

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR

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 National ID number: [01/18] PRV
Date of Birth: [01/18] PRV Nationality: Central African
Ethnicity: [01/18] PRV Religion: Islam

[01/18] PRV

Language(s) Used in Interview: English and French

Occupation: [01/18] PRV

Place of Interview: Bangui, CAR

Dates and Times of Interview: 08/04/2019 (14:40-16:00); 09/04/2019 (09:15-13:50);
10/04/2019 (11:05-13:15; 14:00-16:30); 11/04/2019 (09:05-13:00; 13:50-16:15); 13/04/2019
(10:45- 13:10; 13:40- 16:15); 14/04/2019 (12:45- 17:40)

Names of all persons present during interview:

08/04/2019 to 11/04/2019: [01/18] PRV (Witness), [01/18] PRV
(Associate Investigator), [01/18] PRV (Associate Investigator), [01/18] PRV
(Interpreter);
13/04/2019 to 14/04/2019: [01/18] PRV (Witness), [01/18] PRV
(Associate Investigator), [01/18] PRV (Associate Investigator), [01/18] PRV
(Interpreter).

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

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Signature(s):

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

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Procedure

1. I was introduced to [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV and [01/18] PRV and was told that they are Associate Investigators with the Office of the Prosecutor (OTP) of the International Criminal Court (ICC). I was introduced to [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV and told that she is an interpreter with the OTP of the ICC.
2. The investigators 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 investigators explained to me that they are investigating events that took place in the Central African Republic from 1 August 2012 until the present day. 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 French. I fully understand and speak French.
5. The investigators explained to me that I do not have to answer to their questions. The investigators 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 investigators have explained to me the reasons and importance of keeping my contacts with the OTP confidential, which I fully understand.
8. Having understood all the above issues, I confirmed my willingness to answer the investigators' questions.

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9. The investigators 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.

Background

11.

12.

13.

[01/18] PRV

The neighbourhoods of CARNOT city

14. CARNOT is divided in three Districts (*Arrondissements*). Before the conflict, the Muslim population was living predominantly in the DONOUM and Malam PACCO neighbourhoods (*Quartiers*). After the conflict the Muslim population in CARNOT is mostly living in the DONOUM neighbourhood. DONOUM is located in the 2nd Arrondissement and Malam PACCO in the 3rd Arrondissement.
15. When Arab people from CHAD and SUDAN originally arrived in CARNOT they went to live at the DONOUM neighbourhood and this is why DONOUM is also known as the Arab neighbourhood (*Quartier Arabe*). Some of the Chadian and

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Sudanese Arabs Muslims arrived in CAR before the 1945 independence of the country. The majority of the population in DONOUM was Christian but all the big, beautiful houses in DONOUM belonged to Arab people. A big mosque was also located there. There is another, small mosque in this neighbourhood [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

These two mosques are quite close to each other.

16. Malam PACCO was the second neighbourhood where many Muslims were living

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

Before the crisis, the majority of the population in Malam PACCO was Haussa Muslim, originating from NIGERIA. There were also some Christians who lived in this neighbourhood but they were the minority.

17. While the Muslim population of CARNOT was mostly concentrated in the DONOUM and Malam PACCO neighbourhoods, some Muslims also lived in all the other neighbourhoods of CARNOT. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

18. Muslims often had their houses built next to roads since many Muslims were merchants. Buildings belonging to Muslims often had a shop in the front and the actual house in the back of the store.

19. I estimate that the Muslim population of CARNOT before the crisis might have been about 15% of the total population of CARNOT but I do not know what the actual number of Muslims residing in CARNOT was before the crisis. Today there are not even 1,000 Muslims living in CARNOT. I estimate that this might be about 1% of the total population of CARNOT.

Seleka

20. In March 2013, the Seleka took power in BANGUI. Less than a month later they arrived in CARNOT but I do not know how many they were.

21. The Seleka set up their base in the city centre in a house opposite the police station. The building where they set up this base is currently the Tribunal of CARNOT. The Seleka commander of that base was named ABDOURAZAK. I do not know his rank. He was from KAGA BANDORO.

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22. The Seleka had another base in the DONOUM neighbourhood. That base was in the house of SALE 'CHERIF' a Muslim of Sudanese origin. SALE 'CHERIF' used to work in the diamond business and I think he was a collector. When the Seleka arrived, he joined them, he became a Colonel and set up a base in his own house. I do not think that he knew the Seleka before their arrival but he spoke the same language as some of them. I believe that this is why they established a good rapport rather quickly.
23. There was another Seleka base at the house of former President BOZIZE's wife called MADO located in ZAWA I neighbourhood. She had bought this house from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV is currently in BANGUI. This house became the base of a Seleka Colonel named AHAMAT Amine. He was from KAGA BANDORO. The *Aide-de-camp* of Colonel AHAMAT Amime was named DAOUD and he lived in a house that belonged to ABO 'Ahamboye'. DAOUD is from CAR and he speaks Foulata. MADO's house and ABO 'Ahamboye's house were quite close to each other in ZAWA I neighbourhood.
24. The Seleka were following very strict rules. If you spoke Arabic they considered you one of them. If you did not speak Arabic however, they hardly considered you a Muslim.
25. The Muslim population of CARNOT suffered a lot when the Seleka were in power. The Seleka were extorting money mostly from the Muslim population, since Muslims were rather well off and many of them were merchants and had shops.
26. The Seleka also used to bring empty canisters and leave them in front of the houses of Muslims. The Muslims would then have to fill these canisters with petrol by a specific time of the day as instructed by the Seleka. Disobeying the Seleka was not an option.
27. The Seleka also went to the shops that were located around ONAF in CARNOT on a daily basis. ONAF is the transport station in CARNOT. These shops were mostly owned by Mauritians and the Seleka took money and food from them.
28. After their arrival, the Seleka became the only authority in CARNOT and they were the ones taking all the decisions. The Police and the Gendarmerie were not operational at that period. Some police officers and gendarmes had fled while others remained in town but did not exercise their duties. I do not know the names of any of the police officers and gendarmes at that time, as I never had to deal with them.

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29. The Seleka had also killed a Muslim near ONAF in CARNOT. His last name was [01/18] PRV was a member of KNK, the political party of ex-President BOZIZE, and the Seleka suspected that [01/18] PRV was somehow involved in the creation of the Anti-Balaka or that he was providing assistance to them. [01/18] PRV got in an argument with a Seleka named [01/18] PRV and he was shot dead by [01/18] PRV and another Seleka who was present. I did not witness this incident but [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV burial. The mosque of Imam KOMI is located in ZAWA I neighbourhood in the 2nd Arrondissement.
30. There was a small room in this mosque that was used to prepare the bodies for burials. Usually, all mosques have this type of room in their compound. At that time, when we recovered a body we would bring it to the nearest mosque due to the insecurity in the town. The mosques did not keep a record of the bodies that were taken there to be prepared for burial. I believe that [01/18] PRV may know about the number of Muslims who were killed in CARNOT during the crisis. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV from CARNOT. His phone number is [01/18] PRV and he is currently in CARNOT.
31. [01/18] PRV is an influential diamond collector and respected elder from CARNOT. He may also have some information about the number of deaths of Muslims at the time because he was very well connected, even with Christian diamond collectors who worked with him in the diamond mine field. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV
32. I am not sure about the exact date of [01/18] PRV's killing but I think it was shortly before the departure of the Seleka from CARNOT, maybe in December 2013. At that period there were already rumours about the Anti-Balaka forming in the bush.
33. [01/18] PRV is currently in BRIA and he is the head of a Seleka group. I do not know any other Seleka members who are currently in BRIA with [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV is in DOUBA, CHAD. I do not have a number for [01/18] PRV or [01/18] PRV and I have never been in any contact with them.
34. Apart from [01/18] PRV the Seleka had also killed two Christians in CARNOT. These were the first killings that the Seleka committed in CARNOT, and they took place before the killing of [01/18] PRV. The two Christians were living in ZAIR, a village about 35 km from CARNOT, but were originally from BOUAR. I do not remember their names. They were Anti-Balaka and they came to CARNOT to buy ammunition and to sell *gris-gris*, the amulets that they were using for their protection. Upon

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arrival they got in contact with the Christian *chef de quartier* in the Gbaya neighbourhood. I do not remember his name. The two Anti-Balaka told the *chef de quartier* the reason of their visit to CARNOT and the *chef de quartier* betrayed them to the Seleka. I think the *chef de quartier* did that because he did not want what happened in other parts of CAR to happen in CARNOT as well. In that period there were a lot of rumours that it was [01/18] PRV ([01/18] PRV), the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV from Malam PACCO, who had betrayed the two Anti-Balaka to the Seleka, but I do not believe that this was true.

35. The Seleka killed both Anti-Balaka at a junction close to ONAF in the city centre of CARNOT. This killing took place in 2013 but I do not remember the exact date. I heard about this incident from some neighbours but I do not remember who specifically told me about it. There were people who witnessed this killing and they said that it was [01/18] PRV and his elements that shot and killed the two Anti-Balaka.
36. When DJOTODIA resigned, the Seleka withdrew from CARNOT along with the Seleka from other areas – such as NOLA and BERBERATI- who were also withdrawing and passed through CARNOT.

The arrival of fleeing Muslims from BAORO in CARNOT

37. Since mid-2013 we heard persistent rumours that some Christians were forming a group named Anti-Balaka, that they were gathering in the bush and they were going to attack CARNOT. We heard that some of these Anti-Balaka were from CARNOT, since they knew the city well, but they would also be assisted by Anti-Balaka coming from different areas.
38. I do not remember who specifically gave me this information but I used to hang around with many young Muslim friends [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

going on in the city. I heard a lot of information while hanging around in that place. One time I also heard [01/18] PRV saying that one day or another, the Anti-Balaka were going to come to CARNOT. It was in these get-togethers that I heard about the creation of the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV.

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39. During these gatherings we would also discuss about the Seleka and that we felt we did not have any freedom since they came to CARNOT. The Seleka did not spare anybody and they were harassing Muslims and Christians alike. We were discussing that if the situation was to continue like that, we would have to fight against the Seleka.
40. The young Arabs in the city, however, had started feeling strong and became condescending towards everybody else because of the presence of the Seleka in town. This is probably because there were a lot of Arabs from SUDAN and CHAD among the Seleka and the Arabs in CARNOT might have felt close to them.
41. CAR is a complex country and the Muslim population in the country originates from various different places. The Haussa in CAR originate mostly from NIGERIA while the Arabs originate mostly from CHAD and SUDAN. The Foulata originate from CAMEROON and there are also some Muslims who originate from MAURITANIA. In most cases the Muslims originating from all these places have been living in CAR for generations, they consider themselves CAR nationals and have never lived in any other country in their lifetimes.
42. I never thought that when the Seleka were going to leave CARNOT there would be problems between the Christian and Muslim populations- since the Muslims had also suffered a lot under the Seleka regime. I thought that we were all going to live peacefully again in CARNOT.
43. Starting from the end of December 2013 few Muslims who were fleeing BAORO passed through CARNOT on their way to CAMEROON. The number of these fleeing Muslims increased dramatically in the period from 04-27 January 2014. Many Muslims from BAORO, including women and children, did not have the means to escape on vehicles but the situation was so tense that they left their villages on foot.
44. Some of the notables who were fleeing from BAORO had a meeting with the notables from CARNOT to discuss the situation. I do not remember the exact date of the meeting but it was on a Friday in the period between 04-27 January 2014. The meeting took place in the big mosque in the DONOUM neighbourhood. I do not remember who was present in the meeting from the part of the BAORO notables. From CARNOT, I know of the following Muslim notables who were present in the meeting: [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I do not know if any other person participated in that meeting.

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45. [01/18] PRV used to have a small mosque within his compound in DONOUM as I mentioned earlier. I do not have his phone number. He is currently a refugee in CHAD.
46. [01/18] PRV is originally from CHAD and he used to be the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV He is currently a refugee in CHAD and he is in bad health. I do not have his phone number [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV
47. During the meeting between the notables from BAORO and CARNOT there was a discussion on the different possible actions to be taken if the Anti-Balaka were to attack the Muslims in CARNOT. One possibility would be that the Muslims would stay and defend themselves if there were any weapons available. The other option would be to flee. The notables from CARNOT however insisted that the Anti-Balaka would not attack CARNOT since the Muslim and Christian populations have been living harmoniously there in the past. They could not believe that their Christian 'brothers' would turn against them. The notables from BAORO answered that they themselves had never thought that something like this would ever happen to them and yet they were attacked by the Anti-Balaka.
48. I was not present in this meeting but I heard about it from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV
49. The Abbot of the Catholic Church of CARNOT, Abbot Justin NARY, had tried to negotiate with the Anti-Balaka who were in the bush outside of CARNOT before they even entered the city. Abbot Justin NARY was trying to diffuse the situation and dissuade the Anti-Balaka from coming to CARNOT. It was public knowledge in CARNOT that Abbot Justin NARY was negotiating with the Anti-Balaka before their arrival. Abbot Justin NARY is currently living in [01/18] PRV I do not have his phone number.
50. The arrival of the Muslims from BAORO who were escaping from the Anti-Balaka attacks and the persistent rumours that the Anti-Balaka were similarly going to attack CARNOT created fear amongst the Muslims in CARNOT. As a result many of them fled CARNOT even before the arrival of the Anti-Balaka in town.
51. At the beginning of February 2014 I sent my children to [01/18] PRV I was afraid that that my family might be attacked the same way that the Muslims from BAORO had been attacked. My wife had already gone to [01/18] PRV before the events. I decided to stay in CARNOT to protect our property.

The arrival of the Anti-Balaka in CARNOT on 05 February 2014

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52. On 05 February 2014, I saw the Anti-Balaka walking in military columns entering CARNOT. They wore wigs, had their faces painted with black charcoal and were wearing amulets for their protection known as *gris-gris* all around their bodies. They also carried weapons, including machetes, traditional weapons and Kalashnikovs. I was in my house which is [01/18] PRV On this first day, the Anti-Balaka marched towards the city centre but to my knowledge nothing else happened on that day.
53. I knew it was the Anti-Balaka because of their appearance. It was easy to differentiate an Anti-Balaka from a civilian because the Anti-Balaka wore *gris-gris* and had marks of cuts caused by razor blades on their arms, hands, the back of their necks and on their chests. Many of them would also say openly that they were Anti-Balaka and as the time was passing we came to recognize who the Anti-Balaka were.
54. Later on an Anti-Balaka named [01/18] PRV told me that these razor blade cuts that the Anti-Balaka had on their arms, hands, necks and chests were self-inflicted and were done in order to vaccinate themselves by putting *gris-gris* in their bodies. [01/18] PRV was a marabout. He used to be Muslim. He is not from CARNOT. He lives in MBAINA, a village about 85km from CARNOT. He still comes to CARNOT occasionally. I do not have his phone number.
55. On 07 February 2014, there was a meeting between the local authorities and the Anti-Balaka in CARNOT's Town Hall. I was not present but the following persons attended the meeting: [01/18] PRV
- [01/18] PRV
- have his phone number.
56. The Anti-Balaka who attended that meeting were: BABÉ aka 'B13', KONGOMANI, Sylvestre SINACOLO [01/18] PRV Barthélemy NAMSENMO, Nicodeme SEKOLO and another Anti-Balaka whose name I cannot recall. SEKOLO was a candidate for MP in the last elections in CAR but failed to be elected.
57. During that meeting, the Anti-Balaka told the authorities that they did not come to cause trouble or to commit crimes and that they wanted to bring security to CARNOT since the Gendarmerie and the Police were not operational after the Seleka period. They said that they did not have anything against any ethnic group

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of the population except for the Arabs. They considered that the Arabs had aligned themselves with the Seleka and they wanted to take revenge against them. I do not know who among the meeting participants said that about the Arabs. During the meeting in the Town Hall it was discussed that there might be weapons hidden in the houses of Arabs. [01/18] PRV then agreed that the houses of Arabs had to be searched in order to find out if there were any weapons hidden there. I learned all this about the meeting in the Town Hall through [01/18] PRV who was present in that meeting.

58. When the meeting finished, the local authorities left and the Anti-Balaka, including the Anti-Balaka leaders present in the Town Hall meeting went straight to the DONOUM neighbourhood to search the houses belonging to Arabs. Once, former President BOZIZE said in a speech that the fences of houses had to be stripped out because weapons might be hidden in them. The Anti-Balaka seemed to have adopted BOZIZE's idea and that is why they started destroying the fences surrounding Muslim houses and searching them.
59. The Anti-Balaka started searching and looting the houses of wealthy Muslims. On that day, the Anti-Balaka went to [01/18] PRV compound and they looted the house and the mosque located [01/18] PRV. From that day on, this house and mosque were being gradually looted and destroyed over some time until nothing was left of them. SINACOLO had his base 200 meters away from this house, and I believe it was his men who destroyed this house and mosque. I think that [01/18] PRV actions have been misunderstood by the population in CARNOT. [01/18] PRV is a person who is very kind and generous to everybody. When the Seleka were in CARNOT, [01/18] PRV was sometimes giving them money in an effort to appease them. But the population saw that and they thought that he was financing them or encouraging their actions in this way. This is why there is a lot of anger against him and he is not welcome to return to CARNOT.
60. I was not present when the Anti-Balaka went to the DONOUM neighbourhood on that day but I learned about their actions from a young Christian who was associated with the Anti-Balaka called [01/18] PRV. I do not have his phone number. [01/18] PRV
61. I also learned about the Anti-Balaka actions in DONOUM on that day -as well as on other days- from another Anti-Balaka with the nickname 'Rambo'. He was in his early twenties; I will discuss about him later. Even during the crisis I had managed to maintain good relations with some Christian youth and I could learn what was happening in town from them. At the time of the crisis you had to be discreet but we could still talk and meet from time to time.

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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The Anti-Balaka leaders in CARNOT and the surrounding area

62. The OTP investigators asked me if I knew of any Anti-Balaka and their activities in CARNOT and the surrounding villages. I can remember the following:
63. Sylvestre SINACOLO is originally from CARNOT. He was the Anti-Balaka Com-Zone in CARNOT, meaning he was the main leader of all the Anti-Balaka there. SINACOLO is literate and knows how to read and write so he acted as the Anti-Balaka spokesperson. SINACOLO and his men controlled the Gbaya neighbourhood in the 1st Arrondissement of CARNOT but his base was in a house opposite the big mosque in the DONOUM neighbourhood. The house belonged to a Muslim who had fled CARNOT. SINACOLO did not sleep in his base but in his relatives' house in the Gbaya neighbourhood. There were many Anti-Balaka within the Gbaya neighbourhood of CARNOT. Even after the Police and Gendarmerie resumed their activities, they did not have control of that area.
64. I think that SINACOLO was the Anti-Balaka leader because he was the one speaking on behalf of the Anti-Balaka during the Town Hall meeting. SINACOLO and his deputy SEKOLO were among the Anti-Balaka who went to DONOUM after the Town Hall meeting on 07 February 2014. SINACOLO's group included many Anti-Balaka of Mbokoto ethnicity. Mbokoto is sub-category of the Gbaya ethnicity. People from different ethnicities joined the Anti-Balaka and they tended to group together along ethnic lines.
65. Between 15 to 25 February 2014 the MISCA arrived in CARNOT and set their base in a big house located opposite the Catholic Church of CARNOT. This house belonged to Ibrahim ANOUR, a Muslim who had fled CARNOT. Soon after the arrival of the Anti-Balaka, most of the Muslims who had remained in CARNOT sought refuge in the Catholic Church, where an Internally Displaced Persons (IPDs) site was created.
66. The Cameroonian contingent of MISCA remained for few months in CARNOT and was then replaced by MINUSCA. It was easy to differentiate them as the MINUSCA soldiers wore blue helmets while the MISCA did not wear helmets. Upon their arrival in CARNOT, MISCA got in contact with all the local authorities and groups, including the Anti-Balaka. SINACOLO was the one representing the Anti-Balaka during such meetings with the MISCA. This is another reason that makes me believe that he was the Anti-Balaka leader. I heard about these meetings between MISCA and SINACOLO from a Cameroonian soldier named [01/18] PRV who came

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to pray with us sometimes at the mosque. He has now returned to CAMEROON and I do not have his phone number.

67. SINACOLO was acting as the Police in CARNOT but the MISCA and the local authorities did not like that. This is why on 13 August 2015, he was arrested and taken to BOUAR. He was later transferred to the NGARAGBA prison in BANGUI. SINACOLO stayed in prison for two years and he returned to CARNOT after his release. I do not recall the date of his return to CARNOT. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

68. Another Anti-Balaka was a young adult originally from MBELOU village called BABÉ. His nickname was 'B13' because he was a fast runner like a character in a movie named 'B13'. BABÉ had been a thief and a bandit even before the conflict and he was well-known in CARNOT and other villages because of that. His base was located at his village in MBELOU, located 65km from CARNOT. He often came to CARNOT and the surrounding areas with his men to loot and steal and then returned to his base. I am not sure if he was under SINACOLO's command. I think that he might have been working on his own with his own elements but I cannot be sure about it.
69. In 2016 BABÉ had stabbed another Anti-Balaka in the diamond mine fields around CARNOT. BABÉ was then arrested and spent about a year in prison in BERBERATI from where he escaped in 2017. On 19 January 2019 at about 21:00 or 22:00 hours, BABÉ attacked an old Muslim next to the mosque located close to the Catholic Church. BABÉ shot this man in the leg. The Muslim man was taken to the hospital in BANGUI but died later on. I do not know BABÉ's current whereabouts but the CAR authorities are looking for him.
70. Nicodeme SEKOLO [01/18] PRV was an Anti-Balaka in SINACOLO's group and was based in the same house as SINACOLO in the DONOUM neighbourhood. He is also Gbaya- Mbokoto as SINACOLO. I got this information from [01/18] PRV who was a Christian and had been living for many years in this neighbourhood. I do not remember her name and I do not have her phone number. She often gave me information about what was happening in DONOUM since she knew many people there and she could move around freely. SEKOLO is currently living in CARNOT in a house located behind the hospital and he is working in the diamond mining industry.
71. Aubin YERIMA was another Anti-Balaka who was part of SINACOLO's group. He was also from the Gbaya- Mbokoto ethnic group. YERIMA was the grandson of CARNOT's former MP, also named YERIMA. On 13 August 2015, the Anti-Balaka attacked and injured a Peulh man called [01/18] PRV at the market next to ONAF.

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[01/18] PRV was originally from BOULI village, 65km from CARNOT. [01/18] PRV was taken to the hospital by MSF after the MISCA had intervened at ONAF. During this intervention the MISCA shot and killed an Anti-Balaka named BAKAYOKO. The Anti-Balaka were angry and went to the hospital to take revenge against [01/18] PRV YERIMA was amongst these Anti-Balaka who went to the Hospital. They took [01/18] PRV out of the ambulance and they stoned him to death inside the Hospital compound. [01/18] PRV had told me about this incident.

72. Aimé ZAOROYANGA was another Gbaya- Mbokoto who was a member of SINACOLO's group. He controlled the road leading from CARNOT to GUEN. Aimé ZAOROYANGA used to come to a bridge that was close to the IDP site at the Catholic Church and he threatened the Muslims who were staying there. He was saying that he had already killed a lot of people and that he was going to kill the Muslims who were displaced in the church as well. He was dressed in a military uniform and was wearing a red beret. He was standing a bit outside of the security perimeter, and the MISCA soldiers did not chase him away. One time however, Aimé ZAOROYANGA was threatening again the displaced Muslims and one MISCA soldier who was drunk almost killed him. I saw and heard Aimé ZAOROYANGA threatening the displaced Muslims one time that I was bringing mangoes to the IDP site. When SINACOLO was not present, Aimé ZAOROYANGA was the one replacing him and being in charge. I believe that both SEKOLO and Aimé ZAOROYANGA were SINACOLO's deputies but I do not have any further information on the structure of their group.
73. Barthélemy NAMSSSENMO is originally from BOSSANGOYA but he was born in CARNOT. He was an Anti-Balaka and he took over SINACOLO's position as leader of the Anti-Balaka in CARNOT when SINACOLO was arrested. NAMSSSENMO [01/18] PRV signed by NGAISSONA appointing him as a Com-Zone after SINACOLO's arrest. I think that [01/18] PRV but I do not remember the exact date. NAMSSSENMO and his men usually gathered at the Youth Centre (*Maison des Jeunes*) to discuss and take decisions. The Youth Centre was a building that was close to the Gbaya neighbourhood and it had been built by the Catholic Church as a cultural centre many years ago. I do not think that they had a base there but they used to gather in that place from time to time.
74. The Anti-Balaka from BOSSANGOYA were part of NAMSSSENMO's group. I had heard that NAMSSSENMO had admitted to killing only one Muslim but he never said who this person was. [01/18] PRV NAMSSSENMO and a [01/18] PRV Sub-Prefect where the Sub-Prefect accused NAMSSSENMO of killing many people but he answered saying that he had only killed one person. The Sub-Prefect is named [01/18] PRV but I do not remember [01/18] PRV currently in BANGUI. NAMSSSENMO occupied two houses of a Muslim called [01/18] PRV

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[01/18] PRV). One of these houses is located between ZAWA V and YAPORO neighbourhoods and NAMSSSENMO used it as his base. The other one is in ZAWA I neighbourhood and he used it as his house. Some Muslim men are addressed as 'Aladji' which is a respectful way of talking to them and it often indicates that a Muslim had gone for a pilgrimage to MECCA.

75. I heard NAMSSSENMO saying that he regrets the acts of the Anti-Balaka against the Muslims and he is now working on social cohesion initiatives and is the President of CCRR, an NGO promoting social cohesion. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV The founder of this NGO is Sebastien WENEZOU. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

76. NAMSSSENMO has vacated the house that he used as a base, but he still lives in [01/18] PRV's house in ZAWA I neighbourhood. [01/18] PRV has now returned to CARNOT but he is afraid to return to his houses or to ask NAMSSSENMO to vacate them since the security situation remains unpredictable.

77. NAMSSSENMO's right hand was an Anti-Balaka with the nickname 'Kinda Bidon'. I do not know his real name. 'Kinda Bidon' and NAMSSSENMO travelled to BANGUI to meet with NGAISSONA. NAMSSSENMO himself had told me that he had attended a meeting with NGAISSONA in BANGUI after he had taken over as the Anti-Balaka leader in CARNOT. I do not know when this meeting took place what was discussed during that meeting but I remember that it took place at the Stade 20,000 places in BANGUI.

78. Another Anti-Balaka in the area of CARNOT was named KONGOMANI. He used to be a singer in the CARNOT *Musica* group but he joined the Anti-Balaka during the crisis. His base was at ZAIR village and he committed crimes around that area mostly targeting the Peulhs and stealing their cattle. He also controlled the Gbaya market in CARNOT. KONGOMANI once shot and injured a MISCA soldier and he then ran towards the Gbaya neighbourhood. The MISCA and the Police wanted to arrest him but they did not dare to enter that neighbourhood. I do not remember when this incident took place.

79. KONGOMANI is originally from BANGUI but had lived in CARNOT for many years. He is about 35-37 years old, heavyset and not very tall. He is smart and he knows how to manage different situations. He appears to be calm but his group has reportedly committed crimes in the bush. I do not recall any of the other members

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from his group but he assembled people from different ethnic tribes in his group. I do not know how many men were in his group. I know KONGOMANI because I

[01/18] PRV There was a [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV and he was very close to KONGOMANI even before the crisis. I do not remember his name but his nickname was [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV KONGOMANI since they were very close. I often saw KONGOMANI with Aimé ZAOROYANGA. I heard that Aimé ZAOROYANGA died from natural causes after the crisis.

80. On 23 December 2015, KONGOMANI was arrested in CARNOT but the population protested against his arrest. During these protests, one man was killed and another person was injured. KONGOMANI was released and he accused a Muslim named Mamadou DJIKA of betraying him. KONGOMANI is currently in CARNOT and he lives in the Gbaya neighbourhood. I do not have a phone number for him.

81. I heard that KONGOMANI had intervened to save the life of a Muslim named

[01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV in CARNOT. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV lived in the DONOUM neighbourhood across SALE 'CHERIF's house. As described before, during the Seleka period, SALE 'CHERIF's house was a Seleka base. [01/18] PRV used to hang around with the Seleka from this base; they talked and sometimes they smoked shisha together. When the Anti-Balaka came to CARNOT, [01/18] PRV fled to the bush but the Anti-Balaka found them and took them to the Gendarmerie in CARNOT. I heard that some Anti-Balaka- including KONGOMANI- questioned them. [01/18] PRV was killed at a roundabout close to the Gendarmerie, while

[01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I do not know who killed [01/18] PRV but I heard that KONGOMANI was present. This incident took place on 10 February 2014.

82. [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV and also from [01/18] PRV They mentioned this incident and also the role played by KONGOMANI. Later on, [01/18] PRV also told me about this incident. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I think that maybe [01/18] PRV explained to [01/18] PRV what had happened to him when the Anti-Balaka attacked him [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

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83. I have also heard that KONGOMANI intervened to save the life of [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was severely beaten in ZAIR and KONGOMANI intervened and let him go. This took place on 21 January 2014. This was before the arrival of the Anti-Balaka in CARNOT, but there were already Anti-Balaka in ZAIR.
84. Raymond LEMBE was another Anti-Balaka from CARNOT and he was of the Gbaya-Mbianda ethnicity. His nickname was 'CB' but I do not know why. He lived in Malam PACCO and controlled that area. I do not know where he had his base. His brother Hervé LEMBE was also an Anti-Balaka and was in Raymond LEMBE's group. His group was known as *Group Choc*. Other Anti-Balaka in this group were called AIBA, Alilou OUMAROU and MADI were part of this group. Most Anti-Balaka from the Gbaya-Mbianda ethnicity were part of LEMBE's group. I heard that this group assembled in Malam PACCO at night before committing any crimes.
85. *Group Choc* was responsible for the killing of [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was a taxi-moto driver original from CARNOT. During the conflict, he initially stayed at the IDP site where he was a delegate. At some point, he started to go out of the IDP site using a motorbike again. On 15 June 2015, [01/18] PRV went out of the site by motorbike but he never returned. His body was found close to the airport later on that day by MINUSCA. The day of this killing, AIBA was in a bar and he said that he had killed the man who insulted the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV was an outspoken person and if someone insulted him, he insulted back. Later on, people found out that Alilou OUMAROU had sold [01/18] PRV's motorbike in BERBERATI. The motorbike actually belonged to a man named [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was driving it. I learned all this from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV lives in CARNOT but he does not have a phone. NAMSENMO also told me that Alilou OUMAROU have been involved in [01/18] PRV killing.
86. Alilou OUMAROU was a Muslim Anti-Balaka and a member of the *Group Choc*. His father was a marabout. Alilou is originally from CARNOT. He lives in CARNOT but he works in the mines. MADI is another Muslim Anti-Balaka and also a member of the *Group Choc*.
87. The *Group Choc* was also involved in the killing of [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was shot while he was in his house, located [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was brought to the Hospital where he died later on that same day. During this incident, [01/18] PRV was hit with a machete on the head. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV after the incident she decided to join the other displaced Muslims in the Catholic Church of CARNOT. Two persons were arrested for [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV killing and they were detained in CARNOT. One of them escaped. The other one had the nickname 'Androka' and he was released from detention shortly

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after. I think that the *Group Choc* was responsible for this attack because that was their zone of influence. I heard about this incident from [01/18] PRV and also from one of [01/18] PRV relatives named [01/18] PRV. I do not have the phone number of [01/18] PRV. I believe that this killing happened around late 2016 or early 2017. The IDP site in the Catholic Church was still operational when this incident occurred.

88. [01/18] PRV was a young Muslim who was killed on 06 March 2015. [01/18] PRV was a young collaborator of the Seleka in YORO village, around 45km from CARNOT. [01/18] PRV The Anti-Balaka tried to kill him but he managed to flee and to take refuge in the IDP site in CARNOT. He slept in one of Abou PANGA's houses that was located next to the IDP site. He stayed there for a long time. After some time, he started to go out to the ONAF to sell some food that was given to him by the NGOs. One day he did not return and people were wondering what had happened to him. He was arrested at the ONAF by the *Group Choc* people and taken to the Muslim cemetery where he was killed. When his body was found, his hands had been tied. [01/18] PRV was very close friends with [01/18] PRV. I learned this from [01/18] PRV. He lives in CARNOT but I do not remember his name. I do not have his phone number. The Muslim cemetery is located in the Charpante neighbourhood. Aoudou PACCO bought the land to have it built there.
89. AIBA was a young Anti-Balaka and a member of the *Group Choc*. He had a quiet and polite demeanour but he could turn very violent. He was a killer. AIBA reportedly killed a person called [01/18] PRV. I heard that [01/18] PRV left with one of his neighbours who told him that he had found a diamond stone in the bush and was never seen again. I do not remember the name of this neighbour. [01/18] PRV family had beaten up this neighbour and brought him to the Gendarmerie. The neighbour admitted that AIBA was behind the killing of [01/18] PRV. In retaliation [01/18] PRV family killed AIBA few days later. I heard that the killing of AIBA took place on 13 June 2017.
90. Another Anti-Balaka involved in [01/18] PRV killing was NDOUROU. NDOUROU took [01/18] PRV motorbike and went to BOSSEMPTELE, since he is from that area. I do not know NDOUROU and I have only seen him from distance. He is rather short, and should be in his twenties. I do not know his full name. He used to come and go to CARNOT from BOSSEMPTELE and he was also often in BAORO. NDOUROU was responsible for many crimes in BAORO and he even killed an Anti-Balaka. He had been buried alive by relatives of people that he had harmed. When he was in CARNOT, NDOUROU was hanging around with LEMBE's *Group Choc*. This group was very violent. I am not sure if NDOUROU had his own elements. Maybe he had his own men in BAORO but I do not know about this.

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91. On 08 February 2014, Anti-Balaka killed several people in Abou PANGA's house. I heard that NDOUROU was present during those killings. Abou PANGA had several houses in CARNOT but the main house was located in CARNOT's 3rd Arrondissement in the MBONET I neighbourhood. Abou PANGA had built a mosque inside the compound where this house was located. When the Anti-Balaka arrived in CARNOT, Abou PANGA was in BANGUI and he sent money to CARNOT's Sub-Prefect with the nickname 'Jack BAUER' so that the gendarmes would protect his house. On 07 February 2014, the Anti-Balaka were creating disorder in CARNOT and some Muslim residents fled to Abou PANGA's house to take refuge since they thought that the gendarmes were protecting it. Some Muslims who fled there were even hiding in the ceiling. The Anti-Balaka knew that people were hiding at Abou PANGA's house and they threatened to attack it. The gendarmes left the house when they heard about the threats but also because they were not receiving any money, despite the fact that Abou PANGA had given money to the Sub-Prefect.
92. When the gendarmes left, the Anti-Balaka attacked the house. On 07 February 2014 [01/18] PRV a shepherd who took care of Abou PANGA's cattle, was killed at the entrance of the house. He was initially shot at but he survived and the Anti-Balaka then killed him with their machetes.
93. Then on 8 February 2014, the Anti-Balaka entered Abou PANGA's house and killed seven or more people. No-one really knows the actual number of those who were killed at Abou PANGA's house and everyone gives a slightly different number. Among those killed at Abou PANGA's house were [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV two Peuhl men who were working for Ali BABOLO and who had fled to Abou PANGA's house for protection.
94. The Muslims who had fled at Abou PANGA's house witnessed the killings from their hiding places. I know of the following survivors from this incident at Abou PANGA's house: [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV
- [01/18] PRV
95. I heard that [01/18] PRV was lying on the ground pretending to be dead. BABÉ was also at Abou PANGA's house and he realized that [01/18] PRV was alive. Instead of killing him he covered him with a sheet so that it would appear that he was dead. I do not know why BABÉ did that. I think that it is because [01/18] PRV and BABÉ knew each other from before. BABÉ did not participate in the killings. BABÉ used to hang around when the Anti-Balaka attacked in different areas. He was not attacking himself but he was waiting around, looking for an opportunity to loot.

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96. I learned about this incident at Abou PANGA's house from [01/18] PRV and [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV saw how the killings occurred from his hiding place in the ceiling of the house. [01/18] PRV gave me the names of the victims [01/18] PRV During the events in CARNOT, [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV who kept some records about killings and other crimes that happened in CARNOT. I believe he may still have those records. The name of this [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV and I am not sure if he would like to share any of the information he might have. I am sure of the date of the attack at Abou PANGA's house because [01/18] PRV himself told me and I do not think that he would forget the date when he experienced such a traumatic event.
97. BALERI is an Anti-Balaka chief from MBAINA village. BALERI means dark skin in Foulbe, because he has very dark skin. NDOUROU was also often going to MBAINA to be with the Anti-Balaka there. [01/18] PRV told me that the killings at Abou PANGA's house were perpetrated by BALERI and that NDOUROU was also present.
98. BALERI was also the Anti-Balaka leader responsible for the attack in GUEN where many people were killed. GUEN is 100km away from CARNOT. I do not recall the date of this attack but [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV is a survivor of the attack in GUEN and he is currently residing in [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV is another survivor from GUEN. Her husband was killed during the GUEN attack. She currently lives in [01/18] PRV She does not have a phone. There was another survivor of GUEN in [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV CAMEROON. Her nickname is [01/18] PRV Her husband, [01/18] PRV survived the attack in GUEN by pretending that he was dead. He is also in [01/18] PRV The Anti-Balaka killed their two sons in GUEN; the 11 year old [01/18] PRV and the 7 year old [01/18] PRV Their youngest son was 4 years old at the time and he managed to escape. She stayed for some time at the Catholic Church in CARNOT and she had become mentally disturbed after what she has experienced. They were Peuhl. The young boy that survived had the nickname [01/18] PRV because of his very [01/18] PRV The information that I have on the killings in GUEN I learned directly from the survivors that I mentioned above.
99. I heard that some Anti-Balaka from BANGUI had travelled to CARNOT to raise awareness and get support for the Anti-Balaka among the population. NGAISSONA's brother visited CARNOT and stayed in BELLO Tanko's house. BELLO [01/18] PRV is Haussa and is currently living in the house of BOZIZE's wife MADO. He keeps hoping that one day BOZIZE will become President again. I do not remember the first name of NGAISSONA's brother. I do not remember the

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exact date that these Anti-Balaka from BANGUI came to CARNOT but it was when NAMSENMO was already the Anti-Balaka leader in CARNOT.

100. The Anti-Balaka in CARNOT were wearing badges that were manufactured in BANGUI. I do not know who was bringing these badges from BANGUI to CARNOT. There were actually two types of Anti-Balaka badges. The first badges were yellow in colour and all the Anti-Balaka had them. These badges did not have photos. I think that these badges were used in 2014 and 2015 and SINACOLO was still the Anti-Balaka leader in CARNOT then. The second Anti-Balaka badges were white and they included a photo of the holder. When the white badges were issued, the yellow ones were cancelled. SINACOLO had already been arrested when the white badges were being used and NAMSENMO was the Anti-Balaka leader in CARNOT. [01/18] PRV had told me about the yellow badges and NAMSENMO about the white ones.

101. I have seen a lot of Anti-Balaka wearing badges including NAMSENMO and his

[01/18] PRV

102. Many of the Anti-Balaka like [01/18] PRV were young adults and the Anti-Balaka leaders used them to commit crimes while the leaders remained in the shadow. At some point, these youngsters realized about their game and started to complain and betray them. I believe this is the reason why [01/18] PRV were providing me with information from time to time.

103. [01/18] PRV was not really an Anti-Balaka. I think he was more of a loudmouth who wanted to be noticed by others. Before the crisis he had an [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV. He was not really part of the Anti-Balaka group but he was associated with them and he would often hang around with them. I do not think that he was associated with one specific Anti-Balaka group but he would go to any group. I had seen him speaking with [01/18] PRV sometimes. Maybe he was part of this group but did not want to [01/18] PRV because I am a Muslim. He comes from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV living in the ZAWA neighbourhood.

104. [01/18] PRV was also moving around all over CARNOT with his motorbike. He was usually in the Gbaya neighbourhood and he might have been in SINACOLO's group.

Other killings by the Anti-Balaka in CARNOT and the surrounding areas

105. The Anti-Balaka committed several other killings in CARNOT but I do not know who among them were responsible for these killings. On 10 February 2014, the same

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day as [01/18] PRV killing, the Anti-Balaka also killed [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was a young Foulata man who lived behind ONAF. He was on a motorbike when he was stopped by the Anti-Balaka, taken to a location between the Gendarmerie and the Prosecutor's house and killed. I learned about this killing from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV, also known as [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I do not know who were the Anti-Balaka who killed him.

106. [01/18] PRV was a Seleka and he was killed on 08 February 2014. The Anti-Balaka were in FOUKA village, located around 45km away from CARNOT and arrested [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV. The latter worked as a diamond miner and they have fled to FOUKA because they believed it was a safe location. The Anti-Balaka killed [01/18] PRV I do not know who are the Anti-Balaka who killed [01/18] PRV told me about this incident.

The looting of my house by the Anti-Balaka on 07 February 2014

107. My house is located in [01/18] PRV Since I had decided to stay in my house and not to flee, a Christian neighbour advised me to remain quiet and to put some palm tree leaves at the entrance of my house, which I did. She also told me that if the Anti-Balaka were to come and knock at my door there was a code that they would use. One of them would say 'pigeon' and I would have to answer 'green' (*vert*). The neighbour told me that the palm tree leaves and the code was a way for the Anti-Balaka to distinguish that these were houses of Christians so as not to attack them. When I heard that, I realized that there was already a planning and organization before the attack. I do not remember the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I think that I had this discussion with my neighbour on the 05 February 2014, the date that the Anti-Balaka came to CARNOT.

108. The Anti-Balaka arrived to my house in the evening of 07 February 2014. Even though I had put a palm tree leave on my door they knocked on my door. I used the code as I had been instructed by my neighbour, but the Anti-Balaka told me to open the door. About seven Anti-Balaka entered my house and two of them were wearing masks while the others did not.

109. I believe that the two Anti-Balaka who were wearing masks were locals from CARNOT and they wore the masks so as to avoid being recognized. They asked me if I had any weapons. I replied I did not and told them that they could check the house if they wanted to. I did not recognize any of the Anti-Balaka who entered my house. The two were wearing masks stayed on the side whilst the remaining five searched and looted my house. Soon after the Anti-Balaka had entered my house,

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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[01/18] PRV came in as well. I thought he was going to tell them to leave but on the contrary he helped the Anti-Balaka [01/18] PRV

110. The Anti-Balaka told me to pay 100,000 CFA. They said that they would return the following morning to collect the money or otherwise they would empty my house completely.

111. The following day at around 07:00 a.m., I went to visit a friend and when I returned to my house at 09:00 a.m. I met a tailor who was working in the neighbourhood. He told me that the Anti-Balaka were looting my house. When I reached my house, the Anti-Balaka had already left.

112. Despite the looting, [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV I was aware that it was not safe to remain in town as the Anti-Balaka were attacking the Muslim population and their properties. I was aware that I could be a victim any time again, so I was constantly on guard. It was stressful but [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

The attack by the Anti-Balaka against the Muslims in the neighbourhoods of CARNOT on 23 December 2015

113. As mentioned above, on 23 December 2015, KONGOMANI was arrested and taken to the Gendarmerie. Many civilians went to the Gendarmerie to protest against his arrest and the MINUSCA also came to the scene. The situation deteriorated and there was a firefight between the Anti-Balaka and MINUSCA which resulted in the death of one person and with another person injured. The Prosecutor did not want the situation to escalate, so he ordered KONGOMANI's release. KONGOMANI's men accused [01/18] PRV for the arrest of their commander. [01/18] PRV was a Muslim and was a friend of KONGOMANI. The Anti-Balaka said that it was him who had revealed to the authorities the place where KONGOMANI stayed and that is why he had been arrested. Because of KONGOMANI's arrest, his men wanted to take revenge and to retaliate against the Muslims who were outside the IDP site.

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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114. On the evening of 23 December 2015, I was sleeping [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV when I heard some noise. I woke up and I saw that the Anti-Balaka had entered my house. Someone among them saw me and said in Sango "it's him". I managed to slip away and I jumped the fence of my compound. While escaping I [01/18] PRV but I did not stop. I hid in a house that was destroyed and from my hiding place I saw around 10 to 15 Anti-Balaka passing by. I did not recognize any of them but I recognized Raymond LEMBE's voice. After they passed by I went to take refuge at a neighbour's house [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

115. The following day a neighbour came to see me in the house and she advised me to go to take refuge in the IDP site at the Catholic Church which I did. When I arrived to the site, I got registered by a man named TATALE. I explained to him that I was

[01/18] PRV

been injured by the Anti-Balaka the night before and had come to the site to take

[01/18] PRV

116

[01/18] PRV

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[01/18] PRV

the Anti-Balaka also went to [01/18] PRV house and his body was found the following day at the Muslim cemetery. The body had the hands tied. People saw Barthélemy NAMSENMO in the cemetery when the body of [01/18] PRV was recovered, so some people said he was involved in [01/18] PRV killing also. I learned this from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV, one of NAMSENMO's neighbours who [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV told me that the previous evening he was at his house and he saw NAMSENMO and his men preparing their *gris-gris* and getting ready for an attack. Around 2018, NAMSENMO told me that the Anti-Balaka involved in [01/18] PRV killing were KONGOMANI's men.

118. I learned that on the same night that I was attacked, the Anti-Balaka also went to the house of a Malian man but the latter was not injured or kidnapped because his

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[01/18] PRV



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family stopped the Anti-Balaka. I also heard about this from a neighbour who was renting my house at the time but whose name I cannot remember. She explained to me that when the Anti-Balaka came searching for me they looted the house. The following day, she went to LEMBE's house to ask him to return all the looted goods but LEMBE told her that if she wanted to recover her property she had to go and talk to KONGOMANI.

119. After this incident, I spent [01/18] PRV at the IDP site [01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

120. Today, the Muslim population in CARNOT is about 1,000 persons. Muslim men are returning little by little but they are not bringing their families along as they are scared that the situation is not yet safe.

Destruction of mosques and Muslim houses by the Anti-Balaka from 2014 onwards

121. Soon after their arrival in CARNOT in February 2014, the Anti-Balaka looted the doors and windows as well as the items inside the big mosque of Malam PACCO, located in the 3rd Arrondissement in the Malam PACCO neighbourhood. I believe it might have been the Anti-Balaka under Raymond LEMBE since he was the Anti-Balaka commander for that area. I did not see the mosque while it was being looted but I saw it soon after the looting happened.

122. [01/18] PRV was still living in her house when the looting took place and I believe that she might have seen what happened. After the looting she went to the Catholic Church to visit some of the Muslims who were displaced there and she told them about the incident. I learned about this from some of the displaced Muslims when I visited them in the Catholic Church. I was only visiting the other Muslims in the Catholic Church since I had only spent one night on 23 December 2015 there. The rest of the time I was living in different places in CARNOT.

123. The big mosque in the DONOUM neighbourhood was also completely destroyed. I am not sure about the date but it must have been soon after the meeting between the Anti-Balaka and the local authorities on 07 February 2014. One day I received a phone call from some Muslims from BANGUI who asked me if the mosque in

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DONOUUM had been destroyed. Since I was not living in the Catholic Church and I could move around I went to see what had happened. I saw that the mosque was looted. The metal panels, doors and windows had been taken. I do not know who destroyed it but I suspect that it was the Anti-Balaka from that area. While initially this mosque had been only looted and partially destroyed, it was completely destroyed to the ground in the coming months. SINACOLO and his men are in control of that area, so I assume it was them.

124. As mentioned above, there was a mosque inside the compound of Abou PANGA's house. This is the house where the killings took place and which is located at MBONET I neighbourhood in the 3rd Arrondissement. The mosque was pillaged around the same time of the killings in Abou PANGA's house on 07 February 2014, but by a different group of Anti-Balaka and by the population. I learned this from

[01/18] PRV

125. There were two mosques at PK-3 at the entrance of CARNOT. One was in the NAGAITO neighbourhood in CARNOT's 1st Arrondissement. This mosque was completely destroyed towards the end of 2014 by the Anti-Balaka. I do not remember the name of the Anti-Balaka who was the chief in that area. I remember that he had an argument with another Anti-Balaka and he was almost killed.

126. I was not present when the mosque was destroyed but I went to see it a few days after the destruction. They had destroyed the ceilings, pulled out the doors and destroyed the walls. Sometimes I was also

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

127. The second mosque at PK-3 was in Charpante neighbourhood in CARNOT's 2nd Arrondissement is Malam ISSA's mosque and is located within his compound. This mosque had remained untouched during the conflict. Malam ISSA is a Muslim but he has a lot of relatives who are Christians. Furthermore, he and his sons had weapons and they protected their property from attacks.

128. Sometimes I would get information about activities of the Anti-Balaka from people who were within the group. There were some persons within the Anti-Balaka who did not agree with many of their actions and they did not participate actively in what the group was doing. One such person was [01/18] PRV I do not know his phone number. He is still in CARNOT. He is now working as a diamond miner. He recently found a diamond and he bought a [01/18] PRV

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129. [01/18] PRV was an Anti-Balaka element but he was also one of the Anti-Balaka who would provide me with information. Sometimes [01/18] PRV and others within the Anti-Balaka group gave me information about what already had happened while other times they would inform and warn me about things that the Anti-Balaka were going to do. [01/18] PRV had injured some Muslims in the past but he then confessed and asked for forgiveness about this to some of us within the Muslim community. I remember of one incident when [01/18] PRV injured a Muslim man named [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV had gone out of the IDP site and he was aggressed while he was at the market around ONAF. I do not remember the date of the incident. [01/18] PRV was a [01/18] PRV but I do not remember his real name. He was a member of [01/18] PRV family. He is not in CARNOT anymore. He is in GAROUAMBOULAI.
130. [01/18] PRV and the other Anti-Balaka I knew were providing me with information always in person and never by phone. I think that [01/18] PRV wanted to find a way to stop the attacks, because he did not agree with the actions of the Anti-Balaka. For this reason before an attack was to happen, [01/18] PRV informed MINUSCA about it so that they would intervene and stop it. [01/18] PRV gave information to a CAR national who was a Civil Affairs Protection Officer in MINUSCA. His name is [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV. [01/18] PRV had been in contact with many Anti-Balaka from CARNOT and I believe that he has all their contact details. He is currently working as a Civil Affairs Protection Officer with MINUSCA in BOUAR.
131. I met [01/18] PRV at the house of [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV who is also known as [01/18] PRV His wife is a [01/18] PRV and they live at [01/18] PRV When [01/18] PRV met me he saw that I was not threatening, that I was a normal person. I was the one who introduced [01/18] PRV to [01/18] PRV and we sometimes had meetings the three of us at [01/18] PRV house. During these meetings [01/18] PRV gave us information about the actions of the Anti-Balaka. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV He was very mistrustful about [01/18] PRV for some reason.
132. When it comes to [01/18] PRV who was also providing me with information, we used to meet at the [01/18] PRV
133. [01/18] PRV said that they were people in higher places who were encouraging them to commit crimes. He also said that the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV was using the Anti-Balaka, that he was encouraging the destruction of the mosques and the houses of Muslims and did not want the return of the Muslims in CARNOT.
134. I do not know if what [01/18] PRV I do remember one time, however, when the local authorities of CARNOT behaved in a

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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negative way towards the Muslim community. It was during the conflict when many of the Muslims in CARNOT were displaced in the Catholic Church. At this time, the Muslims were praying in the Catholic Church while there was a mosque that was very close to the Catholic Church and we could pray there under the protection of the international forces that were close by.

135. [01/18] PRV had a discussion with the displaced Muslims in the Catholic Church. [01/18] PRV since he was a wise elder and with the Imams who were in the Catholic Church- in order to decide if there was a way that we could start praying in the mosque that was close to the Catholic Church. [01/18] PRV were two Muslims from CARNOT who were also living in the IDP site.

136. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

137. During the conflict in CARNOT, the Imam of the mosque next to the Catholic Church was Imam Abdoulaye. His real name was Fidel ZAOROYANGA and he was a Christian who converted to Islam. He is deceased now.

138. Imam Abdoulaye agreed to lead the prayers in the mosque and we prayed there for two days before the local authorities came to tell us to stop praying in the mosque because they thought we were going to create trouble. It was the [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV who came and told us to stop praying in the mosque.

139. Another mosque that was looted during the conflict was the mosque of Imam KOMI in ZAWA I neighbourhood in the 2nd Arrondissement. This mosque had the gates, doors and windows stolen in 2014 but it was not destroyed at the time. Donatien, the brother of *Chien Mechant* asked the Muslim community for money to protect it and the community said that they would pay him but they never did. We did not have time to pay Donatien during the crisis and we thought we would gather some money so as to pay him later on as we were getting in a better financial situation. The mosque of Imam KOMI was later destroyed in 2018 by Raymond LEMBE his brother, Herve LEMBE, and their elements. I know this from [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV

140. The mosque of Aladji BACHIROU, located in DONOUM II in CARNOT's 2nd Arrondissement, was initially looted and had some structural parts stolen in 2015. The structural parts were stolen gradually and that led to its total destruction in 2016. Today only the walls remain. The Anti-Balaka who destroyed it were 'Rambo' and Blaise, who controlled that area. Blaise is an Anti-Balaka and a dancer in

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CARNOT Musica group. I learned this because

[01/18] PRV

[01/18] PRV

141. There was also a praying location in YAPORO neighbourhood in the 3rd Arrondissement. This was not an actual mosque but a place where we would gather to pray. We called it the praying location of Aladji BOUARI. This place was looted and totally destroyed by *Chien Mechant* and his brother Donatien in 2016.
142. I learned about the looting of the praying location Aladji BOUARI from [01/18] PRV and from a young Muslim called [01/18] PRV. The latter stayed in the IDP site at the beginning of the crisis but with time he started to go out of the compound. [01/18] PRV would approach the Anti-Balaka when they were looting and he would take the opportunity to loot as well. In 2018, *Chien Mechant* stabbed a person and was taken to CARNOT's detention centre but he escaped.
143. *Chien Mechant* and his brother Donatien were originally from BANGUI but they were living in FOUCA village, 45km from CARNOT. They had another brother who was also an Anti-Balaka but I do not remember his name. They were three brothers and they occupied the house of the brother of [01/18] PRV. [01/18] PRV's brother is named [01/18] PRV and he is currently a refugee in NDJAMENA, CHAD. The three brothers were robbers and people did not like them. They were part of Raymond LEMBE's group. Donatien is currently working as a prison guard in CARNOT.
144. The mosque Faki CHOUAIBOU, located next to the Catholic Church in CARNOT's 1st Arrondissement, ZAWA III neighbourhood, was protected by the MISCA so it was never attacked during the conflict. Nonetheless, it has been looted recently in 2019.
145. There is a Muslim praying location behind a secondary school in CARNOT's *Camp Fonctionnaires* neighbourhood in the 2nd Arrondissement. This praying location was not destroyed because the neighbours in the area protected it. Another praying location was in the 1st Arrondissement's Gbaya neighbourhood. This was not destroyed because it has been built by a Christian who converted to Islam.
146. The Anti-Balaka also completely destroyed some Muslim houses, such as [01/18] PRV house which I have already discussed. [01/18] PRV alias [01/18] PRV also had his house completely destroyed. The Anti-Balaka started to loot it in 2014 and it was gradually destroyed until 2016. [01/18] PRV was staying at the Church and later on relocated to [01/18] PRV. [01/18] PRV saw *Chien Mechant* looting his house and he confronted him but he had no power to stop the looting.

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147. Some small Muslim houses were destroyed and looted as well. At the beginning, the Anti-Balaka were mainly looting cattle in the villages and they would sell it and get profits. At some point, there was no more cattle to steal, so they started again looting houses but the MISCA intervention prevented some of this looting.
148. The Anti-Balaka also occupied many Muslim houses to set their bases or to live in them. Most were abandoned houses that the Muslims had vacated when they fled.
149. Not all Muslims houses were occupied. Some Muslims handed over their houses to Christians that they trusted so that they would protect them. These Muslims thought that the crisis was temporary and it would be over in a couple of months. But this was not the case and up to today many Muslims cannot return to their houses.

List of names

150. The OTP Investigators asked me if I have ever heard any of the following names in relation to the Anti-Balaka:
151. Ali AMIDOU: I have heard about an Anti-Balaka from BOZOUM called AMIDOU. I am not sure if this is the same person as Ali AMIDOU. AMIDOU was arrested in CARNOT and taken to the NGARAGBA prison in BANGUI. His brother in law was a gendarme and managed to have him released. AMIDOU returned to CARNOT and wanted to get involved in criminal activities again but this brother in law reacted, telling him he had paid too much money already trying to get him out of prison. AMIDOU then went to BERBERATI and from there to BAORO but I do not know his current whereabouts. I do not know with which Anti-Balaka group he was while he was in CARNOT. I do not have his phone number.
152. Oumarou SARPENDE: This person's last name is SARPANDE. He is a Muslim Anti-Balaka who is originally from TEDOUA village. He committed crimes in BAORO, MBAINA, TEDOUA and the villages close to the bush but not in CARNOT. He worked as a collector in the diamond business and he was part of the KNK. He is a relative of [01/18] PRV family. Soon after [01/18] PRV 2015 he disappeared and his house was later looted. Oumarou SARPANDE had defrauded some Peulhs who wanted to flee from BAORO to KENZOU. SARPANDE took them with a truck to CARNOT and he left them there instead of taking them to KENZOU. He also stole 800,000 CFA and the cattle from these Peulhs. [01/18] PRV [01/18] PRV is one of these Peulhs who was defrauded by SARPANDE. He is still living to [01/18] PRV and he is still angered by SARPANDE's theft and deception towards them. I do not have a phone number for [01/18] PRV or for

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SARPANDE. I think that SARPANDE is now in ZAORO SANGO, NDINGUIRI and MBAINA area. I do not know if Oumarou SARPENDE has a brother.

153. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

154. Sylvain SINACOLO: This is Sylvestre SINACOLO. I had seen his ID card when he came to pick up a SIM card at ORANGE and his first name is Sylvestre.

155. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

156. Oscar NDOWE: He is Gbaya Anti-Balaka and was in KONGOMANI's group but I do not know about his activities with the Anti-Balaka. He is from the same village as the Mining Brigade Commander. He works as a transportation tax collector at the ONAF in CARNOT. He was very close to Aimé ZAOROYANGA. I do not have his phone number and I do not know his current whereabouts.

157. Emeric TEKAFEI: I have heard the name Emeric in relation to the Anti-Balaka but I have not heard the last name TEKAFEI. Emeric was a Gbaya Anti-Balaka in CARNOT based in the Gbaya neighbourhood. He works as a diamond miner. I do not know his phone number.

158. Sebastien WENEZOU: He used to be an Anti-Balaka chief but he is now working on social cohesion activities. I think that he was also a Minister when SAMBA PANZA was President. He is the founder of the NGO CCRR on social cohesion
[01/18] PRV

159. Hervé MATAKAN: He is an Anti-Balaka who was originally from CARNOT and lived behind MADI's house. His father is a carpenter and he also lives in CARNOT. He used to hang around with Alilou OUMAROU. NAMSENMO [01/18] PRV was among the Anti-Balaka who killed [01/18] PRV

160. BEINA: There are a lot of people with this last name that come from the MBAINA village.

161. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

162. BALERI: As mentioned above, this is the Anti-Balaka chief from MBAINA who was responsible for the killings at Abou PANGA's house and in GUEN.

163. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

164. ARMAND: I have not heard about an Anti-Balaka called ARMAND. I have heard of an ARMAND who is a diamond miner and he operates on the axis of GAZI and

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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MBAINA. He ran in the recent elections in CAR to become an MP but he failed to be elected. BABÉ killed one of ARMAND's brothers whose name I cannot recall. ARMAND's brother was also an Anti-Balaka. I do not have a phone number for ARMAND. He is currently in the area of GAZI, MBELOU and MBAINA where the people of the ethnic group Mbokoto live.

165. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

166. Amadou NDALE: He is a Muslim Anti-Balaka and a marabout. I heard people calling him General NDALE. I have heard that he is the leader in control of the area between the village ZAIR and BOUAR. I have never seen him but I have only heard his name.

167. Brice WOKENE or WEKENE: He was an Anti-Balaka from CARNOT. I saw his
[01/18] PRV

168. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

169. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

170. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name in relation to the Anti-Balaka.

171. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name but I have heard of a Muslim Anti-Balaka with the name of SALE. He was a relative of [01/18] PRV who lived in BOULI village, located 65 km from CARNOT. I do not have any further information on him.

172. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

173. [01/18] PRV I have never heard that name.

174. The OTP showed me two photos. The investigators have explained to me that these photos are stills from a video that is marked with a unique reference number CAR-OTP-2088-0977. On the first photo there is the following number indicated on the bottom of the picture: 00:02:52:14. I do not recognize the person depicted in the photo. On the second photo there is the following number indicated on the bottom of the picture: 00:02:47:12. I do not recognize the person depicted in the photo.

Annexes

175. Annex 1: Photo of my [01/18] PRV

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV



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Closing Procedure

176. 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 Reparation Section and its function, as well as of the procedure for applications. I consent to my personal data being shared with the Victims' Participation and Reparation Section.
177. 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.
178. The investigators informed me of the protective measures that may apply during and after the investigation and/or trial proceedings.
179. 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.
180. I have given the answers to the questions of my own free will.
181. There has not been any form of coercion, duress, threat, promise or inducement which has influenced my account.
182. I have no complaints about the way I was treated during this interview.

WITNESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This statement has been read over to me in the French language 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.

Signed:

[01/18] PRV

Dated:

[01/18] PRV

Witness statement of

[01/18] PRV



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INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

1. I [01/18] PRV certify that:
2. I am duly qualified to interpret from the French language into the English language and from the English language into the French 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: [01/18] PRV

Witness statement of [01/18] PRV

