# IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

# IN THE MATTER BETWEEN:

#### HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

- and -

### LAZARIE KATOKRA

Transcript of the Reasons for Sentencing, delivered by His Honour Judge T.B. Davis, at Frobisher Bay, in the Northwest Territories, on October 21st, A.D. 1985.

## APPEARANCES:

Ms. L. WALL:

Counsel for the Crown.

J. BOVARD, Esq.:

Counsel for the Defendant.



THE COURT: The accused, Lazarie Katokra, comes before this Court admitting that he, on the 26th of September, 1985, committed an assault and used a weapon, when he approached the victim near the gym at Repulse Bay and slapped this younger and smaller person, and then pulled a knife and made a small cut on his leg, near the hip of the victim, which cut was checked four days later by the nursing station. The accused also threatened his victim and warned him not to tell the police, but later had apologized to the victim who he had originally approached, because he was under the impression that the victim had been slapping the accused's cousin around at some time or other. He, therefore, had committed an offence under section 245.1 of the Criminal Code.

He further admits that on the 12th of October, 1985, he approached a six-year-old friend of his niece and nephew, with whom the victim was playing, and he caused the two young children who were making noise in the residence — the accused told the young victim to swear, or he'd pull down his pants, which caused the child to swear. The accused then pulled down the victim's pants and pushed him in the closet for a few minutes, before he chased the victim away. By grabbing the child and acting in this perverse way, he violated section 245 of the Criminal Code, which is a charge of assault.

The child had been so upset by this action that he has been for now, more than a week, still afraid to go in his own basement without his dog and doesn't like to go out and play and won't answer the door-bell or act in ordinary ways around

the home. So, it has had some adverse -- temporary, I would hope -- effects on the child.

The accused also admits that on that 12th of October when he acted in this way, he violated a probation order that was in effect as a result of break and enter charges, when he was placed on probation for one year starting October the 2nd, 1985, the offence having occurred only ten days after having been placed on probation.

Crown counsel has validly pointed out to me that upon interviewing, it was observed that possibly the accused, who is 19 years of age, does suffer some emotional inadequacies and has, posssibly, some reason for this rather perverse act, because of some restrictions. And it might be that the Court should recommend psychological testing, assessment and counselling, because I feel that these assault charges are serious enough that the accused should again return to jail, having had a short period of time in jail in the past, when he was convicted of some break and enter charges and breaches of probation in the past.

Even though the accused was trying to take the law into his own hands and appease his cousin, who he felt was being assaulted at times by the victim of this assault, that, in itself, does not authorize me to do anything other than take that as a factor of mitigation in that particular offence, and I will do that, but still must indicate that assaulting a person, especially with a weapon, is still classified as a very serious matter. On that offence, I am going to impose four

months in jail. On the other offence relating to the young boy, I have to recognize that that young child is suffering emotionally from this traumatic experience, when the accused acted as a bully in dealing with just a six-year-old. I feel that that is something that possibly the authorities and the experts can assist when they might have counselling available to the accused, so that that type of thing won't happen in the future. On that charge, I am going to impose two months in jail consecutively.

I ordinarily at this time would also consider an additional one to three months in jail for the violation of the probation order, but defence counsel has pointed out to me that this man has reacted effectively on the probation orders, where he was required previously to do community service work. And it might be to his benefit and, therefore, to the benefit of the community, if he were to be placed on probation upon release from jail, so that he would be required to report to the probation officer and do some community service work over a period of time and still, therefore, have some form of contact, which might be of some benefit in its slight variance of counselling that results from that type of contact.

On that charge, therefore, I am going to place the accused on probation for a period of six months and require that the accused perform 60 hours of community service work within four months, to the satisfaction of the probation officer. I will require, as well, that the accused report to the probation officer and be under the supervision of the probation officer

during that period.

That would be a six-month total on the probation order that would be in effect, and it will be four months to do the work within release of jail. Yes, the six-month period will extend from the release from jail, and the four months to do the work is also from that same starting period.

I also have to make an order under section 98, and that is, I believe, a required order for a five-year term. The order under section 98 means that because there is violence used in the use of a weapon, in dealing with that boy at the school, you will have to be restricted from being in the possession of any firearms, ammunition or explosve substances for a period of five years. So, you're not allowed to have anything of that type for that period of time. If you do have any firearms now, or ammunition or explosve substances, I am going to give you three weeks in which to dispose of it, or at the end of the three weeks, you must turn it over to the RCMP.

MADAM CLERK: Your Honour, I'm sorry, I missed it. On the probation order, was that a conditional discharge or a suspended

THE COURT: On that one, it would have to be a suspended sentence, in order to make it effective. Thank you, Madam Clerk. I didn't say that. It would have to be on that basis.

sentence, or did he get time in jail?

I suspend the passing of sentence on that charge and just place the accused on probation.

(REASONS FOR SENTENCING CONCLUDED)

Certified a correct transcript,

Debora Chippedfield, court reporter.