

[01/18] PRV

WITNESS STATEMENT

WITNESS INFORMATION:

Last Name: [01/18] PRV

Gender: Male

First Name: [01/18] PRV

Father's Name: [01/18] PRV

Other names used: [01/18] PRV

Mother's Name: [01/18] PRV

Place of Birth: [01/18] PRV CAR

Passport No: [01/18] PRV

Date of Birth: [01/18] PRV

Nationality(s): CENTRALAFRICAN

Ethnicity: [01/18] PRV

Religion: Christian

[01/18] PRV

Language(s) Used in Interview: French & English

[01/18] PRV

Place of Interview: BANGUI, CAR

[01/18] PRV

Names of all persons present during interview:

Associate Investigator [01/18] PRV Assistant Legal Officer [01/18] PRV

Interpreter [01/18] PRV and witness [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] P [01/18] PRV V

[01/18] PRV

Signature(s)

[01/18] PRV
[01/18] PRV

WITNESS STATEMENT

Procedure

1. I was introduced to **[01/18] PRV** and **[01/18] PRV** and I was told that they are Investigator and Assistant Legal Officer with the Office of The Prosecutor (OTP) of the International Criminal Court (ICC). I was introduced to **[01/18] PRV** and told that she is an interpreter for the ICC.
2. The OTP representatives explained to me what the ICC is and described its mandate. They explained the role and mandate of the OTP within the ICC.
3. The OTP representatives explained to me that they are investigating events that took place in Central African Republic from 1st August 2012 until present. I was informed that the OTP is contacting me because they believe I may have information relevant for establishing the truth.
4. I agreed that the interview would be conducted in English and interpreted into French. I fully understand and speak French.
5. The OTP representatives explained to me that I do not have to answer to their questions. The OTP representatives explained to me that they are seeking to find out the truth. I agree to tell the truth and that my answers to their questions are as complete as possible and reflect the best of my knowledge and recollection.
6. I was informed that any information I give to the OTP, including my identity, may be shared with the parties of the proceedings at the ICC; in particular the Judges, Accused persons, the Counsel of the Accused and the legal representatives of the victims.
7. The OTP representatives have explained to me the reasons and importance of keeping my contacts with the OTP confidential, which I fully understand.

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

1/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2387...



Page 2 of 21

[01/18] PRV

8. Having understood all the above issues, I confirmed my willingness to answer the OTP representatives' questions.
9. The OTP representatives explained to me how the interview was going to be conducted. I was told that I needed to be as accurate as possible in my account and that I should state when I do not know the answer to or do not understand the question. I understand that I need to distinguish between what I have experienced or seen myself and what I have heard or learned about from someone else.
10. I was told that at the conclusion of the interview, I would be asked to sign a written statement after having had the opportunity to review it, make any corrections, or add additional information.

Personal information and background

11.

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

The SELEKA in BERBERATI

12. Before the conflict there were around 70 000 Christians and around 20 000 Muslims living in BERBERATI and both communities lived in peace.
13. When the Seleka arrived we at first were following their progress through the media, we would hear that they were marching from the north towards BANGUI. They entered BERBERATI on 26 March 2013. Upon their arrival, there was a delegation that went to welcome them, because people thought they were "libérateurs". However, soon after they arrived, they started looting the main traders and the civil servants of BERBERATI; all those that had some money were looted. They found some local informers who guided them in their search and loot; I do not have their names. Even during their progression through the country, we heard that they had systematically pillaged houses and killed whoever tried to protest.
14. In BERBERATI there was a certain affinity between the SELEKA and some Muslims because some SELEKA and some Muslims spoke the same language, Haoussa. The

ICC RESTRICTED

CAR-OTP-2100-2388 ..



Page 3 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

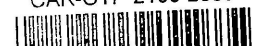
[01/18] PR

[01/18] PRV

SELEKA also stayed in the Muslim neighbourhoods and went to the local mosques. However, when it came to looting, they did not spare anyone; they did not distinguish between Christians and Muslims.

15. Three groups of SELEKA came to BERBERATI. Apparently they had only two ranks amongst in their structure, General and Colonel. General AL KHATIM led the first group that arrived on 26 March, they pillaged a lot and left after three days. The second group to arrive in BERBERATI was led by General OUSMAN. When he arrived he made a speech at the tribune where he invited people to continue with their daily activities; [01/18] PRV As a result, the merchants felt reassured so they opened their shops again. However after a few days OUSMAN's elements started to threaten the traders in the market and to empty their shops. They even went after the women who were selling vegetables to extort money. They basically went stop by shop to extort money from all the traders. I heard that three street sellers who resisted were killed. I do not know the names of the victims; [01/18] PRV At that time there were no real effective authorities left in town; it was the Church where people ran to and [01/18] PRV OUSMAN and his group stayed about one week in BERBERATI before leaving; I heard OUSMAN died later on in a road accident.

16. The third group was led by General SAT; [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV This group was based at the former CEMO coffee company on the road to GAMBOULA; he stayed until the end of the SELEKA regime. In BERBERATI they had replaced the authorities, they acted as customs officers and law enforcement officers in their own manner. Even though General SAT seemed more moderate, his elements committed many crimes. I came to believe that General SAT was two faced, in front of us he assured he was containing his elements but he still gave orders to his elements to loot and harm the people. It was at that time that we started to hear about grave physical attacks. There were many victims of exactions, people severely injured. The SELEKA had a special way of tying up their victims, I think the term used was "arbatatcha". I witnessed it myself on one occasion where they tied a man that way and publicly made him swing through the town. They also tortured people, sometimes to death. There were also cases of people being buried alive; I remember it happened to a man who was arrested near [01/18] PRV I do not know the name of this man. Some victims still bear the scars and mutilations from the time they were injured by the SELEKA. There were also many cases of rape and forced marriages of women and young girls by the SELEKA. [01/18] PRV between 2 and 3 April, 12 girls were raped in the SAVA neighbourhood. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was also raped on [01/18] PRV 2013 by a SELEKA Colonel. There was also a young girl who was raped [01/18] PRV



[01/18] PRV

22. After DJOTODIA resigned, we started hearing about the Anti-Balaka in certain areas close to BERBERATI but not in [01/18] PRV BERBERATI there was cohesion amongst the population so it was calm and [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

For instance we heard a lot about violent clashes between the SELEKA and the Anti-Balaka in BODA; we saw people fleeing the violent and passing through BERBERATI to reach CAMEROON. However we observed that many Muslims started fleeing towards the Cameroonian border. The Anti-Balaka started like a self-defence group to oppose the SELEKA but eventually it escalated. I refuse the idea that the Anti-Balaka is a Christian militia; even by their look with gris-gris and accessories you can tell they are [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

23. However on 7 February, right after the SELEKA had left, a first group of Anti-Balaka arrived in BERBERATI from GAMBOULA. When I talked to the OTP representatives on [01/18] PRV I said that the Anti-Balaka arrived in BERBERATI on 17 February 2014; this is a mistake, I now remember that they arrived on 7 February. Everybody saw them, they were on motorbikes and on two pick-up vehicles; I later heard they took that they took the vehicles from the SELEKA they had ambushed. They were armed with machetes and traditional weapons and wore gris-gris that are supposed to protect them against bullets. I would say they were about 150 elements. At first it seemed like they were only there to observe; they told the non-Muslims to distinguish their houses using palm leaves at their door. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV I have to pass through the whole Muslim neighbourhood called POTO-POTO to [01/18] PRV I noticed the non-Muslim houses had suddenly a palm leave on their windows or in front of their doors. I asked people about it and they said that the Anti-Balaka had encouraged the non-Muslims to distinguish their houses in that way.

24. The next day I went to the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

On my way back I noticed unusual gatherings in POTO-POTO so I went closer to see what was happening. As I approached I saw MOKOM was commanding the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

MOKOM is the son of a former sub-Prefect. He told me they were looking for weapons left to the Muslims by the SELEKA but that had no intention of harming the Muslims. MOKOM presented the Anti-Balaka as "libérateurs" and most of the population at that time also considered them as those who had chased the SELEKA. Later on when I discussed with some Anti-Balaka elements, I understood that as they were progressing, they were joined by some youth.

CAR-OTP-2100-2391



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 6 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

25. They started searching all the Muslims' houses around 9:30 in the morning. Most of the Muslims were cooperative, they gave access to their houses; I did not witness any protest from the Muslims. [01/18] PRV I was afraid of what the Anti-Balaka could do. The searches started peacefully, MOKOM and his elements were not violent. However at some point during the searches some people started looting from the houses; it was a few Anti-Balaka joined by local poor youth and they mostly took electric generators and electronics. As the search was progressing, it seemed like the number of Anti-Balaka was increasing as local youth were joining the group and that tension was rising. From what I could observe on that day, they did not find any weapons.

26. As of 12:00 noon, most of the Anti-Balaka group moved to the central mosque; by that time I had noticed it was more tensed, some Anti-Balaka were getting more violent and more threatening. MOKOM was still conducting the searches in the houses. I went closer and noticed the Anti-Balaka group had surrounded the mosque. [01/18] PRV the Anti-Balaka had ordered them to get out of the mosque so they could search the mosque; [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

27. At that moment MOKOM intervened and ordered his elements to disperse. A few minutes later a young scout named [01/18] PRV came running [01/18] PRV to report that the Anti-Balaka had forced four young Muslims on the ground and were about to kill them. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV four Muslims lying on the floor and the Anti-Balaka armed with traditional weapons about to shoot at them; luckily they did not have automatic weapons which are easier to manipulate. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV believe the Anti-Balaka in general assimilated the Muslims with the SELEKA. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV I do not know the names of these Muslims. Once at the mosque, people were saying that another Anti-Balaka group was about to enter the town. MOKOM came back; [01/18] PRV and confirmed that another Anti-Balaka group was approaching, that they were more violent [01/18] PRV He suggested that the Muslims should go hide in a safe place. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV it was about 13:00. After



[01/18] PRV

the Imam went back inside the mosque to warn the people,

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

28. [01/18] PRV MOKOM's group; I heard they retreated in the direction of BABOUA soon after. I also heard that the French journalist Carine LEPAGE was travelling with MOKOM at that time; she died in an ambush. Although they committed some exactions, I would say it was a moderate group [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I do not know whether MOKOM was sincere or not when [01/18] PRV he was not there to harm the Muslims, [01/18] PRV that but I do not know if he gave different orders to his elements.

Attack by the 2nd group of Anti-Balaka in BERBERATI

29. The 2nd group came from surrounding towns like CARNOT, GADZI, GUEN, SASSELE, BEKADILI. I know this because I recognised some of them as former [01/18] PRV and I also heard some of them speak some local dialects I recognised to be from these places. That large group was made of several individual groups that had gathered; I did not see if they had a leader. They were more violent and vindictive.

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

They started operating in the afternoon of 8 February around 13:30. [01/18] PRV

we saw that this new group had already entered the town. They were wearing gris-gris, wigs, horns on necklaces; it was quite a scary sight. I saw about 20 motorbikes, those were the first thing they would steal; I know [01/18] PRV got his motorbike stolen by the Anti-Balaka that day. The Anti-Balaka went directly to POTO-POTO and started chasing the Muslims and looting from the houses and shops of the Muslims. I believe the Anti-Balaka were familiar with the area because they knew where to go to find the Muslims; most of them used to be merchants who had travelled in the area until they lost everything under the SELEKA.

30. On our way to the Bishop's compound, I saw the Anti-Balaka were randomly assaulting Muslims; it was very violent but I could not stop the car [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV On my way back from the Bishop's, I crossed the neighbourhood using the same road. At that time it was quieter because the Anti-Balaka had moved on to pillaging Muslim houses. As I was driving through the neighbourhood I saw 10 bodies: one was in the street of the CES (*College d'enseignement supérieur*), one was in front of a shop, four were near the market by a cafeteria, one was on the road to the central mosque and three others were in one of the street parallel to the main road. The victims were all male, I would say between 17 and 40 years old. Some bodies were lying on their back, others were lying face down; they were all mutilated and there was a lot of blood. To my knowledge none of them had weapons [01/18] PRV Red-Cross and they came to pick up the bodies. I

CAR-OTP-2100-2393--



Page 8 of 21

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

do not know where they were buried. I later heard that 15 people had been killed that day but I only saw ten bodies. I was not able to collect the names of the victims. The victims were not combatants; in BERBERATI the Anti-Balaka did not encounter any resistance neither from the SELEKA nor from any self-defence group. The Muslims were not expecting this because in BERBERATI we had not witnessed these crimes that were happening in other towns. Besides, the few Chadian Muslims that had collaborated with the SELEKA were long gone; they left together with the SELEKA. I have made a sketch of the POTO-POTO neighbourhood and indicated with a black square the locations where I found the bodies; the sketch is attached to my statement as annex A.

31. Two days after the attack, another young man was killed. He had come out of his hiding place in DJAMBALA neighbourhood to get food but was caught by the Anti-Balaka. As they were taking him to the ONAF station, his brother [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV they had already cut his throat like an animal [01/18] PRV they were happy and showing off, taking pictures of the body [01/18] PRV Red-Cross and they came to pick up the body to bury him, I do not know where.
32. These Anti-Balaka also attacked some prisons in CARNOT and in BERBERATI to set the prisoners free; The prisoners were very violent and would attack the civil servants, especially judicial officers, whom they blamed for their arrest. The civil servants were scared to move around town because of them.
33. That 2nd group of Anti-Balaka left after three days, when the Sangaris intervened and killed one of them; [01/18] PRV they took the direction of CARNOT when they left.

Displaced Muslims at St Basile Parish

34. [01/18] PRV At that time all the security forces in BERBERATI had fled, there were no police, no gendarmerie, no FACA so [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV upon the departure of the SELEKA and reported rumours we had heard that the Anti-Balaka would be coming to BERBERATI. The MISCA [01/18] PRV would send a contingent. Luckily at that time the Anti-Balaka were focused on pillaging and did not come for the Muslims at the parish; they only attacked those they found hiding in town. On that evening, [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

35. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2394 --



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 9 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

36. A Cameroonian MISCA contingent arrived the next morning. Immediately upon their arrival they started evacuating the Muslims to the Bishop's compound; the Bishop's place is [01/18] PRV since it is a bit remote from the city centre on the road to GAMBOULA. Some Muslims were scared [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

37. During the first five days following the attack [01/18] PRV evacuated about 100 Muslims from their homes [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

38. [01/18] PRV One night, the Anti-Balaka came to surround the church. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV Luckily the parish is protected by a fence with a roof which makes it hard to climb. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV SEREGAZA, one of the Anti-Balaka leaders [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV four of his elements to follow [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV all the Muslims left at the parish should be evacuated to the Bishop's place.

Meeting with the Sangaris

39. The evening after the attack [01/18] PRV Sangaris representatives in BANGUI. They explained they could not come immediately because they had the visit of the Minister of Defence Jean-Yves LE DRIAN. They arrived in BERBERATI two days after the MISCA, led by General SORIANO. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

40. It was decided that the MISCA would be in charge of countering the actions of the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2395



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 10 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

Displaced Muslims at the Bishop's and evacuation to CAMEROON

41. When all the displaced Muslims arrived at the Bishop's place, the main issue was to dig latrines within the compound. Water was not a problem because there is access to water within the Bishop's premises and the Bishop arranged for the displaced to constantly have access to it. There was also a dispensary run by the nuns and the Bishop invited the displaced people who needed treatment to seek medical care there for free. When MSF arrived they took over and started providing medical care;

[01/18] PRV every day from morning until mid-afternoon.

42. **[01/18] PRV**

on the first Sunday, after the displaced arrived at the Bishop's place, **[01/18] PRV** food from Christians in various parishes. **[01/18] PRV** cassava and vegetables; **[01/18] PRV**

the displaced community to ensure a fair distribution of the food. The NGOs started to arrive at the Bishop's place within six days; after a while there was MSF, the French Red-Cross and *Action contre la faim*.

43. The Bishop's compound has a large fence and everybody was confined within this compound. The MISCA forces were always at the gate, then the MINUSCA took over. The Anti-Balaka were regularly threatening to attack the IDP site but it never happened; the presence of the MISCA soldiers must have dissuaded them from attacking.

44. **[01/18] PRV** within the displaced community to handle the small issues amongst them. One of the main representatives of the community **[01/18] PRV** he was one the main interlocutor at the camp. He is currently **[01/18] PRV**

45. **[01/18] PRV** the number of Muslims that were displaced at the Bishop's compound. The Church provided the location and helped with the food but it was the MISCA and the UNHCR that were in charge of the administration. They did not communicate the number of people present on the site or the number of people arriving and leaving; **[01/18] PRV** They were not only people from BERBERATI, some were from villages like NAMDOBO, BANIA, BALEGO. As of April, more people were arriving at the Bishop's place from BODA, GUEN, CARNOT, GADZI; those people would only stay two or three days at the Bishop's before being evacuated to the border with Cameroon. Those who wanted to be evacuated had to get registered and when the trucks were ready **[01/18] PRV** in the order they were registered to board the trucks; those records were kept by the MISCA. **[01/18] PRV** three to four trucks leaving at one time; each truck would transport around 40 people. These trucks would leave twice a week as it would take them 2 or 3 days to come back and prepare for another trip. These evacuations by the



[01/18] PRV

MISCA lasted from April 2014 to May 2014. I cannot estimate the number of people who were evacuated but they were in thousands. At first most displaced from BERBERATI did not want to be evacuated; some left at a later stage.

46. The remaining group of displaced Muslims stayed at the Bishop's place for over a year until **[01/18] PRV** raise awareness in town and work in favour of social cohesion. **[01/18] PRV** occupied the houses of Muslims to vacate the houses. **[01/18] PRV** NGOs like PLAN International.

The Anti-Balaka in BERBERATI under "Chiki-Chiki"

47. Once the 2nd Anti-Balaka group had gone, the Anti-Balaka in BERBERATI were led by a local street seller called "Chiki-Chiki"; I do not know his real name. "Chiki-Chiki" is an expression to represent the sound of cutting. **[01/18] PRV** seeing this group three days after the attack once the group of CARNOT had retreated; it was around 13 February. It is possible that "Chiki-Chiki" and his group took part in the attack with the group from CARNOT but I did not see them. One day as I was in my car on my way back **[01/18] PRV** **[01/18] PRV** "Chiki-Chiki" and his group. He introduced himself and we started to talk. "Chiki-Chiki" explained that after he had lost everything because of the SELEKA he went to the north to get his vaccination and he returned to seek revenge against the Muslims. After MOKOM's group and the group of CARNOT left, "Chiki-Chiki" started calling himself the Anti-Balaka ComZone.
48. "Chiki-Chiki" established his base, in SAVA neighbourhood, in the house of a Muslim family named SALAO who had fled to the Bishop's place. As he claimed he was a ComZone he always had armed bodyguards around him. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV

49. **[01/18] PRV** the CEJP called for a negotiation meeting at the *Sacré Coeur* parish on a Wednesday evening but I cannot remember the date. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2397 -



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 12 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

been here to free and defend the people from the SELEKA. He claimed it was now their turn to rule the town. The Prosecutor told him he had no legitimacy to play that role. Then "Chiki-Chiki" put an end to the meeting and nothing was agreed upon.

Attacks against Muslims

50. With "Chiki-chiki" in charge of the Anti-Balaka in town, the Muslims could not go out of the Bishop's compound; any Muslim the Anti-Balaka caught outside was taken to an unknown destination. Those who were arrested where usually taken in the fields and killed or severely wounded with machetes. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

51. [01/18] PRV was one of the Muslims who refused to leave BERBERATI and stayed at the Bishop's place, so he went back to his house one day. I heard that the Anti-Balaka told him to leave the house because they had to destroy it. As he refused, the Anti-Balaka split in two: one group looted the house and the other took him to the nearby cross-roads and cut his throat. [01/18] PRV was not involved with the SELEKA and he was not armed. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I saw the body and noticed some Anti-Balaka standing nearby gathering their loots but they ignored me; their knives were full of blood. At that time the only Anti-Balaka operating in town were the group of "Chiki-Chiki". The incident happened in broad day light in a busy neighbourhood, some people witnessed the killing but everyone was scared at the time so nobody dared to intervene.

52. [01/18] PRV a 22-years-old Muslim was also killed after the Anti-Balaka asked him for money and he refused to give them; they cut his throat. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

53 [01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2398



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 13 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

54. "Chiki-Chiki" claimed he was invincible thanks to his vaccination and bragged about knowing how to kill Muslims; he said he had received special training on how to eradicate the Muslims. He had about 100 elements under his control and bragged about having chased all the Muslims out of town. [01/18] PRV why he was against the Muslims, he said all the Muslims were accomplice of the SELEKA.
55. "Chiki-Chiki" also had a group of Anti-Balaka based in POTO-POTO; they were led by [01/18] PRV and his deputy [01/18] PRV. It seemed they had some autonomy as a group but they were under the orders of "Chiki-Chiki". This group took part in the attacks against Muslims who were found in town, like "Chiki-Chiki" had ordered. Two young Muslims at the Parish were attacked in these circumstances [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV They were arrested by Anti-Balaka and taken to their base. They were cut with machetes and razor blades on their backs. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV The two victims recognised the attackers as members of GANABOY's group; they grew up together, with the attackers, in their neighbourhood and they were surprised that they could attack them. [01/18] PRV was killed by the MINUSCA and all his elements fled or were arrested. I think they had some autonomy because one day after they had attacked a Christian man and looted his house, [01/18] PRV "Chiki-Chiki" and he was surprised because he said he had not ordered it. "Chiki-Chiki" reported them to MINUSCA and they were arrested. I believe he reported them to MINUSCA because they did not bring the loot to him.
56. There was also a base in BABASSALAO, but the Anti-Balaka there were more into armed robbery until the day their leader was arrested and transferred to BANGUI. I do not know the name of their leader.

Looting and destruction of houses and mosques

57. After they had finished looting everything from the houses, "Chiki-Chiki" and his group started destroying the houses of the Muslims and after the houses, they moved on to the mosques. From the houses and mosques they would systematically remove the roof, aluminium sheets, doors and window frames; in some houses we noticed they would even take the bricks. They were usually well organised, they would split in groups: one was guarding the building and threatening people, one was removing the roof, another one would carry the loots in a vehicle. I saw it myself. All the Anti-Balaka groups that came to BERBERATI looted; however the massive destruction of houses and mosques started around April 2014. Once the Anti-Balaka were done with the Muslim's houses, they turned against some Christian neighbours who they accused of keeping belongings of Muslims. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2399



Page 14 of 21

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

Balaka accused him of protecting the properties of his Muslim neighbours. He was stabbed in the stomach but he survived.

58. One day around June 2014, as I was passing by the central mosque, I saw the Anti-Balaka were gathered near the mosque. I noticed the roof, doors and window frames had been removed and the mosque was empty; I was speechless. The Anti-Balaka elements were still damaging the mosque and a large house nearby [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV he said he was executing the order of "Chiki-Chiki". [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV "Chiki-Chiki" maintained his position that they had to erase all the trace of the Muslims in BERBERATI. When I heard that several small mosques had also been looted and partly destroyed I went to see it for myself. I went to see the mosques in DJAMBALA and SAMBANDA neighbourhoods. People there confirmed the mosques had been attacked by the Anti-Balaka but I did not see them destroy the mosques; apparently they mostly operated at night. People also reported that the Anti-Balaka would burn the Holy books when they found one and stole speakers and electric generators from the mosques. The neighbourhood chiefs of DJAMABALA and SAMBANDA also confirmed that "Chiki-Chiki's" group of Anti-Balaka were responsible; they felt helpless because there was nothing they could do to prevent these destructions.

59. One of the small mosques in DJAMBALA was also turned into a church by some pastors but it did not last because the population did not agree with it; the church was called "*Eglise du réveil pour le salut des âmes*".

60. I saw "Chiki-Chiki" organising big sells in town to sell the goods he had looted with his group; it went from building materials to old pots. The money he got from selling the looted goods was used to buy machetes and weapons for his elements. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV was supplying weapons to the Anti-Balaka; [01/18] PRV when he was arrested he explained that it was "Chiki-Chiki's" group which was placing orders for the weapons.

61. At some point "Chiki-Chiki" and his group had become very violent and were carrying attacks on a daily basis so the MINUSCA intervened. "Chiki-Chiki" was injured by the MINUSCA after he refused to drop his weapon; he believed he was the authority in town so he should be allowed to walk around with his weapon and his bodyguards. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV



[01/18] PRV

Arrival of SEREGAZA

62. SEREGAZA and his fifteen Anti-Balaka elements arrived in BERBERATI in May 2014; he had his base in the city centre in the former offices of MOURA Company. He was a former FACA and a well-known Anti-Balaka leader in GAMBOULA. Upon his arrival, **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV to let the Muslims come out of the IDP site to the market to buy food. SEREGAZA was more educated and less extreme in his ideas than "Chiki-Chiki". **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV SEREGAZA being a more reasoned Anti-Balaka leader; he was more into extortions, he would protect anyone in exchange for money whereas "Chiki-Chiki" was more radicalised. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV The overall Anti-Balaka commander was still "Chiki-Chiki"; SEREGAZA had come to BERBERATI to get involved in the mining business of gold and diamond. **[01/18] PRV** he did not have the intention to take over "Chiki-Chiki's" position but he became some sort of deputy.

[01/18] PRV

63. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV SEREGAZA gave a speech, he explained they were not against all the Muslims but only against those who had been involved with the SELEKA. By that I believe he meant the Chadian Muslims who had mostly collaborated with the SELEKA. He said it was now time for reconciliation and stated he would tell his Anti-Balaka brothers to stop attacking the Muslims. The next day, to show his good faith, he came to pick up four Muslims to take them to the market to buy food.

64. **[01/18] PRV** "Chiki-Chiki" or SEREGAZA, they usually mentioned being in contact with their coordination in BANGUI regarding their actions in the field. They claimed they were not able to make their own decisions and that they were just enforcing the decisions taken at the national level. For example with the issue of the free circulation of the Muslims, they explained that they were waiting for the decision from the coordination. The names we constantly heard were those of MOKOM, NGAISSONA and WENEZOU. I do not know if they were just pretending being an organised and structured group, but in reality they did not seem very organised.



[01/18] PRV

65. One day towards the end of May 2014, a group that claimed to come from this "Coordination nationale" in BANGUI came to BERBERATI. They explained they were sent to coordinate the actions of the Anti-Balaka; [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

They said that now that the "bad Muslim elements" had been chased away, they had nothing against the Central African Muslims and they would make sure they could return to their houses. They said the foreigners were not welcomed anymore. SEREGAZA represented the Anti-Balaka from BERBERATI during this visit; "Chiki-Chiki" was not present, I believe his presence would not have served their cause because he was too extreme and rude. The delegation was made of two men, one was named WENEZOUÏ and the other I do not remember.

The Anti-Balaka in surrounding areas

66. On the BANIA-NOLA axis, the Anti-Balaka killed many Peulhs and stole their cattle; they had completely blocked all the Muslims and Peulhs in that area. The Anti-Balaka there were led by [01/18] PRV with "Chiki-Chiki" and SEREGAZA, [01/18] PRV was amongst the main Anti-Balaka leaders in our area. We do not know how many people they killed. [01/18] PRV and his group were based in NANZEMBE and controlled the area from BERBERATI to BANIA and YAMANDOU to NOLA. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

67. In CARNOT the Anti-Balaka had arrived from GADZI and GUEN; they were responsible for the massacre in CARNOT. They were also joined by local youth and prisoners. About twenty Muslims who had fled to a diamond collector's house, named Abou PANGA, were killed. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

She told me that she heard people screaming and that when the Anti-Balaka were killing the people in the house, there was so much blood that it was flowing out of the fence. The victims were not SELEKA, they were mostly Peulhs. The Anti-Balaka in CARNOT had leaders [01/18] PRV I do not know their names. In CARNOT there was also a massive IDP site at the Catholic Mission [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

68. End of January or beginning of February, the Anti-Balaka in GUEN gathered over 50 Muslims inside the compound of a diamond collector and killed them all; including woman and children. I heard about it through [01/18] PRV who lived in GUEN; [01/18] PRV. I do not have contacts with people living in GUEN because there is no much cell phone network in that area. I do not know who the Anti-Balaka leader was in the area.

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2402



Page 17 of 21

[01/18] PRV

69. There were many Peulhs who were present around YALOKÉ with their cattle; I heard the Anti-Balaka killed a lot of them to steal their cattle. These Peulhs were mostly killed in the bush, I do not know how many were killed. Those who survived were gathered in the sub-prefecture compound and they were guarded by the MISCA. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV over thousand displaced people at the sub-prefecture, there were men, women, children all living in terrible conditions. You could see they could not come out for fear of the Anti-Balaka because they were still active in town; **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV I do not know who their leader was. In general, the Anti-Balaka bragged about killing the Peulhs.

70. BOSSANGOÀ was the place the Anti-Balaka movement was born in response to the SELEKA who were looting the villagers. I heard that is in BOSSANGOÀ that they started to get organised. After President BOZIZE was overthrown, most of his loyal guards infiltrated these auto-defence groups to lead the revenge against the Muslims who they accused of supporting the SELEKA. The SELEKA had committed many crimes in BOSSANGOÀ and the Anti-Balaka retaliated. I heard all this **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV who was travelling between BOSSANGOÀ and PAOUA during the conflict; **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV

71. Because of the geographical situation of NOLA, which is 160km from BERBERATI, the Anti-Balaka did not manage to enter the town because there is a river to cross; they tried to get in through SOSSO and BILOLO. There is a village in that area called YAMATCHOKI where the whole population converted to Islam. The Anti-Balaka wanted to attack this village so the villagers organised in a self-defence group to protect themselves. The Anti-Balaka made several attempts but they were not successful. **[01/18] PRV**

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

72. Like with the SELEKA, we do not know of all the crimes committed by the Anti-Balaka and we will never have the exact figure of victims. The Anti-Balaka were mostly driving motorbikes so they could go everywhere. People are still traumatised and afraid to tell what happened that time.

[01/18] PRV

73. **[01/18] PRV**

CAR-OTP-2100-2403



ICC RESTRICTED

Page 18 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

people. [01/18] PRV information on the crimes committed by the SELEKA and the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV NGOs with means to help the victims like MSF, PLAN International, *Action contre la faim*, Mercy Corps, World vision. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

74.

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

75.

[01/18] PRV

BERBERATI today

76. The Muslims have returned to their neighbourhood now and resumed their trading activities. To my knowledge there is no more Anti-Balaka in town, or if there are any they are quiet and discrete. Last year BERBERATI was declared "green area" alongside MBAIKI and NOLA.

Annexes

- Annex A: A sketch of the POTO-POTO neighbourhood indicating the locations of the bodies found after the Anti-Balaka attack.

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

Closing Procedure

77. I was informed that individuals, who according to the judges, qualify as victims will be entitled to participate in future Court proceedings and potentially to receive reparations. I was informed of the existence of the Victims' Participation and

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2404



Page 19 of 21

[01/18] PRV

Reparation Section and its function, as well as of the procedure for applications. I do not consent to my personal data being shared with the Victims' Participation and Reparation Section.

78. I was informed that I may be called to testify before the Court. It was brought to my attention that ICC trials are held in public and explained to me that, as an exception to the principle of public hearings, the judges may apply protective measures to those testifying if circumstances require.
79. The OTP representatives informed me of the protective measures that may apply during and after the investigation and/or trial proceedings.
80. I have nothing to add to the above statement nor do I have anything to clarify. I am available to be contacted in the future for clarifications or questions on topics not covered during this interview.
81. I have given the answers to the questions of my own free will.
82. There has not been any form of coercion, duress, threat, promise or inducement which has influenced my account.
83. I have no complaints about the way I was treated during this interview.

WITNESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This statement has been read over to me in French with interpretation in English and (it) is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection. I have given this statement voluntarily and I am aware that it may be used in legal proceedings before the International Criminal Court and that I may be called to give evidence in public before the International Criminal Court.

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

..CAR-OTP-2100-2405..



Page 20 of 21

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

1. I, [01/18] PRV certify that:
2. I am duly qualified to interpret from the English language into the French language and from the French language into the English language.
3. I have been informed by [01/18] PRV that he speaks and understands the French language.
4. I have orally translated the above statement from the English language to the French language in the presence of [01/18] PRV who appeared to have heard and understood my translation of this statement.
5. [01/18] PRV has acknowledged that the facts and matters set out in his statement, as translated by me, are true to the best of his knowledge and recollection and has accordingly signed his signature where indicated.

Signed:

[01/18] PRV

Dated:

ICC RESTRICTED

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

CAR-OTP-2100-2406



Page 21 of 21

[01/18] PRV