



**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTOR**

WITNESS STATEMENT

WITNESS INFORMATION:

Last Name: Lokilamoi Gender: Male

First Name: Omona Alphonse Father's Name: Acaleri Ocaya

Other names used: None Mother's Name: Madalena Lapobo

Marital Status: Married, 2 wives Children: 12 children.

Date of Birth/Age: June 1954, 50

Place of Birth: Tumatoo village, Palenga Parish, Pajule sub-county, Pader district

Place of Residence: Pajule IDP Camp, Pajule sub-county, Pader district

Ethnic Origin/Tribe: Acholi

Religion: Catholic

Language(s) Spoken: Acholi, Luo, English

Language(s) Written: Acholi and English

Language(s) Used in Interview: Acholi and English

Current Occupation: Chairman Local Council -3 ('LC-3') Pajule

Former Occupations: Farmer

Place of Interview: [REDACTED], Lira Town, Lira District

Date of Interview: 5, 6, 19 and 20 February 2005

Interviewers: [REDACTED] Dianne Luping

Interpreter: [REDACTED]



WITNESS STATEMENT

Procedure

1. I was introduced to [REDACTED] and Dianne Luping, and told that they are Investigators with the Office of the Prosecutor ("OTP") of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
2. The investigators explained what the ICC is and described its mandate. They also explained the role and authority of the OTP within the ICC.
3. I was told that this interview is voluntary and that I may end the interview at any time. I confirm that I agreed to answer the investigators' questions of my own free will.
4. I was asked if I had concerns regarding my protection and security. The security measures which are available to me have been explained and any questions posed by me have been answered.
5. I was informed of the existence of the Victims' Participation and Reparation Unit and its function and told that individuals who qualify as victims, in the judgment of the judges, will be entitled to participate in future court proceedings and potentially to receive reparations
6. 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 and add any corrections or additional information.

Background

7. This is my fourth year as the Local Council-3 ('LC-3') Chairman of Pajule sub-county, Pader district. Previously I was an LC-2 chairman for five years of Palwo parish, Pajule sub-county, and an LC-1 chairman for ten years of Ojile West, Pajule sub-county. My job as LC-3 chairman includes to coordinate between the community and the government, such as bringing information and relaying problems. I am also the chairman for security of the Security committee for the Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp. As the chairman of the security committee, if there are any problems with security I report this to the camp residents. If the government army are the ones causing the problems for the people I am the one going to the barracks to talk to them about this. If the population find rebels in the bush, they come back to report this to me and I report this to the barracks.
8. The Local Council structure is a governmental administrative structure with an LC-1 chairperson for each village community, LC-2 chairman for each parish, LC-3 for each sub-county, and an LC-5 for each district. I am the LC-3 chairman for the Pajule sub-county. There are six parishes in Pajule sub-county. The LC-3 chairman for Lapul sub-county of Pajule IDP camp is called Otto Paul Komakech.

DAL DL





There are four parishes in that sub-county. There are two councillors from each parish, who assist me in my work.

9. Where there is an attack on Pajule IDP camp I must check who has died, who has been injured, who has been abducted, what has been taken, how the injured can be taken to hospital, and how the dead can be buried. I must report this to the government at the district level, namely to the Resident District Commissioner ('RDC') copied to the LC-5 and District Internal Security Officer ('DISO'), and Brigade Commander whose army is within the sub-county.
10. When I try to find out this information, I work through the LC-2s and the councillors from each parish. They seek this information on my behalf from the LC-1 chairpersons. Each LC-1 chairperson would call for a meeting of each village to find out the information, together with the camp commandant and relevant block leaders who are also present at these meetings. Each LC-1 and LC-2, the camp commandant and block leaders would know the problems in their area and by the time I call for a meeting they will have that information for me. We all work together. We may also find a chairperson dead or abducted themselves.

Previous attacks at Pajule

11. There have been four heavy attacks by the rebels at Pajule IDP camp: on 10 September 2002, 27 November 2002, 23 January 2003, and 10 October 2003. I heard from returning abductees abducted from each respective attack, that the attack on 10 September 2002 was led by Dominic Ongwen, 27 November 2002 was led by Raska Lukwiya, 23 January 2003 was led by Tabuley, and 10 October 2003 was led by Otti Vincent. I heard these returning abductees provide this information for myself, when we asked for the names of the commanders leading the attacks. I cannot recall any of their names or when they provided this information to me. There have been no further significant attacks at Pajule IDP camp after this date. I was present at the camp during the September 2002 and January 2003 attacks. Since June 2002, when the rebels were returning from Sudan there have also been minor incidents where the rebels come to steal food from the camp residents. These incidents of looting happen from time to time. It is unpredictable as to when such an incident will happen, for example sometimes they come two times in a week to steal food if they did not succeed in stealing food the first time. There have also been ambushes around the camp with people being killed.

Attack 10 October 2003: Previous Approaches

12. Prior to the attack on 10 October 2003 I did not have any information about a potential attack against Pajule. I am not aware of any letter sent by the LRA before the attack on 10 October 2003 threatening an attack against Pajule IDP camp.

Attack

13. On 10 October 2003 I was not present during the attack. I was in Kampala for a meeting on financial management.

OAL OL





14. When I was leaving Kampala for the camp, I received a phone call from my vice chairperson in the morning of the attack that the camp had been attacked. He informed me that the rebels had come back led by Vincent Otti. He told me about the large numbers of people abducted and the deaths of people. He did not tell me anything else. The rest I saw for myself when I went to the camp, including the huts burnt and fact that things had been looted. I was told that when the helicopter was flying above the rebels had torched the huts so the smoke would prevent the helicopter from being able to see them. I was told this by persons abducted that they had heard instructions being given to torch huts so the smoke blocked the view. I cannot recall the names of those who told me, but they were amongst those released.
15. I returned to Pajule IDP camp arriving at about 3pm on the same day of the attack. When I arrived, people were wailing. There were people trying to send the wounded to hospital. They were also preparing to bury their dead. There was a lot of confusion. I gave instructions as to how the burials should be conducted, and I made arrangements for people to be taken to hospital over a three day period.
16. I saw some of the dead bodies, but I cannot recall the exact number of dead bodies that I saw. The LC-1s of each parish first told me information about the dead orally, and then wrote down lists of the dead. I cannot recall where these records are located. I understood that people died in the cross fire, from beatings or being shot directly by the LRA. It is difficult now for me to try to estimate how many of those were killed from cross fire as opposed to other causes. I only have details for one person who was beaten to death, Lacung Kinyera Benson, my copy-typist. I was told he was beaten on the way by rebels because he failed to carry the load given to him, but I do not know what was used for beating him. I cannot remember who told me about his killing, but I believe it was one of the abductees released after the attack.
17. I do not recall now how many were injured during the attack. When I arrived at the camp, some of those who were badly injured had already been taken to Kitgum hospital, including by the LC-5, Oringa Ponciano. I cannot remember now how many had been brought to Kitgum hospital. I think that most of them were taken there, in particular the badly injured. Some were taken to Pajule dispensary for treatment. I cannot remember how many were brought there. I am not aware of anywhere else injured were taken for treatment.
18. People had started running away from the camp to places like Bweyale and Kinyara in Masindi district, so we now started organizing our security inside the camp. People continued moving away from the camp after the attack, including to other places like Jinja and Kampala. Abductees were not all returning to Pajule, but some went to different places such as Gulu (e.g. World Vision or GUSCO), Lira (e.g. Rachele Rehabilitation Centre), Kitgum and Soroti. I do not have a complete list of those who returned to Pajule, but Caritas Pajule rehabilitation centre may have one. We requested increased army personnel and armoured vehicles, through the RDC, from the brigade commander Lieutenant Colonel Paul Lokech, which were provided. This gave people more confidence. People were now more settled.



19. I can remember two LC-2 chairpersons who were abducted during the October 2003 attack: Kitara Francis who is about thirty five years old and George. I think they were both with the rebels for about two months and escaped together. They said they were taken to Otti Vincent. They told me about their bad experiences in the bush. The paramount chief, Rwot Oywak was also abducted. I do not have details about his abduction. He was amongst the abductees released by Otti Vincent, to come back. I do not have any other information about his release. I do not know why Otti released them
20. After the attack on 10 October 2003, the LRA wrote a letter saying that they wanted to come back again to attack Pajule in October 2003. I think it stated they would return on 25 October 2003, but I am not certain. I cannot recall now who had signed the letter. I think that children going to school found the letter on the road between the trading centre and the barracks within Pajule IDP camp. I cannot recall the date but think it was after the attack on 10 October 2003. I think it was on 14 October 2003. I saw the letter myself on about 14 October 2003. The children gave the letter to the GISO who gave it to me and we brought it together to give it to the CO of Hotel Battalion at the barracks, Captain Lubwama, so they could prepare for the attack again if it came. That letter made a lot of people leave the camp for places like Bweyale in Masindi district. I do not have a copy of that letter.

Records from October 2003

21. I attach as annex "A" an original record of people listed as abducted on 10 October 2003 during the attack by the LRA, from the six parishes of Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp, according to each ward. This record started being compiled from 10 October 2003 to about 15 October 2003. This information about the people who were abducted was provided by some of the relatives of those abducted to some of the LC-1s of the villages. These LC-1 chairpersons would bring these relatives of those abducted to the LC-3 office. The information contained in annex 'A' was then recorded by my three secretaries at the LC-3 office, namely Labeja B. Johnson, Margaret Okwera Mrs, and Komakech Johnson. I am not certain if it was the relatives themselves directly or the LC-1s or both who provided this information to the secretaries. However, both relatives and LC-1s would be present in the office when this information was recorded.
22. However, this information contained in annex 'A' does not include the names of all those abducted. Other people abducted have been reporting to different places so I do not think I have good records of those abducted and returned. Annex 'A' was posted on the wall inside my office until I had to move to another office in about November 2004. There are ticks next to the names of those people who returned after being abducted. These ticks are made by the LC-1s, who report about the people who return. Also people who return report to my LC-3 office. Annex 'A' only contains information relevant to the people of the six parishes of Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp. The LC-3 chairperson for Lapul sub-county would have the records of those abducted from amongst the Lapul sub-county people living in Pajule IDP camp.





23. There are also smaller sheets of paper, which contain details of those abducted on 10 October 2003 from each village. These separate records were compiled by the LC-1s of Pajule IDP camp around the same time. All 86 LC-1s of Pajule sub-county should have compiled their own list, but I am not certain if every one of them did so. Each LC-1 should have checked who was missing immediately after the attack and compiled a list of names of abductees from their own village. They continued recording as they were notified of missing people. By around 25 October 2003 I think that no more names were brought. There were many people giving information and some of these people were sent to the camp commandant at the same time. I have not found these separate records at this stage. Whilst all of the LC-1 chairpersons were required to make a written record of this information, some without proper office facilities may have lost the records. And sometimes LC-1s write on small pieces of paper so may not have their own copies of what they gave to me. Before the attack this sort of information was provided to the typist to record, but after he was killed we had no typist. I will seek to find the written records compiled by the LC-1s. The LC-1s started bringing to me these lists from the day of the attack. According to these lists, there was a combined figure of 1,210 thought to be abducted. Then the next day 500 returned leaving 710 thought to be abducted. Some came back and some remain missing until now.
24. I have my own handwritten records of people who were abducted and reported to my office, which I wrote in notebooks. I recorded the name of the person, their age, name of their father, name of their mother, name of the village of origin under which they are administered within the camp, parish, sub-county, date of their abduction, the name of their clan, the date of escape, place of escape and name of the LRA commander under whose command they were. I attach as annexes 'B' and 'C' the original notebooks I was able to find, containing some details of those abducted by the LRA on 10 October 2003 as well as on other dates from Pajule IDP camp. For example, I refer to the abductees: Okello Charles, who was 13 years old, from Puda village, Koyo parish, Lapul sub-county; and Ojok Bosco, who was 19 years old from Laminokech village. I recorded other information in these notebooks.
25. However there may be other records that I made of those abducted on 10 October 2003 who returned, that I have not located as yet. It is difficult to say whether I have such further records or if I can find them because my office contains many records from the past. The GISO also kept his own records of details of returned abductees, which would also be at my office. I took the two notebooks attached as annexes 'B' and 'C' from my office.
26. I attach as annex "D" records of properties looted from households by the LRA on 10 October 2003 from villages in Palenga parish. Palenga parish is one of the six parishes of Pajule sub-county. These records were compiled by the LC-1 of each village within the parish, who took this information directly from those whose properties were looted, and provided these lists to me directly. The details



compiled include the name of the person from whose household property was looted, their sex, their village and the parish. Some of the records include the age of the person. I obtained these records from my office, where I had been storing them.

27. I attach as annex "E" what I believe to be handwritten copies of the same information for properties looted from households for the villages within Palenga parish during the attack by the LRA on 10 October 2003. However, I have not had an opportunity to check all of these lists attached as annex 'E', so it is possible that not all of them are copies and instead may be additional original records of properties looted from Palenga parish. These records were compiled by the LC-1s of each village within Palenga parish, who obtained their information directly from the heads of the households where property was looted. The LC-1s then provided these records to me and I obtained these records from the file in my office, where I had stored them.
28. I have not been able at this stage to locate the lists of properties looted from households in parishes of Pajule sub-county other than Palenga Parish. This is partly because we no longer have any permanent administration office for fear of attack on the IDP camp. We had to move our office to various locations.
29. The LC-1s compiled lists of names of those killed during the attack on 10 October 2003 recording them separately from those lists compiled and recorded by the camp commandant and the block leaders within the camp structure. We are required by regulations to prepare separate records, although the LC-1s, block leaders and camp commandant worked together when compiling their lists. However, I have been unable to locate as yet the original records of the information compiled by the LC-1s for the attack on 10 October 2003.
30. The records of huts burnt during 10 October 2003 were taken by the LC-1s together with block leaders led by the camp commandant.

Letters

31. I attach as annex "F" the original photocopy of a letter said to be from "Kollo-Sam Chairman LRM". The top of the letter is headed "Lord's Resistance Movement/Army". This letter was undated. Rebels had dropped the letter near the camp and people who had gone to collect fire wood found it. I do not know who found the letter. The letter had been passed from one person to the next. I cannot recall the name of the person who gave to me the letter. I took the letter from the file in my office, where I had been storing it. The letter was written in the Acholi language. Most of the letter is asking people to join the LRA, to leave the government and to start listening to the LRA. I believe it was aimed at winning people to the LRA's side. In the letter, Kollo Sam was telling people that the assistance given to the camp including clothes bring AIDs to the people. He states that the LRA will fight until they overthrow the government. He was the

DAL PL



spokesman of the LRM/A, and I do not know why he was described as the "Chairman of the LRM" in the letter.

32. I attach as annex "G" a letter dated 24 December 2002 said to be from Commander Atek ki Rwot Kamdule. The letter is written in Acholi. It is written to the people. It talks about peace, the absence of peace, suffering of the people of Uganda, how the LRA will overthrow the government, amongst other things. This letter was found around the camp by one of the camp residents. It was passed to other people before reaching me. I cannot recall the name of the person who gave me the letter and I cannot remember the date I received it. I took the letter from the file in my office, where I had stored it.
33. I attach as annex "H" the original of the letter said to be from Lt. Col. Oyat Francis of the Lords Resistance Movement/Army dated 11 September 2002 to me. The letter is written in the Acholi language. In the letter, the LRA were threatening to find and kill me. The letter was dropped by rebels and found by camp residents as they were going to collect firewood. I took this letter from the file in my office, where I had stored it. I left Pajule IDP camp on 18 September 2002, because of the death threat in this letter. However, I received a copy of a letter from Rwot Oywak in Kampala sent to him by the same writer, attached as annex 'I' stating that I was not a bad person and he should call me back to the camp. The letter was addressed to "Onywak" but this is misspelt, and it was meant for Rwot Oywak. The letter is dated 14 October 2002 and is written in the Acholi language. I know that Lt.Col. Oyat Francis is among the LRA, because I heard that he called for the missionaries to return the women and children of the rebels and returned abductees, from the mission. I took this letter from the file in my office, where I had stored it.
34. I attach as annex "J" a copy of a letter said to be from "Lt. Col. Charles Tabule Ongayowityet" addressed to Father Tarsiso Yaramoi, dated 28 June 2002, calling him to meet with the LRA to discuss peace talks. At that time the Father was at the Mission at Pajule IDP camp. I received this copy of the letter from Rwot Oywak, who said he had received a copy of this letter from the LRA on about 29 June 2002. I took this letter from the file in my office, where I had stored it. I attach as annex "K" a letter dated 27 November 1998 from the Resident District Commissioner ('RDC') and LC-5 of Kitgum to Joseph Kony Chairman of the LRM/A calling for the rebels to come out of the bush. I also attach as annex "L" a letter dated 2 October 2000 from the RDC and LC-5 to the LRA calling them to come out of the bush. I received both letters from the RDC of Kitgum. I obtained these letters from my file in my office, where I had stored them.
35. I believe that these letters said to be from Kollo Sam, Kamdule, Tabule, and Oyat Francis, are from the people they state to be from. This is because when people from the LRM/A write letters they sign their names at the bottom, and because the contents of these letters reflect what abductees who return say these people discussed with them in the bush.





Commemoration of victims of attacks at Pajule

36. I attach as annex "M", "N" and "O" three letters dated 18 September 2004, as annex "P" one letter dated 27 October 2004, and as annex "Q" my handwritten notes that I used for my speech on 27 October 2004. All of these documents relate to the commemoration day held on 27 October 2004 for the victims of the attacks by the LRA on 10 October 2002, 27 November 2002, 23 January 2003 and 10 October 2003. These letters were written by me and I took the letters and my handwritten notes from my file in my office, where I had stored them.

Records from previous attacks

37. I attach as annex "R" to the statement, the records of people abducted dated 6 August 2002 from Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp and properties looted from Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp dated about August and September 2002. These records do not include those people abducted or properties looted from households within Lapul sub-county at the camp. The details in these records were compiled by the LC-1 for every village and provided to the Pajule sub-county typist the late Lacung Benson who was killed by the LRA on 10 October 2003. The late Lacung Benson provided these records to the vice chairperson LC-3 of Pajule whilst I was away, who provided them to me on my return. I cannot recall the exact date. I took these records from my office, where they were stored.
38. I attach as annex "S" the list of properties looted from shopkeepers of Pajule sub-county within Pajule IDP camp during the attack by the rebels on 23 January 2003. The records were written by the shopkeepers themselves in front of the relevant LC-1 chairperson of their village. The leader of the shopkeepers, Omony Edwin, gathered these different lists of properties looted from the various shopkeepers and brought them to me. I cannot recall the date he brought the records to me. I took these records from my file in my office.

IDP Camp

39. I think that the government brought the idea that people should move into the camp to help fight the rebels; secondly, to stop abductions, the killings and looting of peoples' properties. I moved to Pajule IDP camp on 23 November 2002. I had been living in the village, Ojile West in Pajule sub-county, Pader District. I decided to move to the camp, under the government's plan to move the people. I did not have any choice as to whether I should move. I had no money to move anywhere else. All I could do was to follow the government's instructions. They gave us two weeks to collect our properties from our homes. There was no resistance for people to leave to the camps, as there was much killing going on by the LRA so people had no option but to move. My relatives would sometimes use my hut.
40. The government did not use any of the huts. The government did not take the land of any of the people who moved to the camps. Nobody was using the land





except for that land immediately outside the camp by asking the owners permission.

41. Staying at home in the village you feel free, but in the camp it is very difficult. You have to wait for food. You cannot cultivate and send produce to sell to send your children to school. There is no money to send people to hospital. There are no clothes, blankets, or cooking utensils. You must wait to be given these things. Life in the camp when there is fighting is very bad. However, at home in your village you can be abducted at any time including children. At home in my village, we used to sleep in the bush and in the morning would come back to our homes. If you do not do that, you could be abducted or killed by the rebels. Now that we are in the camp with the army sleeping around the camp protecting the camp, you sleep with a bit of comfort.
42. There have been complaints against UPDF soldiers, including drunkards disturbing people, fighting with civilians, and shooting in the air. The commanders would punish them in the barracks to make sure they do not repeat this. I do not know exactly what punishment they do, but they call it a punishment. We would see those arrested, sometimes tied up with their shirts removed and marched back to the barracks. Those beating civilians would be taken to court. When they fight amongst themselves then this is sorted out in the barracks. I recall about three cases where LDUs sexually violated women at the camp, who were later imprisoned.

Closing Procedure

43. I have nothing to add to the above statement nor do I have anything to clarify.
44. I have given the answers to the questions of my own free will.
45. There has been no threat, promise or inducement which has influenced my answers.
46. I have no complaints about the way I was treated during this interview.
47. I was informed that I might be called to testify before the Court and that, if called as a witness, my identity may have to be disclosed to the Court, the accused, and to defence counsel of the accused. I am currently willing to appear as a witness in Court, if called to testify.
48. I was informed of the procedures available to the Court of ensuring the protection of confidential information provided to the Court, as well as for my own protection and security.
49. It has been explained to me that if a case commences, and a nation asks the Court for a copy of my witness statement, the Court may decide to transmit my statement to the requesting nation. I was informed that protective measures may be available in such an event. I agree that my statement may be transmitted to law enforcement authorities of nations who might request it, including the Government of Uganda.



WITNESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This Statement has been read over to me in the Acholi and English languages and 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: _____

Dated: _____

INTERPRETER CERTIFICATIONI,  certify that:

1. I am duly qualified to interpret from the Acholi language into the English language and from the English language into the Acholi language.
2. I have been informed by Lokilamoi Omona Alphonse that he speaks and understands the Acholi and English languages.
3. I have orally translated the above statement from the English language to the Acholi language in the presence of Lokilamoi Omona Alphonse who appeared to have heard and understood my translation of the Statement.
4. Lokilamoi Omona Alphonse 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.

Dated: _____

Signed: _____