

GIRL'S ALLEGED FALSE STORY OF ASSAULT BY U.S. SOLDIER

On a charge of creating a public mischief by falsely stating that she had been raped by an American soldier, Dora Gertrude Harris, of 97, Cricklade-street, Cirencester, was at a special magistrates court at Hatton yesterday committed for trial at the next Derbyshire Assizes. Bail was refused.

Supt. J. Davies said that Harris made a statement to the police in which she said that she had been knocked down by an American soldier and assaulted.

After inquiries she was seen again by the two officers, and she then admitted that her first statement was not true.

CYCLES COLLIDED

In a second statement Harris said that when she and an American soldier named Bill were cycling towards Sudbury they collided; her cycle was damaged, and he "kicked

her about," but did not indecently assault her.

Pte. William Powers, of the U.S. Army, said that he and the girl rode together some distance, when Harris collided with him, and they both fell. The girl's cycle was damaged, and he endeavoured to put it right. For a time he rode her machine and she rode his.

Later she took her own cycle and they stopped on the verge of a bridge at Sudbury. He left her there and did not assault her in any way.

NOTHING TO SAY

In reply to the Magistrates' Clerk, Harris, who showed considerable emotion, said that she had nothing to say and that she did not understand it all.