

21st May, 1985.

DEPUTY BAILIFF: "Mr. Mc Laughlin, your Counsel has put everything before the Court that he, properly, could. The fact that you pleaded not guilty is not a matter, as he rightly said, for increasing your sentence, but the Court is entitled to take into account your previous knowledge of the lay-out of the premises - the fact that you worked there. The Jury, obviously, accepted the version of the Police against your suggestion that they had fabricated evidence against you and that is a suggestion which is becoming all too familiar in the Courts, not so much in the Island, thank goodness, but certainly in the United Kingdom, and the Jury unanimously rejected that assertion which you made. We are, therefore, entitled to take into account your conduct during the trial: that was part of your conduct, through your Counsel on the instructions you gave him. Nevertheless, having said those matters, we think that the disparity moved for by the Solicitor General between your sentence (3½ years) and the sentence imposed on Lagan is too great, but we should mark in our opinion the view that you played a greater part in the planning and although it was true that Lagan appeared to do more in the actual robbery, we think your part was marginally greater and not less: therefore we are going to sentence you to three years imprisonment.