

and a relief was wanted. He called out in a loud voice for twelve volunteers. Four, including two policemen, volunteered. I went over to the military camp and secured eight servicemen. When the child's body arrived I instructed the stretcher-bearers to go over to the fire where I had tea ready for them and get some food. I remained at the place referred to as the morgue by Sergeant Taylor. When I returned to the fire I observed Mr. McMillan, who I did not know at that time, interviewing one of the men who had brought down the child's body. I then saw him; he was against the bush at the very edge of the camp, and I said, "Are you a reporter?" and he said he was. Then I said, "You had better get your information from Sergeant Taylor," and to the stretcher-bearer I said, "If you have brought any information from the plane give it to Sergeant Taylor." He took no more notice of the reporter or the stretcher-bearer. He heard the instructions Sergeant Taylor addressed the party when they went out early in the morning, and it was with those instructions in mind he spoke to the stretcher-bearer. He said, "I have read accounts in the newspapers allegedly dealing with this incident. If that is the incident referred to, it is misrepresented in the papers. I did not tell the reporter that he would be sent away if he asked any questions or anything like that. When I told Mr. McMillan that if he wanted any information he should see Sergeant Taylor, he said he had seen Sergeant Taylor." In the published report it is stated thereafter (after this incident) the reporter was shadowed. Sergeant Carlyon when this was put to him, said, "He was certainly not shadowed by me or any one I know of." He said volunteers were needed to go up to the track where bodies were being brought out to assist stretcher-bearers coming off the snow. Pressmen were present when the call for volunteers was made. Asked about the incident when one of the bodies was being brought into the plateau that occurred between Mr. Hill and a photographer, he said it was when the first body was being brought in, the first adult after the child. He said that there was a movement of press photographers towards the body. He said he ordered them to stay where they were and not photograph the bodies. He then went up to meet the body to direct it to be carried towards trees near the camp. "I found there was a photographer coming down with the bodies. I asked him if he had photographed the body, and he said, 'Yes, I have.' I said, 'You had better submit that photograph for approval before publishing, and I will take your name and address.' He gave the name as M. J. Hill, c/o *Photo News*." He said various photographs had been taken by photographers and pressmen at the plateau. "My reason for interfering when this body was being brought in was that the men who came down asking for relief informed me the bodies were badly mutilated both in head and limbs, and I was afraid the photographs might disclose injuries and the circumstances under which they were being carried out which of necessity was rather crude, and the men were very fatigued. While on the plateau I received no instruction whatsoever except the general instructions given to the whole party by Sergeant Taylor, which were to the effect that if any of the party reached the plane before the police or Wing Commander Kean, they were not to touch anything but to wait till the arrival of the police or Wing Commander Kean so they could go and get certain information which was required by Air Department for inquiry referring to watches and instruments." He added, "There were no instructions regarding photographs, and my reason for taking that attitude was just common decency and to spare relatives from seeing anything that was distressing. I had no instructions as to withholding of information from the press definitely." This Sergeant denied that he told McMillan that if he asked any more questions he would be sent away from the camp.

Constable Roscoe was sent from Wanganui to Ohakune area on Friday. He got to Cowern's Mill at 4.45 on Friday and stayed there Friday night. Colonel Pleasants and Traffic Inspector Wilson had a discussion as to desirability of controlling the area. Inspector Semple, from Wellington, also arrived. They were all of opinion a patrol should be placed on the road from Cowern's Mill during the week-end; sightseers would