

SOLDIERS TAKE FRENCH LEAVE AND HITCH-HIKE TO WAR ZONE

Eager to Beat Hitler. Two
Men Precede Unit
to Britain

SENTENCE DEFERRED

London, May 21.—(AP)—
These two soldiers in the
Canadian army couldn't wait
for the battle of Britain.

Couldn't Wait

At a court-martial Somewhere in
England, L. Harding, 25, McGill uni-
versity graduate, and William
Crough, 21, New York, were ar-
raigned on two charges: (1) Leav-
ing Camp Borden, Ont., without
permission; (2) conduct prejudicial
to good order and military disci-
pline.

They took the stand.

They nervously testified they had
heard Hitler planned to invade
Britain this spring. They decided
to beat him to it. On March 17
they began a hitch-hike from Camp
Borden to Halifax.

Footsore but still determined, in
Halifax they found a coal bunker
headed for Britain. By night they
crept in and hid.

Tough Going

"It was pretty tough going the
first five days," said Crough. "We
had no food or drink."

Finally they gave themselves up
to the engineer and told him their
story. The captain put them to
work. On landing in Britain they
were turned over to Canadian mili-
tary authorities.

The defending court-martial offi-
cer grimly eyed the youths, com-
menting gravely that they had sin-
ned against the military code. Then
he added pointedly:

"However, you displayed spirit,
initiative, pluck and courage."

He told the court he wished he
had more like them in his unit.

Sentence was deferred.