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ROYAL COURT

(Superior Number)

2nd December, 1992 212,

**Before: The Bailiff and Jurats
Vint, Myles, Bonn, Orchard, Hamon,
Gruchy, Le Ruez, Herbert.**

The Attorney General

- v -

Paul Andrew Bellas

Sentencing following guilty plea on 27th November, 1992 to:

4 counts of	larceny (Counts 1, 3, 5 & 9 of the indictment laid against him).
1 count of	attempted larceny with violence (Count 2).
2 counts of	attempting to obtain money by false pretences (Counts 4 & 7).
2 counts of	breaking and entering and larceny (Counts 6 & 8).

AGE: 22.

PLEA: Guilty.

DETAILS OF OFFENCE:

Attempted larceny with violence at Airport Cash Stores - till attendant threatened with broken Lucozade bottle, but able to escape and call for assistance. Unsuccessful attempt to open cash till. One count of larceny from elderly relative who had agreed to lend the accused £5. Sundry other relatively minor larceny offences.

DETAILS OF MITIGATION:

Accused had given up hope for a reasonable and ordinary life. Offences charged only as a result of his admissions. Guilty plea. Relative youth.

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS:

Several convictions including convictions for larceny. Maximum previous sentence 5 months' imprisonment.

CONCLUSIONS:

Attempted larceny with violence - three years' imprisonment. Remaining offences imprisonment sentences concurrent.

SENTENCE AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE COURT:

Court felt able to reduce the conclusions to a total of two and a half years' imprisonment.

W.J. Bailhache, Esq., Crown Advocate.
Advocate Miss J.D. Melia for the accused.

JUDGMENT

THE BAILIFF: Your first offence was a mean theft against your great uncle and shows a total disregard for family relationships or even for common decent behaviour. But the second offence was much more serious. To go into a shop and threaten an assistant with a broken bottle deserves a prison sentence. The others are not quite so bad, but they show a course of conduct the reason for which is disclosed in your background report: that you obviously feel happier in prison. But that is not the point; offences of this nature must carry a prison sentence with it.

Having regard to your age and the other matters urged by your counsel, we are going to slightly reduce the conclusions asked for by the Crown. You are therefore sentenced as follows: Count 1: 9 months' imprisonment; Count 2: 2½ years' imprisonment; Count 3: 9 months' imprisonment; Count 4: 9 months' imprisonment;

Count 5: 1 month's imprisonment; Count 6: 1 month's imprisonment; Count 7: 6 months' imprisonment; Count 8: 1 month's imprisonment; Count 9: 1 month's imprisonment; concurrent with each other, making a total of 2½ years' imprisonment.

Authorities

A.G. -v- Longsdon and Channing (10th July, 1992) Jersey
Unreported.