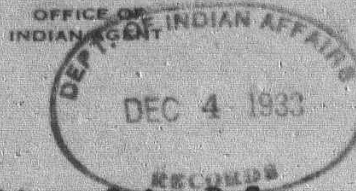


DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
CANADA



Williams Lake B.C.

November 25th. 1933

Sir:-

Re:-Shorty CHARLIE (Indian)-Alkali Lake Band  
Suspected murdered.

Further to my report of October 3rd. last re the above named, I beg to inform you that, following an intensive investigation, the guilty parties have been discovered and an apparently complete chain of evidence established, showing that Shorty CHARLIE was shot and killed by one Jimmy DECKER an Indian of the Alkali Lake Band, with the connivance of two other Indians of the same Band. Of these two, English Decker, who lives on the Canim Lake reserve, is under arrest and the other, Freddy Jack is being held as a material witness. The principal, Jimmy Decker, eluded arrest two weeks ago and an extensive hunt has since been conducted after him.

The latest advice, received yesterday, was to the effect that he narrowly escaped arrest in a.m. of the 24th. inst. when he returned to the Alkali Lake reserve at daybreak. He was closely pursued by a police posse, and abandoned his horse and took to foot in an effort to elude trackers.

I presume that, as usual, the Department will provide legal counsel for the accused if brought to trial. I would not consider it necessary to engage counsel for the preliminary hearing. I am prepared to appear at such hearing for the accused, as it will be only necessary to reserve defence, submit no evidence on their behalf, and not allow them to enter the witness box. If the police have the necessary evidence, committal for trial will be more or less a matter of form.

I would ask the Department to kindly instruct me as to what counsel will be retained for the trial which will likely be held at the spring assizes in Prince George.

The two Deckers, who are brothers, are charged jointly. In the event of Jimmy Decker's capture not being effected, English Decker may be committed for trial and proceeded against separately.

Your obedient servant,

*H.E. Taylor*

H.E. Taylor  
Indian Agent

The Secretary  
Dept. of Indian Affairs  
Ottawa

C.C. to C.C. Perry Esq. Asst. Ind. Commr. for B.C.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7474, File 19160-12, Pt. 1).

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