

Extract of the report of the international rogatory Commission carried out in Rwanda on 5 to 24 June 1995

Page 20 of the CRI report 05/06 to 24/06/1995

Republic. She sent this document to her elder sister Gloriose UWUMPUHWE who currently works in Kigali at C.R.S. (Tel 82112 or 82109).

At 17.00 hours, we left Butare for Kigali, where we arrived after crossing several roadblocks.

At 19.30 hours, we went to the house of Gloriose UWUMPUHWE, who gave us some documents than had been recovered by her sister from the house of Higanaro Alphonse at Butare. She was going to check if other documents could be found.

Thursday 22nd June 1995

At eight o'clock, we met with Mrs MOIJENS at the house of the Planning Minister, Mr Jean BIRARA, with whom we had a long meeting at 9.30 hours.

Mr BIRARA informed us of the following:

As regards Seraphin RWABUKUMBA

- *Jean BIRARA work from 1964 to 1985 at the National bank. For three years he had the post of director, then from further three years the post of deputy governor and for 15 years the post of governor.*
- *He employed Seraphin RWABUKUMBA at the National Bank in 1971 at the request of the father-in-law of President HABYARIMANA. From 1976 RWABUKUMBA became head of the "Foreign" service at the National Bank. In this capacity he had what is called the "numbers" that it is to say he had access to the books which contained the transfer codes.*
- *Until 1985 RWABUKUMBA had a "category B" signature which is only valid for internal decisions. For external decisions signature B had to be countersigned by somebody having a "category A" signature. The Governor of the National bank himself had the power to sign alone.*
- *While Mr BIRARA was Governor, he had the feeling that he was in control of the situation and then there was no "skulduggery" it being understood that at that time the internal controls were very effective. RWABUKUMBA did not have the opportunity to put pressure on the banks it being understood that the Governor of the National Bank would have been warned of it.*
- *When Mr BIRARA left the National Bank, RWABUKUMBA was still in the "Foreign" service, but the situation had deteriorated totally. As son-in-law of President HABYARIMANA he began to extort from retailers. He threatened them directly and even did so in the name of the President.*

Despite the fact that above RWABUKUMBA there was a governor, two deputy governors and the directors, it was RWABUKUMBA who in fact led the operations. The first measure that he took was that his "Foreign" service could no longer be checked. He also received the "category A" signature. Thereafter it was sufficient for him to find an accomplice or someone than he could put under pressure having the category B signature to carry out all the operations that he wished.

- He had de facto power over the commercial bank and over the BACA (Continental African Bank). The director of BACA was MUSABE, brother of Theoneste BAGOSORA. From 1991, weapons purchases went through BACA. In the balance sheets for payments, the deliveries of arms were headed under "errors and omissions" at the National bank.*
- HABYARIMANA received commissions on weapons sales in Rwanda, including weapons delivered to the FPR. It seems paradoxical but as it was a question of a purely commercial matter, that was possible. The collection of commissions was made to the BBL by Silas MAJAMBERE, who currently resides in France. He had a common account with SAGATWA. As MAJAMBERE tried to appropriate the last two payments of commission, the account was blocked.*
- What made the fortune of the presidential entourage, was cocaine which came from Guatemala, via Abidjan and Kigali and arrived in Europe (France). The personal aircraft of the President was used for this traffic.*
- Seraphin RABUKUMBA organised trafficking in drugs to Belgium; he sent them to an inhabitant of Rhode Saint Genese, who carried out a satellite dish business with Rwanda. The investigating magistrate BULTHE was entrusted with a preliminary investigation on weapons and cocaine trafficking in which HABYARIMANA was implicated.*
- Seraphin RABUKUMBA talked about it himself and did not hide it. Seraphin RABUKUMBA was evacuated on 10 April 1994 with the family of the deceased President HABYARIMANA.*
- The funds of the family of President HABYARIMANA are found in accounts opened in the name of the elder daughter of Seraphin RABUKUMBA. She had accounts at BBL, the Continental bank of Luxembourg and in Canada.*
- RWABUKUMBA and BAGOSORA were everywhere in associations where there was money. A Canadian monk who worked in Rambura and who discovered fiddling was assassinated in Kigali. He worked in an agency financed by Canada. It was a question of 40 million Rwandan francs that had been diverted*
- For Mr BIRARA, Mr Protais ZIGIRANYIRAZO (Mr Z., brother of Seraphin RABUKUMBA) would be the major architect and planner of the genocide with*

SAGATWA who died in the presidential aircraft. HABYARIMANA was weak and in 1992 – 1993, members of his family (in-laws) met and considered that he should give up power but they did not know how to proceed.

As regards the start of the events of 6 April 1994

BAGOSORA had been for a time the black sheep of the family of the president because he had married a girl from the south. It was only after the start of the war in 1990 and he was reintegrated.

Mr Jean BIRARA lived in the Presidential Guard quarter at the time of the events. On 6 April 1994, at 19.00 hours, that is before the attack on the presidential aircraft, the Presidential Guard had already set up barriers. It was the first time than that had been seen, it had never been seen. Mr BIRARA could no longer leave his house. His son who lives in Brussels was also a witness to that.

According to witnesses who were present in the house of the President on the night of the events and who have repeated them to Mr BIRARA, the wife of President HABYARIMANA ordered the first massacres.

Before the events BAGOSORA had left on leave around 30 or 31 March. On 4 or 5 April he suddenly returned to Kigali when that was not planned. At a reception with the Ethiopians or the Egyptians at that time, he declared that he did not agree that the President should go to Dar Es Salaam and that if he did go, he would have problems. BAGOSORA created the association AMASASU which brought together the officers opposed to Arusha.

According to what Mr BIRARA heard the soldier who killed that the Prime Minister committed suicide afterwards.

The person named Jean-Leonard SEBUTIYONGERA was a typist for the President. He originally came from the President's village.

As regards Alphonse HIGANIRO

HIGANIRO was a party to the planning of the massacres. He was from CDR and his wife was even more extreme than him. At the time of the first contact that he had with his mother-in-law on his arrival in Brussels, he said there had not been enough dead. Four people were witnesses to this opinion but Mr BIRARA does not wish to give their names.

According to Mr BIRARA, there were Tutsi people or having family links with Tutsis who were more Hutu extremist than the Hutu-extremists in order to clear their names in the eyes of the latter.

As regards Enoch RUHIGIRA

Mr BIRARA does not think that he is involved in this story. BIRARA had warned him about being too close to the President. As he was from the North RUHIGIRA was not kept in the picture about everything.

As regards Pierre Celestin RWAGAFILITA

His wife was from the North while he was not. He was known above all as the man of the massacres which took place in Burundi in 1988. He was a direct inciter of the massacres which took place in April 1994 in the prefecture of KIBUNGO. Furthermore he did not hide it. He was struck down with advanced AIDS.

As regards Simon BIKINDI

He was from the same town as Mr BIRARA . He collected old Tutsi songs from the North. He drafted words of incredible hatred. He participated at CDR meetings and sang his songs at the end of the meetings. He lived in the KATENGA quarter in Kigali where there was trouble almost every day.

In the meantime, Mr VER ELST returned to the documentation service of the police where contact was made with a view to an interview with Major Cyriaque HABYARABATUMA.

We went to the Kigali prison where the hearing of Jean-Baptiste MUKINBILI took place

At 13.00 hours Mr VER ELST met Lt Francis MUTIGANDA. Contrary to information received, the latter informed him that he did not have any document concerning Joseph KANYABASHI. He had stayed effectively in the house of the latter at Butare but the interior of the house was black with smoke it being understood that the fire had been aimed at the documents which were there. He stated that with regard to the delay in the start of the large-scale massacres in Butare, those responsible for those massacres had had the time to prepare those massacres well and to ensure they did not leave any trace behind them.

At 14.00 hours, we had a formal meeting with Mr Colin PORT, head of the International Inquiry Court for Rwanda.

At 16.00, we met Major Cyriaque HABYARABATUMA, responsible for the police at Butare who had been transferred on 19 April 1994, whose hearing is the subject of a different report.

At 18.00 hours we accompanied Mr Kibibi KAMANZI to try to find at the house of a particular person living in Kigali documents relating to the planning of the genocide. When we arrived there, this person told us that she had burned these documents for fear that the police would find them on her.

We had the impression that this person did not trust us and did not dare to give us the documents, an impression which was confirmed to us afterwards by Mr Kibibi KAMANZI.

Friday 23 June 1995

We returned to the cooperation premises where we finished drafting the reports and the preparation of photocopies of them,

For his part, Mr VER ELST went to the documentation service of the police where second lieutenant John KARANGA gave him an audio cassette containing recordings of the words of the interim President SINDIBUKWABO, Prime Minister Jean KABANDA and reply to the latter from Joseph KANYABASHI.

Meanwhile at 11.00 hours, we returned to the prosecution offices at Kigali where we had an interview with the Republic public prosecutor.

Saturday 24 June 1995

At 07.00 we caught the aircraft for Brussels.

On the aeroplane we met the Justice Minister Alphonse NKUBITO who was going to The Hague for the swearing-in of the judges of the international court. Therefore we had the opportunity to talk with the Justice Minister about the questions relating to the setting up of the international Court.

We arrived at Brussels National airport at 17.15 hours

Signature
MOIJENS Fr.

signature
D. VANDERMEERSON