

General Court-Martial Transcript for the USS Chara Incident

Case Number: NCMJ-2485-07311

Date Filed: August 14, 2485

Trial Date: November 15, 2485

Location: Fort Rigel, Washington D.C., Earth

Parties Involved

- **Plaintiff:**
 - Internal Security, Lieutenant Commander Chief Gabriel Renault
- **Defendants:**
 - Chief Engineer, Lieutenant Commander Damien Thorne
 - Junior Engineer, Lieutenant Eleanor Keener

Presiding Judge: Admiral Penny Friedrich, Sol Pact Navy

Prosecutor: Commander Irina Kavern, JAG Office

Defense Counsel: Lieutenant Commander Elliot Grant, JAG Office

Charges Brought by the Plaintiff:

1. Complicity in sabotage leading to the destruction of the USS Chara.
 2. Knowledge of sabotage plans without reporting to command authorities.
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Transcript Summary

Opening Remarks:

Admiral Friedrich:

“This court-martial convenes to investigate allegations against Chief Engineer Damien Thorne and Junior Engineer Eleanor Keener regarding the destruction of the USS Chara. The

court reminds all parties that these proceedings will rely on verified evidence and factual testimonies, not conjecture. Let us begin.”

Evidence and Testimonies Presented

Prosecution:

- **Plaintiff’s Statement:**

Gabriel Renault claimed, “Both Damien Thorne and Eleanor Keener had insider knowledge of the sabotage that destroyed the USS Chara. Their survival during the incident while others perished cannot be coincidental.”

- **Security Logs:**

Renault submitted partial security logs suggesting the engineering section had unusual activity during the lead-up to the reactor breach.

Defense:

- **Access Logs and Engineering Reports (Presented by Lt. Cmdr. Grant):**

- Verified ship logs showed no unauthorized access by Thorne or Keener during the timeframe of the sabotage.
- Eleanor Keener had filed a maintenance report three weeks prior to the incident regarding anomalous pressure readings in the antimatter conduits. This report was dismissed by a superior officer (later revealed to have been involved in an affair with Renault).

- **Forensic Evidence (Presented by Navy Forensic Corps):**

- The bypasses on safety mechanisms matched techniques detailed in Kiyan sabotage manuals, inaccessible to both defendants.
- Traceable sabotage actions—including the ruptured conduits and disabled gravity feeds—occurred during times when Renault had logged inspections in the engineering section.

- **Medical Evidence:**

- Medical logs confirmed Eleanor’s injuries were consistent with proximity to the core during the breach.

- Keener and Thorne worked together to stabilize systems and assist with crew evacuation until it was no longer possible.
 - **Voice Logs During the Incident:**
 - Read the transcripts for Keener and Thorne’s Voice Logs [here](#)
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Witness Testimonies

Lieutenant Adrienne Wolfe (Engineering Survivor):

“Junior Engineer Keener was at her post, trying to override damaged systems to vent the core. Chief Engineer Thorne was directing evacuation efforts and stabilizing what systems he could. I saw no evidence of wrongdoing from either of them.”

Lieutenant Lydia Marks (Security Team):

“Renault’s behavior leading up to the incident was erratic. He repeatedly accessed areas outside his security clearance, claiming routine inspections. Many of us were uncomfortable with how often he was in engineering.”

Cross Examination of Gabriel Renault

Defense Counsel:

“Mr. Renault, can you explain why your personal logs show multiple unauthorized accesses to the engineering section during the weeks prior to the sabotage?”

Renault:

“I was conducting security sweeps.”

Defense Counsel:

“Did these ‘security sweeps’ include tampering with warp core safety locks or antimatter conduits, actions which led to the incident?”

Renault:

“No! I... I don’t know how any of that happened!”

Defense Counsel:

“Isn’t it true that you attempted to frame Thorne and Keener to divert attention from your own misconduct, including an inappropriate relationship with a superior officer?”

Renault:

“That’s—this is a witch hunt!”

Closing Statements

Prosecution:

“While the defendants’ actions during the crisis were commendable, their survival raises questions. Renault’s claims should not be dismissed lightly.”

Defense:

“The evidence unequivocally clears my clients of any wrongdoing. It is clear that Renault’s claims are fabricated to protect his own reputation. The defendants not only acted heroically but were instrumental in saving lives.”

Verdict

Presiding Judge Admiral Friedrich:

“After careful review of the evidence and testimony, this court finds the following:

1. Chief Engineer Damien Thorne and Junior Engineer Eleanor Keener:

- Not guilty of all charges.
- Cleared of any suspicion related to the sabotage.

2. Internal Security Chief Gabriel Renault:

- Guilty of perjury, dereliction of duty, and misconduct.
- Renault is hereby stripped of his rank and dishonorably discharged from the Sol Pact Navy.

This court recognizes the extraordinary bravery and professionalism of Thorne and Keener during the USS Chara incident. Let their names be recorded not as suspects but as heroes.”

Aftermath and Recommendations

- **Recognition:** Damien Thorne and Eleanor Keener were awarded commendations for their actions during the reactor cascade.

- **Gabriel Renault:** Renault's superior officer involved in the misconduct was also investigated and resigned under public pressure.