

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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Annex n°...01 ..... of the  
Record n°...780/94..... of...31.05.94  
of the Gendarmerie Unit JUDICIAL  
SECONDMENT OF BRUSSELS.....

On ...31 May 1994... at ..14.00. . hours, the following was heard by me/us the report writer(s):

IDENTITY: RENOUPREZ André

Surname and first name: .....BARAS...Jacques.....

Place and date of birth: ..WARENNE on 12 October 1958.....

Profession: ..professional soldier..... Civil status: .....unmarried.....

Address: ...VIELSAM 6690 rue du Château n° 1.....

For soldiers: Rank and number: .....corporal.....

Unit:.....2nd battalion commando - Staff/signal.....

who stated:.....

STATEMENT:

"I want to express myself in French and formally choose proceedings in this language.

A. GENERAL POINTS.

On 06 April 1994, I was on mission in RWANDA with my battalion, I was fulfilling the position of radio engineer.

My supervisor was the Staff Sergeant P. DENIS. The third person working with us was S. DE CLERCK.

I was at "RWANDEX" to carry out our mission.

B. ATTACK.

On 06 April 1994 at 20.30 hours I was on guard at "RWANDEX" and at the same time I was manning the radio, which was connected to the battalion network, our code was DELTA BASE or DELTA 6.

From my position, as it was in a basin in relation to the airport, I did not see the firing of two missiles nor did I see the PRESIDENT's aeroplane explode.

I only heard the radio messages following the attack.

A short while after 20.30 hours, I heard on the radio, A 6 (CAPT VANDRIESSCHE) reporting that he was going to the end of the runway because there were problems.

He re-contacted the PC OPS a moment later to report: "that two missiles had been fired at an aircraft approaching the airport".

He also reported that these missiles had been fired from KANOMBE or the surroundings of the camp.

He reported that the approaching aircraft was transformed into a ball of fire and then crashed to the ground.

We were even afraid that this was our aircraft, a C130 that should be

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landing, coming from BELGIUM and transporting ENGINEERING elements coming as backup.

This aircraft circled around the airport after the attack waiting for authorisation to land. As it did not have authorisation and was beginning to have fuel problems, it was diverted to NAIROBI.

On the radio CAPT. VANDRIESSCHE reported that he found it strange that the firemen from the airport who had come for the burning aircraft seemed to be leaving rapidly in the opposite direction. He also reported that he had tried to approach the aircraft but that this was not possible because of the heat.

I then left the radio to go and inform the officer who was in the RWANDEX villa. The officer in charge was the second in command LT BELLIERE, at the time of the events.

I explained to them having found out in the meantime that it was the aircraft of the PRESIDENT of RWANDA that had just exploded.

At that time the alarm was triggered in our services, LT BELLIERE and also the officer approached the radio.

They started to place all the staff on the base in a defensive position and in a position for observation. Subsequently the villa was abandoned in order to have a smaller perimeter to watch. The officer came back to join us at this time.

At that moment (taking defensive positions) it was about 21.00 hours and the commander of the logistics base, CAPT. TEFNIN was blocked at "TOP GUN". He was accompanied to the airport by the Staff Sergeant BREDO.

The days that followed were spent mounting a guard in position around RWANDEX by teams according to an established role.

I report on questioning that at the time of the aircraft crash, in the minutes that followed, I did not hear shooting around our position. Only the following day did we hear shooting quite loudly from the side of the CKD. These shots were from automatic firearms and artillery shooting.

I am also anxious to report that before the events (3 or 4 days), the Warrant Officer GOUDERS being part of RWANDEX informed us that during a movement near the camp of KANOBE, when he arrived at a crossroads which he usually crossed, he was surprised by the fact that a barrier of the FAR prevented them from crossing. Subsequently, the warrant officer suggested the hypothesis that if he had blocked this place, it would be with the intention of preventing something from being seen, perhaps the transport of

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missiles or some sort of preparation for the events.

C. ASSASSINATION.

With regard to these events, I was not listening to their radio network. What I knew I heard by word of mouth.

D. MILLE COLLINES RADIO.

I know that this radio mostly broadcast anti-Belgian propaganda. We often spoke of these broadcasts with the refugees, as well as with the Ambassador of BRAZIL in office in RWANDA.

It was a poisoning of the population against the Belgian community.

Personally, I am keen to deplore that on a "SECTOR" level, the latter who were aware of the acts of radio mille-collines did not think of any way to diffuse the danger that this represented at the time of contact with the Rwandan people.

E. End of interview.

From a conversation after the event that I had with corporal GONDA, he said this: "that he found out from a para from the first detachment in place in RWANDA during the period preceding ours, that they had committed reprehensible and brutal acts towards the indigenous population. Namely that they had maltreated the Rwandan people hitting them with rifle butts, knocking their heads against the sides of lorries... etc. Pointing out even that the mortar from the 1<sup>st</sup> paras was the most brutal. Corporal GONDA asked himself if this could not have conditioned the Rwandan people against us and have led to the drama that we know about at the mortar.

I did not take any photos nor record the events.

With regard to the concerned persons to be heard, I think that that Belgian DUQUENOY family, repatriated to BELGIUM the husband of who works with the technical cooperation of the military. With regard to his situation, it seems to me that the husband DUQUENOY could explain quite a lot of things to you. At least this was what he seemed to lead us to think when we spoke with him about the events and especially regarding the person responsible for radio mille-collines.

With regard to the DUQUENOY family, I point out that we did not talk to the husband but to his wife. The husband was blocked at the time of the events at "MERIDIEN".

(having been read out he maintains his statement and signs on this document)

[signed]

Whereof act.

[signed]