

Court-Martial of Apache Kid, the Renegade of Renegades

Clare V. McKanna, Jr., with foreword by Sidney L. Harring

The legal odyssey of the Indian scout who became a Western legend

IN 1887, WHEN A YOUNG FIRST SERGEANT OF SCOUTS at San Carlos Agency left his duty station to avenge his grandfather's murder in a tribal manner, he began an inextricable journey through three legal systems: Apache, military, and civil. Though his trials would not end in justice, each played its part in transforming Apache Kid into Arizona's legendary renegade of renegades.

Tried for desertion and mutiny under military law, Kid was initially sentenced to death by firing squad, a sentence remitted on appeal. Then, civil authorities charged and convicted Kid for assault to murder and sentenced him to seven years in the Arizona Territorial Prison at Yuma.

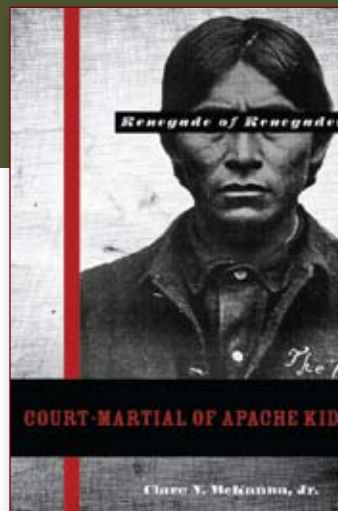
Though Kid spoke no more than seven hundred words at his court martial, Clare McKanna's use of them in illuminating this legal odyssey is as compelling as Kid's escape and legend.

"This book gives us a window to view cultural attitudes in the context of legal proceedings in the context of white–American Indian relations. . . . [it is] a major contribution to American Indian history and the history of military justice."

—GORDON MORRIS BAKKEN, California State University, Fullerton

CLARE V. MCKANNA, JR., teaches history at San Diego State University, specializes in Native American history, and is the author of *White Justice in Arizona: Apache Murder Trials in the Nineteenth Century* (TTUP, 2005) as well as *Race and Homicide in Nineteenth-Century California* and *The Trial of "Indian Joe."* He lives in San Diego, California.

SIDNEY L. HARRING, professor, CUNY School of Law, has written numerous articles and books on Native American law, indigenous rights, and the social history of American law, including *White Man's Law: Native People in Nineteenth Century Canadian Jurisprudence*, a finalist for the Donner Prize.



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