

Attachment no: One
To minutes no. 777 / 94
of the Brussels Legal Detachment.

HEARING REPORT

On 31/05/94 at 13.30 hrs, was heard by BECKERS

NAME: SIEBEN
CHRISTIAN NAMES Luc
PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH: MATADI on 05 Apr 55
DOMICILE: Rue de Petit Pont 572
5300 ANDENNE

SERVICEMAN: Grade and Reg. No.: 1 Sgt Mjr R/ 14528
Unit 2nd Battalion Commando EM Bn

who states to us :

I wish to speak in French and demand the legal procedure in that language

BACKGROUND

I am sub officer int in the 2nd Battalion Commando of FLAWINNE at EM Bn. In the MINUAR mission I left for KIGALI on 19 March 94. There I kept my role and function that is Deputy S2. I was at PEGASUS at the PC.

ATTACK:

I was radio officer from 06 April 94 20.00 hours at PC with a TS until 7 April 08 .00 hours.

At 20.30 hours I received a message from A6 (top Gun) firing of missile at an aircraft at the end of the runway, then we received messages specifying firing of missiles as well as shots coming from KANOMBE camp. The doctor, that is Major DAUBRESSE, confirmed the firing from KANOMBE but not the aircraft being hit.

At that time the commanding officers as well as S3 were present at the radio station. These advised Sector of the facts. Around 20.47 hours we received a message from sector which stated that there was an explosion coming from the KANOMBE camp. And that time doubts arose as to the origin of the explosion.

Then around 20.49 hours [illeg]

Presidential which stated that the aircraft should land under fire. Shortly afterwards Abase around 2053 hours signalled that an aircraft had been hit.

At 21.07 the safety patrol signalled a Gd roadblock at Rwandex.

We learnt that A6 was at the end of the runway for information and on his return at 21.12 hours he confirmed that it was an aircraft that had been hit and that it was the aircraft of Rwandan president with the president of Burundi.

Information obtained from Rwandan artillery.

After confirmation Y6 signalled that he was going to RWANDEX with Y3, 5, 8 but he was detoured to Top Gun (probable cause the roadblock at Rwandex) and at 21.27 hours he signalled he was at Top Gun.

Y6 signalled that Det Faé was asking for the runway lighting to be put on otherwise the C130 would have to be turned away and S3 said it had been sent to NAIROBI.

In fact the landing strip was never let, and it was in fact for that reason that the spouse of the pilot on the presidential aircraft made contact with the Belgian forces.

From that time it was decided to take all the men to their billets awaiting any events.

We learned at 21.54 hours that the Log column was taken prisoner at the airfield (only passage for Top Gun) from KIGALI and they were going to take over the C130, the equipment.. We were signalled that Maj THIRY and Cpl YANSENNE had had their GPs taken. In all 14 persons guarded by the presidential guard and the Gd. The FAR being inside.

S3 ordered them to remain in place and wait.

The company signalled that everyone had returned.

Y6 signalled that you could enter Top Gun from the south.

Y1 signalled that he had recovered the E.O.D personnel and signalled that the surgeon and the anaesthetist were still at KANOMBE.

S3 asked Ybase if there was a fresh upsurge of vehicles in their street and the reply was a reinforcement of Gd near the house of the ministers and this at 22.39 hours.

22.42 hours Ybase signalled that the Gd had come to recover the authorities, Gd aggressive!

At 22.45 hours we were asked by Motorola to send forces to reconnoitre the place of the crash (command warning)

At 22.49 A6 asked S3 what of the prisoners?

Reply wait.

At 22.52 A6 signalled that an LO car should be sent as the situation was threatening, S3 replied remain there, then Y6 signalled that it was the Presidential guard who were holding them.

At 23.04 Message on the Rw radio signalling the presidential aircraft hit (message from Mbase)

Confirmation from an informer at 23.17 hours.

S3 at 23.38 All stations everyone remain in billet

01.00 hours advised by Gen DALAIRE Mrs AGATHE is aware of the situation (Ybase signal)

00.13 hours As regard the prisoners, the situation unchanged (Relax reply)

00.42 Hours request from C Ops of situation

00.59 hours Sector: all escorts are suppressed. Then we advised all the units involved.

01.02 hours K9 asked to restart patrols making contact with Gd in order to collaborate and coordinate

01.03 requested confirmation of cancellation of AGATHE escort from Y6

01.11 reconfirmation of cancellation of AGATHE escort to Y6

01.18 Sector signalled a restart to the permanent escorts, units are advised.

At 01.45 hours, sector asked us to begin patrols again as quickly as possible to ensure protection, also asked to send reconnaissance personnel to the crash site.

02.16 hours S1 asked A6 to get Y6 out by the South entry to carry out its AGATHE task

02.38 hours S3 signalled to C6 to send two sections to secure the place of Radio Rwanda as Mrs AGATHE was going there to issue a press release.

02.41 hours Y6 asked for authorisation to force the chains on the south exit.

02.47 hours Y6 left the airport, goes to Rwandex then signalled Gd roadblock between Rwandex and CND road

03.01 Mrs AGATHE asked Viking by Tf to increase their security.

03.10 Y6 asked to recover its sections and to regroup to help Y6 to pass
Y6 signalled a problem with a FAR roadblock at a crossroads of the street of the Prime Minister and that he had made a detour, he was waiting at 200 metres.
Y6 signalled a roadblock Rue Paul VI and rue des grands lacs
S3 for Y6 asked to detour to the north
Y1 signalled that there is too big a roadblock by the Gd
O for C6 send patrols to help Y6 go past the roadblocks
CB announced the sending of two jeeps to mille collines to help Y6
... Y6 discussed with Gd
... it was learnt that Y6, Y1, Y2, Y5 in place at mille collines
... C6 signalled that there are difficulties in getting past the roadblocks
... S3 asked for the situation from C6 Reply: Everywhere
03.28 hours S3 to Y6 Have you done the tour. Reply Y6 has made the tour: roadblock everywhere.
03.33 hours Y6 signalled that it is 1 km from AGATHE confirms that even the Gd were not talking.
03.40 hours C6 signalled that for the radio mission he cannot do the turn as there are armoured vehicles
03.44 hours Y6 signalled that an element in contact with AGATHE that it could not provide personnel to unblock the situation and Y6 was blocked at the crossroads on the road to the hospital and avenue de la Republique (probably Avenue de la Revolution). C6 signalled that he has come across a FAR roadblock and that they were very nervous and that they could not do the tour for the radio mission.
03.48 hours For C6 Send a patrol by the North to rejoin Y6 and provide him with an Lo to unblock the situation. Y6 was advised not to move.
03.52 S6 signalled for Y6. You must protect AGATHE at the radio
04.02 Y6 signalled a grenade explosion at the SCHUMAN crossroads (Place de la Constitution)
04.10 S6 asks Y6 if there was contact with the Lo. Reply negative still on the crossroads
Between 04.10 – 04.45 Request from sector that there should be a helicopter flying above KIGALI. A7 left to reconnoitre the crash site of the aircraft. C6 announced that the mission to the American club has finished (one of the elements). The AML who were near to RR have left but the roadblock was still present with a dozen or so of ...
04.45 hours C6: I have returned to mille collines, with Y6. Reply; stay there.
04.46 hours C6 signalled that he has made contact with Yankee and it was up to speed with the mission of Y6
05.00 S3 for S2.4 requested information to see if the LO FAR was en route. Reply negative!
05.02 C6 signalled to O that the AGATHE mission was possible but not the radio Rwanda mission as held by armoured vehicles
05.02 C6 – O: You must take Avenue de RUSUMO and go up rue Depute KAYOUKU, there is a roadblock but it is hoped they will let you pass.
05.07 S3 – C6: New rendezvous for LO FAR at St Siege
05.09 S3 – S1.4 New rendezvous is at Depute KAYOUKU crossroads with avenue Paul VI
05.12 Y6 signalled that the AGATHE mission was possible
C6 signalled no resources to return to Radio Rwanda
05.19 C6 signalled contact with Yankee WAIT. Gunfire everywhere. Y6 is in front and meets the fire and S3 replied to make a detour (Both!!). At same time Y1 signalled there was firing but they have still not opened fire.
... Y6 signalled that his section was withdrawing to Franciscus(?)
... Relax signalled that it was recommencing negotiation and Mbase says there was firing in the town. Reply: remain under cover. In fact there is firing everywhere.
05.32 Y1 signalled that there was an AML at its position.

And the only person who could give authorisation to Mrs AGATHE is the Minister of defence.

Reply: S6 states that the interested party was in Cameroon.

S6 to Y1: Withdraw to go elsewhere. (Slight panic) remain in place Y6 makes contact with AGATHE profile low (remain calm)

05.36 C6 signalled that the area had become calm I have returned to RO (crossroads Paul VI / Rue du Depute KAYOUKU)

05.42 from Y6 to S6 No longer question of returning to RR. He asked for his security to be reinforced, the jeeps are on the street and I am covered by an armoured vehicle. Reply: take the safest position possible.

S6 to C6: have you personnel with AGATHE and he replied I am at RO behind Y6 who is still in the perimeter held by the FAR

05.44 (message lost: probably S6 for C6 Wait until it is clearer then try to regroup at Ybase

05.52 Mbase signalled that there were various gunshots towards radio Rw. Y5 signalled that these shots were directed at the house of AGATHE

05.56 Y5 signalled that apparently it's thought they want AGATHE

Y5 asked for clarification of the situation with the FAR and S6 replied: Contact made.

05.58 C6 signalled that he is still at Paul VI but still visual contact with Y6. There were gunshots and the FAR are under cover.

S6 advised Y5 the sector was trying to clarify the situation. Go into the house and protect AGATHE. No response unless AGATHE is attacked.

S3 asked for firing location (at who?)

... signalled that the gunshots come from the crossroads of Paul VI and avenue de la jeunesse

.. Confirmed by Y5

06.00 C6 signalled that it was the Belgians who killed the President (Rumours).

06.03 / S6 reported the rumours to all units and asked that they stay in position until new orders

.. Y5 signalled that the vehicles are unusable

.. C6 signalled that had he had rejoined section 1.3 at the crossroads (Ambassade St Siege) near to the barracks of the presidential guard. He said that if he withdrew he would lose contact with Y6.

... (message last: C6 would have been asked to return to the crossroads C24)

06.13 C6 signalled impossible. We are in defensive positions at the crossroads RO. The presidential guard are in position, they are observing us.

Between 06.11 – 06.38 Info on the situation of the personnel in place

06.38 C6 signalled that there are movements behind him. The paras are setting up a machine gun.

Reply: Withdraw to Vitamine.

At 06.41 C6 I am at Vitamine

06.43 Y5 signalled the presence of an armoured vehicle behind the house of AGATHE, in the street behind (Avenue de l'Armee)

Between 06.43 and 06.49 they were trying to recover people from VIKING to send them to Franciscus but everywhere was blocked. During these actions, Relax was still trapped, he tried to negotiate again..

06.49 Y5 signalled artillery gunfire in our direction (?question?) Then reply from Y5 Yes impacts in our direction

C6 signalled that he has regrouped at vitamine

06.57 Y5 signalled that was impossible to get undercover in the house of AGATHE. He was told to go into the house with her. And Y5 replied we remain in the surrounding areas for better defence.

End of radio record

Taken by Sgt Maj PHILLIPART A-Offr Ops

As regards the motorolas: Throughout my radio operation Lt LOTIN never appeared on this network.

OTHER FACTS

After my stay, I was off duty until 16.10 hours, then again I was on the radio until we left the PC that is on 07 April 17 .14 hours, when a first shell hit the house

We were then installed at the Meridien where we maintained radio contact in periods from two hours to four S-Offr.

RADIO MILLE COLLINES:

I never personally listened to this radio station and I have nothing to tell you.

I have nothing further to hand and there remain available to all the requirements of the inquiry.

After reading, signs with us hereunder

Signature

Duly noted

1/796