

IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

IN THE MATTER OF:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

VS

PAUL INNUALUK

Transcript of the Reasons for Judgment Delivered by His Honour Chief Judge J. R. Slaven, sitting at Yellowknife in the Northwest Toward on Monday, November 14th, A.D., 1983.

APPEARANCES:

MR. G. BICKERT:

Counsel for the Crown

MR. G. PHILLIPS:

Counsel for the Defence



who is presently nineteen years of age. He has lived in numerous communities in the Baffin Island area and particularly in the northern part, Pond Inlet, Igloolik Hall Beach, Arctic Bay, etc.

He is before me today on two charges of theft, one charge of break, enter and theft, and two breaches of probation, and I convict him on all five counts.

I have been over seven years travelling the Northwest
Territories as a magistrate and judge, and my visit to Hall
Beach last week was the first time I have had to go into Hall
Beach. In the past it has been a relatively law-abiding
community, and the same applies to Igloolik. I was very
disappointed therefore to find the large number of criminal
matters that occurred over the last few months in Igloolik
and Hall Beach and that I had to deal with.

The same applies to the day and a half I spent in Rankin Inlet last week. There were a large number of people up on criminal charges, many, many more than I have been used to dealing with in the past on previous visits to Rankin Inlet.

I am disturbed in that the Keewatin and the north
Baffin until fairly recently have been very law-abiding
parts of the Northwest Territories, but it now appears to me
as if they might be following the same path as has been
followed in Frobisher Bay, Cambridge Bay, Tuktoyaktuk,
Coppermine, Sanikiluaq and other communities. The main
problem seems to be the young men like Mr. Innualuk with

N.W.T. 5349 (3/77)



little education or training, with no jobs, no money in their pockets and with nothing to do.

I was reading in the News of the North a week or two ago of the extensive survey done of young people in the Keewatin for the Department of Education, and its findings are borne out by what I see in court.

Mr. Innualuk as an individual: He was convicted of break and enter in May of 1982 and was fined and placed on probation. In November of 1982 he was convicted of seven break and enters and one breach of probation, and was sentenced to four months in jail. He was released in early February of 1983, and he would have been just freshly out of jail when he committed the first theft offence which also resulted in a breach of probation. He had already confessed to that theft to the police when he went and committed another theft, this time of a carving from the Bay in April of 1983, and then the break and enter and theft at the Hall Beach School in July.

The matter of breaking into schools and vandalizing them, which was also done by Mr. Innualuk and his companion, is something that occurs all too often in the north, and it is a shame to see the fine new schools around the north built for the benefit of the local people being treated in such a manner as they are by irresponsible young people.

I have a pre-sentence report for Mr. Innualuk and it would appear that he is not a good subject for probation. Also from the information in that report, I feel that he

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definitely needs some psychiatric assessing and counselling.

He has had a short term in jail, and I think it is necessary for me to sentence him today to a lengthier period in jail to try to impress upon him that behavior like this is not acceptable to the law-abiding citizens of the various communities in the Northwest Territories.

Would you stand up, please, Mr. Innualuk. I convict you on all five charges. On the first count of theft of money from person in Hall Beach, my information number 1171 I direct you be imprisoned for a period of two months. the breach of probation arising from that, my information number 1172, I direct you be imprisoned for a period of two months to be served consecutively. For the theft of a carving, my information number 1173, I direct you be imprisoned for a period of one month to be served consecutively. the breach of probation arising from that, my information number 1174, I direct you be imprisoned for a period of four months to be served concurrently. On the break and enter of the school, my information number 1175, I direct that you be imprisoned for a period of three months to be served consecutively. That's a total of eight months to be served in jail. I warn you that if you persist in this type of behavior, the succeeding sentences you receive will be heavier and heavier until you eventually end up in a southern penitentiary, unless you mend your ways. Have I covered all the matters?

MR. BICKERT: 1 think so, sir.

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THE COURT: Do you have the carving as an exhibit?

MR. BICKERT: I don't know, sir.

THE COURT: If there are any exhibits they will be returned

to their rightful owners after the appeal period has expired.

MR. BICKERT:

Thank you.

(AT WHICH TIME THESE MATTERS WERE CONCLUDED.)

Certified a correct transcript,

Laurie Ann Young

Court Reporter

. 18