

The Peltier Extradition: False Affidavits

To extradite Leonard Peltier from Canada, the U.S. Attorney and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) created false affidavits of Myrtle Poor Bear, which they had coerced this frightened woman to sign, and which they knew to be false. Today, the government concedes that, in fact, Myrtle Poor Bear did not know Peltier and that she wasn't present at the time of the shooting on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, 26 June 1975.

Affidavit

Myrtle Poor Bear, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am an American Indian born February 20, 1952, and reside at Allen, South Dakota, one of the United States of America.

2. I first met Leonard Peltier in Bismarck, North Dakota, during 1971. During March, 1975, I again met Leonard Peltier at St. Francis, South Dakota, United States of America. During April, 1975, I went to North Dakota to see him as a girl friend of his. About the last week of May during 1975 I and Leonard Peltier went to the Jumping Bull Hall near Oglala, South Dakota, United States of America. There were several houses and about four or five tents. When Leonard Peltier arrived, he gave orders on what was to be done. I was his girl friend at this time. About a week after we arrived, about the second week of June, 1975, Leonard Peltier and several others began planning how to kill either Bureau of Indian Affairs Department, United States Government police or Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Government, agents who might come into the area. Leonard Peltier was mostly in charge of the planning. All persons involved in the planning had special assignments. There was also a detailed escape route planned over the hills near the Jumping Bull Hall area. I was present during this planning. Leonard Peltier always had a rifle and usually had a pistol near him. The pistol was usually under a car seat. About one day before the Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were killed, Leonard Peltier said he knew the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Bureau of Indian Affairs were coming to serve an arrest warrant on Jimmy Eagle. Leonard Peltier told people to get ready to kill them and he told me to get my car filled with gas to be ready for an escape. I left Jumping Bull Hall at this point and did not return. During August, 1975, I met Leonard Peltier again at Crow Dog's Paradise on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota, United States of America. We talked about the killing of the two Federal Bureau of Investigation agents near Jumping Bull Hall. Leonard said it makes him sick when he thinks about it. He said that one of the agents surrendered, but he kept shooting. He said it was like a movie he was watching but it was real, he was acting right in it. He said he lost his mind and just started shooting. He said he shot them and just kept pulling the trigger and couldn't stop.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of February, 1976.

/s/
Deputy Clerk
United States District Court
District of South Dakota

/s/
Myrtle Poor Bear

Affidavit

Myrtle Poor Bear, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. I am an American Indian born February 20, 1952, and reside at Allen, South Dakota, one of the United States of America.

2. I first met Leonard Peltier in Bismarck, North Dakota, during 1971. During March, 1975, I again met Leonard Peltier at St. Francis, South Dakota, United States of America. During April, 1975, I went to North Dakota to see him as a girl friend of his. About the last week of May during 1975 I and Leonard Peltier went to the Jumping Bull Hall near Oglala, South Dakota, United States of America. There were several houses and about four or five tents. When Leonard Peltier arrived, he gave orders on what was to be done. I was his girl friend at this time. About a week after we arrived, about the second week of June, 1975, Leonard Peltier and several others began planning how to kill either Bureau of Indian Affairs Department, United States Government police or Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Government, agents who might come into the area. Leonard Peltier was mostly in charge of the planning. All persons involved in the planning had special assignments. There was also a detailed escape route planned over the hills near the Jumping Bull Hall area. I was present during this planning. Leonard Peltier always had a rifle and usually had a pistol near him. The pistol was usually under a car seat. About one day before the Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were killed, Leonard Peltier said he knew the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Bureau of Indian Affairs were coming to serve an arrest warrant on Jimmy Eagle. Leonard Peltier told people to get ready to kill them and he told me to get my car filled with gas to be ready for an escape, which I did. I was present the day the Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were killed. I saw Leonard Peltier shoot the FBI agents. During August, 1975, I met Leonard Peltier again at Crow Dog's Paradise on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota, United States of America. We talked about the killing of the two Federal Bureau of Investigation agents near Jumping Bull Hall. Leonard said it makes him sick when he thinks about it. He said that one of the agents surrendered, but he kept shooting. He said it was like a movie he was watching but it was real, he was acting right in it. He said he lost his mind and just started shooting. He said he shot them and just kept pulling the trigger and couldn't stop.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of February, 1976.

/s/
Deputy Clerk
United States District Court
District of South Dakota

/s/
Myrtle Poor Bear

Affidavit 1—February 19, 1976 (above left): Here, Special Agents David Price and William Wood have Myrtle Poor Bear recount how it was she who overheard the planning of the Northwest AIM group to lure Special Agents Coler and Williams to their deaths in an ambush. Note that there is no claim Poor Bear witnessed the shoot-out, but that she heard Leonard Peltier order the agents killed beforehand, and that he later "confessed to her."

Affidavit 2—February 23, 1976 (above right): With this affidavit, Price and Wood have Poor Bear present herself as being Peltier's "girl friend," and as overhearing planning for an ambush. However, with this affidavit, Poor Bear is now presented as having witnessed Peltier killing the agents. Details on an escape route apparently were designed to explain away the Bureau's embarrassing inability to apprehend suspects at the scene of the shoot-out. Also note how the method of killing corresponds to the FBI's contrived "execution" scenario.

**If it can happen to Leonard Peltier, it can happen to anyone...
Even YOU**

www.FreePeltierNow.org

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF PENNINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE EXTRADITION ACT, R.S.C. 1870 Chap.
E-21 AND IN THE MATTER OF LEONARD PELTIER, ALSO
KNOWN AS LEONARD LITTLE SHELL, LEONARD WILKINS,
JOHN YELLOW HORSE, ERWIN YELLOW ROBE, LEONARD
JOHN PELTIER

Affidavit

Myrtle Poor Bear, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. That I am the Myrtle Poor Bear, of Allen, South Dakota, United States of America, who was the deponent in an affidavit sworn the 23rd day of February, 1976. This affidavit is sworn by me to give further information.

2. Attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A" to this, my Affidavit, is a photograph marked February 12, 1976, and I testify and depose that the person shown on the said photograph is a person known to me as Leonard Peltier and is the person I spoke of in my deposition of February 25, 1976, and the person referred to herein as Leonard Peltier.

3. I recall the events of June 26, 1975, which occurred at the area of Jumping Bull Hall near Oglala on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in the State of South Dakota, United States of America.

4. Sometime during the early part of that day, at approximately 12:00 Noon, Leonard Peltier came into the residence of Harry Jumping Bull, which is located in the area of Jumping Bull Hall and said, "They're coming." I understood this to mean that police or agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were in the immediate area. A short time later, I saw a car which I recognized to be a government car near Harry Jumping Bull's house. I went down to the creek bottom a couple of hundred yards from the house. I heard shooting. I left the creek bottom area and walked approximately 50 yards to where I saw two cars, both of which I recognized to be government cars, because of the large radio antennae mounted on the rear of these cars and I had previously seen many cars of a similar type driven by government agents in the same area. When I got to the car, Leonard Peltier was facing a man which I believed to be a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This man was tall with dark hair. This man threw a handgun to the side and said something to the effect that he was surrendering. Leonard Peltier was pointing a rifle in the direction of this man. The man was holding his arm as if he was wounded and was leaning against the car previously mentioned. There was another man who I believed to be a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation lying face down on the ground and there was blood underneath him. I started to leave and was grabbed by the hair by another person and could not

get away. I turned again and saw Leonard Peltier shoot the man who was standing against the car. I heard a shot come from the rifle that Leonard Peltier was holding and I saw that rifle jump up still in his hands. I saw that man's body jump into the air and fall to the ground. The man fell face down on the ground. This happened in an instant. I freed myself from the person that was holding me and ran up to Leonard Peltier just as he was aiming his rifle at the man who had just fallen to the ground. I pounded Leonard Peltier on the back. He yelled something at me which I cannot recall. I turned, ran and left the area. As I was running away, I heard several more shots from the area from which I had just fled.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of March, 1976.

/s/
Deputy Clerk
United States District Court
District of South Dakota

/s/
Myrtle Poor Bear

Affidavit 3—March 31, 1976 (left): This affidavit was eventually submitted to the Canadian courts. Here, the agents totally abandoned the notion of Poor Bear's having overheard planning for an ambush. Instead they have her provide considerable detail as an "eyewitness." Note also the absence of any alleged confession on the part of Leonard Peltier.

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Even YOU**

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