

CONFIDENTIAL

ARMED FORCES  
GENERAL STAFF

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N° VSF/I: 943141  
Annex(es): 2

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To the Military Auditor of and in Brussels

Info: QG Comdt TAF  
SGR  
s/c: VSF  
Agreed for USF [illegible] (supporting memo  
943141 of 01/08)

REPORT OF INQUIRY

SUBJECT: AIR CRASH OF 06 APR 94 IN KIGALI – FALCON 50

Ref: Military Auditors Memo N° 02.02545W94/Cab 8 of 20 Apr 94 (Not to all)

1. The data provided to VSF/I to find the causes of the crash mentioned above are limited to photos, video recordings and witness statements.
2. Analysis of the photos and video recordings has not made it possible to establish the causes of the disaster. In particular, no indication to lead to the identification of the type of missile used has been raised by this means. It has however made it possible to draw an approximate plan of the site of the accident (see Annexes A and B).
3. Types of missiles possible
  - a. Preliminary comments
    - i. All missiles require a certain amount of drive to be used with a chance of success. It is highly doubtful that the FARs had such missiles and even less the qualified personnel to implement them. The FPR, on the other hand, seemed to possess SA 7s and personnel capable of using them. Secondly, employing fully qualified and trained mercenaries to use these weapons does not pose a problem.
    - ii. All the missiles in question have sufficient performances to bring down a Falcon 50 under the conditions that happened in Kigali on 06 April 94.
  - b. “GRAIL” SA-7
    - i. Missile of Soviet design, already outdated (1968-1971). No control is exercised on the market. It is possible to procure them just about everywhere, particularly in Africa.
    - ii. Orange to red “plume” known to be highly visible at night
    - iii. Not used on tripod.

c. “GREMLIN” SA-14

- i. More recent missile of Soviet design (1974). Just as easy to procure as the SA-7s.
- ii. “Plume” colour unknown.
- iii. Not used on tripod.

d. “GIMLET” SA 16

- i. Still more recent missile of Soviet design (1986)
- ii. More difficult to procure than the previous ones
- iii. “Plume” colour unknown
- iv. Can be used on dual bar tripod

e. RED EYE

- i. Missile of American design dating from the beginning of the sixties. Easy to procure on the market (no control). Presence of this missile indicated in Africa.
- ii. “Plume” colour unknown
- iii. Shoulder weapon (bazooka style) which is not used on a tripod.

f. STINGER

- i. Missile of American design more recent than the RED EYE. Very widespread, it should not be too difficult to procure.
- ii. “Plume” colour unknown
- iii. Not used on tripod

4. With regard to determining which of these missiles was used, it is almost impossible with the elements we have.

The only interesting indication concerns the red/orange colour cited by two of the witnesses (Pasuch – Leiding). This is an element in favour of the SA-7, but it is the only one and it is not completely reliable. Furthermore, not knowing the colour of the “plumes” of the other missiles, we cannot reject them on the basis of these witness statements.

5. Other more recent missiles have not been looked into (Mistral, for example), given the close surveillance exercised on the market. The use of any of these would involve the complicity of the authorities of a nation which owned or produced them.

P Smeets  
Lt Col Avi  
VSF/I

J Paque  
Maj Avi Ir  
VSF/IT

Annexes:

- A – Drawing of probable trajectory
- B – Description of the location of the disaster

## Annex B

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLACE OF THE DISASTER

1. The aeroplane crashed into a banana plantation on a western cape. The angle of descent would have been relatively acute (max 20°), given the lack of depth of the crater (Rep A) in this loose ground. The aeroplane must have inclined to the left (right wing and right horizontal plane whole, left wing and left horizontal plane very damaged).
2. We estimate that the debris was spread over around 150m in the banana plantation and into a property which seems to have been the presidential residence.