

**DAWSON.** I, Lance Corporal Harold W. Dawson, have been informed by Special Agent R.C. McGuire of the Naval Investigative Service, that I am suspected of Murder, Conspiracy to Commit Murder, and Conduct Unbecoming a United States Marine in the matter of Private First Class William T. Santiago. I have also been advised that I have the right to remain silent and make no statement at all.

**DOWNEY.** Any statement I do make can be used against me in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding. I have the right to consult with a lawyer prior to further questioning.

**DAWSON.** I am presently assigned to Rifle Security Company Windward, Second Platoon Delta, NAVBASE, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

**DOWNEY.** I am a PFC in the United States Marine Corps assigned to Marine Rifle Security Company Windward, Second Platoon Delta. I will have been in the Marine Corps ten months as of August.

**DAWSON.** I entered Private Santiago's barracks room on the evening of 6 July, at or about 23:50. I was accompanied by PFC Loudon Downey.

**DOWNEY.** I was accompanied by my squad leader, Lance Corporal Harold W. Dawson.

**DAWSON.** We tied his hands and feet with rope.

**DOWNEY.** We tied Private Santiago's hands and feet with rope and we forced a piece of cloth into his mouth.

**DAWSON.** We placed duct tape over his eyes and mouth.

**DOWNEY.** I have read this two page statement that Special Agent McGuire has prepared for me at my request, as we discussed its content. I have been allowed to make all changes and corrections, initializing those changes and corrections.

**KAFFEE.** *(beat)* Yeah, but you see, they're not my consequences to accept.

**DAWSON.** That almost makes it a little bit worse, doesn't it, sir?

**KAFFEE.** *(beat)* Harold, we're gonna lose. And we're gonna lose huge.

*(beat)*

Sit up straight.

*(Lights up on courtroom.)*

*(The participants are milling into place. KAFFEE and ROSS cross paths.)*

Last chance. I'll flip you for it.

**SERGEANT AT ARMS.** Ten-hut.

**ROSS.** Too late.

*(KAFFEE and ROSS take their places as RANDOLPH enters.)*

**SERGEANT AT ARMS.** All those having business with this General Court-Martial, stand forward and you shall be heard. Colonel Julius Alexander Randolph is presiding. God save the United States of America.

**RANDOLPH.** Before the judge advocate calls his first witness, I want to get some language clear. That without objection, the sworn statements of the defendants have been read to the members and entered into the court record.

**ROSS.** No objection, sir.

**KAFFEE.** No objection.

**RANDOLPH.** And that without objection, the sworn statements made by twentyone members of Rifle Security Company have been read to the members and entered into the court record.

**ROSS.** No objection. Sir.

**KAFFEE.** No objection.

**RANDOLPH.** Is the Government prepared to present its case?