

No. 69. OM-DA-CHA.—Took witness, David Faribault, prisoner, who says he shot two persons at his house.¹

Trial Record October 1862

Proceedings of a Military Commission convened at Camp Release opposite the Mouth of Chippewa River by virtue of the following order

Head Quarters Camp Release September 28th 1862.

The Commission will be governed in their proceedings, by Military Law and usage.

Head Qtrs. Camp Release Min. Oct. 15 1862

I. The Military Commission of which Col. Wm Crooks 6th Regt Minn Vols is President will reconvene tomorrow at 10 Oclock AM or as soon thereafter as practicable and proceed with the business before it.

By order of Gen.l H.H. Sibley
S.W. Fowler Lieut Col. A.A.A. Gl

1862 trial transcript © 2012 Walt Bachman

October 18 1862

The Military Commission met pursuant to the above order-

Present

Col. Crooks – 6th Reg. M. V.

Maj. Bradley, 7th Regt. M.V. Members

Capt. Grant, 6th Regt. M.V.

Capt. Bailey, 6th Regt. M. V.

Lt. Olin – 3rd Regt. M. V., Judge Advocate

Adjutant Heard – McPhail's Mounted Rangers – Recorder

The Military Commission was duly sworn and Am-day-cha a Sioux Indian was arraigned in the following charge and specifications, viz

Charge and specification against Am-day-cha a Sioux Indian

Charge – Participation in the murders, outrages & robberies committed by the Sioux Indians on the Minnesota frontier

Specification – In that Am-day-cha a Sioux Indian did join with and participate in the murders robberies and outrages committed by the Sioux Tribe of Indians on the Minnesota frontier between the 18th day of August 1862 and the 28th day of September 1862 and particularly in the Battles at the Fort, New Ulm, Birch Coolie, and Wood Lake, where he killed two persons and a third on his way home.

By order of Gen.l H.H. Sibley
S.W. Fowler Lieut Col.
A.A.A. Gl

Witness

David Faribault

[Frame 529]

The prisoner states – Didn't fire at the Fort. Was there at the first fight. At the second fight fight [sic] at the Fort I shot two shots ~~at them~~ in the air. Didn't fire at New Ulm – wasn't there. Fired two shots at Wood Lake.

David Faribault, Senr., sworn, says –

Deft. took us prisoners. He shot two at my house.

Prisoner says – I ~~He~~ don't remember about it – what Faribault says.

And there upon the case being closed the Commission was cleared and proceeded with their finding and sentence

The Military Commission after due deliberation on the foregoing, the evidence being closed and Commission was cleared and proceeded with the finding and sentence.

The Military Commission find the prisoner, the said Am-da-cha, a Sioux Indian, as follows –

Guilty of the specification

Guilty of the charge,

And sentence him to be hung by the neck until he is dead.

[signatures of Mil. Com.]²

Riggs Synopsis December 1862

16. Am-da-cha (*Broken to Pieces*) says that he was doctoring a girl when he learned about the outbreak at the lower agency. He went with the others, and took some things from Mr. Forbes' store. He fired his gun only twice, but thinks he did not kill anyone.³

¹Whiting-Ruggles Report to Abraham Lincoln December 5, 1862.

²Dakota Trials Records. Microfilm and holograph records in Center for Legislative Archives, U.S. Senate Records, National Archives. Transcription by Walt Bachman. See corresponding digitations of microfilm by John Isch.

³*Mankato Independent* December 26, 1862, "Confessions of the Condemned" p. 2. Editorial introduction reads: "Rev. S. R. Riggs has kindly prepared for us the following synopsis of conversations held with each one of the condemned prisoners, wherein is contained much interesting information."