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IN THE COURT MARTIAL

held at

MILITARY COURT CENTRE, BULFORD

on the

2nd of July 2026

in the case of

REX

V

30060087 Corporal Oliver Andrew Husband

42 Commando Regiment Royal Marines

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Judge Large

Judge Advocate General

SENTENCING REMARKS

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Thank you, Mr President and the board. Take a seat, please. Everyone keep their headaddress on.

Cpl Husband, you can stay sitting down while I address you and tell you why we have come to the sentence we have come to. Then I will ask you to stand up, and the president will pass the sentence on you, okay?

CPL HUSBAND: Yes, your Honour.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: So, we have got a sentence you for three offences, basically using an MT pool vehicle for your own private journeys, negligently losing that vehicle in Plymouth, and driving it when you were under the influence of alcohol. This all took place on 5th and 6th August last year.

The offence of losing service property was committed when you drove after midnight the Skoda, VRN WX7[?] DVC, to McDonald's. A stranger asked you and your friend you were with for a lift and you agreed to give him a lift. Then, in circumstances which are not entirely clear, the vehicle was driven away by the stranger, which is when you negligently lost it. How you lost the vehicle, as I say, is unclear, but the SPA do not seek any more serious offences against you.

In interview, you admitted those three offences. All of those offences were committed when you were subject to a 20-week sentence of detention, suspended for 18 months. That had been imposed on 4th July last year, just a month before you committed these offences. The offences which gave rise to that order, the suspended sentence order, related to an incident on 6th September 2023, when you used racist language towards a soldier with an Irish accent in a bar at RNAS Yeovilton and committed the offence of affray. You also have a conviction in 2022 for excess alcohol and a longstanding old offence in 2010 for robbery.

As the list of convictions demonstrates, you have a relatively long history of offending, most of it to do with alcohol. Mr Green tells us that you have been almost totally abstinent since your detoxification in September 2025. That is impressive. We note from your psychotherapist, Patrick Kirschel, he speaks highly of what you have achieved. We do note from the pre-sentence report there have been occasional blips, and they do cause us continued concern.

You are 34 years old. You are in a relationship with a partner and her children, although you also live at your mother's address. We have read the very long pre-sentence report with care. We do have in mind your psychotherapist's report and the references which speak very highly of you. We also note you have surrendered your driving licence to DVLA and been told you cannot drive for 12 months from September 2025. You have set up a debt management process.

Turning to sentencing guidance, we take the loss of the vehicle as the lead offence. This is a category A2 offence. A high level of negligence was involved here, but the value was not in the highest category, although nonetheless significant. That has a starting point of a service community order, high service

community order, or 30 weeks' service detention. We take that starting point of 30 weeks' service detention.

The offence took place under the influence of alcohol and driving the car at all was not authorised. So in order to reflect the other offences, we increase the sentence on charge one. On charge -- we increase the sentence on the charge. Sorry, remind me, which charge is the losing the vehicle?

LT CDR CANOSA: Charge three.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Charge three. Thank you very much. I will just start that sentence again. The offence took place under the influence of alcohol. It was covered in charge three. Driving the car at all was not authorised. In order to reflect the other offences, we increased the sentence on this charge to 36 weeks, noting that the driving under the influence was a repeat offence. We then reduce it by one third to reflect your guilty plea, which gives us 24 weeks' detention.

In relation to the affray, for which you received 20 weeks' detention, we are going to activate that in part and consider that 16 weeks is appropriate, which will run consecutive to 24 weeks, making a total sentence of 40 weeks' detention.

Because drink driving is a repeat offence, you must be disqualified for three years. That matches the legislation which is in the civilian system. That disqualification will not serve its purpose when you are in custody, so it will be extended to take your period of custody into account. Because you will serve, as far as the law is concerned, half the sentence of detention, the disqualification must therefore be three years plus an extension period of 20 weeks, making a total of three years and 20 weeks' disqualification.

Be quite clear, you must not drive any vehicle on a public road during that time. If you do, you are liable to further disqualification. Do you understand that?

CPL HUSBAND: Yes, Your Honour.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Thank you. Despite your efforts to work well in your unit, we consider that this offending, particularly when committed so soon after being placed on trust under a suspended sentence, is serious enough to warrant dismissal from His Majesty's service. We acknowledge that dismissal is in itself a serious punishment and will cause you and your partner financial concerns, but we have no choice but to dismiss you in this case.

As a result of your dismissal, you will not have funds available to pay a service compensation order, and we make no order. This accounts for my observations to make on the sentence.

Would you stand up, please?

Mr President, will you pass the sentence of the court, please?

SENTENCE

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD: The sentence of the court. On charge 3, you are to be dismissed from His Majesty's service and sent to detention for 24 weeks. On charge 2, you are to be disqualified from driving for three years and 20 weeks. On charge 1, there is no separate penalty. For the breach of the suspended sentence of detention, you are to be sent to detention for 16 weeks to run consecutively to the sentence on this charge sheet. March out.