**177. Courts of Inquiry**.— (1) A court of inquiry is an assembly of officers or of officers and junior commissioned officers or warrant officers or non-commissioned officers directed to collect evidence, and, if so required, to report with regard to any matter which may be referred to them.

(2) The court may consist of any number of officers of any rank, or of one or more officers together with one or more junior commissioned officers or warrant officers or non-commissioned officers. The members of court may belong to any branch or department of the service, according to the nature of the investigation.

(3) A court of inquiry may be assembled by the officer in command of any body of troops, whether belonging to one or more corps.

### NOTES

*1. See generally as to courts of inquiry* [*Regs Army paras 516*](file:///F:\DSR_VOLUME_1\CHAPTER_12\177.htm#516) *to* [*526*](file:///F:\DSR_VOLUME_1\CHAPTER_12\182.htm#526)*. For disqualification of members of courts of inquiry for serving on subsequent courts-martial, see* [*AR 39(2)(c)*](file:///F:\work_on_nlp\CHAPTER~5\287.htm#AR39)*.*

*2. A court of inquiry has no power to compel the attendance of civilian witnesses.*

*3. The court of inquiry should normally consist of three members.*