

ROYAL COURT  
(Samedi)

67.

12th April, 1996

Before: the Bailiff and  
Jurats Bonn and Vibert

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The Attorney General

-v-

Michael Chester Hesketh

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2 counts of arson (counts 1,2)  
1 count of grave and criminal assault (count 3)

PLEA: Guilty

AGE: 27

**DETAILS OF OFFENCE:**

Counts (1) & (2)	Hesketh set fire to his bed at St. Saviour's Hospital where he resides under a Guardianship Order. Gave various reasons, e.g. stress, frustration, a voice telling to do it etc.
Count (3)	Went absent without leave and drank 10 cans of cider. Attacked and kicked an acquaintance who had been drinking and was asleep in Parade Gardens. Bad attack.

**DETAILS OF MITIGATION:**

Mental condition and history of psychiatric problems.

**PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS:**

Record dating from 1982 including malicious damage, larceny, arson, assault, breach of the peace, alcohol related offences, etc.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

Count 1: Binding over Order to be of good behaviour for 3 years.  
Count 2: Binding over Order to be of good behaviour for 3 years, concurrent.  
Count 3: binding over Order to be of good behaviour for 3 years, concurrent.

**SENTENCE AND OBSERVATIONS  
OF THE COURT:**

Difficult case. Highlights lack of proper secure accommodation for mentally disordered offenders. With hesitation, conclusions granted.

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The Solicitor General  
Advocate S.E. Fitz for the accused

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NO RECORDED JUDGMENT