

Four Still in Prison For War Murders Or Aiding Enemy

Ottawa, Sept. 26 (CP). — Four years after the war, four former Canadian Army privates still are in prison for wartime offenses, two for murder, two for voluntarily aiding the enemy while prisoners of war.

Of the 1,847 servicemen under sentence at the end of hostilities, only those four remain behind bars, the Defense Department said today. Of those released some 60 were in the serious category of murder or rape or aiding the enemy.

Here, briefly, are the stories of the four men:

1. Amok: Convicted by a court martial in Italy in June, 1944, of murdering a comrade in a front-line area and sentenced to life in prison. Three other artillery soldiers of his unit also died from bullets he unloaded when he suddenly ran amok while drinking. His case, similar to all others, has been repeatedly reviewed but, unlike the others, his sentence still stands.

2. Informer: Convicted by a court martial of voluntarily aiding the enemy and sentenced in August, 1945, to life. The term was lowered to 15 years in 1946 and to 10 years in 1949. He was taken prisoner at Dieppe, gave more information than required on interrogation, later accepted German blandishments to act as an informer by circulating among new batches of prisoners and giving the Germans information he obtained.

3. Informer: Same type of case. Sentenced in 1945 to 25 years, remitted in 1948 to 15 years and in 1949 to 10 years.

4. Murderer: Convicted by court martial in Germany in July, 1945, of murdering a German woman in a battle area during the fierce Hochwald fighting. He originally got life but this has been reduced to 20 years and later to six years, eight months.

The adjutant-general of the army has the power to reduce the sentences. The cases, now contained in files inches thick, come up regularly for review. Officers visit the men occasionally and report on them and these reports have a big bearing on the adjutant-general's decision.

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