

Trial Hearing
WITNESS: CAR-OTP-P-1737

(Open Session)

ICC-01/14-01/21

1 International Criminal Court
2 Trial Chamber VI
3 Situation: Central African Republic II
4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Mahamat Said Abdel Kani - ICC-01/14-01/21
5 Presiding Judge Miatta Maria Samba, Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera and
6 Judge Sergio Gerardo Ugalde Godínez
7 Trial Hearing - Courtroom 3
8 Tuesday, 17 January 2023
9 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.30 a.m.)
10 THE COURT USHER: [9:30:53] All rise.
11 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
12 Please be seated.
13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:31:11] Very good morning to all, everybody.
14 Can I ask the court officer to kindly mention the case.
15 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:31:19] Good morning, Madam President, your Honours.
16 The situation in the Central African Republic II, in the case of The Prosecutor versus
17 Mahamat Said Abdel Kani, reference ICC-01/14-01/21.
18 And we are in open session.
19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:31:33] Thank you very much.
20 Can I ask the parties to introduce themselves, beginning with the Prosecution, please.
21 MS MAKWAIA: [9:31:39] May it please the Court. For the Prosecution this
22 morning, myself, Holo Makwaia, senior trial lawyer; Leonie von Braun, Colleen Gilg,
23 and Lise Tamm, trial lawyers; and Vanessa Hernández, associate legal officer.
24 Thank you.
25 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:31:58] Thank you very much, Ms Makwaia.

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- 1 Ms Pellet for the victims, please.
- 2 MS PELLET: [9:32:07](Interpretation) Thank you, Presiding Judge.
- 3 Tars Van Litsenborgh and myself, Sarah Pellet, from the office of the counsel for
- 4 victims.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:32:19] Thank you very much, Ms Pellet.
- 6 The Defence, please.
- 7 MS NAOURI: [9:32:27](Interpretation) Thank you, Madam President. Beside me is
- 8 Counsel Jacobs. We have Simon Appriou and behind me we have Capucine Banet,
- 9 and I am Jennifer Naouri, the lead counsel for the Defence.
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:32:46] Thank you very much, Ms Naouri.
- 11 Can I ask counsel for -- the Rule 74 counsel in the field office, if you are there, can you
- 12 announce your representation, please.
- 13 MR SANGONE: [9:33:10](Interpretation) Counsel Jacob Sangone, counsel.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:33:13] Thank you very much, Mr Sangone.
- 15 And, for the record, I note that Mr Said is in court.
- 16 Mr Said, good morning.
- 17 MR SAID: [9:33:26](Interpretation) Yes, good morning, Presiding Judge,
- 18 your Honour.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:33:33] Yes.
- 20 A very good morning to you, Mr Witness. I hope I see you well.
- 21 WITNESS: CAR-OTP-P-1737 (On former oath)
- 22 (The witness speaks Sango)
- 23 (The witness gives evidence via video link)
- 24 THE WITNESS: [9:33:48] (No interpretation)
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:34:07] Good morning, Mr Witness. I hope I see

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1 you well.

2 THE WITNESS: [9:34:15](Interpretation) Yes, I feel well.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:34:18] Thank you very much.

4 Now, we are going to continue with your direct examination by the Prosecutor.

5 After which, I am sure, as you would have been told, you will have questions from

6 counsel for the Defence. I wish to remind you that you are still on oath to tell the

7 truth to the Court. So I'm going to ask counsel for the Prosecution to start your

8 direct examination this morning.

9 Ms von Braun, please. Thank you. Maybe before you start, just to tell you that we

10 are in open session. Thank you.

11 MS VON BRAUN: [9:35:02] Thank you, Madam President. For my first question,

12 we can remain in open session. It regards the last image the witness was shown

13 yesterday and, unfortunately, both the English and the French transcripts do not

14 correctly reflect precisely what the witness has said. So I'm going to ask the court

15 officer to kindly bring up the last image shown and marked by the witness, which is

16 CAR-REG-0002-0105. And I've been informed that it's in Nuix already, so it can be

17 displayed digitally.

18 QUESTIONED BY MS VON BRAUN: (Continuing)

19 Q. [9:35:59] Mr Witness, once the image that you were shown and that you marked

20 yesterday, the last image, is on the screen, I would like you to just repeat what you

21 said yesterday about who the people are you marked with numbers 1, 2 and 3. This

22 is necessary because the transcription was not correct.

23 A. [9:37:01] On the image I see, it is the one on which I mentioned numbers 1, 2

24 and 3. Answering the question, I had said that the soldier where I wrote the number

25 "1" is the Seleka officer, and I would like to say that, when we were deployed to the

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1 OCRB's antennae, it turned out that there weren't enough staff at the central OCRB.

2 So we called upon him so he could come with his soldiers to support the Colonel Said

3 in his activities at the central OCRB. And this is an officer where I have marked a

4 number 1.

5 Number 2 is Colonel Mahamat Said.

6 Number 3 corresponds to the president at the time. This is Michel Djotodia

7 Am-Nondokro.

8 Q. [9:38:35] Thank you very much for this clarification again.

9 So the image can be removed.

10 For my next set of questions, I would request to move into private session, please,

11 your Honours.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [9:38:56] Madam Court Officer, can we go into private

13 session, please. Thank you.

14 (Private session at 9.39 a.m.)

15 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:39:14] We are in private session, your Honours.

16 MS VON BRAUN: [9:39:18] Then I would request the item at tab 78 with

17 CAR-OTP-2114-0323 to be displayed, please.

18 This is -- I think this is not the item that I just requested.

19 Yes, thank you.

20 Q. [9:40:20] Mr Witness, once you have the image displayed on the screen, please

21 let us know if you recognise anyone on the photograph.

22 A. [9:40:48] The image on the screen before me, I see that there are several people

23 in it, and I identify the director general of security. *I also see General Mahamat Sallet

24 and some other soldiers. And I had said that I had seen them every once in a while

25 and that there were others with me at the central OCRB.

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1 Q. [9:41:34] Which one on the photo is *Sallet? Can you describe the person you
2 mean, please.

3 A. [9:41:57] General Mahamat *Sallet, whom I spoke of, is the general I talked
4 about yesterday. (Redacted).
5 (Redacted).

6 The second person is the director general of security, and he was a superior officer.
7 Beside these two officers, there are five soldiers in this picture. These are soldiers
8 whom we would see regularly at the OCRB. One of them worked with me at the
9 OCRB.

10 Q. [9:43:07] Looking at the photo, can you say what the man you say * Sallet is,
11 what he is wearing?

12 A. [9:43:31] The clothes worn by General Mahamat * Sallet are, well, a military pair
13 of pants, he is wearing shoes which we call sandals, and the top is a short-sleeved
14 shirt, and he is wearing a white badge around his neck. In his hand, I imagine that
15 this is a phone.

16 Q. [9:44:16] Thank you. And the other officer you identified, where in the picture
17 is he when you look at it in terms of left and right, can you say where he is situated?

18 A. [9:44:47] As far as I know, on the left I see the officer I spoke to you about earlier.
19 This is the director general of security. He is the one on the extreme left of this photo
20 which is before me.

21 Q. [9:45:10] Thank you very much.

22 The image can be removed from the screen.

23 The next image I would like the witness to have a look at is at tab 6 of the
24 Prosecution's list of materials, and it bears the ERN CAR-OTP-2047-0333.

25 And, again, Mr Witness, once you have the image displayed on the screen, please let

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1 us know whether you can say anything about what is on the image.

2 A. [9:46:27] The image that I see on the screen is not quite clear. And the people
3 around * this vehicle on which we see the name "Colonel Mama Salle", at least I
4 cannot identify them clearly. But the vehicle that I see is one of the vehicles used by
5 Mahamat Sallet while the Seleka were still in power in Bangui.

6 Q. [9:47:14] Thank you very much, Mr Witness.

7 (Redacted).

8 (Redacted).

9 (Redacted).

10 (Redacted).

11 And the image can be removed from the screen.

12 I would like to then have the witness be shown the photo at tab 76, which is
13 CAR-OTP-2069-2328.

14 And once you have it on your screen, Mr Witness, please let us know if you recognise
15 anyone.

16 A. [9:49:03] On this photo, as far as I know, one of these two people wearing a
17 military uniform with general stars, with a turban around his neck, this is the General
18 Nouradine Adam. At the time, he was minister of security when I was still at the
19 OCRB. And the second person I cannot identify because he is not looking at the
20 camera and I can only see him in profile, so I cannot identify him.

21 Q. [9:50:04] Thank you very much, Mr Witness.

22 The image can be removed from the screen, please.

23 I would now like to have the image at tab 13 displayed for the witness, which has the
24 ERN number -- oh, no, I'm sorry. I'm mistaken.

25 We will go to tab 80 first - apologies - photo CAR-OTP-2069-1991.

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1 Sorry, it's 80, eight-zero. And I can repeat the ERN if it helps.

2 Thank you very much. And again, apologies.

3 Mr Witness, once you have the image displayed on your screen, please let us know if
4 you recognise anyone in this photograph.

5 A. [9:52:34] On this photo which I see on the screen, I can identify the President of
6 the Republic at the time of the Seleka. He is wearing a military uniform with a pair
7 of shoes that we call sandals. I think he is the only person I can identify on this
8 image.

9 Q. [9:53:05] All right. Thank you very much.

10 Then this image can be removed.

11 And I would like to go to tab 95, nine-five, which is CAR-OTP-2094-1998.

12 And, again, once you have it on your screen, please let us know if you recognise this
13 person displayed here.

14 A. [9:54:05] This person whom I see on the screen, I don't know him at all. When
15 you asked me a question about him, I had answered that I do not know this person.
16 Is this a civilian or a military serviceman? I cannot identify him.

17 Q. [9:54:42] All right. Then we leave it at that.

18 And the image can be removed, please.

19 I have a few more questions for you, Mr Witness, concerning your work at the OCRB
20 central that we spoke about yesterday. My first question is: Were you paid for
21 your work?

22 A. [9:55:35] At the OCRB, when we were working there, we did not receive any
23 remuneration. However, when we conducted the night patrols, we received
24 per diem. And the money which we were given for these night patrols could be as
25 much as 2.5 -- 2,500 CFA francs. Sometimes we only received 2,000 francs, if there

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1 were many of us. So, there were few of us, it was possible that we would receive
2 2,500 CFA francs each. That would be remuneration that we would receive during
3 the night patrols to provide security for the population.
4 So at the OCRB, we did not receive anything in the way of remuneration. We
5 worked in the hope of one day having the opportunity to become part of the public
6 forces officially. That was our only motivation which enabled us to continue to work
7 at the OCRB.

8 Q. [9:57:30] And where did the money come from that you received for the patrols?

9 A. [9:57:54] These night patrols were not something that we did ourselves. It was
10 not our initiative. It was the minister of security who had ordered these patrols to be
11 carried out in the various neighbourhoods of the city of Bangui. There were times
12 where he himself would accompany soldiers from his security detail. And in his
13 security vehicle, he would be part of these patrol groups with us. I'm talking about
14 these night patrols. There were times when he would simply come and give orders
15 and then would leave. Sometimes he himself would handout this remuneration, and
16 sometimes he would come together with the director general of security to give us the
17 instructions with regard to these patrols.

18 Q. [9:59:14] And who else gave you this remuneration, if it wasn't the minister of
19 security?

20 A. [9:59:35] At the OCRB, no one gave us any remuneration outside of the people
21 that I have mentioned.

22 Q. [9:59:58] All right. And was anything else supplied to you at the OCRB?
23 Aside from money, were you provided with anything else?

24 A. [10:00:31] I never myself saw anything like that. What I can tell you though is,
25 sometimes, after the patrols, we hadn't received enough pay, but the security minister

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1 made a point of the fact that -- that these patrols should continue. And because the
2 money wasn't enough, money was nevertheless given to the officers that coordinated
3 the patrols. When we arrived at a given place, and you were tied, let's say, you
4 might be able to have a stop to take a bit of a break, take some coffee, or something
5 that might get your moral up a bit. And that's what we received, over and beyond
6 money.

7 So let me reiterate, over and beyond the financial pay that I've made mentioned of
8 earlier on, we received pretty much nothing else.

9 Q. [10:02:06] How -- how did you eat? Was food provided?

10 A. [10:02:24] In the OCRB, on the premises itself, we were given food. We were
11 given breakfast, and we had lunch and an evening meal. We were seen as the
12 defence and security forces at the time. And the transition regime, the resources it
13 had were used to give us food, as is done for other security and defence forces.

14 Q. [10:03:10] And who organised that, the food?

15 A. [10:03:31] What I can tell you is that, in terms of buying food stuffs, it was
16 Mahamat Said -- Colonel Mahamat Said, who provided money for making various
17 purchases. And -- and if -- there was no need to buy other products because we
18 were given supplies. I know that the OCRB camp, at that camp we had to cook our
19 own meals, and this was organised in -- on a rotation, if you will. Two or three
20 people were appointed to do the cooking, and that's on a daily basis.

21 And so that's how things were organised on that side to make sure all the people who
22 were on the OCRB camp received food.

23 Q. [10:04:57] And at OCRB central, how were you dressed?

24 A. [10:05:17] At the OCRB central, we wore military dress. And that particular
25 dress wasn't supplied, but everybody had to muddle through on their own to have a

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1 military outfit. There was scope to get hold of a military uniform from elements of
2 the presidential guard who would sell the uniform that had been supplied to them.
3 So we weren't very far away, actually, from the presidential guards base. So we had
4 that opportunity, buying military uniforms from that source at an affordable cost.
5 And then in terms of military outfits, what I can add is that there was one day when
6 the French ambassador delegation or the EU delegation saw that we were trying to
7 establish security in the country, but we didn't have any military uniforms, or we
8 didn't have any other type of equipment, so help was supplied to the security director,
9 the DG security, who made available to us blue-coloured dress and
10 pick-ups -- pick-up vehicles. And so these resources and these vehicles were handed
11 over to the security DG, who then handed them on to the elements at the OCRB to
12 enable them to fulfil their duties. When the European Union or the French embassy
13 made these military outfits available, Colonel Mahamat Said handed them out. And
14 you can see at that particular time, we were all dressed in uniform.

15 (Redacted).

16 (Redacted).

17 (Redacted).

18 (Redacted).

19 (Redacted).

20 (Redacted).

21 (Redacted).

22 (Redacted).

23 (Redacted).

24 (Redacted).

25 (Redacted).

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1 (Redacted).

2 (Redacted).

3 (Redacted).

4 (Redacted).

5 (Redacted).

6 (Redacted).

7 (Redacted).

8 (Redacted).

9 (Redacted).

10 MS VON BRAUN: [10:10:38]

11 Q. [10:10:38] Thank you very much.

12 Mr Witness, when you answer our questions, please remember to speak a bit more
13 slowly so that the translators can catch properly what you are telling us. Yeah?

14 At OCRB central, were you armed?

15 A. [10:11:13] At OCRB central, there were weapons. These were stored in a
16 particular place that I had pointed out on the sketch that I had made. These
17 weapons were stored, and the key to that storage centre was held by Mahamat Said.
18 Sometimes he would hand over his keys to Colonel Ayoub. These weapons were
19 taken out only when there would be an intervention to be performed. And if he saw
20 us with *grenade* or military things, he would confiscate them and put them in -- in the
21 room that was used for storing the weapons, the weapons storage room.

22 Q. [10:12:24] And what type of weapons were these?

23 A. [10:12:45] The type of weapons that I saw when we were at OCRB central, they
24 were weapons such as AK-47, manufactured by the Chinese with foldable butts.

25 And then there were also weapons like FAMAS weapons, which are provenanced

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1 from Russia. I also saw AK-47s of Russian origin. Those were the types of
2 weapons that we would use quite frequently for that matter when we were at OCRB
3 central.
4 Now, the number of weapons that we had were around 10 or a dozen or so weapons.
5 And when we were free, we were not allowed to carry weapons. Only people who
6 were posted at the entrance of the OCRB central could wear or carry weapons in
7 order to watch the gate. The jailer also, he carried a weapon so that he could
8 properly watch the prisoners held in the cells. So whenever there was a shift
9 change -- when there was a guard change at the -- to become a sentry, if you will, at
10 the main entrance to the building, then you had to see what ammunition -- you had to
11 see the quantity of ammunition and the amount of weapons that were there. You
12 had to fill out a report or a -- had to fill out a piece of paper to account for all the
13 military equipment that we are using in our sentry duties. And the guard change
14 also was consigned in the report. That's how things were organised at OCRB central.

15 (Redacted).

16 (Redacted).

17 (Redacted).

18 (Redacted).

19 (Redacted).

20 (Redacted).

21 (Redacted).

22 (Redacted).

23 Q. [10:17:01] Now, I would like to come back to something you said yesterday
24 about Nouradine Adam, and I'm referring to page 39 of the English transcript,
25 lines -- line 3. There, Mr Witness, you spoke about -- that Nouradine Adam

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1 monitored and supervised regarding the OCRB central.

2 And I'm not sure if we lost connection now -- oh, no, connection is back.

3 My question is: How was Nouradine monitoring and supervising?

4 A. [10:18:14] Now, what I can tell you about Nouradine Adam's supervision, he at
5 the time was security minister. What I can tell you is that at the OCRB central, he
6 was primarily concerned with -- or about two detainees, Sani Yalo and Danzoumi, his
7 brother. That minister's supervision involved establishing whether those two
8 prisoners were still in the OCRB cells, whether they were being treated properly and
9 whether there was any risk of escape. So he made a point of that.

10 And when he came to the OCRB central, it was to know whether those two detainees
11 were all right, whether they were still in their cells, still in custody. And as I said to
12 the Office of the Prosecutor's investigators when I met them -- when I met those
13 investigators, I told them that Nouradine Adam, the security minister, I think I said
14 that the two people who had been arrested, Sani Yalo and his little brother Danzoumi,
15 that they were people who in the space of a week, they had been taken twice to the
16 Prosecutor of the republic. In the space of a week, they had gone twice to the
17 prosecutor's -- the republic's prosecutor's office. And when they were to be taken to
18 the Prosecutor -- when they came back, in fact, Nouradine came to see what had been
19 done and to make sure, basically, that those two detainees had come back, had indeed
20 come back and had indeed been put back in their cell. So that's what I was able to
21 see, and I saw that often when I worked at the OCRB central in terms of Nouradine
22 Adam, the security minister.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:21:06] Would you still want for us to remain in
24 private session, Madam Prosecutor?

25 MS VON BRAUN: [10:21:18] I had wanted this issue to be covered in private session,

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1 but I would move on now to the next set of questions and believe that we can try
2 open session. It is -- it will be about showing certain images, and there is a risk of
3 the witness providing identifying information. But we can try and see how it goes.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:21:51] Would you rather we remain in private
5 session?

6 MS VON BRAUN: [10:21:57] I think we can try and then where there are specific, for
7 the first four images, I think we can go into open session, and then I would definitely
8 request to go back into private session. So let's do it this way.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:22:12] Okay. Madam Court Officer, can we
10 please go into open session, yes. Thank you.

11 (Open session at 10.22 a.m.)

12 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:22:35] We are in open session, your Honours.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:22:38] Thank you very much.

14 Ms von Braun, please.

15 MS VON BRAUN: [10:22:41] Thank you very much, Madam President.

16 Q. [10:22:45] So, Mr Witness, we are going to look at some images together. And I
17 would start with tab 15, which holds the ERN CAR-OTP-2033-7326.

18 And once the image is displayed on the screen, Mr Witness, please let us know if you
19 recognise what is on the photograph.

20 A. [10:23:51] On this picture that I see on my screen, the screen being right in front
21 of me, I can see the OCRB building, from the south. I'm looking at it from the south.
22 It's the road that's going to Camp de Roux. I can see a billboard, an advertising
23 billboard, which is bang next to the Moov building, which has an iron fence -- a black
24 ironed fence. I can also see the entrance -- the gate leading to the OCRB. And I can
25 see two or three people that's walking there. The gate is generally closed. I can also

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1 see a junction here, and the junction connects the roads that comes from the
2 Renaissance, from the palace, and goes towards the OCRB. And I can also see the
3 road that goes up to Camp de Roux.
4 And opposite us we see *manguiers*. We can see one person who, by the looks of it, is
5 going towards the main entrance of the OCRB. I can see a vehicle, UN. It's not easy
6 to pick out on the photo, that lettering. And then if you go beyond that, go beyond
7 the main entrance to the OCRB, there is a pick-up truck. And I think -- well, for me,
8 there is somebody -- there is a sentry in front of the main entrance of the OCRB, but
9 it's difficult to identify him.

10 Now, if you go towards the -- a bit more towards the south, right next to the billboard,
11 you can see two or three other people who are not very visible or identifiable on this
12 photo.

13 Q. [10:26:15] Thank you very much.

14 Then I would like to have this image removed and tab 16 shown, which has ERN
15 CAR-OTP-2033-7718.

16 Do you recognise what is on the image, Mr Witness?

17 A. [10:27:14] In the picture I can see displayed shows the entrance to the OCRB
18 central that is in the centre of town.

19 Q. [10:27:33] Thank you.

20 The image can be removed. Then I would like the image on tab 19, one-nine, to be
21 displayed. It holds CAR-OTP-2033-6811.

22 Can you say if you recognise what is displayed, Mr Witness.

23 A. [10:28:21] Yes. On this picture that's displayed on my screen that I have in
24 front of me, I recognise the interior inside the OCRB compound. When you enter
25 *through the gate that is opposite the OCRB, you can see the interior here of the

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1 compound.

2 Q. [10:29:00] Now, you just used an abbreviation which was translated PCRP.

3 What does that stand for?

4 A. [10:29:27] No. I talked about the ACRP. That's the head office of the Agency

5 for the Central African Regulatory Authority for oil derivatives, and the OCRB

6 gate -- on the face of the photo I can see the gate, which is half open. That particular

7 gate is located right opposite the CR -- the ACRP building which sits -- which stands,

8 rather, opposite to it.

9 Q. [10:30:25] Thank you very much.

10 The image can be removed. And I would like tab 21 to be displayed for the witness

11 with ERN CAR-OTP-2033-7154.

12 And once you have the image, please let us know what you can say about this image.

13 A. [10:31:08] On this image which I see here on the screen, I see the facade of the

14 main entrance of the OCRB. And at one point, what we see here is that the staircase,

15 you arrive here into the central part of the building. And on the left side, you will

16 see the counter where police officers are located. And just opposite, on the wall,

17 when we were at the OCRB, there were benches there. And on the right-hand side,

18 there was the office of the deputy director of the OCRB, Mr Mahamat Said.

19 Q. [10:32:31] Thank you very much.

20 The image can be removed.

21 And for the next few images, I would like to request to move into private session

22 again, Madam President.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:32:47] That's okay.

24 Madam Court Officer, can you get us into private session, please.

25 (Private session at 10.33 a.m.)

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1 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:33:05] We are in private session, Madam President.

2 MS VON BRAUN: [10:33:10] Thank you.

3 Please can I have displayed tab 23 at CAR-OTP-2033-7729. If possible, it could be
4 rotated. Thank you very much.

5 Q. [10:34:04] Mr Witness, once you have the image, please let us know if you
6 recognise what is displayed.

7 A. [10:34:27] I see that there is a window which prevents me from actually seeing
8 what is on the image. So I would ask that you remove it so that I can see the image
9 properly.

10 Okay. What I see on this image is a cell which is located in this room. This is the
11 cell which I have already spoken about to your investigators. It is the underground
12 cell. You know, many years have gone by, and I might have forgotten some details.
13 Looking at this image, I remember what I had said.

14 So this underground cell is closed by a few wooden planks, and I can say if there is a
15 detainee in this cell -- from the outside, you can see the person through a few small
16 openings, and he too, from the inside, could also see a silhouette of a person who
17 could be in that room. That is where I had described in my statement when I was
18 answering the investigators' questions. That is the image I see here.

19 Q. [10:36:22] And when you spoke about the -- the basement here in trial, is this the
20 same basement that you also spoke about to investigators? Do I understand that
21 correctly?

22 A. [10:36:56] That's it, indeed. It is of this cell that I was talking about, indeed. I
23 know that within the OCRB, there are no other underground cells besides this one. I
24 may be wrong, but this is the one I know. This one.

25 Q. [10:37:23] All right. Thank you very much.

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1 The image can be removed. And I would like to have displayed tab 24,

2 CAR-OTP-2033-7061.

3 And, again, once you have it on your screen, can you tell me what you know about
4 what is shown.

5 A. [10:38:12] The image that I see is the underground cell that I was talking about.

6 Here, the opening, that is this part that blocks it off, has been removed. And I cannot
7 see everything that is located inside. In my opinion, there is garbage at the bottom.

8 Q. [10:39:03] All right. Thank you very much.

9 The image can be removed from the screen. And then I would like to have the
10 image tab 28 displayed, which is CAR-OTP-2033-7056.

11 And once you have it, please let us know if you can say anything about what's
12 displayed on the picture.

13 A. [10:40:10] On this photo, in the foreground, I see a table that serves as a desk in
14 that room where this underground cell is located. And in the background, I see a
15 room lit up. I also see a room that is closed by a door that is made of thin wood and
16 I see that there's a room behind there too.

17 Q. [10:41:08] Do you recognise that other room?

18 A. [10:41:24] The room that I see, as I said earlier, is the one in which the
19 underground cell is located. I know this room perfectly well.

20 Q. [10:41:44] All right. Thank you very much.

21 The image can be removed, please. And I would like to have tab 30 displayed,
22 which is CAR-OTP-2033-6871.

23 And, please, again, say if you recognise what is on this image and if you have any
24 information about what is on the image.

25 A. [10:42:38] The image that I see here on the screen represents the building of

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1 which I have already spoken when answering the investigators' questions. It is what
2 I call the annex building. Inside this building, there are cells. Other rooms served
3 other purposes. So on the left, there is a room that was used to store food. Starting
4 on the left, the second room is a room that I never saw open throughout my entire
5 stay at the OCRB. The third room is the one where Sani Yalo and his brother were
6 located. And just opposite, there is a table. And the room in front of which the
7 table is situated served as a storage room. On the other side there is a little room
8 that served as a toilet. That's what I can say about this image.

9 Q. [10:45:00] All right. Thank you very much.

10 You mentioned the table displayed in this image. Do you remember this particular
11 table from -- while you were stationed at OCRB?

12 A. [10:45:31] Of course, I remember this table, because when I was working there,
13 the one who was working as a jailer on a given day would be at that table in order to
14 receive the new detainees and register them. There was a document on this table in
15 which we registered the detainees. And it was at this very place that we would take
16 all dangerous objects from the detainees before sending them to the cells. And I
17 repeat, all those working at the OCRB as jailers would be at this table to work.

18 Q. [10:46:43] All right. And what about the area in front of the building, what can
19 you tell us about this area?

20 A. [10:47:12] Well, I don't know, but I see that this image -- this photo was taken
21 after rain had fallen. And if you observe carefully, there is in this image, and if you
22 agree with me, you will see that this is a place where people would go and we can see
23 in the distance a bucket. And I remember I had already answered by saying that our
24 supervisor would get set up at that place. I'm talking about Colonel Mahamat Said
25 when he was still at the OCRB. So if you move a bit forward, there is an area that's a

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1 bit darker. That's how I can describe this space.

2 Q. [10:48:34] What do you mean by "get set up"? What does that mean? What
3 did he do to get set up?

4 A. [10:48:57] I did not understand your question very well.

5 Q. [10:49:02] You said that in the dark area on the picture, Mahamat Said would get
6 set up. That's what came through to the translation. Can you say exactly what you
7 mean by that. What did he do there?

8 MS NAOURI: [10:49:32](Interpretation) Just to help, because we have the French
9 transcript, the word that was -- the word that was used is that he was installing
10 himself, that is, to set himself up. In English, that's the interpretation for it. It's a
11 general word in French.

12 MS VON BRAUN: [10:50:02]

13 Q. [10:50:02] So what would he do there, exactly?

14 A. [10:50:14] At that very place, which I have just described to you, and I repeat so
15 that you can understand clearly what I said to you yesterday. So this area which I
16 have just described is the area where Mahamat Said liked to be or get himself set up.
17 When he was at the OCRB, generally in the evening, when there was no longer any
18 sun, there was a chair that he would sit down on. And the soldiers who were close
19 to him would also be there, and they would stand there or spend time there and chat.
20 That's what I can say. That is what I think I had to say.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:51:16] Counsel, if you recall his evidence of
22 yesterday, he gave two locations which he marked numbers 1 and 2. 1 was outside
23 in that area where you asked him where Mr Said was normally located, according to
24 his -- using his words. Then the number 2 was an inner office that he remembered
25 later on, saying that that was Mr Said's office. So my understanding of the evidence

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1 is that, could be located outside where he is now describing, but his office was really
2 inside. And yesterday also he spoke about an underground cell in that office.

3 Thank you.

4 MS VON BRAUN: [10:52:01] Thank you.

5 The image can be removed from the screen.

6 Q. [10:52:08] Thank you very much, Mr Witness.

7 I would like tab 37 on the Prosecution's list of materials be displayed, which has
8 CAR-OTP-2033-7703.

9 And once you have it on your screen, please let us know what you can say, if you can
10 say anything about what's on the image.

11 A. [10:53:01] The image that I see on the screen shows one of the buildings of the
12 OCRB. So when you go in through the main door, which I had spoken to you of,
13 this building is located on the left-hand side, and I see the three doors of the different
14 cells. And on the side, there is a small building which served as toilets. So if you
15 come back -- if you come back from the other side, you will see the different cells that
16 I talked about in my declaration -- in my statement.

17 (Redacted).

18 (Redacted). The second cell, that is the second person I
19 spoke of in my statement, and of whom I spoke as well with respect to his arrest, was
20 a person who had been brought to the OCRB by Seleka soldiers, because the latter
21 considered that he was not behaving well, and he was violent with the population.
22 So it was in that cell where you see "G7" written, that's where he had been held. He
23 was tortured in this cell. He attempted to escape, but ultimately he was caught and
24 taken back to this cell.

25 So I repeat, these are the three cells I spoke of in my statement when I spoke of the

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1 OCRB.

2 Q. [10:56:11] Mr Witness, we have a printed version of this image which I would
3 like to have provided to you, and I would like to ask you to mark which cell is the one
4 (Redacted).

5 A. [10:56:40] Very well. Very well.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:57:16] Do we have a Registry staff in the field
7 office who could give the witness a copy of the document counsel just referred to?

8 THE WITNESS: [10:58:15](Interpretation) The document which you are asking to be
9 given to me so I can draw -- oh, okay, I have it. I see it. Okay.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [10:58:53] Can the witness be given a pen or marker
11 which he can use, please.

12 Yes, Mr Witness.

13 THE WITNESS: [10:59:17](Interpretation) I have some concerns somewhat. I
14 earlier said that (Redacted), but I have some
15 concerns because I no longer remember precisely where specifically (Redacted)
16 (Redacted) of these three cells. (Redacted).

17 (Redacted).

18 (Redacted). But with regard to the other two cells,
19 I have no certainty with regard to the cell (Redacted).
20 (Redacted)..

21 So following your question, I think that I would not like to give you any inaccurate or
22 false information.

23 MS VON BRAUN: [11:00:50]

24 Q. [11:00:50] That is understood, Mr Witness. That is not a problem at all. You
25 should not mark anything you are not sure of marking. So then we will not do that,

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- 1 and the image can be removed.
- 2 A. [11:01:18] Very well.
- 3 (Redacted).
- 4 (Redacted).
- 5 (Redacted).
- 6 (Redacted).
- 7 (Redacted).
- 8 (Redacted).
- 9 (Redacted).
- 10 (Redacted).
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- 12 (Redacted).
- 13 (Redacted).
- 14 (Redacted).
- 15 (Redacted).
- 16 (Redacted).
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 (Recess taken at 11.03 a.m.)
- 19 (Upon resuming in open session at 11.33 a.m.)
- 20 THE COURT USHER: [11:33:36] All rise.
- 21 Please be seated.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:33:56] Good morning, again, everyone.
- 23 Madam Prosecutor, you may want to continue with your examination-in-chief.
- 24 Thank you.
- 25 MS VON BRAUN: [11:34:10] Thank you, Madam President. The Prosecution has

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1 no further questions.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:34:15] Thank you very much.

3 Mr Witness, we are now going to invite counsel for the Defence to put some questions
4 to you in cross-examination.

5 Defence counsel, Ms Naouri, or -- can you start your cross-examination of this witness,
6 please. Thank you.

7 QUESTIONED BY MS NAOURI: (Interpretation)

8 Q. [11:35:03] Good morning, Mr Witness.

9 A. [11:35:11] Thank you.

10 Q. [11:35:15] My name is Jennifer Naouri, and I'm chief counsel for the Defence of
11 Mr Said. And I am going to be putting questions to you on behalf of the Defence. I
12 don't think we will go beyond today. I will do my best -- I will make my best
13 endeavours. I will also try and speak slowly to facilitate the interpretation process.
14 And, of course, don't hesitate, if you wish me to repeat my question, then that's fine, if
15 my question is not clear.

16 So now I turn to the Chamber to see whether we are in open session or not.

17 All right then. Would it be possible then to move into private session please for the
18 beginning of my cross-examination.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [11:36:01] Yes. Madam Court Officer, can you get us
20 into private session, please.

21 And thanks, Ms Naouri, for that indication.

22 (Private session at 11.36 a.m.)

23 THE COURT OFFICER: [11:36:22] We are in private session, Madam President.

24 (Redacted)

25 (Redacted).

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8 Q. [12:45:04] Thank you very much for that clarification, Mr Witness. Now we are
9 going to be moving on to another area all together. Yesterday and today, for that
10 matter, you spoke of the Yalo brothers, Sani and Danzoumi. Sani Yalo in 2013, what
11 was his occupation, if you know?

12 A. [12:45:38] Sani Yalo in 2013? In 2013, I didn't know what occupation he had.
13 In 2013, I really didn't know what he did. All I did know about Sani Yalo was
14 that -- that he was under arrest and he was under arrest well before I arrived at the
15 OCRB. And when I left OCRB (Redacted) he was still being
16 detained at the OCRB.

17 Q. [12:46:17] All right. Thank you for that clarification, Mr Witness.
18 All right. So I've understood that when you leave the OCRB (Redacted),
19 he is still in detention and he escapes afterwards. But when they are detained, did
20 they give money to members of the OCRB?

21 A. [12:47:00] To say that he gave money to people who were -- worked at the
22 OCRB base, well, personally, I never saw anything like that. What I can tell you,
23 there is Sani Yalo and Danzoumi Yalo, when they were in the OCRB -- well, they
24 come from a large family. And when they were detained at the OCRB, never a day
25 went by without a member of their family come to visit them. So what I can tell you

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1 is that it was the parents or members of their family that came to give them food.
2 And that was more than sufficient. They could finish all the food that the visitors
3 gave them. Sometimes they would choose what they wanted to eat, and then the
4 remains, their leftovers, they gave to all the soldiers, people who were responsible for
5 their protection at the OCRB. So once they had eaten, their leftovers, the remains of
6 their meal, they would give them free, free of charge to the soldiers who were
7 responsible for guard can them. But personally, I never saw the Yalo brothers or
8 even their relatives who came to visit them to give money to the elements at the
9 OCRB base.

10 Q. [12:49:11] Thank you. And last question regarding the Yalo brothers, to the
11 best of your knowledge, Mr Witness, were they entitled to keep telephones on them?

12 A. [12:49:35] When Sani Yalo and his little brother were in custody in the OCRB
13 cells, I never sought to establish whether they had on them a telephone, but I did
14 see -- no, no, I didn't see. I never see or heard that they had a telephone in their
15 possession on this particular point, I can't give you any information.

16 Q. [12:50:18] That's not a problem. Just tell us what you know, Mr Witness.

17 (Redacted)

18 (Redacted)

19 (Redacted)

20 (Redacted)

21 (Redacted)

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18 (Redacted)

19 (Redacted)

20 Q. [12:54:21] All right. Well, can you tell us that number, your currently
21 telephone -- the telephone number that you use today?

22 A. [12:54:46] I can do so, but before doing so, as the Office of the Prosecutor
23 requested and recommended me to not talk about certain things, if the Office of the
24 Prosecutor gives me leave to do so -- if the Prosecution gives me leave to do so, I can
25 reveal my telephone number.

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1 Q. [12:55:21] Mr Witness, this is very interesting information that you are giving us
2 now. First off, of course, you can give us the telephone number because this is a
3 crucial point. We are in private session, and this will remain entirely confidential,
4 and it's also a crucial point for our investigation. But I now have to ask you, what
5 did the Prosecution recommend that you not say? It's very important to have a clear
6 idea as to that point.

7 A. [12:56:02] The OTP investigators with whom I met, who for the first time took
8 my written statement that you have, they asked me not to reveal my telephone
9 number. And if somebody were ever to call me with a number that doesn't emanate
10 from the OTP, then I shouldn't talk with that person on that outside number. And
11 that's why, as a condition, before I reveal my telephone number, I just want to know
12 whether the Office of the Prosecutor allows me to reveal my telephone number.
13 Because I remember that recommendation that was given to me by the OTP
14 investigators.

15 Q. [12:57:00] Thank you very much, Mr Witness. Now rest assured we are in a
16 court of law. We are under the purview of the Chamber. I have to ask you a point
17 of clarification. The telephone number that we are talking about is your telephone
18 number or it's a telephone number that the Prosecution gave you to use? Maybe the
19 Prosecution gave you a telephone number with a chip -- with a specific chip. Can
20 you clarify that point, please.

21 A. [12:57:34] The telephone number that I use currently is mine.

22 Q. [12:57:42] Very well. And it's on that particular number that the OTP
23 investigators contacted you; is that right?

24 A. [12:57:57] That's exactly right. Of course, it's that same number, yes.

25 Q. [12:58:06] And did they tell you how they had obtained your telephone

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1 number?

2 A. [12:58:25] Right up until today, I ask myself how they got my telephone number
3 and to reach me, I'm still asking myself that question. Today I am a witness, but I
4 still don't know how they initially obtained my telephone number. Even today I ask
5 myself that question.

6 Q. [12:58:55] Thank you very much, Mr Witness. (Redacted)

7 (Redacted)

8 (Redacted)

9 (Redacted)

10 (Redacted)

11 (Redacted)

12 (Redacted)

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3 (Recess taken at 1.01 p.m.)

4 (Upon resuming in open session at 2.30 p.m.)

5 THE COURT USHER: [14:30:58] All rise.

6 Please be seated.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [14:31:21] Good afternoon, everyone.

8 Mr Witness, we are going to continue with your examination by counsel for the

9 Defence.

10 Ms Naouri, please. And for you, we are in open session, just your knowledge,

11 Ms Naouri. Thank you very much.

12 MS NAOURI: [14:31:47](Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.

13 Q. [14:31:59] So, Witness, I have a question to put to you. We are in open session,

14 and it shouldn't cause any problem. So my question is as follows: The new

15 government, the transition government set up operations for disarmament to disarm

16 the Seleka elements who were not under control; is that correct?

17 A. [14:32:36] At a specific time, a commission was set up, it's true, to disarm the

18 Seleka soldiers. That is true.

19 Q. [14:32:53] Thank you. And when you say "a commission", was it the police,

20 military police? Were they the ones responsible to try to stop these abuses?

21 A. [14:33:19] To the best of my knowledge, where it concerns the disarmament, a

22 call was launched to all the combatants asking them to get rid of their military

23 uniforms if they were not in service. This press release was addressed to everybody,

24 including the Seleka soldiers.

25 Now, the person who was responsible for this work, disarming the elements of the

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1 uncontrolled soldiers, that was Adoum Kanton, if I remember right. That was a
2 figure who was responsible for disarming these uncontrolled soldiers.

3 Q. [14:34:35] Very well. Thank you for this clarification. Now, to the best of
4 your knowledge, in the framework of these operations of disarmament, were there
5 clashes between the military police and people who were members of Seleka?

6 A. [14:35:01] Well, I don't know how to answer that question. Given that I was
7 not close to the operations, I didn't participate in that at all. I, therefore, can't give
8 you information on that. But what I do know, after this communiqué or press
9 release, the relevant service started with its patrols in the entire town, day and night,
10 in order to find the uncontrolled soldiers who bore weapons.

11 Q. [14:35:53] Thank you very much, Witness.

12 For my next question, I'm going to ask to go into private session.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [14:35:59] Madam Court Officer, can we go briefly
14 into private session, please. Thank you.

15 (Private session at 2.36 p.m.)

16 THE COURT OFFICER: [14:36:16] We are in private session, Madam President.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [14:36:18] Thank you very much.

18 Ms Naouri, continue, please.

19 MS NAOURI: [14:36:25](Interpretation) Thank you, Madam President.

20 Q. [14:36:29] * Now, yesterday you told us that there was a green number, the
21 OCRB, and I want to refer you to transcript 44 at page 26 lines 6 to 13. Now,
22 according to the cause that you got to the OCRB on this number, you used the
23 deployed the police and Seleka people to respond to emergencies?

24 A. [14:37:01] Yes, that is true, there was a green number, and that was made
25 available to the entire population. Everybody could call that number for free in

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1 order to denounce certain acts of violence or robbery. And the person should also
2 indicate information to make it possible to intervene and to make the population safe.
3 That person should indicate their coordinates.

4 Q. [14:37:50] Thank you for these clarifications which are very useful. Now, when
5 somebody called and gave you all the information that you mentioned, if I
6 understand correctly, they were deployed in the field -- well, that -- it was both police
7 and Seleka men who were deployed; am I right there?

8 A. [14:38:24] When there was a call for an intervention with regard to a specific
9 dramatic situation. During the call, the person had to indicate their details, their
10 coordinates, give us information on the situation that the person was experiencing.
11 Afterwards, our superiors were informed, and sometimes they would go themselves
12 into the field in order to see what the situation was. And sometimes the inhabitants
13 would address their communications directly to that chief.

14 Q. [14:39:29] Very well. So, Witness, I'm just going to read an excerpt from your
15 previous statement. That's at tab 1 of the notification list, tab 2 for the English
16 version, CAR-OTP-2130-2086 at page 2093, and I'm just going to read the paragraph
17 31 thereof. So in paragraph 31, it is indicated that the authorities announce to the
18 population that they can call the OCRB for free to report crimes by dialing 111, and I
19 believe that this number was later changed to 140.

20 A telephone landline was installed at the OCRB, and we responded to emergencies by
21 deploying the police and Seleka men from the OCRB. Is that correct what I've just
22 read to you? Is that what you said to the investigators of the Office of the
23 Prosecutor?

24 A. [14:40:42] That's correct. Yes, that the question that this lawyer has just put, I
25 think that's the same information.

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- 1 Q. [14:40:58] Then, indeed, it is. Thank you for clarifying that, Witness.
- 2 (Redacted)
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6 Q. [14:53:48] Just a last question, Witness. To the best of your knowledge, before
7 the Seleka period, could delinquents be beaten to stop them re-offending?

8 A. [14:54:18] Well, I never saw such a thing. No, I never saw that.

9 Q. [14:54:26] Very well. So I will cite your previous statement, tab 1, in our
10 notification list, 2 for the English version, *CAR-OTP-2130-2086, page 2097 paragraph
11 53. We don't need to show it. I'm just going to read it out.

12 So the start of paragraph 53 starts: "Bandits were regularly beaten at the OCRB, but
13 that was different than torture. Bandits have historically been beaten by police in
14 order to convince them not to steal again. This practice continues to this day at the
15 OCRB and other police stations." End of quote.

16 Is that correct? Did you say that to the investigators, Witness?

17 A. [14:55:34] I'm going to answer your question to make it possible for you to better
18 understand what I said. The OCRB service, the Central Office of Repression
19 Banditry, this service has that name because a police organ was fighting against
20 banditry in the country. And to this day, if you go to the OCRB, you certainly will
21 not miss, after noting, after one or two days, this type of thing. You will see from
22 time to time some small thieves who are apprehended, and they are taken to the
23 OCRB in order to be beaten, to be corrected, such that they will no longer return to
24 crime. I have never said that people were arrested anyhow and they were taken to
25 the OCRB just to be beaten up. No. That's not what I said. I've given you the true

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1 explanation.

2 Q. [14:57:06] Thank you, Witness. It's very useful.

3 Finally, I would like to speak about your relations that you had with the
4 representative of the Office of the Prosecutor before coming here to testify today.

5 And my first question is to ask whether before you came to testify, whether you had
6 discussions with them either on the phone or in person with regard to subjects that
7 you could testify on, subjects that were of interest to them before you gave your
8 testimony?

9 A. [14:57:53] You are speaking about investigators of the Office of the Prosecutor?

10 I'll start again. Since I met the investigators and they transcribed my statement, I
11 sometimes receive telephone calls. And for a certain period of time, the calls that I
12 received came from the Office of the Prosecutor. (Redacted)

13 (Redacted)

14 (Redacted), the officials of the Office of the Prosecutor took up
15 contact with me. We met. We had an interview. And during this interview, they
16 asked me if I could come to testify before the Court. I agreed. Thereafter, they
17 explained the procedure to me. And I also asked them, before giving my testimony,
18 I said that I would like to have my statement, because several years had gone by and
19 it was necessary for me to have my statement, which would make it possible for me to
20 reread it such that I would be able to testify in a correct way before your court.

21 Q. [15:00:18] Thank you, Mr Witness, for those clarifications. We will come back
22 to them.

23 My question was chronologically upstream. I wanted to know, before meeting
24 them -- before they took your statement, this was in May 2017, prior to that, did you
25 discuss what you could tell them as a witness? When they called you, would they

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1 say, hello, we are contacting you? Starting at that moment, and before they took
2 your statement, did you discuss what you could testify on, what subjects you would
3 broach and what was of interest to them?

4 A. [15:01:13] Things happened as you have just said. The very first time they
5 called me -- anyway, they gave me the impression that they knew me very well.
6 Even when I had doubts or something, they reassured me. And I was saying to
7 myself, well, nothing was stopping them. They had all possible information about
8 me. So when they called me, they gave me indication of the people around me and
9 my surroundings. And when they asked to meet so we could discuss things, I said
10 to myself, "Well, I took this decision willingly to meet with them." They asked me
11 questions. And through the questions asked, they got the information that they
12 wanted to have. And at the end of my statement, they asked me if I was inclined to
13 produce before the Chamber, and if I could speak before the Chamber, and I said yes,
14 if I don't have any health problems.

15 Q. [15:02:53] Okay. Thank you very much for those clarifications. You have said
16 that you were also in contact with the representatives of the Office of the Prosecutor
17 after your -- after you gave your statement. Between when you gave your statement
18 and the time when you came to meet us today, how many times did you meet with
19 them? Could you give us an idea the number of times you met with them.

20 A. [15:03:34] I would receive phone calls from them. I remember once, it was
21 about 8 o'clock at my workplace, and I no longer recall the number of times they
22 called me, but I recognised having received a phone call to set a meeting, an
23 appointment. And that is how, according to their indications, I went to meet them
24 on the day and time indicated. And at that point, we then began our interview.

25 Q. [15:04:35] Okay. So during the hearing for the confirmation of charges in 2021,

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1 an important hearing, did they contact you to ask whether they could -- they could
2 use your statement -- your witness statement?

3 A. [15:05:05] I would ask that you repeat the question because I did not understand
4 it, and I believe that the Sango used was a bit academic, scholarly. So could you
5 reword the question, please.

6 Q. [15:05:26] Of course, I will try to facilitate interpretation into Sango. My
7 question is the following: There was a major hearing in 2021 in this case, in October
8 2021, about two years ago, and at the time of this hearing -- we are now in private
9 session, so everything is fine. During that hearing, interest was taken in your
10 witness statement. So my question is: Do you remember if in 2021 you were
11 contacted by representatives of the Office of the Prosecutor to ask you if you agree to
12 have your witness statement be used during that hearing?

13 A. [15:06:24] I do not recall this. And because I do not know your procedures, so I
14 could not know at what stage things were. But I do know that after my interview
15 with the investigators of the Office of the Prosecutor, I received calls asking about my
16 health and my safety. And I remember receiving a phone call telling me or asking
17 me if I'm willing to appear and I gave my consent.

18 (Redacted)

19 (Redacted). That's why today I have
20 to be here only but through a video link.

21 Q. [15:08:07] Okay. Thank you, Mr Witness.
22 Did you receive any per diem from the Office of the Prosecutor for your travels
23 during the meetings you had with them?

24 A. [15:08:28] During our meetings, I did not receive any amounts of money. And
25 in the discussions and the interviews that we had, what I received, given that it took

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1 hours, I was given water to drink. And after the interviews, I was given candy,
2 sweets, cookies, something to give me energy, to compensate all the energy that I had
3 expended during the interviews. And then they would give me money to pay for
4 transport. And the money I used for transport to go would be paid back -- would be
5 reimbursed. That is what I received as money. But to say that I received an
6 amount of money for anything else, for something other than what I have just
7 mentioned is inaccurate.

8 Q. [15:09:49] Okay. Do you remember how much your transport costs were to
9 come?

10 A. [15:10:04] From my house -- to leave from my house and to go to the meeting
11 point for the interview, I would pay for transport twice. So transport to get to
12 downtown and from downtown, take another mode of transport to get to the exact
13 meeting place. That means I had to pay for transport twice. And the amount at the
14 time, if I leave home to get downtown, that's 150 francs. So twice that, that is a total
15 of 300 CFA francs, and that was the amount that was reimbursed to me after each
16 interview.

17 Q. [15:11:09] Okay. Thank you, Mr Witness.

18 Mr Witness, did you put any people in touch with the Office of the Prosecutor?

19 A. [15:11:36] I did not put anyone in contact with the Office of the Prosecutor. I
20 want to specify that persons for whom questions were asked, for example, if I could
21 not be reached on my phone, whose number could I give them so that I could be
22 reached if need be. That is why I gave the phone number (Redacted)
23 (Redacted)
24 (Redacted).

25 Q. [15:12:49] Okay. Thank you, Mr Witness. So if I understand correctly, you

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1 spoke -- you talked about (Redacted). And without necessarily giving the phone
2 number, you did not give them the information or name of people who could be of
3 interest to the Office of the Prosecutor?

4 A. [15:13:23] That is correct.

5 THE INTERPRETER: [15:13:32] The interpreter is not sure that he understood the
6 answer given by the witness. The Sango interpreter.

7 MS NAOURI: [15:13:40](Interpretation)

8 Q. [15:13:41] As the interpreter is not sure that he understood your answer, could
9 you please repeat your answer.

10 A. [15:14:14] I am not the one who gave (Redacted) information to the Office of the
11 Prosecutor investigators. I am here before this Chamber, and I have sworn to tell the
12 truth, the whole truth. I did not give (Redacted) phone number nor -- his phone
13 number to the investigators of the Office of the Prosecutor. So my statement and the
14 information with regard to the questions asked of me, it was in those questions that
15 (Redacted) name came up. And when we consider (Redacted), this is someone, as
16 far as I have seen, these people had -- already had contact with (Redacted) before
17 meeting with me. That is my point of view. But I did not say -- or I did not give
18 (Redacted) phone number -- or I did not indicate how to find (Redacted).

19 Q. [15:15:29] Thank you very much, Mr Witness. That was my last question.
20 So, Presiding Judge, that concludes my cross-examination of the witness.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [15:15:40] Thank you very much, Ms Naouri. Thank
22 you very much. That was very timely, and we do appreciate that.

23 I thank the Prosecution also for the direct examination.

24 Mr Witness, we have come to the end of your testimony. So on behalf of the

25 Chamber, I'd wish to thank you very much for your cooperation with the Court and

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1 for all the information that you have given to us.

2 I've asked my colleague on my right and my left as to -- I've asked my colleagues on
3 my right and my left as to whether they have any questions for you, and they have
4 indicated to me that they have no questions from the bench, neither do I have any
5 questions actually from the bench.

6 Madam Prosecutor, you don't have any question in re-examination? So, Mr Witness,
7 thank you very much. As I said before, I wish you well in your future endeavours.
8 Thanks and thanks and thanks.

9 Madam Prosecutor, it is our understanding that tomorrow we shall take your 16th
10 Prosecution witness, and that will be P-2931.

11 MS MAKWAIA: [15:17:18] That's correct, Madam President.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [15:17:20] And that's a 68(3) witness. Am I correct?

13 MS MAKWAIA: [15:17:26] You are correct, Madam President.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE SAMBA: [15:17:27] Yes. So we would look forward to that
15 tomorrow.

16 And so I thank the interpreters and ask that we come here tomorrow for 9.30 to start
17 with the Prosecution's 16th witness.

18 Thank you all very much. Thank you.

19 THE COURT USHER: [15:17:44] All rise.

20 (The hearing ends in private session at 3.17 p.m.)