

Translation of a document compiled in Dutch

Annex No. 1 to report no. 0738/94 dated 31 May 1994, issued by the Judicial Section in Brussels

HEARING SHEET

On 31 May 1994, at 1330 hours, we heard the following person:

Surname: De Backer, Anna Elisabeth
Wife of: Janssens, Louis
Place/date of birth: Korbeek-Lo, 21 March 1953
Profession: archaeologist
Address: Baan Op Sas 2 No. 55, 2960 Brecht

Who declared to us in Dutch:

“I wish to express myself in Dutch and choose this language in judicial matters. I acknowledge your capacity and your mission.

I had been living in Rwanda since 1989 with my husband and five children. I was there as a co-operant for the Communal Development Project located with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Kigali (Carrefour Faucon).

I had numerous contacts with the civilian population, but not with the military.

My private house was located on Avenue de Kyovu, close to the sports ground (Sporting Track). My domestic staff consisted of two Tutsis and two Hutus.

After the killing of Ngatabazi, our chef (a Tutsi) got frightened and feared the worst.

We ourselves listened to RTLM very little, but I received most news via friends and acquaintances.

I was therefore well aware of the slander campaign against the Belgians.

I talked with Focas (???) (Director of RTLM) on their defamation campaign. He could not give me any clear explanation of the reason why, but stated that RTLM would continue with that campaign.

I never heard directly that RTLM was encouraging the killing of Belgians.

I never personally met with Ruggiu.

With regard to the financing of RTLM, I believe it could have been done via the CDR. We ourselves never contributed. I never heard anyone say that Belgians has been approached to pay funds into the coffers of RTLM.

I do not have any recordings of broadcasts by RTLM, but I will ask my acquaintances.

I have never received any information on a possible murder attack against Habyarimana. Of course there had already been some gossip about a Coup d'État. These rumours had circulated on numerous occasions since 1990.

On the evening of the attack, someone telephoned me at 2215 to inform me. Everything was quite around our house and the shooting did not start until the next day, at 0515 hours.

On that evening, I received several telephone calls from both Rwandans and Belgians.

They were not talking about an attack, but a plane crash. The Rwandans who telephoned me were not in the President's immediate entourage, but people with relations in high places.

I can no longer remember precisely when I heard of the murder of the ten paras, but I also learned of it via friends and acquaintances.

After the attack, my family and I never had any more problems. At a specific moment, some Hutus telephoned me and advised me (in friendly tones) to get out, as the danger was becoming too real.

We never felt threatened.

We were certainly in a line of fire, but I believe that was two days after the attack. According to our zamu, there was shooting between the Kigali-Centre camp and Kimihurura. At that moment, it was not a question of CND.

With regard to the murder and pillage, I learned by telephone from friends that they could see from their places how the Presidential Guard was inspecting the houses with the Interahamwe, with lists, on Kimihurura Hill.

I learned from other people how the FPR was looking at the CND, without shooting, on the first day. It was only later that the firing started there as well.

With regard to the weapons, somebody told me that he had heard rumours that the FPR had missiles at the CND. In February-March, that person informed General Dallaire in writing.

I will ask that person and he/she is prepared to make contact with you.

I still have contacts in Kigali, via Nairobi. The information that can be obtained is very vague but talks of serious fighting. It has never been a question of the situation concerning the attack on Habyarimana or the murder of the ten paras. I am only in negotiations for the orphans whom I had to leave there. Maintenance is very limited.

I do not personally know the Habyarimana family, and I cannot therefore tell whether there was any implication.

If you require any further information, I am ready to contact you.”

After reading, the witness persisted and signed in our information book.

Certified as translation without variation

17 December 1995

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