metal had been cut away and

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and it appeared that watchmen from the stores were assisting some of the crowd in attempting to hook articles out by means of a wire. Further baton charges dispersed this crowd and, as the Military could then be seen moving into position in the various thoroughfares, all small Police parties withdrew to the Main Barracks.

From the Main Barracks I heard the Military firing from time to time and, apart from two ~~paxt~~ patrols round the town ~~xxxth~~ I remained on duty until midnight.

(Sgd). F.J.Hockley,  
OFFICER IN CHARGE M.T.U.  
GOLD COAST POLICE.

STATEMENT BY MAJOR B. A. LANE,  
ASST. SUPT OF POLICE.

28. 2. 48. At approximately 5.15 p.m. on Saturday 28th February, 1948, I was in the Castle and was ordered by the Commissioner of Police to proceed to Accra to get Mr. A.T.de B. Wilmot, Asst. Colonial Secretary, out of a building which was surrounded by looters and rioters in Horse Road. I was informed that Mr. Wilmot had been badly beaten up by a crowd of hooligans in Accra and had been rescued, and now in a store in Horse Road. I left the Castle at approximately 5.30 p.m. and proceeded to Accra and took with me about 10 Escort Police and a few Smoke hand Grenades. I arrived at the top of Station Road i. e. the road junction Station Road and Horse Road in the large area surrounded by the Indian stores. I saw that the crowd, a very large crowd, were completely out of hand and that all the stores in that area were being looted. I saw also in this area, overturned cars, about four, one of which was on fire. I saw looters breaking down the doors and windows of shops and looting the premises. Horse Road was packed tight with people looting and trying to form a road block with large pieces of cement at the junction of Horse Road and Station Road. I doubled back to the Post Office and knowing the telephone number of the store where Mr. Wilmot was supposed to be, I got the address of the store from the Telephone Exchange. The stores in question was W. Samtani Bros. located in Horse Road. In the meantime my ten Escort Police were trying their best to clear the looters from this area with very little success as the hand smoke grenades had little or no effect and the Police were only armed with short truncheons I got the men together and make repeated attempts to reach Samtani's store but I was unsuccessful. Each time the crowds saw me there were shouts of "Bloody Whiteman" and Kill him" and time and time again my Escort Police had to surround me from the crowd. At approximately 6.30 p.m. A. S. P. Mr. Reeve arrived with reinforcements armed with riot batons. We formed up all our men totalling about 25 or 30 and baton charged the crowds in Horse Road and gained access to Samtani's store which was smashed and looted, we found Mr. Wilmot in the flat over the shop where he had been given first aid treatment by the inmates. We managed eventually to get an ambulance which we had to back into Samtani's compound so that the crowd of hooligans could not see that a European was being put into the ambulance. A. S. P. Mr. Reeve and myself repeated further baton charges in the Horse Road area trying to clear the rioters and looters. At about 7.30 p. m. I was relieved by a party from the Gold Coast Regiment. Mr. Reeve and myself then left with our men and reported to the Police Barracks. I had a

meal and then proceeded back to Barracks I went out to Station Road where I met Mr. Franklin with some Police. I took over from him and joined up with Major Temple Morris who had an armed party of Soldiers. We carried out a sweep up Station Road to clear the looters and we continued to clear the crowds until the rain started, which drove the people home. I stayed in Station Road with my men assiting the Fire Brigade who were trying to extinguish the fire at the Swanmill building which was burning furiously. I later joined up with A.S.P. Mr. Bailey and A.S.P. Mr. Hockley and we continued patrolling the streets until we returned to Barracks when all was quiet at approximately 4 a.m. 29/2/48.

Between 6.30 a.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday 29/2/48 I took an armed party of Police with Major Temple Morris who also had an armed party of soldiers and we patrolled Station Road where we found looting going on by large crowds of people. We proceeded up and down Station Road numerous times clearing the road, and the looters from the store. We eventually cleared Station Road. We then proceeded along various side roads off Station Road, where at times we were compelled to open regulated fire as the crowds stoned us, and baton charges were unsuccesful.

I returned to the Barracks at approximately 8 a.m. and left again for Station Road with A.S.P. Mr. Bailey and A.S.P. Mr. Hockley and a party of men where we again dealt with looters in Station Road and the side roads off Station Road. We continued this work until we were informed that the Army were taking over. We then returned to the Barracks at possibly 10 a.m. or later.

(Sgd). B.A.Lane,  
ASST.SUPT. OF POLICE.

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STATEMENT BY MR. J.T.A. BAILEY,  
STAFF OFFICER.

My first intimation of the disturbances was a telephone message from the Main Barracks at 4.05 p.m. on Saturday the 28th February, 1948. I immediately proceeded there, arriving at approximately 4.10 p.m. and saw Supt. Mr. Widdup and A.S.P. Mr. Hockley. A number of General and Escort Police were standing by.

It was obvious from the noise coming from the town that there was a disturbance of some size in the main shopping area, but I had no conception at that time of the magnitude of it.

Inspector Nyinah reported in from X'borg Road within a minute or so of my arrival, and, having commandeered a Government Transport lorry, I proceeded together with him and 8 Escort Police armed with riot batons, to the Post Office via Boundary Road, southward.

Boundary Road was fairly quiet, but there was evidence of extreme mob violence in Pagan Road. Windows and doors of some of the stores on the East side of the street had been broken, and a large station wagon was lying on its side outside the Royal Exchange Assurance building and was burning furiously.

The crowd at that point was not numerous and retreated into the various side-roads and alleys when they saw the Police.

We debussed outside Chellarams Store and I sent the lorry back to Barracks along the route whence we had come as it seemed possible that the mob would attack if unless a Police guard was left with the vehicle. My Police posse was insufficient to permit this.

Post Office Square was littered with debris. A private car had been overturned outside Chellarams and another in front of the City Food Supply. Stones and large pieces of cement were lying in the roadway. The City Food Supply had been ransacked. The crowd had dispersed towards the Bombay Bazaar, Lutterodt Street and Station Road Area.

We proceeded on foot westward down Horse Road, dispersing a few stragglers en route, to Station Road Junction where there was a large yelling mob. A large kit car had been overturned on the West side of the junction and the "Bombay Bazaar" Stores had been looted.

After a baton charge the crowd retreated, scattering into the various streets and lanes, but a large jeering mob remained in Horse Road West of the junction. Looking back Eastward towards the Post Office Square I noted that the crowd which had dispersed on our arrival were returning. A number of missiles, mostly broken pieces of cement blocks, were thrown from the Bombay Bazaar area but no one was hit.

There was a solid mass in front of the premises of Bartholomew and Co.Ltd., in Station Road yelling and

breaking windows who were driven back after a baton charge, but the Police were hopelessly outnumbered and could only effect a temporary dispersal of the crowd. As soon as the Police party moved to deal with a fresh outbreak of looting, the mob returned to the places from which they had been previously dispersed and recommenced their looting and breaking of stores.

From my own observation, I formed the opinion that the looting and breaking was of an organised nature. Gangs of hooligans would break down doors and smash windows etc. and would run when attacked by Police with riot batons. Whilst they were being chased in an attempt to apprehend them, women, in some cases with infants on their backs, and juveniles of both sexes would follow up behind and loot the goods from the stores which had already been broken. The gang of breakers would then move on elsewhere and effect an entry to another store where the same method would be adopted. A number of the men carried looted cutlasses and one I saw with a pole at least 6 feet long which was being used as a battering ram. I collected this pole when it was dropped by the user after a baton charge in front of G.B.Ollivant's .

With my squad of Escort Police, I eventually joined up with Mr. Franklin, Mr. Widdup and Mr. Hockley at the corner of Knutsford Avenue and Station Road. Endeavours were made to clear the ~~xx~~ crowd from Station Road by means baton charges, but the situation was an impossible one. Those in the immediate vicinity retreated quickly enough but returned as soon as they were out of the range of the Police batons.

As darkness fell, the looting increased. U.A.C., Swanmill, G.B.Ollivants, Punjabi Bros., John Holt's, W.J. Seidler's etc., were all being ransacked simultaneously. It was quite impossible to cope with all these outbreaks with the handful of Police at our disposal.

The liquor store at G.B.Ollivants was broken into and the pavement and main road soon became littered with broken bottles of whisky and other spirits. Swanmill, by this time an empty shell, was fired, and it seemed probable that G.B. Ollivant's gunpowder magazine and petrol store would catch alight. Fortunately these were saved.

The mob of many thousands then moved their area of operations to the avenues and roads west of Station Road. Chellarams in Derby Avenue and several Syrians stores opposite were broken into and ransacked. A baton charge dispersed the crowd and an endeavour was made to cordon off the road. A large mob remained about 50 yards away and commenced throwing bricks and stones at the Police party. They adopted a threatening attitude waving clubs and sticks - one man who was gesticulating to the crowd was carrying a brand new shooting stick, obviously looted - but every time the Police party made as if to go forward they retreated another yard or so. They hurled various abusive epithets such as "White Bastard", "Bloody Police" at me. "Bloody Awam" to no-one in particular; and shouted several remarks to the Escort Police such as "Ah! you N.T. Police you fight for white man". Why you fight for white basterds?" and so on. Needless to say the E.P. remained unaffected.

While this cordon was being maintained the people had surged back into Station Road by devious routes and into Knutsford Avenue, Horse Road etc. Endeavours were made to check them but they were literally everywhere. This state of affairs continued up to the time of the heavy thunderstorm about midnight. At this time I joined up with Mr. Reeve, Mr. Hockley, S/I Issa Kanjarga and a squad of E.P. The main crowd had by this time dispersed temporarily with their ill-gotten gains.

We eventually re-mustered under Mr. Govan and returned to the Main Barracks.

After dawn on Sunday the 29th February, I went out with Mr. Hockley, Major Lane and a party of E.P's to Station Road to rescue a party of Syrian traders and their families from Chebib's stores. Looting was still going on on a large and wide scale. Baton charges were made resulting in several casualties amongst the looters. But the situation was complicated by the fact that the majority of those helping themselves were women often with babies, and young girls. They were not hostile, merely frightened temporarily when Police made their charges. It was rather like attempting to deal with a plague of locusts with a flit gun.

I am convinced that the looting was organised and the "breaking-gangs" were ably assisted by the watchmen employed by the stores. Notable exceptions to this were the watchmen employed by C.F.A.O. Ltd., High Street and S.C.O.A. Ltd., Station Road. In these cases it is interesting to note that the watchmen employed were mostly ex-servicemen who had served in the French Colonial Forces.

(Sgd). J.T.A. Bailey,  
STAFF OFFICER.  
15/4/48.

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STATEMENT BY CAPT. P. ECKEL,  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

28.2.48 3.10p.m.-3.15p.m. Arrived with Commissioner of Police and reinforcements at scene of disturbance, (junction of X'borg Road and Castle Road), in Police Green Van No.A.C.9185. Van was stoned by angry crowd in Castle Road. X'borg Road and Castle Road were still crowded with large angry mobs. Remained at this spot until darkness set in about 7 p.m. when crowd gradually dispersed. Intermittent stoning of Police by crowd. Tear gas used to check this nuisance and throw crowd back. Then proceeded with the Commissioner to Main Barracks and remained on duty there until midnight dealing with sporadic outbursts of looting and rioting in town.

12 midnight. Proceeded to Post Office with Major Ames and Mr. Imray where we met Colonel Colbeck, Officer Commanding, 1st Gold Coast Regiment, who had set up his temporary headquarters in this building. Major Fordyce, A.S.P. was also there as Liaison Officer.

12 midnight Proceeded around town in Police Jeep with Major Ames and Mr. Imray via Horse Road and Station Road back to Main Barracks. "Swan Mill" Station Road was then burning furiously, but the majority of the crowd had then dispersed owing to heavy rain which was falling.

29.2.48 12.30a.m.-4 a.m. On duty Main Barracks, dealing with all reports coming in from town and outside districts.

4a.m.-6a.m. Had short rest in room above main barracks office.

6a.m.- Onwards throughout the day and following night on duty dealing with sporadic outburst of rioting and looting in town.

(Sgd). P.Eckel,  
 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,  
 GOLD COAST POLICE.

GOLD COAST POLICE STATEMENT.

APPENDIX I.

ACCRA Station

C. I. D. Section

NAME Barnaby Emmanuel Ahmed Tamakloe  
5th Day of March, 1948.

Address House 149 South X'borg Estate.

Occupation General Secretary Ex-Servicemen's Union

Native of Calabar - parents born in Keta.

I have been Secretary of the Ex-Servicemen's Union since 193  
and saw active service in both wars. Between 1935 & 1937 the  
Gold Coast Ex-Servicemen's Association amalgamated with the Old  
Comrades Association. The subscription is 1/- which entitles  
each member to a certificate. The Asst. President of the Accra  
branch is Mr. Laryea and he knows the amount of money at the  
disposal of the Union. The President is Prince R. T. Dodoo. We  
have about 300 members in Accra, about fifty odd in Akuse, Kumasi  
has its own Association and I don't know the number of members.  
Some members want to Sekondi before Xmas to form a branch & we  
told them to let us know their activities but we haven't heard  
from them. In Koforidua the members have changed over to the  
Legion.

About the middle of last year I was approached by Brakatu  
Ateku late of Achimota to attend a meeting at the Rodger Club.  
attended the meeting which was with the object of forming a new

Political Party. They discussed whether the new party should  
affiliate with the Aborigines Rights Protection Society or  
remain a separate body & it was decided we should remain a separate  
body. There was a general discussion over clubs, unions, associations  
& other societies joining the new party which was later  
known as the United Gold Coast Convention. J. S. Laryea &  
myself of the Union were selected by the U.G.C.C. to sit on the  
committee which also includes Dr. Danquah, Mr. Akuffo Addo, Akwae  
Adjei, Quist Therson, Brakatu Ateku, Dr. Armah, Obetsebi Lamptey  
one Hammond (in Survey Dept.) while George Grant, Kwame

Kerumah

Servicemen's Union has not received any instruction or advice from the U.G.C.C. committee. On Friday 20th February 1948 there was a meeting at the Paladium when I addressed the audience and said that Ex-Servicemen must fight for their basic rights with the advice of the United Gold Coast Convention and that we intended putting forward our grievances to the Governor. I said we had done all we could to be affiliated to the Gold Coast Legion as this had failed we decided to affiliate with the U.G.C.C. The next day, 21.2.48 I started preparing the petition in my house, on Sunday S.A.M. Kodjoe, Secretary of the Accra branch of the Union, came to see me & we discussed the draft. On Monday 22nd Febry 1948 I typed the first draft at the Ausco Press which was seen by Ako Adjei who suggested amendments and by J. S. Laryea. The typing of the final draft was done by J. S. Laryea and I got it back from him on Friday 27th Febry - this is the petition we intended presenting to the Governor.

I saw the Commissioner of Police twice before the 28th Febry together with Laryea and it was decided which route the procession should take also that the petition should be presented at the Secretariat by five of our Union.

I went to the Old Polo Ground at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday 28th Febry 1948 and met about fifty to eighty men in two groups. From one of these groups came Val Varnis who said "Mr. Tamakloe I have come to give you moral support". I thanked him & said he must wait until my committee met. I then spoke to the men present & told them to behave properly. I left for the town to collect Laryea and two others. On my return to the ground I found a big crowd there lined up - this was at about 2 p.m. Many of the people in the line were not Ex-Servicemen and I had /not seen

(22)

(11)

About 2 p.m. the situation inside the Prison was under control and there appeared less likelihood of an attack from rioters as troops were starting to operate in the streets in the vicinity. I then reported the situation to the Police Barracks and was instructed to return with my men which I did leaving the troops in position.

I returned to the Barracks on a lorry by way of Station Road which was packed with a disorderly crowd of looters, they all scattered on the approach of the lorry but gathered again as soon as my lorry had passed.

I reported myself back at Barracks and was not detailed for further duty in the town again that day.

(Sgd). E.J.Doxat,  
SENIOR ASST.SUPT.OF POLICE.

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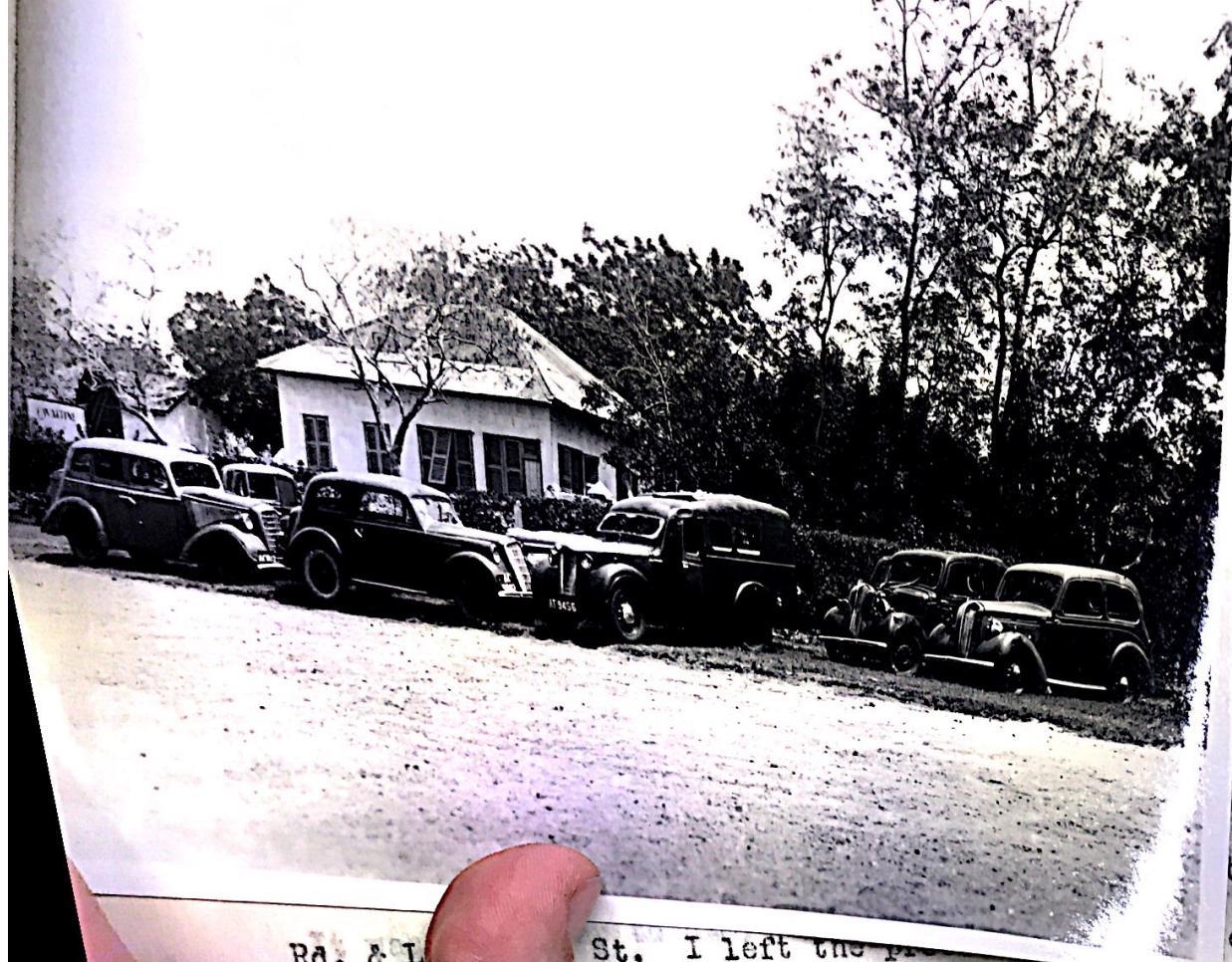
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not seen them before while some I had not seen for years. Some of the people were making a noise & I told them to stop - someone behind me shouted "we are going to Govt. House" I told them the pass excluded us from that area and that we should go down Pagan Rd. finishing at the White House. I told them to stop at the White House but as they were so many they must return to the Polo Ground & await the return of the delegates from the Secretariat. People shouted "What about our back pay?" I told Laryea to start leading the procession along the approved route but later noticed that they had taken the direction of the Soda Fountain so I doubled to the front & led them to the approved route down Horse Rd. & Lutterodt St. I left the procession after stopping them at the corner of Lutterodt & High Streets. I told them as the procession was so long we must cut out the White House & return the Old Polo Ground. I gave instructions for them to wait at the Old Polo Ground until I returned. Five of us then left in cars for the Secretariat after refusing Val Varnis' request to accompany us. While at the Secretariat at about 3 p.m. I heard noise, singing of men, coming from X'borg road direction. We closed the interview and rushed to the spot which was then by the Territorial Range or New Polo Ground. I wheeled them off the road & told them I had delivered the petition. I asked them why they had left the Old Polo Ground. They were all shouting & I heard them say that a gang of policemen had gone to the Secretariat to arrest us - I said nothing of the sort had happened. By that time they were blocking the road. I told Laryea to wheel them back & return to the Old Polo Ground via the Prince of Wales Garden. I heard the men shout "they are throwing grenades". I rushed in a car to the Prince of Wales Gardens and heard rifle fire as soon as I got out of the car. Some of the men started to group themselves as if to attack & I shouted at them to return to Accra. I was driving the people back and near the Printing Of I saw the crowd throwing stones at a European lorry so I dispersed them. The crowds, or rather the majority of the people did

stop at the Old Polo Ground but continued into the town. I then reported to "A" Division Police Station. After that I went to Mr. Ako Adjei's place & told him what happened also Mr. Akuffo Addo of whom I asked whether I should give myself up - he said I should wait & see what the Police would do. On the 4th March I ~~departed~~ despatched a cable to the Sect'y of State after going to the Ausco Press and meeting E. W. Adjei of the Spectator, (Laryea & Ex-Servicemen - Laryea drafted it.

Signed B.E.A. TAMAKLOE.

This is a voluntary statement given to me by B.E.A. TAMAKLOE. It was read over to him, he says it is correct & signed his name.

Initials military reinforcements from Kumasi and Mampong were summoned. One British SP gun was set fire to U.K.S. Gunnill in Station Road. The U.K.S. was taken control by 11 a.m. Midnights Accra under control. Troops removed from immediate neighbourhood of town. Troops were in town.

Hunting started again in town. Crowd broke into Usher Host Prison and released convicts. Hunting continued.

G.T.C. store in Station Road set on fire.

Situation beyond police control and military assistance called in.

First party of Nigerian troops arrived together with the reinforcements from Kumasi and Mampong.

United Gold Coast Convention telegraphed Secretary of State claiming that the civil government had broken down, the masses were out of control and that the working committee were ready to take interim government.

Baquah and Lamptey, and other members of the Convention called on the P.D.A.M.C., claiming to represent the S.P. Police authority, asking for the removal of the troops and for the Convention to be allowed to restore order.

Meeting: Curfew imposed on disturbed areas in town.

Meeting of ex-servicemen held in Kiti. They emitted resolutions from Accra.

P.5  
DISTURBANCES - SUMMARY OF EVENTS

February

Morning: crowds in shopping centre. Propaganda by rough elements to effect that stores were not upholding the agreement ending the boycott.

Afternoon: Isolated instances were reported of threats by small crowds and of damage to property begun before 3 p.m. Ex-Servicemen's petition delivered Secretariat 2.50 p.m. Crowd, including ex-servicemen reached Christiansborg cross-roads at approximately 3 p.m. Dispersed by rifle fire between 3.05 and 3.10 p.m. Started to return to town at approximately 3.15 p.m.

Attacks made on stores and European card in Accra. Police engaged crowds in Station Road and vicinity from 4.30 p.m. onwards. Looters were dispersed by baton charges but the Accra detachment were inadequate to deal with situation. Military called in in support of police and main disturbance dispersed.

2.30 p.m. Disturbances at Tafo and Osiem. Interference with an Agriculture Department (swollen shoot) gang at Bunsu.

Evening: Situation in Accra deteriorated and all available military forces were posted to strategic positions. Immediate military reinforcements from Kumasi and Tamale were summoned. One battalion in Nigeria placed in readiness to be brought to Gold Coast at short notice. Crowds set fire to U.A.C. Swanmill in Station Road, but this was under control by 11 p.m.

Midnight: Accra under control. Europeans removed from immediate neighbourhood of towns. Troops were in town.

29th February

Rioting began at 8 p.m.  
Rioting started again in town. Crowds broke into Ussher Fort Prison and released convicts. Looting continued.

U.T.C. store in Station Road set on fire.

Situation beyond police control and military assistance called in.

First party of Nigerian troops arrived together with the reinforcements from Kumasi and Tamale.

United Gold Coast Convention telegraphed Secretary of State claiming that the civil government had broken down, the masses were out of control and that the working committees were ready to take Interim Government.

Danquah and Lamptey, and other members of the Convention called on the D.C. Accra, claiming to represent the Ga Native Authority, asking for the removal of the troops and for the Convention to be allowed to restore order.

Evening: Curfew imposed on disturbed areas in town.

Meeting of ex-servicemen held in Kibi. They awaited instructions from Accra.

75th

March

Situation under control in Accra, but further attempts at looting.

Kumasi: Demonstrations against stores with some breaking in. Military called in to help police before noon. Situation in hand by evening. Curfew imposed.

Koforidua: Crowds gathered in streets and refused to pay attention to D.G. Ex-servicemen moved in from Accra. Troops were sent to Koforidua from Accra in the afternoon and went into action immediately they arrived, looting having gone on for some time. Curfew imposed.

Kibi: Looting at Kibi.

Suhum: Looting.

Neawam: Looting; police called in. Troops arrived at Neawam from Accra before any trouble started and were on the spot when looting began. The Commissioner of Police with one Assistant Superintendent and 12 N.C.O.s and constables left Accra at 3 p.m. for Neawam on reconnaissance and returned at 10 p.m. European women were evacuated. Military intervened and crowds dispersed by fire. Curfew imposed.

Sekondi: Anti-European demonstrations.

Tarkwa: Anti-European demonstrations. Curfew imposed.

Akuse: Rioting began at 9 p.m.

Arrangements made for moving a second battalion from Nigeria to the Gold Coast. Application made for two warships to proceed to Gold Coast waters at once.

2nd March

Accra: Quiet. Recovery of loot began.

Kumasi: Isolated looting degenerated into more serious disturbances during forenoon and military intervention was required. First company of Second Battalion from Nigeria arrived at Kumasi.

Koforidua: Extensive looting. European women and children concentrated; and later evacuated to Accra. The evacuation of women and children from Koforidua was carried out by the Commissioner of Police together with an Assistant Superintendent and 20 men, who left Accra at 9.55 a.m. in a flying column, returning to Accra at 6.30 p.m. that day. Koforidua was reinforced by one pl from Neawam night 2/3 March.

Konongo, Sekondi, Tarkwa: Uneasy and demonstrations threatened.

Akuse: Disturbances and looting continued but were ended by arrival of military reinforcements. One platoon from Accra went to Akuse and arrived at 0430 hours and went into action immediately.

/Sekondi:

7th

March (Old) Bekondi: Ex-servicemen threatened to wreck town but troop and police movement defeated this intention.

Takoradi: Looting in town. All Europeans withdrawn.

Mohor: Unruly parades of Ex-servicemen.

Four lorries loaded with loot and looters were captured by flying column in Kibi-Koforidua area.

Balance of first Nigerian battalion disembarked. First company of second battalion arrived at Kumasi.

3rd March

Stores at Ada looted; further unruly parades at Mohor. Military reinforcements in position and (except for Ada and Mohor) all quiet throughout country. Emergency Powers Order in Council, 1939 promulgated, with proclamation that Part II of the Order would be in operation throughout the Gold Coast as from 3rd March.

The Convention "National Bulletin No.1" appeared on sale. Press very provocative.

4th March

Situation quiet throughout country with military and police dispositions made to forestall further disturbances.

The Convention "National Bulletin No.2" was published, but, as censorship introduced, burnt.

Tamakloe was arrested for breach of procession permit.

Internal press censorship imposed.

5th March

Situation remained quiet, but reports received of efforts being made to stir up country districts.

6th March

Situation remained quiet.

Searching for loot continued in Accra.

Certain local authorities taking more active part in maintenance of law and order.

The Amoco Press (Convention Hall) searched by police. Documents found prove a connection between the press and the Convention.

There had been widespread rumours about armed demonstrations in Accra and about 100 men, of whom some two-thirds were ex-servicemen, assembled at the Old Pole Ground. They dispersed quietly after being addressed.

Additional powers taken under the Emergency Powers Order in Council, 1939, including powers for the imposition of curfew, stopping and searching of vehicles, control of looting and similar offences, control of processions and meetings, prevention of sabotage, and action against those seeking to spread disaffection among military forces and police.

7th March

Situation remained quiet.

Situation remained quiet and stores reopened in many areas where they had been closed.

Boycott remained in force in Sekondi, Tarkwa, Dunkwa, Kumasi and Keta.

9th March

Situation remained quiet.

10th March

Situation remained quiet. H.M.S. Mercide and H.M.S. Acteon arrived at Takoradi. Balance Second Nigerian Battalion arrived at Takoradi.

Kibi cordoned off by the military while the police made a thorough search of certain houses, the State College and the N.A.O. Office. Documents were seized.

R. T. Bart, a European employee of B.O.A.C. was detained and his room searched.

Announcement of appointment of Commission made.

11th March

Situation remained quiet.

12th March

Situation remained quiet. H.M.S. Mercide arrived off Accra.

13th March

Six Convention leaders apprehended and detained.

14th March

Report that certain trade unions centred on Sekondi-Takoradi would seek release of six leaders under threat of a general strike.

15th March

General deterioration in situation.

U.A.G. lighters in Accra were threatened at daybreak by hooligans inducing them to strike, but order was restored on arrival of the police.

Kumasi: Unruly demonstrations which had to be dispersed by rifle fire. Curfew extended to cover whole town.

Further reports of general strike to be called by Action Committee of Unions.

16th March

Situation easier.

Further reports that T.U.G. were pressing unions to strike.

/17th

Situation generally quiet, but considerable tension in Sekondi. Considerable tension in Kumasi and road blocks erected. Two of the secondary schools at Cape Coast on strike.

T.U.C. agreed to suspend strike and come to Accra to discuss grounds for such action.

18th March

Quiet in Colony and Northern Territories. In Kumasi, no Government clerks or Town Council labour at work, and general strike developed, largely because of intimidations. Indications that hooligans in Kumasi had been reinforced from outside. There was trouble at night between security forces and hooligans erecting road blocks. Three Secondary Schools at Cape Coast closed because pupils became out of hand.

In the afternoon the T.U.C. delegation met the Colonial Secretary and discussed the removal of the Convention leaders for 2½ hours. Meeting adjourned, to meet the Governor on the 19th March.

19th March

Generally quiet, but tension still high in Sekondi.

A bomb, with fuse attached, found in office of the Senior Auditor, Kumasi.

Brief narrative of events 17th February - 18th March published.

The Governor met the T.U.C. delegation and explained his reasons for ordering the removal of the six Convention leaders.

20th March

Generally quiet. Curfew partially lifted in Kumasi.

The Governor again met the T.U.C. delegation, informed them of his proposals regarding return of the six Convention leaders; and declined to consider immediate release. T.U.C. delegation returned to Sekondi (and other centres).

21st March

Generally quiet, and slackening of tension in Sekondi.

Akyem Abuakwa State College closed and boys dispersed to their homes with no difficulty.

Minor disturbances in seven of smaller Ashanti towns.

Curfew further lifted in Kumasi except for a small area.

22nd March

T.U.C. notified Colonial Secretary that they would be unable to prevent general strike. After being asked for explanation of meaning of this message, the General Secretary of the T.U.C. cancelled it.

Curfew lifted in Accra.

Minor troubles and indications of trouble for Chiefs in smaller towns in Ashanti.

23rd March

Generally quiet.

Generally quiet, but signs of incitement in Koforidua. Minor disturbances continued in smaller villages in Ashanti.

March

Generally quiet. Continued trouble in Ashanti villages at one of which police were fired on, and returned fire.

B.E.A.Tamakloe, Secretary of the ex-Servicemen's Union, was fined £20 or 2 months I.M.L. by the District Magistrate, Accra for committing a breach of his processional permit on 26th February. No disturbance occurred among ex-Servicemen and others who attended Court.

H.M.S. Antasee replaced H.M.S. Hercule at Accra.

26th March

Situation quiet.

27th March

Situation remained quiet.

28th March

Situation remained quiet.

29th March

Situation generally quiet but in Accra riotous crowds of some thousands attempted to loot Kwame (African) stores. They were quickly dispersed by police and military action. A small crowd at Kwawen attempted to break into stores, but were dispersed by police. There were indications of similar trouble in Koforidua but security forces, warned by events in Accra and Kwawen, had taken up appropriate dispositions and nothing happened.

Curfew reimposed on Accra.

30th March

Situation quiet.

31st March

Situation quiet.

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2 Copy

NAM C.R. Edelsten

ADDRESS.... Gold Coast Police Obursi

OCCUPATION.....Assistant Superintendent,

On 23rd March, 1948 at 1.p.m. I received instructions from Superintendent/Ashanti, Mr. Berkley Barton that I should go at once to Teppa with a party of Police to meet A.D.C. Mr. Elliott who had been involved in a riot at Kenyase 1 and 2 and to restore order and make arrests of those concerned. I left at 2.p.m. with 20 Police, i.e. 10 armed escorts and 10 G.P.s. We reached Teppa at 4.15 p.m. and met Mr. Elliot who explained the situation to me. We proceeded to Kenyase 1 arriving 5.p.m. and had information from the odikro and others at Kenyase 1 that the people of Kenyase 2 had laid an ambush of guns on the road.

The Police party, Mr. Elliot and myself advanced on foot for about a quarter mile along the road bordered by thick bush to a felled Neem tree across the road at the outskirts of Kenyase 2, but no persons were seen. The party went round the road block and we saw some men running away up the street. Some persons were detained on suspicion of being concerned in the rioting, although they were not doing any unlawful act when arrested. A search was made in the compounds. No room doors were forced; some cap guns were found mostly loaded, and seized for safety.

After night fall, about 7.p.m. as none of the villagers had come back the police party withdrew taking the prisoners. As we were walking down the main street a shot was fired at us from a side street. Shortly after as we were leaving the village three more shots (probably from Dane Guns) were fired at us; the pellets falling amongst the party. G.P. Sergeant Annie complained that a few pellets had struck him but without causing any injury.

As I could not see those persons firing at us I instructed the Police not to return the fire. We returned to Kenyase 1

(2)

without further incident and proceeded by lorry with prisoners to Gongo where we spent the night.

On 24th at 6.a.m. the Police party including Lysell and Mr. Elliott returned to Kenyase 2 by lorry. The road block was partly removed. We entered the village walking in two parties, one either side of the main street. The village appeared empty until we saw a few men assembling at the farther end of the village. A shot was fired at us from this direction. I deployed the armed Police to cover all approaches to the main street. The baton constables were also posted as look-outs. Information was received that a man with a D.B. gun was hiding nearby in the latrines. I advanced with two armed men, but found no one. We returned to the main street. Several men appeared together near the end house in the village carrying guns and fired more shots at Police, pellets falling around Mr. Elliott and myself. I ordered the Police to fire on those men holding guns who were seen to fire at us, but not those persons merely shouting or gesticulating. An escort Police constable was fired on from behind and received a few pellets in his right arm. These were removed by a man in the Zongo. The Police fired a number of rounds in reply at objectives in various parts of the bush and at the end of the village, but no hits were observed. I felt sure that I could identify some of the men firing at us if I saw them again.

Whilst Mr. Elliott was looking down a side street I saw a man in a shirt or cloth step from hiding near a wall about 75 yards from Mr. Elliott and myself and fire at us with a long barrelled gun. Pellets hit the iron roof above us. I took a rifle from one of the escorts and fired at the man who disappeared. Another man with a dark cloth appeared with a gun at a corner about 100 yards away and I fired twice at him after he had fired, but I did not think I hit the man.

For the best part of two hours intermittent firing took place. The Police firing outwards from the main street and only at men seen with guns.

At about 9.30 a.m. the Police made a search of the surrounding area but without result. All the men had gone away. A further search was made for firearms and two or three guns seized from their hiding places.

At about 10 a.m. we searched back to Kenyase 1 without further interference. One Osei Tutu of Kenyase 1 and the driver of the lorry who had been with the party both stated they could identify some of the gunmen again.

I reported the incident to Superintendent/Ashanti by telephone from Kwidiem and later we received instructions to return to Kumasi. That afternoon, about 3 p.m. Mr. Elliott and myself with Superintendent/Ashanti and Mr. Allen, D.C. reported the matter to the C.C.A.

On 25th at 10.23 a.m. A.D.Cs. Elliott, Lindsell myself with six armed escorts and G.Ps. returned to Kenyase 11. We found the village deserted except for the fetish priest and two very old men. The bush and some houses were searched for firearms and suspected persons. Everywhere there were signs of hurried flight; doors were open, rooms empty and boxes once containing personal effects open and bare. Two or three caps guns were found hidden and seized. The surrounding bush was again searched by me with armed police, but no persons seen.

During Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the Police Party and Assistant D.Cs. Elliott and Lindsell lodged in the school buildings at Kenyase 1. On 26th a man named Yaw Tawiah was brought to the Police party by persons from Kenyase 11 having a bullet wound on the right cheek with exit wound beneath right ear. He was able to walk but unable to speak, but I recognised him as one of the persons firing at us on the previous morning.

For firing in Police, and brought to Laredo when we passed.

On 2nd.

W.H. Webster

ASSISTANT SECRETARY,

S. T. CO. 121

STATEMENT

KUMASI: STATION  
ASHANTI - SECTION  
15TH APRIL, 1948.

NAME: ROBERT AMPAW  
ADDRESS: G.C.POLICE, KUMASI.  
OCCUPATION: POLICE OFFICER  
NATIVE OF KUKURANTUMI.

On 26/3/48 I was instructed by the Supt/Ashanti to proceed to Abofaw with a group of Policemen. There had been a report of rioting in this village and we were to try and arrest as many of the rioters as possible. I had under me twenty Policemen, ten of whom were armed with rifles. We left Kumasi at 12.15 p.m. accompanied by a military escort under Major Hargreaves. We arrived at Abofaw at about 2.10 p.m. and found the Chief and his elders assembled in front of the Chief's house. A lot of the youngmen in the village were found standing in the streets armed with knives and cudgels and making violent demonstrations against us. Some of them were pointed out to us as being leaders of the previous day's rioting. I ordered my constables to try and arrest them but most of them retreated into the bush. Some of the constables pursued them to the outskirts of the bush when suddenly I heard two reports of a cap gun from the direction of the bush. About 5 minutes after this one of the constables came to me and showed me a mark on his steel helmet which he said had been made by the pellet from a cap gun. At about 3.35 p.m. both the military and the Police ~~surrounded~~ surrounded the village and awaited the return of those men who had retreated into the bush. At about 4.5 p.m. I heard about 4 shots from the part of the bush surrounded by the Military. Major Hargreaves, Asst. D.C.Taylor and I went to investigate and met Lt. Reynolds with a D.B. gun and two cartridges, one of which was empty. He made a report to us and we went to the bush and found KWAKU NKRUMAH lying in the bush with gunshot wounds on his body. We conveyed him to the village and gave him 1st Aid treatment. KWADJO DASAH who had also been hit by one of the shots and was hiding in a house in the village was also arrested. At 5.30 p.m. we left for Kumasi with 40 Prisoners

P.T.O.

