

Joint Court of the New Hebrides
Criminal sitting of December 10th 1912

The Public Prosecutor versus Cassin Paul, Colonist, Acari
 accused of a breach of Article 33 of the Convention of 1906

This tenth day of December one thousand nine hundred and twelve at 9 o'clock A.M., The Joint Court consisting of The President, Count Buena Esperanza; the French Judge, Jean Colonna; the British Judge, T. E. Roseby; In the presence of the Public Prosecutor, Count Andino; M^r. Belugel being Registrar of the Court Sitting in public audience, as a court of police jurisdiction, of first and last instance, after having deliberated, has delivered the following judgment:

The Joint Court:

Having heard the reading of the documents;
 Having heard the accused in his explanations;
 Having heard the sworn evidence of the witnesses;
 Having heard the Public Prosecutor in his charge, M^r. Cassin in his defence;

Whereas Cassin has been summoned before this Court to answer to a breach of the offence that he did, at Ambrym, in November 1910, recruit eleven natives for three years, when the natives only understood themselves to be contracting for an engagement of six months, and to agree that the said Cassin be condemned to the penalties provided by Article 56 of the Convention of October 20th 1906

Whereas the offence appears to be established by the sworn depositions of the native witnesses summoned at the request of the Public Prosecutor:

But whereas, on the other hand, there exists in the documents of the case a letter No. 226 R.B dated August 10th 1911 proceeding from the French Resident Commissioner and addressed to H.B.M. Resident Commissioner, from which letter it appears that the natives in question were engaged for three years dating from December 27th 1910 to December 27th 1913

Whereas if this document appears to contradict the depositions made by the parties of whom it treats, it nevertheless establishes that the formalities prescribed by Articles 38 and 39 of the Convention were observed; the Court is, in consequence, obliged to take it into account:

For these reasons:

Pronounces the accusation non-proven; discharges Cassin; remits the cost to be paid by the Condominium.

Done, judged and delivered, the day, month and year as at head. By the Joint Court, the President; the French and British Judges who have signed with the Registrar.

The President:

The British Judge: The Registrar: The French Judge:

Certified true translation
of the Original

R. J. Fletcher.

At New York, Dec. 17th 1912.

New York

Official Interpreter-Translator
to the Joint Court of the Condominium.