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# Transcript of Kurd Baron Veltheim's Court Martial

Transcribed by Ellie Ivancic for the
Haymarket Museum
15025 Washington St. Haymarket, VA 20169

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Proceedings of a General Court Martial
convened at Gainesville in the State of Virginia by virtue
of the following order – vizs

Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Va. Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 1862

Special Order
No. 102
5 [sic] A General Court Martial is hereby
appointed to meet at these Head Quarters at 10' O'Clock
A.M. tomorrow (&th) or as soon thereafter as practicable
for the trial of Lieut. Kurd [sic] Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y.V.I. and
such other prisoners as may be brought before it.
Detail for the Court

1. Major Jeremiah Williams 25<sup>th</sup> O.V. I.
2. Captain George G. Lyon Aid De Camp
3. "Benj. Morgan 75<sup>th</sup> O.V.I.
4. "Otto Sebith 41 st. N.Y. V. I.
5. 1st. Lieut A. E. Peck 55<sup>th</sup>. O.V. I.
6. "Andrew B. Searles 45<sup>th</sup>. N.Y.V. I.
7. "William Cessna 82<sup>nd</sup>. O. V. I.

Major H. Baldwin 119th N.Y.V.I. Judge Advocate

No other officers than those above named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service. The court will sit without regard to hours.

By order of Major General Sigel T. A. Meysinburg A.A. General

[Page 2 of copy] Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainessville VA. Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 1862

The Court met pursuant to the above order Present

Major Jeremiah Williams 25<sup>th</sup> O.V.I.
Captain George G. Lyon Aid-de-Camp
" "Benjm Morgan 75 O.V.I.

1<sup>st</sup> Lient A.E. Peck 55 O.V.I.
" "Andrew B. Searles 45 N.Y.V.I.
" "William Cessna 83 O.V.I.
Major H. Baldwin 119<sup>th</sup> N.Y.V.I. Judge Advocate Absent
Captain Otto Sibeth 41 N.Y.V.I.

The accused Lieut Kurd Veltheime, 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y.V.I. was also present. The Judge Advocate having read the order conserning [sic] the Court asked the accused Lieut Veltheime if he had any objections to any of the members named therein, to which he replied in the negative.

The Court was then duly sworn by the Judge Advocate and Major H. Baldwin Judge Advocate was also sworn by the President of the Court in the presence of the accused.

The accused being asked if he wished to introduce Counsel replied in the negative but requested that he might be allowed an interpreter.

The accused was then arraigned on the following charges and specifications

Charges and Specifications
Charge 1<sup>st</sup> – Violation of the 54<sup>th</sup> Article of War
Specification 1<sup>st</sup>.- In this that Lieut Kurd Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> Reg.t N.Y.V.I.

[Page 3 of copy] did at Haymarket – Prince William County Va. On or about the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1863 by his order and with his own hand, wantonly and maliciously set fire to and burn sundry and divers houses and other buildings with the furniture thereof and without any lawful order or authority

Charge 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cruelly endangering the lives of helpless women and children and defenceless citizens of the United States

Specification 1<sup>st</sup> –
In this that Lieut Kurd Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y.
S.V.I. [sic] did on or about the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1862 enter the village of Haymarket, Prince William County Va. In the dead of the night and by his own order and with his own hands set fire to and burn sundry and divers occupied dwelling houses

Charge 3<sup>rd</sup> – Conduct unbecoming an officer and a Gentleman Specification 1<sup>st</sup> –

In this that Lieut Kurd Veltheime did on or about the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1862, in the dead of the night and with his own hand or by his order set fire to and burn the house of a certain Mrs. Newman after she had protested that the house was only occupied by helpless females and her sick child

Specification 2<sup>nd</sup> –
In this that the said Lieut Kurd Veltheime
did on or about the morning of November 4<sup>th</sup> 1862 wantonly
and maliciously with his own hands or by his order
set fire to and burn the entire village of Haymarket
Prince William County Va. This without lawful orders
or authority

To which Charges and Specifications the prisoner

[Page 4 of copy] pleaded as follows

To the Specification 1<sup>st</sup> charge – not guilty
To the 1<sup>st</sup> charge – not guilty
The the [sic] 2<sup>nd</sup> charge – not guilty
To the 1<sup>st</sup> Specification 3<sup>rd</sup> charge – not guilty
To the 2<sup>nd</sup> Specification 3<sup>rd</sup> charge – not guilty
To the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge – not guilty

The Court here adjourned to meet at 61/2 O'clock this P.M.

H Baldwin Jr. [?] Jeb [?] Williams

Maj 119<sup>th</sup> NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI [?]

Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

Head Quarters 11<sup>th</sup> Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Va. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1862 6 ½ PM

The court met pursuant to adjournment
Present
All the members of the Court
The Judge Advocate and the prisoner were also present
Capt. Otto Sebith being present was then duly sworn
The accused introduced Capt. Max Cohnheim Aid-de-Camp
to Major Genl. Sigel as interpreter and Counsel and who
was also duly sworn. The Court then resumed the trial of Lieut Kurd Veltheime.

# James Shirley a witness for the prosecution being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows:

Question – What is your name?

Answer – James Shirley

Ques. Where do you reside?

Ans. Haymarket

Ques. How long have you resided there?

#### [Page 5 of copy]

Ans. I have been in Haymarket for the last several years.

Ques. Was [sic] you in Haymarket on Monday of Tuesday last?

Ans. I was in Haymarket on Monday and Tuesday last

Ques. Was you in Haymarket when it was burned?

Ans. I was in Haymarket when it was burned.

Ques. State what time the fire commenced?

Ans. A little before one O'clock A.M.

Ques. Where did the fire commence?

Ans. In this end of the village; in Garret Hulfishes blacksmith shop.

Ques. How much of the town was burned?

Ans. All of the Village except four little houses

Ques. How many buildings were burned?

Ans. About thirteen buildings

Ques. Were they occupied by families?

Ans. All but three were occupied by families.

Ques. Was your house burned?

Ans. It was

Ques. How came it on fire?

Ans. It was set on fire by two men.

Ques. Were they soldiers?

Ans. I can't tell if they were soldiers.

Ques. Had they arms? Ans. One had a saber

Ques. How did they set it on fire?

Ans. Two men came to my house and said you had better be getting your folks out of here for I am going to burn your house I begged for them not to burn my house He said he had orders to burn every house in the village – My daughter begged of him also not to burn our house. He piled the furniture on the floor and set fire to the

the furniture on the floor and set fire to the pile and then lit a broom and ran into

[Page 6 of copy]

the other room and touched it to some clothing and

soon the house was in flames.

Ques. How long after they come [sic] in the house did they set fire to it?

Ans. He commenced as soon as he told me to get out [sic] my family

Ques. Did he ask if your family were all out?

Ans. He did not.

Ques. Did he go up stairs?

Ans. He did not

Ques. Were there any sick in the house at the time?

Ans. Yes, my grandson – my daughter and my wife was complaining

Ques. Did you tell him that your family were ill?

Ans. Yes, we all entreated him

Ques. Did you hear him say why he burned the house?

Ans. No, only that he had orders to burn the town

Ques. When did this occur?

Ans. This occurred last Tuesday morning.

Ques. Did you hear any shots fired in the streets the day before?

Ans. I heard shots fired that day

Ques. Who fired?

Ans. I saw Federal Soldiers shooting chickens.

Ques. Do you know anything about any other shots that were fired there? – Do you know anything about federal soldiers being shot at in the streets the day before?

Ans. I don't know anything about it, nor did I hear anything about it.

Ques. Did you see the man who set your house on fire.

Ans. I saw the two men in the room. The man

#### [Page 7 of copy]

that was mostly engaged in kindling the fire was a short dark looking man with a cap on.

Ques. Did you hear him speak?

Ans. I heard him speak.

Ques. Did he speak good English?

Ans. He did.

Ques. Would you be able to recognize the man if you should see him?

Ans. I don't think I could.

Ques. Have you seen the man since?

Ans. I don't think I have seen the man since.

Ques. What was the size of the other man?

Ans. He was pretty tall and stout – a medium sized man.

Ques. Did you hear him speak?

Ans. I don't recollect hearing him say anything.

Ques. Were those the only two men that were in your house?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. by the Court.

Had either of the men shoulder straps on?

Ans. They had overcoats on. I could not tell.

Ques. by J. A.

Have you ever seen the man that you did not hear speak to recognize him since then?

Ans. I think I have; I think I saw him at the other court room.

Ques. By Court

Are either of the men in this room now?

Ans. I think not.

Ques. by Court

You say one of the men had a sword by his side?

Ans. Yes.

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Ques. Was he the Cavalry man?

Ans. He was.

# Garret Hulfish being called into Court as a witness for the prosecution and duly sworn testified as follows –

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Garret Hulfish

Ques. Where do you reside?

Ans. In Haymarket

Ques. How long have you resided there?

Ans. I moved there in May 1855 and have been there ever since.

Ques. Was it destroyed by fire recently?

Ans. Yes it was destroyed by fire last Wednesday morning about two O'clock

Ques. How came the Town to be burned?

Ans. It was set on fire. My house was set on fire in my presence

Ques. Was it set on fire by soldiers?

Ans. It was set on fire by soldiers who said they had orders to burn the house

Ques. Did you see the men that set your house on fire?

Ans. I saw the men

Ques. Have you seen either of the men since?

Ans. I think I have seen one of the men at the Provost-Marshalls Office – I cannot say

that I have seen him.

Ques. Have you seen him since you saw him at the Provost Marshalls Office?

Ans. I have not.

Ques. Could you recognize the other man?

Ans. I could not

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Ques. Did you hear him speak?

Ans. I heard them speak and judged them to be Germans.

Ques. by Accused

Did parties search your house about noon the day before?

Ans. They did

Ques. Did you give up any arms to them?

Ans. I did not

Ques. Did you keep some in the house?

Ans. There might have been some in the house

Ques. Did you have a weapon in your hand the time your house was fired?

Ans. I had no weapon in my hand of any description

Ques. You pointed no arms at any one?

Ans. I did not.

Ques by Court

Did you hear any shots fired in the street on Tuesday or in the night time?

Ans. I heard shots fired

Ques. Who fired the shots?

Ans. I know not.

Ques by accused allowed by Court

Did you hear in the night an explosion
of any kind?

Ans. I did in the morning after the fire.

Ques. What did you think it was?

Ans. I believed it to be a shell.

Ques. Why did you not give up the Arms?

Ans. Because if there were any there I did not know of them

Ques by Court

Did either of the men who came to your house

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and set it on fire have arms about them?

Ans. They had.

Ques. What arms had they?

Ans. I believe them to be common sabers.

Ques. Had either of the men shoulder straps on?

Ans. I could not say, one of them was termed Captain.

Ques. Had they any Ensignia of Office on their caps?

Ans. I cannot say

Ques. How were they dressed?

Ans. One I think had a blue overcoat on

Oues. How was the other dressed?

Ans. I cant say. He was dressed in darker clothes and Was a taller man.

Ques. Did both wear sabers?

Ans. I can't say

### Emily Mount a witness for the prosecution being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows –

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Emily Mount

Ques. Where do you reside?

Ans. At Haymarket

Ques. Were you there last Tuesday?

Ans. I was

Ques. Was the Town burned?

Ans. It was, last Wednesday morning

Ques. Was it set fire to?

Ans. It was.

Ques. By whom?

Ans. By men

Ques. How were they dressed?

Ans. They were dressed in Soldiers Clothes

Ques. How many were there?

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Ans. I did not see but one man.

Ques. Did you see him to recognize him?

Ans. I don't know if I did or not.

Ques. Have you seen him since? Ans. I don't know if I have.

Ques. Do you know anything about any shots being Fired in the street the day before?

Ans. I don't know if they were fired in the street but I saw Soldiers shooting chickens in the yard.

Ques. Was your house burned?

Ans. It was

Ques. How long after you was awakened up was it burned?

Ans. I had time to dress myself before it was on fire

Ques. Did you have time to save your goods?

Ans. I had time to save some of them.

Ques by accused

Did you hear any shots on Tuesday night between 8 and 12 o'clock?

Ans. I don't think I did

Ques. Did you hear an explosion in the night at the time of the fire?

Ans. I did

Ques. by Court

How was the man you saw dressed?

Ans. I think he had on blue pants and short jacket

Ques. Had he any arms of any kind?

Ans. I did not see any

Ques by J.A.

Had he any shoulder straps on?

Ans. He did not

### David Martin a witness for the prosecution being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows –

[Page 12 of copy]

Ques. Where do you belong?

Ans. I am a private in Co. K 6<sup>th</sup> O.V.C. [?]

Ques. Where are you staioned?

Ans. I am an orderly for General Steinwehr

Ques. Where were you last Wednesday morning between the hours of 12 and 3 O'clock?

Ans. I was between General Steinwehrs Head-Quarters and Haymarket and in Haymarket part of the time

Ques. What were you doing there? Ans. I was setting buildings on fire.

Ques. Who was with you?

Ans. Liuet Veltheime, two orderlies and a count they call him.

Ques. Did anybody else set buildings on fire?

Ans. Leit Veltheime assisted me to set three on fire. Leit Veltheime lit the match the first building and I whittled the shavings.

Ques. What time did you leave General Steinwehrs Head-Quarters?

Ans. About 11 O'clock

Ques. By whose order did you go?

Ans. Capt. Meusel spoke to my orderly Sergeant in German. The Sergeant then came to me and said that Capt. Meusel wanted three orderlies to go with Leiut Veltheime and told me to go. Leiut Veltheime told us after we had gone a ways and he had halted us, that he would tell us what he wanted of us. He said there had been two of General Schurzs orderlies fired on, four shots, in Haymarket and that he was going up to burn the damned Secession Town – I think he said damn, and he wanted to know if he

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could depend on us to stick by him. I told him I would. He said he would stick by us till the last man was killed and wanted us to do so by him. He said he would ride through the Town and burn back this way. He said we will ride on now these are my orders. I understood him to mean those were the orders to him he said the words these are my orders

Ques. Did yo see him set fire to more than one house?

Ans. He and I set fire to three

Ques. Did you see him set fire to a building Before the occupants were out?

Ans. I did

Oues. More than one?

Ans. No Sir

Ques. Were these occupants up stairs?

Ans. I don't know whether there were occupants up stairs or not. The old man of the house said he wanted to go up and get his children and the Lieutenant said go and get them as soon as possible; I don't want to see any of your family injured.

Ques. Do you remember of [sic] setting fire to a Mrs. Newman's house?

Ans. I don't

Ques. Do you remember a woman begging him not to burn her house that there were only women there and a sick child?

Ans. I know that I heard no such conversation He had a conversation with an old man which I have related, he also said to the old man that he had come to burn his house The old man asked him for Gods sake what he had come there for.

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Ques. Did he take hold of the man?

Ans. He put his hands against him and pushed him back – he did not strike him

Ques. by accused

Did you hear an explosion?

Ans. I did

Ques. What like?

Ans. It sounded like the bursting of a shell

Ques. Did I tell you to set the whole Town on fire or set the place on fire?

Ans. I could not say wether [sic] you told me to set the whole Town on fire or the place – don't think you used either word.

Ques. After we had set the first house on fire, did I tell you to go with me and set some more houses on fire?

Ans. No Sir

Ques. What did I say to you?

Ans. You told me to set that side of the street on fire and you would go on the other side of the street.

Ques. by Court
Did you do so?

Ans. I did

Ques. Did he go to the other side?

Ans. He did

Ques. Were there houses burned on the other Side where he went?

Ans. There were. I went into on of the houses while it was burning.

Ques by J.A.

Were you together when more than one house was set on fire?

Ans. I was not, but was with him after

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it was set on fire. I did not see any men about the second house. I saw some women and children little girls, they were only partly dressed and running around taking out things.

Ques. Did you hear the Leiutenant say anything

To either of the women?

Ans. I did not.

Ques. Did you see anyone take hold of either of the women?

Ans. I did not see any one take hold of either of the women, but I put my hand on a little girls head as she passed.

Ques. Did you see any one pull a shawl

off a woman?

Ans. I did not Ques. by Court

Is the prisoner the Lieutenant of whom you have been speaking?

Ans. He is

# Lester Blood a witness for prosecution being called into court and duly sworn testified as follows –

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Lester Blood

Ques. To what do you belong?

Ans. I am a private in 6<sup>th</sup> O.V.C. I am an Orderly at General Steinwehrs Head Quarters I was with the party that burned Hay-Market last Wednesday morning

Ques. What time did you burn it?

Ans. It was after 12 o'clock and before two.

Ques. Who were with you?

Ans. There were Lieut Veltheime Count Ingleham, David Martin, Gerome Picket and myself

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Ques. Did you se Lieut Veltheime set fire to a building?

Ans. I did

Ques. How many?

Ans. I cant tell

Ques. More than one?

Ans. Yes

Ques. Did you see him set fire to a Mrs. Newman's building?

Ans. I did not see him – but saw him go in and saw the building on fire afterwards

Ques. Did you hear him say anything to her?

Ans. I heard him say to some woman that he was going to burn their house They begged of him not to that they had a sick child in the house. He said it was his orders and he must do it

Ques. Did you hear the woman say to him that nobody lived there but females?

Ans. I don't recollect that, but I heard a woman say that somewhere in Town that night – The Lieut said he could not help it, that he was going to burn the house

Ques. Did you see the Lieut pull a shawl off a womans shoulders and throw it on the fire?

Ans. No sir. Ques by Court

Were any of your party intoxicated that night?

Ans. None of the orderlies were I should think Count Ingleham was somewhat intoxicated

Ques. How in regard to the Lieutenant?

Ans. I don't think he was. I did not notice it if he was Ques by J.A.

Did you see any violence used towards any females that night?

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Ans. No I did not

Ques by Court

Is the prisoner the Lieutenant you spoke of?

Ans. Yes Sir

The court here adjourned to meet tomorrow November 8<sup>th</sup> 1862 at 9 o'clock A.M.

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

Head Quarters 11<sup>th</sup> Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1862. 9 O'clock a.m.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment
Present
All the member of the Court
The Judge Advocate and the Prisoner were also
present
The witnesses for the prosecution not having yet
Arrived upon the request of the Judge Advocate the Court
Adjourned until half past One O'clock P.M.

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI Judge Advocate

Pres't of the Court

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Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1862. 1 O'clock. P.M

The Court met pursuant to adjournment

Present

All the members of the Court

The Judge Advocate and Prisoner were also

Present

The Proceedings of the last meeting were read

by the Judge Advocate and approved by the Court.

The Court then resumed the trial of Lieut.

Kurd Veltheime 68th Regt. N.Y.V.I.

# William [spelling changed to "Willieama"] Newman a witness for the prosecution being called into Court and sworn testified as follows.

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. William [spelling changed to "Willieama"] Newman

Ques. Where do you live?

Ans. Hay Market Va.

Ques. How long have you lived there?

Ans. Nearly three years.

Ques. Was you present when the village was burned?

Ans. Yes Sir.

Ques. Was the Village set on fire?

Ans. It was.

Ques. By whom?

Ans. I do not know.

Ques. Was it set on fire by Soldiers?

Ans. It was

Ques. Did you see any of them?

Ans. I saw two.

Ques. What were they doing?

Ans. They were getting over the fence.

Ques. Where were you?

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Ans. I was coming around the corner of my house.

Ques. Did you see their faces to know them?

Ans. I do not recollect them particularly.

Ques. Did you speak to them?

Ans. I did.

Ques. What did you say?

Ans. You are not going to burn my house down,

are you sir?

Ques. What did he reply?

Ans. I am going to burn them all down.

Ques. What did you say then?

Ans. I said my God you are not going to burn my house down. I am a poor woman with a family of Children and have a little son at the point of death. He said he could not help it, that he was ordered to do it. I give you my word you shan't be hurt – Get him out quick and get out what you can.

Ques. Were there any men in the house?

Ans. No Sir.

Ques. Did you tell him so?

Ans. No; He did not ask me.

Ques. Where is your son now?

Ans. He is dead and buerried. [sic]

Ques. When did he die?

Ans. About two o'clock that morning about one hour and a half after he was taken out.

Ques. Was the man you spoke of an officer?

Ans. I did not notice. Ques. Had he a sword?

Ans. He had.

Ques. Was any violence used toward an one that night?

Ans. No Sir.

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Ques. Did the man wait for you to get out your Children?

Ans. No; he followed on immediately and set fire immediately

Ques. Was his (the Childs) death caused by the exposure that night?

Ans. Yes Sir; I certainly think it was.

Ques. Are you a widow Lady?

Ans. I am, my husband has not been dead a year.

### Mary Newman a witness for the prosecution being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Mary Newman.

Ques. Are you the daughter of the last witness?

Ans. I am.

Ques. Were you present the night of the fire?

Ans. Yes Sir.

Ques. Did you see the man that set fire to your house?

Ans. Yes Sir.

Ques. Could you recognize him if you should see him now?

Ans. Yes Sir.

Ques. Is the man in the room?

Ans. I don't know sir, that one-(pointing to the Prisoner-) looks like one of them.

Ques. Did you speak to the man?

Ans. No Sir.

Ques. Did you hear your mother speak to them?

Ans. No Sir. I was up stairs.

Ques by Prisoner Did you hear any shots fired the evening previous?

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Ans. No Sir.

Ques. Did you hear any explosion before your house was set on fire?

Ans. No Sir, the first thing I heard was the Glass breaking out in Mr. Hulfishes [sic] house.

Ques. Was you so fast asleep that an explosion could have taken place without your hearing it?

Ans. No Sir. I was not asleep.

Ques. Was the child in your house dieing before the house was fired?

Ans. Not that we know of; he was worse that night

Ques. Was there any men in the house?

Ans. There was no man in the house.

Ques. Have you any Brother?

Ans. I have a Brother.

Ques. Where is he?

Ans. I don't know where he is, he was in the Southern Army.

#### **Question by Court**

Did you see any arms in the house of any man in Hay Market before the Federal Troops came in?

Ans. No Sir.

Ques. Did any one speak to you?

Ans. No Sir.

#### **Ques by Prisoner**

Was the child already up before the man

went in the bed room?

Ans. Yes Sir.

Ques. Was you asked if everybody was out of

the house?

Ans. No Sir – my sister was.

Ques. Have you a sister?

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Ans. I have two sisters.

#### Ques by Court

Did not your mother speak to one of the soldiers outside of the house?

Ans. She spoke to the man

The prosecution here closed The Court here adjourned until half past six o'clock this P.M

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainessville Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1862 6 ½ o'clock, P.M

The Court met pursuant to adjournment Present
All the members of the Court
The Judge Advocate and the Prisoner were also present
The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Judge Advocate and approved by the court
The Court then resumed the trial of Lieut
Kurd Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> Reg. N.Y.V.I.

The Court after deliberation decided to admi[t] the testimony of Count Ingleheim, a witness for the defence, who being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows –

Ques. What is your name? Ans. Hugo Count Ingleheim. Ques. Where do you belong?

[Page 23 of copy] Ans. Co I. 4<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Cavalry. Ques. Where are you stationed?

Ans. I am Orderly by Gel. Steinwehr.

Ques. Where were you last Wednesday morning Between 12 and 2 o'clk? [sic]

Ans. I was on patrol to Hay Market.

Ques. What did you do there?

Ans. On order of Captain Meusel to take a patrol to Hay Market to teke the Army there, because two shots had been fired at Orderlies of Genl. Schurz.

## Ques by Prisoner

What order did we receive from Captain Meusel A.A. General of Genl. Steinwehr?

Ans. After we received the report of Genl Schurz Orderlies that two shots had been fired at them, Captain Meusel as soon as he heard the report spoke to Lieut Veltheime and me and orderly Armbuster about the infamous act and that measures should be taken to protect them.

Ques. What did Captian Meusel say about the act besides.

Captain Meusel expressed his suspicion Ans. that arms were hidden in the place and ordered that a patrol should be sent to Hay market in order to seize all arms and ff any resistance should be made to drive out the inhabitants and take the severest steps and then Genl Meusel said if there should be made any resistance, then burn down the Rebel-nest and I am sure they will stop fireing [sic] upon our men. Lieut Veltheime and I answered that it was all right but that we don't like to go without informing Genl. Steinwehr. Here upon Capt. Meusel went away and after coming back he told us all right "I shall go along with you." Then I went in the stable, ordered out his hourse (Meusels) should be saddled too. When we were on horse back he told us he could not go along because one Officer had to stay with the General. Then Lieut Veltheime and I and three Orderlies proceeded to Hay market when we were on the way Lieut Veltheime asked me what I thought should be done if the people should make any resistance, hereupon we decided to burn the house from which the shots were fired - Lieut

Veltheime decided – Then Lieut Veltheime gave an order in English to the other orderlies, which I did not understand because I don't understand English at all. When we arrived at Haymarket we all but one orderly who held the horses dismounted and Lieut Veltheime and one orderly went into the house where the shots were fired and alarmed the people to search for Arms. I stayed before the door and soon heard steps. Afterwards a man came down with a large musket in his hand as soon as I saw him I drew my saber and ordered him to halt but as he aimed his musket at me I supposed it was loaded. I struck him four or five times on the head; then the man went away and Leiut Veltheime came back at the same time I supposed that he was not hurt much because I saw him since that time.

Ques. What was I doing while you were doing this

Ans. I don't know

Ques What did I order when I came in

[Page 25 of copy]

when you were striking the man?

Ans. You ordered me and the orderly that was with me to help to burn the house

Ques. Did you hear the Explosion while the house was burning?

Ans. Not at the same time but when I left the first house I saw some men running out the house and soon after I heard the Explosion

Ques. What kind of an explosion was it?

Ans. Either a big Shrapnel or an infernal machine

Ques. What order did I give after that?

Ans. You ordered me and the orderlies to burn the surrounding houses because there was to be expected that there would be some arms and ammunition hidden.

Ques. Did we all set the houses on fire?

Ans. Yes we and the orderlies burned the surrounding houses I and Lieut Veltheime burned three of them.

Ques. Did the orderlies run off and go to burning the houses?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Did we light all the houses or did the wind set fire to some?

Ans. The wind did cause a good deal that

some houses caught fire.

Ques. Did I tell you and all the other orderlies not to harm anybody?

Ans. Yes; more than once.

Ques. Did I tell you to burn every house in town?

Ans. No You did not, the orderlies and the wind did the rest.

Ques. Do you know anything about the child

[Page 26 of copy] that was said to be sick there?

Ans. No.

### Ques. by the Court

Did you hear the Lieutenant tell one of the orderlies to burn the houses on one side while he burned on the other side?

Ans. No.

#### **Cross Examination**

#### Ques by Judge Advocate

Where did the Adjutant Genl. Neusel go when he went out of the room?

Ans. I don't know.

Ques. When he came back what did he say [?]

Ans. He said all right I will go or words to that effect.

Ques. When the Adjt. Genl. First told you to go to Haymarket after we had spoke [sic] about the orderlies being fired into what did he tell you to do?

Ans. Make right away a patrol to Haymarket take all the arms you find there and should the people make any resistance use the severest measures then he added the best was to burn the Rebel nest then I am sure they will stop firing.

Ques. Who was in the room when the Adjt. Genl. told you this?

Ans. I, Lieut. Veltheime and a Doctor of the Sanitary Commission, there might have been some orderlies there I am not sure.

Ques. When you struck the man with the saber who was present?

Ans. The same moment when I drew the saber

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back Lieut. Veltheime came but I think that Lieut Veltheime could have seen that the man had a musket in his hand.

Ques. Was the house when you struck the man on fire?

Ans. It had been set on fire.

Ques. Was any other house on fire at the time you struck the man, except the one you were in?

Ans. I don't know.

The Court here adjourned until 10. o'clk a.m. tomorrow Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1862

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1862 10 o'ck. A.M The Court met pursuant to adjournment Present

All the members of the Court
The Judge Advocate and the prisoner were
also present.

The Court then resumed the trial of Lieut Veltheime 68 Regt N.Y.V.I.

Henry Leopold being called into court And duly sworn testified as follows

Ques. What is your name

[Page 28 of copy]

Ans. Henry Leopold

Ques. Where do you belong?

Ans. Co. K. 6th O.V.I.

Ques. Where are you stationed?

Ans. I am orderly for Genl. Steinwehr's staff

Ques. Did you receive any orders on the night that Haymarket was burned between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clk?

Ans. Yes Sir

Ques. From whom?

Ans. From Capt. Meusel Oues. What was the order?

Ans. To make three orderlies ready immediately to follow Lieut. Veltheime.

Ques. Did he say nothing else besides?

Ans. Besides that he said we were probably attacked at Hay Market and he would send Lieut. Veltheime up there with a patrol.

Ques. Did yo hear any conversation between Capt. Meusel and us when we were getting ready to start?

Ans. Lieut Veltheime said he would like to have me along and Capt. Meusel said he had som[e]thing else for me.

Ques. What did Capt. Meusel tell you besides?

Ans. He told me to saddle my hourse and go over to the Commanders of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade and tell them to be ready that some of our orderlies had been fired at at Hay market perhaps a scouting party had done it.

Ques. Did you hear anything about setting fire to the place there?

Ans. No Sir

[Page 29 of copy]

# Herbert Armbuster Co. A. 4<sup>th</sup> N.Y.V.C. being called into court and duly sworn testified as follows.

Ques. Where do you belong?

Ans. I am orderly at Genl. Schurz Head-Ouarters.

Ques. Was you over to Genl. Steinwehr Head-Quarters on Tuesday night between 10 and 11 o'clk?

Ans. I was.

Ques. Did you tell them there that you had Been shot at passing through the Town of Haymarket?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Did you say those shots came out of a house?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Was there another orderly along with you?

Ans. No.

Ques. How many shots were fired?

Ans. Two, fired quickly after each other.

Ques. Do you think these shots were by one or two persons?

Ans. I thought it was two shots out of a

Revolver.

Ques. Did you hear Capt. Meusel give me any orders at Head Quarter at the time you came and reported about the shots?

Ans. According to my recollection Captain

Meusel came down and said the General
permits it.

Ques. Did you hear Capt. Meusel say anything about laying fire to the house?

Ans. Yes, it was spoken of before he came down Ques. What did you hear me say to Capt. Meusel?

Ans. You asked him to go up to the General and ask his permission for you to go.

[Page 30 of copy]

Ques. Did you hear me say anything besides?

Ans. You told Capt. Meusel that you did not want to go without the knowledge of the General.

Ques. What did Capt. Meusel say about putting fire to the houses [?]

Ans. When I told him (Capt. Meusel) that I had been fired at Capt. Meusel said we ought to put fire to the village.

#### **Cross Examination**

Ques. Where were you when this shot was fired?

Ans. On horse back riding through Hay Market

Ques. Where in Hay Market?

Ans. In the middle of the road.

Ques. What was your business?

Ans. I was escorting two carriages to General Stohl.

Ques. Where were they?

Ans. They were 30 yards before me when this happened.

Ques. Did you turn back?

Ans. I did not turn back then but went on after the Carriage.

Ques. You say these shots were fired out of a hole in the wall, did you see the man that fired?

Ans. No, I only saw a gray hat the hole was too small for me to see any other portion of his boddy. [sic]

Ques. How do you know these shots were fired

at you [?]

Ans. Because I heard the bullets whistle past me.

Ques. Did you see the smoke of the fire arms

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Ans. Yes I saw the smoke come out of the hole.

Ques. Do you know if any persons were living in the house at the time?

Ans. No Sir I do not.

Ques. Were you with the party that burned the Town?

Ans. No Sir I only went to the road with them I went back to Genl. Schurz.

Ques. Who were in those Carriages?

Ans. Four Ladies and three men I do not know their names.

The Court here adjourned until 3 o'clk P.M to await the arrival of Capt. Meusela Witness for the defence. [sic]

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Va. Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 862 3 o'clk. P.M

Court met pursuant to adjournment
Present
All the members of the Court
The proceedings of the last meeting were read
By the Judge Advocate and approved by the Court
The Court then resumed the trial of
Lieut. Veltheime.

Capt. Meusel a witness for the defence being called into Court and duly sworn testified as follows

[Page 32 of copy]

Ques. What is your name?

Ans. Oscar Von Meusel.

Ques. Where do you belong?

Ans. I am Captain and A.A. General to Genl. Von Steinwehr division 2 Division 11

Army Corps.

Ques. Was there an orderly came to General Steinwehr Head Quarters about 10 or 11 o'clk on Tuesday night the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November and told us that there were shots fired at him from a house in Hay Market?

Ans. Yes there was, it was near 11 o'clock.

Ques. Did the orderly bring another dispatch?

Ans. The same orderly brought another dispatch for General Steinwehr.

Ques. Who was the dispatch from?

Ans. I think it was from Genl Stuhl

Ques. What was in the dispatch?

Ans. Our cavalry is driven back by a force of about 2000 men.

Ques. Did we have any conversations about the man's being shot at?

Ans. Yes Sir

Ques. What was the conversation

Ans. I cannot remember exactly the words
I spoke but I expressed my feelings
and my opinion what should be done
with people who shot an orderly
from behind an ambush or a house
without reason, I put this class
of man in the ranks of Robbers
said words to this effect – "We should
do all we can to destroy these fellows["]

Ques. Did you give me an order to take a patrol

[Page 33 of copy]

Ans. Yes Sir. After I went to the General and asked his permission.

Ques. Did in the way of conversation we speak Something about burning the place?

Ans. I expressed by opinion what should be done with this kind of Bushwackers but I considered this opinion as my private opinion.

Ques. What was the opinion you expressed?

Ans. It was a private opinion but I am willing to express my private opinion about this matter.

Ques. What were the words you used to me in expressing your opinion so far as you can remember?

Ans. When I heard that the orderly had been shot at I became very much excited

and said words to this effect – These fellows deserve a harder punishment than to have their houses burned over their heads.

Ques. Did you mean by expressing this opinion that you would be satisfied if the houses should be burned?

Ans. No Sir

Ques. Did you want me then to hang the people?

Ans. No, I never gave such an order. Ques. Why did you send me there?

Ans. I sent you by order of Brig. General Von Steinwehr commanding 2<sup>nd</sup> Division to take a patrol to that place and find out under all circumstances who shot at the orderly and to make them prisoners to bring them in and find out who he was.

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Ques. Did you tell me nothing else?

Ans. Yes. Oues. What?

Ans. When I came the second time from Genl. Von Steinwehrs room I told you to go, that was when I was standing in the door as far as I can remember.

Ques. Did you say nothing else about setting Fire to the houses in Hay Market?

Ans. Not after I received the order to send Lieut. Veltheime for a patrol.

Ques. What did you say after you received the order?

Ans. I answered that before

Ques. Did you say we will now go and burn the damned Rebel nest?

Ans. It may be that I said words to that effect before I received the permission to send out a patrol. I do not exactly remember the very words I used but I remember that I was very excited in the first moments when the orderly came with the message that he was shot at twice

Ques. Did I tell you I wanted the Generals permission before I went out on the patrol?

Ans. Yes, and I put on a pair of boots and asked the General

Ques. Did you give me my instructions when you came back from the General?

Ans. No I did not, I went out and gave the orders to both the Commanders of Both Brigades in my Division to be careful this night. This order was given

[Page 35 of copy] in consequence of the first report received that our Cavalry picket had been driven back by a strong Cavalry force for about a mile.

Ques. Why did you not go along with the patrol?

Ans. Lieut. Veltheime told me I should stay home because I was the only one in the staff I wanted to go but after his second request I did stay.

#### **Cross Examination**

Ques. When you left the Lieutenant, after hearing about the shots being fired when you put on your boots and after the Lieutenant had said he did not want to go without the knowledge of the General, where did you go?

Ans. I went up to the Generals room. Ques. What id you say to the General? Ans. I told him what the orderly said

Ques. Where did you go after you left the Generals room? Ans. I went down in the same room where I came from

Ques. Who did you find there?

Ans. I found Lieut. Veltheime orderly Armbuster and I think orderly Ingleheim and our Quarter Master Captain Schurmisell [?] he was in bed.

Ques. Was he asleep?

Ans. I don't think he was.

Ques. What did you say when you entered the room?

Ans. I said to Lieut. Veltheime you can go and then I took my overcoat and went out to give orders to our Brigade Commanders mentioned before.

Ques. Is that all you said to the Lieutenant when you came back?

Ans. As far as I can recollect it is all.

Ques. Had you been sent to the General to ask him a question?

[page 36 of copy] Ans. Yes. Ques. What was that question?

Ans. Wether [sic] they should go out and find out about who shot at the orderly.

Ques. How long was you in the room after you came back from the Generals?

Ans. Long enough to take my overcoat.

Ques. When you left the room did any one Leave with you with your overcoat on?

Ans. No.

Ques. When did you last see Lieut Veltheime? Ans. It was in the yard when I gave the order

Ques. What order?

Ans. The order to the orderly t go to both Brigades to tell them to be carefull. [sic]

Ques. When did you next see him?

Ans. When he came back.

Ques. Have you never had any conversation about the burning of Hay Market since?

Ans. No sir. I do not recollect.

#### **Quest by Court**

Did you or did you not order Lieut Veltheime with some orderlies to go to Haymarket and search the house from which the firing had been done, for arms and direct him in case he met with resistance to burn the place?

Ans. No.

Ques. Did you order him to go there and search for arms?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Did you direct him what to do in Case he met with resistance?

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Ans. I did not give such instructions as I knew him to be an old Officer.

Ques. Did you hear after Lieut. Veltheime went off an explosion from the neighborhood of Hay Market?

Ans. Yes I heard an explosion and I took It for the explosion of a bomb shell.

Ques. Did you hear anything about this explosion the next day?

Ans. Yes. Ques. What?

Ans. When I was present at the report of Lieut. Veltheime.

Ques. What did Lieut. Veltheime say in his Report about the Explosion?

Ans. His report is written and can be had At General Sigels.

Ques. To perform what duty did Lieutenant Veltheime wish you to go and ask the General's permission?

Ans. To make a patrol to find out who Shot twice at the orderly.

Ques. Was that the permission you gave him When you said he could go?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Was there anything said about getting
The General's permission to burn the Town?

Ans. No Sir

Ques. Did you give any orders contradictory to your opinion as to what ought to be done to the Inhabitants of Hay-Market.

Ans. I gave him no instructions

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Ques. When you sent Lieut. Veltheime out did you expect him to carry out your private opinion previously expressed in regard to the punishment due the Inhabitants of Hay Market?

Ans. I refuse to answer this question as my private opinion has nothing to do with the transactions of military business.

### Ques. by Consul for accused

Did you not give yourself the order to the orderlies to make a patrol under the Command of Lieut. Veltheime?

Ans. Yes Sir I gave this order to the Sergeant of the orderlies as I always do.

#### Ques by Court

Are you acquainted with Hugo Ingleheim?

Ans. Yes.

Ques. Do you know if he was one of the party who made the patrol to Hay Market that night?

Ans. Yes Sir he was a member.

Ques. Do you know if he or any member of The party were at all intoxicated

Ans. No I do not know.

The Accused here asked time to prepare his Defence and the Court adjourned until 9.0'clock.A.M. tomorrow November 10 1862.

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

[page 39 of copy] Head Quarters 11 Corps Army of the Potomac Gainesville Va. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 1862. 9clk A.M

The Court met pursuant to the above adjournment Present

All the members of the Court.

The Judge Advocate and the prisoner were also present.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read by the Judge Advocate and approved by the Court.

The prisoner then read his defence [sic] and which is hereunto annexed marked A.

The Court was

then cleared for deliberation and after maturely considering the evidence adduced found the Prisoner Lieutenant Kurd Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y.V.I. as follows

Of the Specification 1<sup>st</sup> Charge
Of the 1<sup>st</sup> Charge
Of the Specification 2<sup>nd</sup> Charge
Of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Charge
Of the 1<sup>st</sup> Specification 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge
Of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Specification 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge
Of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge
Of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge
Of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge
Of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Charge

And the Court do therefore sentence the said Lieutenant Kurd Veltheime 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Vol. Infantry to be dismissed from the service of the United States.

H Baldwin Jr Gen Williams
Maj 119 NYVI Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI
Judge Advocate Pres't of the Court

The Court hereupon adjourned until tomorrow morning 9.0'clk

Nov. 11 1862

H Baldwin Jr Maj 119 NYVI Judge Advocate Gen Williams Maj 25<sup>th</sup> OVI Pres't of the Court

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The Commanding General approves and confirms the findings and sentence of the Court in the foregoing case. Lieut. Kurd Veltheim, 68<sup>th</sup> N.Y.Vols., ceases to be an officer in the military service of the United States from this date.

F. Sigel Maj. Genl. Comdg.

# Statement of Lieutenant Baron Veltheim

[Page 1 of copy]
Statement of Lieutenant Baron Veltheim
Aide de Camp to General von Steinwehr

On the 4<sup>th</sup> November on the morning we at the headquarters of General von Steinwehr recieved information, that at the Town of Haymarket arms, clothing and sundry things belonging to the southern army were hidden at the houses. General von Steinwehr send his Quartermaster Captain Schimmel there, whis[sic] a company of infantry to sarch [sic] the town. Said officer found clothing, blankets and arms there which are[sic] given over to the Quartermaster Department. On the same day at or about 10 or 11 oclock at night one orderly of General Schurz came to us, saying that just now while passing through Haymarket there were tow [sic] shots fired at him. Captain von Meusel Assistant Adjutant General, me, Count Ingelheim and the Orderly Armbouster [sic] spoke about it and used words or at least to the effect: it is a shame that

our troops are fired upon from ambush, that stores was kept for the benefit of the southern troops etc. etc. Capt. von Meusel than ordered me to go with 4 Orderlies including Count Ingelheim to Haymarket, sarch [sic] the houses, take the arms, get possesion under all circumstances of the place and take the severest steps. Capt. Meusel than went outside to the sergeant of

[Page 2 of copy] our sergeant and told him to get three orderlies ready to go out with me; what other conversation took place, I do not know, because I was not present. He returned to the room again, and we spoke than [sic] about the expedition, while he made expression of the words that the whole town should be burned down, the people will stopp [sic] shouting[sic] than at our men hidden in ambush. He spoke farther about the expedition when I in the presence of and [sic] Orderly and Count Ingelheim told Captain Meusel: I should not go unless the General know about the pa-?] and agreed with the whole affaire. In the room was at that time Capt. Meusel. Count Ingelheim and me, besides Orderly Armbruster, A Doktar of the Sanitary Board and Captian Schimel slept, I belief [sic], in the room. Capt. Meusel went out, returned in a short time and said, he had been upstairs in the General's room, it was all right, we should go on or words to that effect. He himself. that is Cap. Meusel wanted to go along, sent in the stable to have his horse saddled, but staid afterwards at home. Before we started, he said: burn the damed [sic] rebell [sic] nest down, the[y] will cease shouting[sic] afterwards. I than [sic] rode away to Haymarket. Before entering it, I told my orderlies what I wanted from them, the mode of attack and asked them. if the[y] would stick by me under all

[Page 3 of copy] circumstances; I further asked them if

I could depend on them by setting the place on fire. They all told me, I could and we went on to the described place. 2 Orderlies and I dismounted, went to the house, nocked [sic] at the door to waken the inhabitants. One man came down towards one of the orderlies, Count Ingelheim with a musket in his hands witch [sic] he aimed at him, but was after some noise and some cuts with the sword driven back. I came attrackted[sic] through the noise in that room just in time to see the man with the gun recieving the cuts. How he came to have arms, I do not know after the whole town had been sarched [sic] in the fornoon and every one asked to give up all arms. It is my opinion that since that [time] some southern soldiers had been there and fled when they heard us riding in. While the affaire in the house was going on, one orderly and me set fire to the joining barn or blacksmith shop belonging to that house, according to my orders, but after that attack I ordered to burn down the whole house and assisted in it. Going out I saw a few men running away from the back of other houses in the field. The same time I heard and we heard it all, including most all the witnesses a fearfull [sic] explosion, [sic] like the bursting of a shell and saw pieces flying round. I take this

[Page 4 of copy] to have been a handshell thrown at us from the people to kill some of us. At any rate the noise occasioned through it, was heard in the camp at Carters Switch, 3 miles of[f] and created there a great excitement. After this threefold attack in the very same night, in the very same town, know everywhere to be occupied by some of the most furious of our enemies, endangering the lives of 2 and, afterwards 3 soldiers of the United States maliciously while

executing their order and duty, I considered it not only nessessary [sic] to carry out the orders received [sic], to use the utmost severity to prevent further calamities out of ambush, -- but considered it my holy duty as soldier and officier [sic] to make use of it and carry out the burning of the rebell [sic] place as stated before and according to my orders. I gave then the order to burn the surrounding houses and helped myself. I asked in the houses I entered after men and armes and always told the people to get out with as much property as possible, because we wanted to injure [sic] no person, but only the houses. Violence was nither [sic] used to any person and I believe all the statements agree in that. About being told of a dying child I only can say, I do not know a word about it and consider it the most shamfull[sic] untruth.

[Page 5 of copy] Now Gentelmen[sic], I stand here before You with 3 heavy charges against me. 1. Violation of the 54th Article of war, and said to have: by my order wanttonly and maliciously burned etc. etc. I have but a few words to answer. I only carried out what was my duty and what was told to my [sic] by a supe rior officer, a thing what [sic] I, an old soldier, consider holy. If I done right or wrong, is not for me to say, but I can cite many cases out of the Hungerian, [sic] Italian and French war where we had the same thing, [\_?] to by so many outrages. Yes, even here I remember a certain order once given by a General high in comand.[sic] Instead pleading guilty to the charge, that is, to have burnt a town by my orders and maliciously, I repeat only that I under order carried out my duty exposing and endangering my own life, and to my opinion rendered under this

circumstances the United States a service by destroying a place in the enemy's hands. Where [sic] this same thing done in an other army, I would have been punished, if I had not done that what[sic] I have done; here in Amerika [sic] I am accused for the extreme contrary, a thing a [sic] do not and can not understand.

2. As to the second charge of having cruelly endangered helpless women

[Page 6 of copy] and children; these I only point (page 6 of copy continued) to the evidence of all the witnesses from Haymarket itself where the [sic] all agree that they was ither [sic] told by myself or my men that we wanted to hurt nobody; we only had to burn there[sic] houses so that nobody could hide in them and fire upon our men. 3. Third and lastley I am charged: Conduct unbecoming an officer and Gentelman, and burning a house of a certain Mrs. Newman. I can not remember her telling me anything about a sick child even I can not remember being in the house at all. I might have been or not, I do not know. Certainly if I was, I refers [sic] to her own evidence, if she was not told to remove it, so that it should not been hurt. As for conduct unbecoming an officer, and gentleman, in consequence, there ["in consequence, than" crossed out] to my opinion one must be the other, at least in the principles. I am grown up. I for my person wished to know and step forward a single man who ever could tell me a single point out of my whole lifetime considering conduct not becoming a gentleman. In this occasion more than ever I have done my duty executing the words of superior officers promptly and exactly. I have served many years in different ser-

[page 7 of copy] I ever learned was obedience to the word and the sylable [sic]. It stays in Your hands Gentelmen so aiquitt [sic] me or not, but what ever may be the result: I have the conscience [sic] and inward feeling to have done my duty, holy to every soldier and to ever man carrying arms. My only wish is that every warrior in our State should do the same. The words Capt. Meusel used and what he said, even if he did not mean it, as a command, I carry out every thing to the word and do not grudge [sic] to the shape as they are put a word I consider as good as a command I carry it out. If an superior [inserted later] officer tells me to go on the ennemy [sic], or to go to such and such a place, I go there, and even if I guess and can forsee it will cost my life. I have not been long in this country, but I hope everybody whose acquaintance I had the pleasure of making beliefs [sic] me to be a gentleman and every fellow soldier and officer who saw me ither [sic] in

[page 8 of copy] camp or on the battlefield [sic], I flatter myself can only state I done my duty and I will do it all my life. Burning a town or at least 9 or 10 dwelling houses is so [sic] an important thing that I could not have it done as an old officer without order and all I have for my defence on that point to say is, to refer to my witnesses [sic], Orderly Ambruster and Count Ingelheim, who was [with] me in the room before I started out on this expedition. I have done Gentelmen and wait Your juste [sic] judgement without any doubt to the result.

Kurd Baron Veltheim Lieutenant and A.d.Cp.