

HEARING REPORT

Attachment 01 to
Minutes No. 704/94 of 25 May 1994
Police Brigade
Legal Detachment of Brussels

On 25 May 1994 at 09.30 hours heard by me the reporting officer:

IDENTITY: DEFLANDRE MDL
Surname and Christian names: LHOIR Thierry
Place and date of birth: WATERMAEL – BOITSFORT on 17 October 1971
Profession: Soldier (CVP) Civil status: Bachelor
Address: Domaine de Grand Warichet 32 to 1367 RAMILLIES
For servicemen: Rank and roll number: Soldier Roll no. 92/12546
Unit: E Commando Para FLAWINNE 14th Company PL B
Who has stated:

I wish to express myself in French and choose this language for legal proceedings.

A. BACKGROUND

I have been a soldier since 01 September 1993 and at FLAWINNE since February [illeg]
At KIGALI, I had the function of MAG magazine loader within the PLA
Sec. 2.2.

B. ATTACK

On the evening of 6 April 1994, around 1800 hours, I left in the company of Corporal MAREE and soldier HERMAN in UNIMOG for the house of the Minister of foreign affairs. There we had to stand guard until 07 to 07.30 hours. Around 20.30 on the 6th, the minister himself came to tell us of the attack against the aircraft of the President and he asked us to double our vigilance as he feared for his family.
We were relieved at 07 in the morning, a little earlier than planned, and we all (we and the ministers family) left for BEVERLY HILLS.

There, we stayed at least four or five days with a guard mission. Then all the company returned to PC Battalion where we stayed for one night. After this night, we had to go and look for some nationals, but we had problems with some people from the FAR who denied us access. We then returned to PC Battalion. Then we went to the French school where there were some nationals. These nationals had been taken by a party from the 14th Company (PL B) and all the 16th who went in convoy to the airport. My PL then left the French school for RWANDEX where logistics was based. There guard mission for the Storehouse. We remained there three nights. After that we left in convoy (logistics, us, a CVRT, some people from PL B who had come to get some equipment)

1st continuation to attachment no. 1 to Minutes no. 704/94 dated 25 May 1994 and issued by the legal detachment of BRUSSELS

for the airport where we stayed at five nights before being embarked.

There, guard mission for the airport

C. ASSASSINATION

The night of 6 to 7 April 1994, I heard nothing regarding the problem of the mortar gunners. It was only when someone came to find us with the Minister of foreign affairs (around 08.00 on the 7th) that I heard over the radio of our UNIMOG a message from Lt LOTTIN. He asked the command (I do not know who) what he should do, as they had problems with the presidential guard.

I did not know where they were and what mission they were carrying out. It was while getting into our vehicle that I was able to hear this message. It was only on 08 in the morning that Lt LEMAIRE came to tell us that ten mortar gunners were dead.

D. RADIO MILLE COLLINES

During the events, I listened on several occasions when I was keeping guard to messages on this amateur radio. The commentators stated that the Belgians were the perpetrators of the attack and that each Rwandan person should kill a Belgian in revenge.

E. INFORMATION

- I never saw any missile at KIGALI
- I never saw any Motorola on the Belgians
- I have to point out that before these events I saw members of the FAR carrying Belgian effects (a colourful smoking jacket, trousers, ankle boots)

I have nothing further to add.”

After reading, signs hereunder.

Signature

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I forgot to tell you that when we were at BEVERLY HILLS, we had as tasks, guard of the billet then the recovery of the white nationals who were in our sector. We took these persons to our billet and it was French paras who had taken them to the airport.

We remained at the airport for some hours, then PL A and PLB in the company of the Commander, we left for PC Battalion. We slept there for two or three nights and we continually had to look for nationals that we took to the airport. We also had to recover people from the CTM. After these various journeys for the nationals, we then returned to PC Battalion where we stayed for two days without any particular mission. Then we left for the airport where we stayed for four days before being embarked. We had there the mission of protecting the airport that 3 para had looked after before us.

C. ASSASSINATION

Regarding the mortar gunners and their problem, we were brought up to speed on 08 in the morning by the company commander, Lt LEMAIRE.

At that time, the announcement was official and he told us that there were 10 dead mortar gunners.

D. RADIO MILLE COLLINES

For three or four days after the attack, I personally listened to this radio. The commentator said that it was the Belgians who had this type of missile to hit an aircraft and that the Belgians had come to Rwanda to make it a colony.

E. INFORMATION

- I never saw a missile in RWANDA.
- Apart from certain UN observers, I never saw a Motorola.
- I personally saw members of FAR at some crossroads wearing Belgian effects (smoking jackets, helmets).

After reading, signs hereunder.

Signature