

Trial Hearing
WITNESS: UGA-D26-P-0085

(Open Session)

ICC-02/04-01/15

1 International Criminal Court
2 Trial Chamber IX
3 Situation: Republic of Uganda
4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen - ICC-02/04-01/15
5 Presiding Judge Bertram Schmitt, Judge Péter Kovács and
6 Judge Raul Cano Pangalangan
7 Trial Hearing - Courtroom 3
8 Friday, 13 September 2019
9 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.31 a.m.)
10 THE COURT USHER: [9:31:18] All rise.
11 The International Criminal Court is now in session.
12 Please be seated.
13 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:31:41] Good morning, everyone.
14 Could the court officer please call the case.
15 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:31:47] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours.
16 The situation in the Republic of Uganda, in the case of The Prosecutor versus Dominic Ongwen, case
17 reference ICC-02/04-01/15.
18 And for the record, we are in open session.
19 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:00] Thank you.
20 And for the appearances of the parties, first the Prosecution, Ms Ndagire, please.
21 MS NDAGIRE: [9:32:07] Good morning, your Honours. With the Prosecution this morning are
22 Ben Gumpert, Kamran Choudhry, Beti Hohler, Yulia Nuzban, Pubudu Sachithanandan, Milena Bruns,
23 Jasmina Suljanovic, Colin Black and myself, Sanyu Ndagire.
24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:24] Thank you.
25 Ms Sehmi for the representatives of the victims.

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1 MS SEHMI: [9:32:26] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours. On behalf of the Legal

2 Representative for Victims, Anushka Sehmi and James Mawira.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:34] Ms Walter.

4 MS WALTER: [9:32:35] Good morning, Mr President, your Honours. Caroline Walter for the team
5 this morning.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:40] Thank you.

7 And for the Defence, Mr Obhof.

8 MR OBHOF: [9:32:42] Good morning, your Honour. Today with us we have our co-counsel Beth
9 Lyons; our assistant to counsel, Gordon Kifudde; we have our brand new intern Monia Ingabire and
10 myself Thomas Obhof, along with Dominic Ongwen in court.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:32:56] Thank you, Mr Obhof.

12 And we have also a witness not in the courtroom but at the video-link location.

13 Good morning, Madam Witness. On behalf of the Chamber I would like to welcome you.

14 I didn't (microphone not activated) anything here.

15 THE INTERPRETER: [9:33:24] No sound through, your Honours.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:33:27] There seems (Microphone not activated)

17 So I didn't hear anything and I am informed that there was no sound, so we have to fix this first.

18 Madam Witness, do you hear me?

19 WITNESS: UGA-D26-P-0085

20 (The witness speaks Lango)

21 (The witness gives evidence via video link)

22 THE WITNESS: [9:33:51](Interpretation) Yes, I can hear you now.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:33:53] Yes. There was a small problem, Madam Witness. That
24 can happen because you are a long distance away from us here in the courtroom. Again, good
25 morning and welcome.

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1 There should be a card before you, Madam Witness, with a solemn undertaking that every witness has
2 to take when they appear before the Court. I would kindly ask you to read this undertaking out
3 aloud.

4 THE WITNESS: [9:34:43](Interpretation) I solemnly declare that I will speak the truth, the whole truth
5 and nothing but the truth.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:34:55] Thank you, Madam Witness.

7 You understand the undertaking?

8 THE WITNESS: [9:35:06](Interpretation) Yes, I do.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:35:06] And you agree with it?

10 THE WITNESS: [9:35:09](Interpretation) I agree.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:35:10] Thank you. You have now been sworn in.

12 I will explain to you some practical matters before we start with your testimony. First of all, we have
13 put some measures in place for you to protect you and your identity.

14 Face distortion has been put in place, which means that no one outside the courtroom can see your face
15 during your testimony on the screen.

16 We also use a pseudonym. In accordance with that we don't address you with your real name, but as
17 I do at the moment as "Madam Witness". This is to make sure that the public does not come to know
18 your name.

19 And when you give answers to questions that do not reveal your identity, we do this in public session.

20 Public session means that the public, the outside world can hear you. On the other hand, when
21 you are asked questions and your answers would perhaps reveal your identity, we go to private
22 session. Private session means that only the people here in the courtroom can hear what you answer.

23 If you have any questions yourself, Madam Witness, please raise your hand. Or if you want a break,
24 for example, raise your hand and I will give you the floor then.

25 I think that is enough for the preliminaries.

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1 Mr Obhof, you have the floor.

2 MR OBHOF: [9:36:57] Thank you, your Honour. And, your Honour, if I could start off with a few
3 minor preliminaries.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:37:09] Of course, of course.

5 MR OBHOF: [9:37:10] For everybody watching it will be five to seven minutes.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:37:14] Yes, thank you. And by the way, I have also received
7 information from Uganda that people appreciate it if, because not everybody can come to this
8 courtroom here and listen, journalists, for example, and they appreciate it if they are informed how
9 long we will be in private session. So this is a very good custom in the meantime that we have
10 acquired.

11 MR OBHOF: [9:37:37] I have actually received the same notification from one journalist myself.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:37:42] Okay. So it might have been the same one.

13 Please, Mr Obhof. We go to private session.

14 (Private session at 9.37 a.m.)

15 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:37:57] We are in private session, Mr President.

16 (Redacted)

17 (Redacted)

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21 (Open session at 9.43 a.m.)

22 THE COURT OFFICER: [9:43:58] We are in open session, Mr President.

23 MR OBHOF: [9:44:19]

24 Q. [9:44:19] Now, Ms Witness, who was the leader of the group which abducted you?

25 A. [9:44:38] The leader of the group was called Lubul.

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1 Q. [9:44:50] Now, without saying the location or the date in which you were abducted, could you
2 please tell the Court the story of your abduction.

3 A. [9:45:15] I was abducted while I was still very young. I was given to carry luggage, heavy load
4 for a long distance in the bushes. Some of the places I do not even know the names of the places.

5 Q. [9:45:39] Now after you were abducted, these places that you were taken, were you familiar with
6 any of these locations?

7 A. [9:45:58] No, I do not know the names of those places, because we were moving in the bush.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:46:06] Madam Witness, when you were abducted at the time, did
9 you go to school?

10 THE WITNESS: [9:46:17](Interpretation) Yes, I was going to school at that time.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:46:22] Were you abducted alone or together with others?

12 THE WITNESS: [9:46:36](Interpretation) Several people were abducted.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:46:39] Although it might be difficult because it was a long time ago,
14 do you recall -- and feel free to tell us how you felt when you were abducted at the time and also,
15 perhaps, in the first days afterwards.

16 THE WITNESS: [9:47:07](Interpretation) When I was just abducted, I was given load to carry. We
17 started moving in the bushes, but the biggest challenge that I faced was hunger because there were no
18 food. And, of course, with the heavy load, it was quite heavy on me. So this is some of the things
19 that I can recall when I was just abducted.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:47:34] Were there times when you thought you could not carry on?

21 THE WITNESS: [9:47:47](Interpretation) Could you say the question again.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:47:49] That was unclear from my side. Were there times when
23 you thought you were not able to walk further with this heavy load?

24 THE WITNESS: [9:48:03](Interpretation) Yes. I actually felt that I couldn't continue anymore.

25 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:48:12] And in the end, what made you continue, although you

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1 thought you cannot?

2 THE WITNESS: [9:48:27](Interpretation) Because there was no any way I could escape.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:48:34] What would have happened if you had stopped, simply,
4 and say, okay, I am not able to walk anymore?

5 THE WITNESS: [9:48:50](Interpretation) Well, the soldiers would even shoot you, because sometimes
6 there were engagements and you could also be caught in the crossfire and you would be hit by the
7 bullets.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:49:12] Mr Obhof, please continue.

9 MR OBHOF: [9:49:16]

10 Q. [9:49:17] Madam Witness, could you tell the Court, please, which group abducted you?

11 A. [9:49:30] It was the Trinkle group.

12 Q. [9:49:59] After your abduction and after you were sent to a household, what were your tasks
13 while you were in that household?

14 A. [9:50:15] I was made to carry luggage.

15 Q. [9:50:29] For how long were you made to carry luggage?

16 A. [9:50:43] I carried the luggage for quite a long time.

17 Q. [9:50:56] Did you receive any military-type training just after your abduction?

18 A. [9:51:15] I was only carrying luggage and then, when people were going to collect food, I would
19 also go -- I would also go and carry some of the items, but I didn't get any military training.

20 Q. [9:51:34] After your abduction, did the, did the persons in the LRA perform any rituals upon you?

21 A. [9:51:52] Yes, they did.

22 Q. [9:51:56] Can you please tell the Court the rituals in which the LRA performed on you
23 personally?

24 A. [9:52:14] They smeared me with a certain oil, but I do not know the name of that oil.

25 Q. [9:52:34] Were you told or were you every told why they smeared this oil upon you?

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1 A. [9:52:49] They told me that they smear you with that oil so that you are now able to join them and
2 also eat their food, only when they have smeared you with that oil.

3 Q. [9:53:10] So before you were smeared with this oil, how or what did you eat after your abduction?

4 A. [9:53:29] There -- there was no food.

5 Q. [9:53:40] Now apart from this ritual with the oil, was anything else smeared upon newly
6 abducted persons?

7 A. [9:54:00] Well, I do not know that thing called camoplast.

8 Q. [9:54:12] So you say "that thing called camoplast", do you know what the purpose of camoplast
9 was?

10 A. [9:54:29] No, I do not know what it was.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:54:36] Madam Witness, did this camoplast and the oil have an
12 effect on you? Did you think this changed something for yourself in your thinking?

13 THE WITNESS: [9:55:04](Interpretation) I did not really feel any changes, I did not have any
14 noticeable change in me. But of course after that initiation, when there was now food, I was now able
15 to access food and eat.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:55:24] Mr Obhof.

17 MR OBHOF: [9:55:30] I am going to ask a few, maybe one or two more questions about the camoplast
18 and I may refer to the summary just to see.

19 Q. [9:55:41] Did the -- Madam Witness, did the LRA give you an explanation of what effect the
20 camoplast may have on someone?

21 A. [9:56:00] I -- I never came to know what that camoplast was.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:56:07] I think from there you can continue with another issue,
23 Mr Obhof.

24 MR OBHOF: [9:56:21]

25 Q. [9:56:21] Now along with the rituals, were there any fetishes in which the LRA gave persons to

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1 wear?

2 A. [9:56:48] There was none which was given to me, but, yes, there -- I would see in some of the
3 junior soldiers some of these things were done on them.

4 Q. [9:57:06] What were these things which were done upon these junior soldiers which you
5 witnessed?

6 A. [9:57:25] I would see them being trained on how to move, for instance, if they were escorts I
7 would see them train on how to help and protect their commanders, carrying their items. Yes, this is
8 some of the things that I would see.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:57:57] Mr Obhof, simply, I think really you can continue to
10 (overlapping speakers)

11 MR OBHOF: [9:58:02] Oh, no, I'm going on to a different topic now.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:58:04] Okay. Because this does not lead to a lot more, I would
13 assume.

14 MR OBHOF: [9:58:09] Yes.

15 Q. [9:58:11] Madam Witness, what would happen to persons who were abducted by the LRA who
16 tried to escape and were recaptured?

17 A. [9:58:37] Sometimes the person is beaten, and if the person is unlucky, the person could also die.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:58:50] Have you personally witnessed that people who tried to
19 escape were recaptured and then beaten?

20 THE WITNESS: [9:59:08](Interpretation) Yes.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [9:59:12] Mr Obhof.

22 MR OBHOF: [9:59:16]

23 Q. [9:59:17] If you feel comfortable talking about this, Madam Witness, when you saw this, how did
24 that make you feel?

25 A. [9:59:47] Well, I saw with pain -- it was painful. I saw with my own eyes. But also, I also know

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1 that they do that because they don't want people to escape.

2 Q. [10:00:07] How did this affect, if at all, your desire, your yearning to escape?

3 A. [10:00:27] I was afraid to escape.

4 Q. [10:00:43] Now, Madam Witness, when you were in the bush, did you ever meet Joseph Kony?

5 A. [10:01:01] No, I did not meet him face to face.

6 Q. [10:01:09] Would people who you were with, would they ever talk about Joseph Kony?

7 A. [10:01:32] The commanders or the senior ranking officers would talk about it, but we the junior
8 ones did not know what they were talking about, because whenever they were having their
9 discussions they would be separate from us.

10 Q. [10:01:57] And I'm sorry, my colleague reminded me I forgot to ask a question from a few
11 minutes ago.

12 While you were in the bush, do you remember anyone who tried to escape and may have been
13 confused and returned back to the LRA?

14 A. [10:02:28] Yes, I do recall.

15 Q. [10:02:33] Could you briefly explain this to the Court what happened.

16 A. [10:02:45] Well, there are some people who were very young and they would not familiarise
17 themselves with the road, or they would be afraid that if they came across government soldiers they
18 would be attacked. So, when they tried to escape, being unfamiliar with the route, they would go
19 round and round and then find themselves back at the starting point.

20 Q. [10:03:18] Now, Madam Witness, can you explain why young abductees who were trying to
21 escape would be afraid of government soldiers?

22 A. [10:03:41] You know, when a child is young and the child is not familiar with soldiers or with war,
23 then the child is afraid, the child is afraid of the LRA, the child is afraid of government soldiers. So
24 the child would be told that if you try to escape you will be killed, and the child does not know
25 whether it's going to be killed by government soldiers or someone else.

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1 Q. [10:04:09] Now, Madam Witness, do you know what a ting ting is?

2 A. [10:04:28] A ting ting is a young person who is asked to carry luggage or who is asked to babysit,
3 because they would -- if there is a -- there is a bay where they keep pregnant women and women who
4 have just given birth. The ting ting would be taken there to assist taking care of the baby or carry
5 luggage.

6 Q. [10:04:57] So without saying any names, did you ever act as a ting ting?

7 A. [10:05:09] Yes, I did.

8 MR OBHOF: [10:05:16] Your Honour, with your indulgence I would like to ask two quick questions
9 in private session, please.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:05:22] Yes, private session.

11 MR OBHOF: [10:05:25] About one to two minutes.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:05:28] Yes. Private session.

13 (Private session at 10.05 a.m.)

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

15 (Redacted)

16 (Redacted)

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1 (Redacted)

2 (Open session at 10.07 a.m.)

3 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:07:00] We are back in open session, Mr President.

4 MR OBHOF: [10:07:07]

5 Q. [10:07:08] Now, Madam Witness, earlier today you mentioned about carrying luggage, of course,
6 and collecting food as part of your main duties. For how long while you were in the LRA did you do
7 these type of duties?

8 A. [10:07:32] I did that for quite a while.

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:07:40] It might turn out, Mr Obhof, in the course of the further
10 examination that we get a more narrow time frame than "for quite a while".

11 MR OBHOF: [10:07:55]

12 Q. [10:07:55] Now, Madam Witness, while you were in the LRA, because you stated that you were
13 abducted by Trinkle, for how long did you remain in Trinkle?

14 A. [10:08:11] I was in Trinkle for a long time, because I came back in 2004.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:08:22] There we have another date.

16 MR OBHOF: [10:08:27] I guess you could say I got the hint to try to make a better time frame.

17 Q. [10:08:39] Now, Madam Witness, do you remember an attack which happened at Pajule?

18 A. [10:08:53] Yes, I do recall about that attack.

19 Q. [10:08:59] Do you remember around what time this attack happened?

20 A. [10:09:16] It was in October, it was at dawn, at around 7 a.m.

21 Q. [10:09:34] So we're going to take a step back from the actual attack. Do you remember before the
22 attack, let's say the day before the attack, what happened on that day?

23 MR GUMPERT: [10:09:52] Your Honours, I'm sorry to interrupt, it's not really an objection, but I'm
24 not quite understanding. Mr Obhof's question was about an attack which happened after Pajule,
25 according to the transcript.

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1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:10:04] No, I understood it I think in the way Mr Obhof meant it
2 an attack at Pajule. I think we are talking at Pajule.

3 MR GUMPERT: [10:10:13] Just as long as we are clear that the witness is -- I didn't want there to be an
4 ambiguity hanging in the air.

5 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:10:20] No, no, no. No problem. Also we had yesterday an
6 incident where it is, on the real-time transcript, sometimes it is distorted.

7 And, frankly speaking, if I look how the real-time transcripts shows what I have been saying, so I
8 would have quite often to interfere. I always trust that the transcript in the end will reflect it correctly.

9 But I think we are talking at Pajule. This seems to me at least confirmed by the fact that the witness
10 said October and there might be, perhaps, some coincidence there, so that we are talking about perhaps
11 the right attack here.

12 Mr Obhof, please continue.

13 MR OBHOF: [10:11:01] And I do appreciate Mr Gumpert's note, so we can clarify it with the witness
14 just so we are absolutely sure.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:11:10] No, I think since how the witness answered, it seems to me,
16 this I wanted to express, it seems to me clear that the witness understands it in the way you wanted to
17 ask her.

18 MR OBHOF: [10:11:21] Well, you are the trier of fact, so I will go with you.

19 Q. [10:11:26] Sorry about that, Madam Witness, just lawyer stuff.

20 Now the day before the attack at Pajule, could you tell us what happened the day before.

21 A. [10:11:50] I do recall that there were many people, but there was no food.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:12:03] Madam Witness, did you go with a group and person 1 to
23 this place?

24 THE WITNESS: [10:12:25](Interpretation) Yes, I went with Trinkle.

25 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:12:30] And what happened where the people gathered together,

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1 if you recall it, what happened there?

2 THE WITNESS: [10:12:51](Interpretation) People gathered. There was hunger and we were told that
3 we were going to Pajule to collect food.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:12:58] Who told you that?

5 THE WITNESS: [10:13:13](Interpretation) I do not recall the person who said it, but I did -- we were
6 told that we had to go to Pajule to collect food and we left and went.

7 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:13:26] Do you recall the day of the attack?

8 THE WITNESS: [10:13:42](Interpretation) I'm trying to recollect, but I know that it was in October.
9 I believe maybe 2003 and that's -- that's my recollection at the moment.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:13:54] Did you personally go to Pajule?

11 THE WITNESS: [10:14:04](Interpretation) Yes, I did.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:14:06] Mr Obhof, please continue from there.

13 MR OBHOF: [10:14:14]

14 Q. [10:14:14] Now you confirmed to the judge that person 1 was there for the attack. Do you
15 remember anyone who was there the day before at the RV point?

16 A. [10:14:43] Yes, I do.

17 Q. [10:14:44] Could you give the Court, please, some of the names which you remember.

18 A. [10:15:01] The one that I recall the best was somebody who people refer to as Opio Kenneth, but I
19 do not know whether that was his actual name.

20 Q. [10:15:20] Was Lubul there?

21 A. [10:15:31] He was a commander, even though I did not see him, because the rest of us, the foot
22 soldiers and the junior people were left behind. I did not see him, but he was a commander, and
23 Trinkle was also a part of the group.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:15:45] I would like to have two or three questions in private
25 session. And, so for the audience, perhaps five minutes in private session.

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1 We go to private session.

2 (Private session at 10.16 a.m.) * (Reclassified partially in public)

3 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:16:03] We are in private session, Mr President.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:16:07] Thank you.

5 Madam Witness, you said a couple of minutes ago that you yourself went to Pajule, to the camp. Who
6 led the group that you went with?

7 THE WITNESS: [10:16:29](Interpretation) The group that I went with, I can't recall at this instant.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:16:41] Was it a big group, many people?

9 THE WITNESS: [10:16:50](Interpretation) Yeah, there were many people.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:16:54] Men and women?

11 THE WITNESS: [10:16:59](Interpretation) Yes.

12 (Redacted)

13 (Redacted)

14 (Redacted)

15 (Redacted)

16 (Redacted)

17 (Redacted)

18 (Redacted)

19 (Redacted)

20 (Redacted)

21 (Redacted)

22 (Redacted)

23 (Redacted)

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:18:19] Did you meet with the, with the other groups again
25 afterwards?

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1 THE WITNESS: [10:18:32](Interpretation) No.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:18:34] When you said you ran with others, was there

3 a commander with you?

4 THE WITNESS: [10:18:49](Interpretation) Commanders usually walk by themselves, they always

5 walk by themselves. And the rest of us follow.

6 (Redacted)

7 (Redacted)

8 (Redacted)

9 (Redacted)

10 (Redacted)

11 (Redacted)

12 (Redacted)

13 (Redacted)

14 (Redacted)

15 (Redacted)

16 (Redacted)

17 (Redacted)

18 (Redacted)

19 (Redacted)

20 (Redacted)

21 (Redacted)

22 (Redacted)

23 (Redacted)

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:20:38] Yes, okay.

25 Back to open session.

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1 (Open session at 10.20 a.m.)

2 THE COURT OFFICER: [10:20:51] We are back in open session, Mr President.

3 MR OBHOF: [10:21:02]

4 Q. [10:21:03] Now, Madam Witness, again we're back in public session. During your time in the
5 bush, do you ever remember meeting with Dominic Ongwen?

6 A. [10:21:28] No, I did not meet Dominic Ongwen.

7 Q. [10:21:40] Now, as I cannot remember if this was clearly stated, from what you understood, what
8 was the overall purpose of going to Pajule?

9 A. [10:22:03] The reason why we went to Pajule was to collect food.

10 Q. [10:22:16] And you mentioned earlier that afterwards you went to Teso. Which group did you
11 travel with to Teso?

12 A. [10:22:34] I was still in Trinkle.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:22:42] Madam Witness, did you see people take food from Pajule?

14 THE WITNESS: [10:22:54](Interpretation) Yeah, people took food.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:22:58] Did you see people from the LRA take other things from
16 Pajule?

17 THE WITNESS: [10:23:13](Interpretation) No, I did not see any other things, but I did see people take
18 foodstuff.

19 MR OBHOF: [10:23:26]

20 Q. [10:23:27] Ms Witness, you said that you had never met Mr Ongwen. Do you know if
21 Mr Ongwen was at Pajule?

22 A. [10:23:45] I do not -- I did not see him. I do not know.

23 Q. [10:23:58] How long did it take your group to get to Pajule?

24 A. [10:24:23] A day. We -- because we left one location and then got to the place where we were
25 encamped, then we left the place where we were encamped and then went to Pajule. We got there at

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1 around dawn, around 7, 7.30 a.m.

2 Q. [10:24:48] Thank you, Madam Witness. And I realise I said the wrong location. After Pajule,
3 how long did it take your group to get to Teso? Sorry.

4 A. [10:25:11] People were walking but we were also running. It did not take -- it did not take time.
5 It did not take a very long time.

6 Q. [10:25:27] When you were in Teso -- or for how long do you remember being in Teso?

7 A. [10:25:44] People did not stay in Teso for a long time, because there was also exchange of fire, so
8 people did not stay long in Teso.

9 Q. [10:25:58] Do you remember if anyone died while in Teso?

10 A. [10:26:07] Yes, I do recall that.

11 Q. [10:26:12] Could you please tell the Court who died in Teso.

12 A. [10:26:24] It was Tabuley. Tabuley.

13 Q. [10:26:36] Do you remember how long it was after you arrived in Teso in which Tabuley died?

14 A. [10:26:53] We did not stay in Teso for a long time?

15 Q. [10:27:16] Do you remember for how long you stayed in Teso after Tabuley died?

16 A. [10:27:28] I cannot recall this instant, because these are events that took place a very long time
17 ago.

18 Q. [10:27:40] It's okay. Do you remember where you went after leaving Teso?

19 A. [10:27:57] You know, I do not know the names of the places that we were moving through.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:28:03] Mr Obhof, I think you can be more direct here. So it is
21 perfectly clear that we had this with so many witnesses that it is difficult to tell after so many years
22 when things happened, and also to all the places where they went. But there might be, perhaps, an
23 outstanding place and you can be more direct in that regard.

24 MR OBHOF: [10:28:28] Thank you, your Honour.

25 Q. [10:28:32] Now, Madam Witness, do you remember going --

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1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:28:38] Microphone. It's on, but I have difficulties to hear.

2 MR OBHOF: [10:28:44] Chiggie check, microphone check.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:28:47] Could you please start again.

4 MR OBHOF: [10:28:50] Thank you, your Honour.

5 Q. [10:28:52] Madam Witness, do you remember going to a place called Abok?

6 A. [10:29:08] Yes, I do recall that.

7 Q. [10:29:12] Now, at this time, which group were you a part of in the LRA?

8 A. [10:29:31] When we went to Abok, the groups had all merged. There were so many people in
9 one group, all the groups had kind of merged together.

10 Q. [10:29:48] As an estimate, how earlier before going to Abok did these groups merge together?

11 A. [10:30:14] When the group met, they didn't take long. Then they started the movement to Abok.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:30:30] Was this, Madam Witness, was this merging that you
13 describe a little bit like you would recall it from Pajule earlier on?

14 THE WITNESS: [10:30:50](Interpretation) At this time in this location, the people, the number of
15 people was much more than the one in Pajule.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:31:01] Mr Obhof.

17 Or perhaps let me continue. Madam Witness, I have already said and agreed with you, so to speak,
18 that it is difficult to recall dates, but again the questions: Do you have, for whatever reason,
19 a recollection when you were at Abok? At what time perhaps during the year, for example, the year,
20 if you recall it?

21 THE WITNESS: [10:32:00](Interpretation) From my recollection, when the attack in Pajule occurred,
22 it -- about one year elapsed after that, then the second incident happened.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:32:19] And this second incident, as you describe it, do you have
24 still an idea during what time of the year this occurred?

25 THE WITNESS: [10:32:46](Interpretation) If I can recall the time, the time, I think it was coming

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1 towards the end of the year. I could probably say it was mid-year, around June, if I can recall.

2 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:33:06] Mr Obhof.

3 MR OBHOF: [10:33:12]

4 Q. [10:33:12] Madam Witness, do you remember which season it was, what food season it was at the
5 time of Abok?

6 A. [10:33:31] Yeah, I said that the fruits at the time of the season was mangos.

7 Q. [10:33:46] Now, Madam Witness, we are going to talk a little bit about the time before Abok
8 happened. So right now while we are in public session, do not speak about going physically into
9 Abok with the group. Before -- I guess I forgot to ask this: Who was in charge of the group that
10 went to Abok?

11 A. [10:34:29] I heard the person was being referred to as Kalalang.

12 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:34:37] May I shortly, Mr Obhof.

13 You said you heard that the person was referred to as Kalalang. Who told you?

14 THE WITNESS: [10:34:58](Interpretation) I heard people calling that name.

15 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:35:04] Did you physically see him also?

16 THE WITNESS: [10:35:17](Interpretation) I did not see him.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:35:18] Mr Obhof.

18 MR OBHOF: [10:35:21]

19 Q. [10:35:21] Now, Madam Witness, before the attack do you know if there were any orders given to
20 persons in the LRA in preparation to go to Abok?

21 A. [10:35:56] When people met in the second time, I was told that people were supposed to go and
22 pick foodstuff from that camp. And that's what I recall what made people to go there.

23 Q. [10:36:17] Now you said when people met the second time, what happened when people met the
24 first time?

25 A. [10:36:40] I do not recall what happened.

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1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:36:43] Perhaps it could also have meant, Mr Obhof, Pajule, the
2 first time. That was at least my impression. I don't want to over-interpret it, but also the answer by
3 the witness now I think. I think we can assume for the moment that --

4 MR OBHOF: [10:36:57] That's why I asked the follow-up.

5 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:37:00] Yes, please.

6 MR OBHOF: [10:37:06]

7 Q. [10:37:07] Was anyone sent earlier in the day to the camp?

8 A. [10:37:19] Yes.

9 Q. [10:37:26] And from what you heard, what was the -- what were the duties of the persons who
10 were sent to the camp earlier in the day?

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:37:35] Who was sent?

12 MR OBHOF: [10:37:36] Sorry.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:37:37] Who was sent, Madam Witness?

14 MR OBHOF: [10:37:39] Okay. Sorry.

15 Q. [10:37:40] Who was sent to the camp earlier in the day, Madam Witness?

16 A. [10:37:54] I was told that some girls were sent. The girls were sent to go and see if there were
17 food items in the camp.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:38:09] Do you know how these girls who went to the camp to
19 enquire that, how they were dressed?

20 THE WITNESS: [10:38:26](Interpretation) No, I do not know.

21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:38:30] What I meant was do you know if they wore military
22 clothes or civilian clothes?

23 THE WITNESS: [10:38:46](Interpretation) I think those people were clothed in civilian clothings.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:38:53] Mr Obhof.

25 MR OBHOF: [10:38:59] Your question sparked an area of curiosity for me.

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1 Q. [10:39:05] Madam Witness, when you were in the bush, what type of clothing did you wear?

2 A. [10:39:21] I was putting on civilian clothes.

3 Q. [10:39:33] From what you witnessed in your groups and groups that you were in -- in the group
4 you were in, was it normal for tings to wear civilian clothes?

5 A. [10:39:54] Yes, there was no problem with it.

6 Q. [10:40:02] Back to these ladies who went in to the camp. From what you heard, could you tell
7 the Court what they came back and told the group about their, their search for food in the camp.

8 A. [10:40:34] From what I heard, the report they came back with, they said they found there was
9 a shop, a shop at the centre with a lot of merchandise in it and also that in the camps there were food,
10 food items.

11 Q. [10:41:07] So after they came back and reported, what happened next? Could you tell us what
12 happened next.

13 A. [10:41:22] After they returned and upon giving their report, then in the evening the group went to
14 the camp to collect food.

15 Q. [10:41:42] Do you remember from where you left, the point at which you left to go to Abok for the
16 group to collect food?

17 A. [10:42:17] The group left from a certain forest and I heard the name of the forest, it was being
18 mentioned as Akello Alyek.

19 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:42:34] Madam Witness, I take it from your answers that you did
20 not go to Abok personally?

21 THE WITNESS: [10:42:51](Interpretation) I went. I personally went.

22 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:42:55] Because the wording was that a group went and so I
23 thought, okay ...

24 MR OBHOF: [10:43:06]

25 Q. [10:43:07] Do you remember around what time the group started and left for Abok, or at least

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1 what general time of the day?

2 A. [10:43:33] It was in the evening at about, approximately about 7 p.m.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:43:50] Perhaps shortly to the parties and participants, if we would
4 want to enquire what the witness personally did in Abok, I think we are really here 2004, she is born
5 1986, we would have to go to private session then, if you think this is necessary.

6 MR OBHOF: [10:44:11] Maybe in about two or three minutes.

7 MS LYONS: [10:44:22] Excuse me, your Honour. If I may, may I have a private moment with
8 Mr Obhof just at this juncture?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:44:30] If it is a short --

10 MS LYONS: [10:44:31] It's very short and related. Thank you.

11 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: Short private moment, yes.

12 (Counsel confers)

13 MS LYONS: [10:45:09] Thank you, your Honour. I appreciate it.

14 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:45:12] Mr Obhof, you may proceed.

15 MR OBHOF: [10:45:17]

16 Q. [10:45:17] Madam Witness, before -- without talking about the actual -- about what may have
17 happened in Abok, do you remember how the group approached Abok?

18 A. [10:45:40] Yes.

19 Q. [10:45:45] Could you please tell the Court how the group approached Abok.

20 A. [10:46:00] We left from the forest that I just mentioned, and we came moving through the bush,
21 and when we were about to reach, we crossed a certain road that passes at the edge of the river and
22 crossed another road and went to -- towards Abok centre.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:46:31] Do you recall, roughly, how many people were in this
24 group you went with? I don't know, you would not have counted it and it's a long time ago, but were
25 it 50 or 100 or more?

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1 THE WITNESS: [10:46:59](Interpretation) There were quite many, the people were quite many, more
2 than a hundred.

3 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:47:05] And who led this group that went to Abok?

4 THE WITNESS: [10:47:20](Interpretation) When, when we met, as people were going, the person who
5 was leading the group was called Kalalang.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:47:33] How did you know that this was the person who led the
7 group?

8 THE WITNESS: [10:47:50](Interpretation) Well, at some point you would hear when people are
9 talking about it.

10 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:47:55] Thank you. Mr Obhof.

11 MR OBHOF: [10:47:59]

12 Q. [10:47:59] Madam Witness, you mentioned that you crossed a road. Do you know where this
13 road goes to?

14 A. [10:48:22] When -- the road that we crossed, it was like at a junction, there was one that was going
15 towards Abok and then another one was going in the opposite direction.

16 Q. [10:48:39] The opposite direction, which village or town was it going to?

17 So I don't know if you heard, Madam Witness, you said the road, one road was -- it was close to
18 a junction and that the road was going to Abok and going into a different direction. Do you
19 remember which town or village the other direction, which town or village that was?

20 A. [10:49:37] The -- that road goes straight to Ngai, the one that is in the opposite direction.

21 MR OBHOF: [10:49:54] Your Honour, I feel like we may have to go into private session for the next
22 few questions. It will probably take the remainder of the session, I would assume, or we could start
23 off in the second session because I have about 30, 35 minutes' worth of questions left.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:50:12] I would of course asked you this question, this follow-up
25 question.

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1 So given that Ms Ndagire, for the Prosecution, do you have already an idea how long your
2 examination might last?

3 THE WITNESS: [10:50:34](Interpretation) Could you repeat that?

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:50:36] It was not a question, Madam Witness, we are talking
5 about a break, frankly speaking.

6 Ms Ndagire?

7 MS NDAGIRE: [10:50:43] I won't take more than 45 minutes, your Honour.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [10:50:46] So I think we can have now the break until 11.30, then have
9 a short private session and I think we would be, we could finish at lunch break, perhaps a little bit
10 longer than 1 o'clock.

11 So we have now the lunch - the coffee break, I was now too quick - coffee break until 11.30.

12 THE COURT USHER: [10:51:14] All rise.

13 (Recess taken at 10.51 a.m.)

14 (Upon resuming in open session at 11.35 a.m.)

15 THE COURT USHER: [11:35:25] All rise.

16 Please be seated.

17 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:35:43] Mr Obhof, you still have the floor.

18 MR OBHOF: [11:35:45] Thank you very much, your Honour. And as I alluded to during the last
19 session, if we could go into private session for about 10, may be 15 minutes, please.

20 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:36:01] Private session.

21 (Private session at 11.36 a.m.) * (Reclassified partially in public)

22 THE COURT OFFICER: [11:36:03] We are in private session, Mr President.

23 (Redacted)

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9 MR OBHOF: [11:37:11]

10 Q. [11:37:12] Now, Madam Witness, you said you left around 7 to go to Abok. About how long did
11 it take you to walk to Abok?

12 THE INTERPRETER: [11:37:38] There is no sound coming through, your Honour.

13 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:37:42] So we have to fix this first.

14 Madam Witness, I don't know if you hear me, but there was -- at the moment there was no sound
15 coming through, so we will have to wait a second.

16 I think I hear something. Madam Witness, we have also a problem with the sound. Would you
17 please be so kind to repeat what you have just said.

18 THE WITNESS: [11:38:25](Interpretation) I stated that in the forest that people had encamped, when
19 the girls came back and reported back at around 2 p.m. people left their place. We did not leave at
20 exactly 2, but we left later on in the evening. We got to -- by the time we got to Abok it was around 7,
21 7 something.

22 (Redacted)

23 (Redacted)

24 (Redacted)

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19 Q. [11:43:44] Now, Madam Witness, during this entire time, whether during the attack or before the
20 attack, was there anyone there whom you recognised from before?

21 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:44:00] I think this can be answered in open session, I would say.

22 MR OBHOF: [11:44:07] Yes, I would agree.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:44:09] Back to open session.

24 (Open session at 11.44 a.m.)

25 THE COURT OFFICER: [11:44:11] We are back in open session, Mr President.

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1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:44:28] Perhaps you repeat the question so that it is on the record
2 also publicly.

3 MR OBHOF: [11:44:34] Okay.

4 Q. [11:44:35] Now, Madam Witness, we are back in public again. Now during the attack on Abok,
5 or before the attack on Abok or after, was there anyone whom you remembered or whom you knew
6 from before there at Abok?

7 A. [11:44:57] No.

8 MR OBHOF: [11:45:09] If I may, may I ask a name which she mentioned earlier during the day?

9 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:45:17] Yes.

10 MR OBHOF: [11:45:18]

11 Q. [11:45:18] Do you remember seeing a person named Opio Kenneth at Abok?

12 A. [11:45:28] I saw him when we had gathered in the forest and they were telling us to go to Abok.
13 He was also present in the forest.

14 Q. [11:45:47] Now without stating anything that may have happened, for about how long did the
15 fight in Abok carry on?

16 A. [11:46:07] There was gunfire for approximately -- well, I don't think I can tell you the exact time,
17 that it was from this time to that time, because I didn't have a watch.

18 Q. [11:46:33] Let's go in relationship to Pajule. Was it shorter than Pajule or was it longer than
19 Pajule?

20 A. [11:46:46] It was longer than Pajule.

21 Q. [11:46:54] After the LRA left Abok, were did they go next?

22 A. [11:47:05] We went back to the original spot in the forest where we left from.

23 Q. [11:47:21] And when you arrived there at the original spot at Akello Alyek forest, what happened
24 then?

25 A. [11:47:34] When we returned we just sat there, and then there was gunfire again.

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1 Q. [11:47:57] And without talking about your involvement, what happened when there was gunfire?

2 A. [11:48:07] When there was gunfire people left and fled. But as people were fleeing, there were

3 some people who were saying that they had shot the person whose name I mentioned, Kalalang.

4 People said that he had been shot, but I did not see it, I did not see him being shot.

5 Q. [11:48:45] And you said when you returned you just sat there and then there was gunfire. How

6 much time was there from when you returned to when the gunfire started?

7 A. [11:49:09] It was approximately an hour. It did not -- it wasn't a whole day.

8 Q. [11:49:44] Was it still dark when the gunfire started?

9 A. [11:49:50] It was -- it was kind of -- I can't really remember. I think it was daybreak or dawn, but

10 I can't really remember.

11 Q. [11:50:16] Now after the gunfire and after it had stopped, what happened then? Well, sorry, let

12 me -- after you fled, where did you go after you fled?

13 A. [11:50:46] People just fled within the forest. I don't know the names of the locations.

14 Q. [11:50:55] Now after this attack did you remain in Kalalang's group?

15 A. [11:51:11] No, I -- we left and we got to a certain point where people split up in two different

16 groups. And after that I did not spend that much time in the bush. It was shortly thereafter that I

17 escaped.

18 Q. [11:51:45] You said that you split up into two different groups. To which group did you go?

19 The name of this group?

20 A. [11:51:58] It was more than two groups, because at the time, all the groups had come together,

21 and when they split up, it was more than two groups. Each -- every person went back to their original

22 group. There was more than two groups.

23 Q. [11:52:18] This is coming up to my last part of our discussion today. You said you stayed for just

24 a short while afterwards, I believe you said about a month in the LRA. Could you tell Court how you

25 came to escape the LRA?

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1 A. [11:52:48] I escaped from a cassava garden. People were uprooting cassava to eat and it was
2 there that I escaped. I walked and walked for about one day. I met some person who took me to
3 a camp, the camp is in Kitgum, in Kitgum Matidi. And after that, I don't know whether I was taken to
4 Kitgum Madit, and then I was taken to Lira. And after that, I was taken back home.

5 Q. [11:53:44] When you were sent to uproot cassava, how many people went with you?

6 A. [11:53:55] There were many people. There were people who were supposed to carry the
7 uprooted cassava and other luggage. Soldiers were also there and there were other people who were
8 uprooting the cassava. So there were many people in the garden.

9 Q. [11:54:20] When you finally decided to attempt to escape, how close was the nearest person to
10 you?

11 A. [11:54:35] I -- I don't know how to estimate it from here, but there was at least some kind of space
12 that -- or distance from where the other people were that enabled me to escape.

13 Q. [11:55:14] And if you remember, how mature was the cassava you were uprooting?

14 A. [11:55:26] Well, it was edible. At that time, it was already of edible size.

15 MR OBHOF: [11:55:44] Your Honour, that concludes the Defence's questions.

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:55:48] Thank you very much.

17 MR OBHOF: [11:55:49] Thank you very much, Madam Witness.

18 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [11:55:52] I give now the floor to the Prosecution, to Madam Ndagire,
19 you may proceed.

20 QUESTIONED BY MS NDAGIRE:

21 Q. [11:56:23] Good afternoon, Madam Witness. I think it's afternoon there, while it's not yet
22 afternoon over here.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: (Microphone not activated)

24 MS NDAGIRE:

25 Q. [11:57:00] My name is Sanyu Ndagire and if you recall, we met yesterday during the courtesy

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1 meeting. And I will be asking you --

2 A. [11:57:14] Yes, I do recall I met you.

3 Q. [11:57:17] Now I will be asking you a few questions on behalf of the Prosecution.

4 Now this morning when you were talking to us, when you were telling the Court about the Pajule

5 attack, specifically the RV before the attack, you said at page 19 of the transcript that the commanders

6 would walk by themselves and that the rest of you followed. This was at Pajule. And you agree

7 with me there were many of you at Pajule, correct?

8 A. [11:58:11] There were many people, yes, indeed, but the number of people that went to Abok was

9 bigger than the number of people who went to Pajule.

10 Q. [11:58:35] All right, but let's focus on Pajule right now. We will come to Abok shortly thereafter.

11 You don't recall every commander who was at Pajule, right?

12 A. [11:58:56] No.

13 Q. [11:59:03] And in fact your role at Pajule was -- was quite minor. It was to collect food, correct?

14 A. [11:59:16] That's correct.

15 Q. [11:59:21] At page 24 of the transcript, again, this morning, you said at Pajule you saw the LRA

16 take foodstuffs, correct?

17 A. [11:59:36] Yes.

18 Q. [11:59:41] And in order to take those foodstuffs, Madam Witness, the LRA broke into the shops at

19 Pajule, isn't it?

20 A. [11:59:53] Well, it was not easy to take food, yes, but they took.

21 Q. [12:00:11] And the LRA also took food from the camps -- from the home in the -- the homes in the

22 camp, isn't it, Madam Witness?

23 A. [12:00:29] Yes.

24 Q. [12:00:34] And these homes belonged to the civilians who lived in Pajule camp, isn't it?

25 A. [12:00:46] Yes, the homes that are in the camp.

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1 Q. [12:00:55] The LRA also forced the civilians to carry the food that they had taken from the camp,
2 isn't it?

3 A. [12:01:07] Yes.

4 Q. [12:01:16] And as the LRA forced the civilians to carry this food, some of them were carrying
5 weapons, isn't it?

6 A. [12:01:26] They had guns.

7 Q. [12:01:45] Now let's move on to the Abok attack. At page 38 of this morning's transcript, you
8 said that at Abok, you saw people ransacking shops and people taking food. You remember saying
9 this, correct?

10 A. [12:02:09] I remember.

11 Q. [12:02:12] And when you were referring to these people, you meant the LRA, correct?

12 A. [12:02:20] Yes, they took food.

13 Q. [12:02:31] The LRA also took food from civilian homes at Abok camp, isn't it?

14 A. [12:02:41] Yes, there was food there and that is where they took the food from.

15 Q. [12:02:55] And similarly, the LRA forced the civilians to carry this food from the camp, isn't it?

16 A. [12:03:07] Well, there was gunshots and people fled, so I do not know what happened because
17 even the items that were taken, some of them were thrown along the way because gunfire was all over
18 the place.

19 Q. [12:03:48] But you recall seeing civilians leaving Abok with the LRA, don't you?

20 A. [12:04:00] I do not know the people who were abducted from Abok because there were very
21 many people.

22 Q. [12:04:23] And you would recall as well seeing the LRA burning the civilian homes --

23 A. [12:04:33] I do not recall.

24 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:04:38] Perhaps you repeat this question because since there was
25 such an overlap, this might not have been the answer to your last question. So perhaps you repeat it,

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1 and we get perhaps the same answer, but we give it a try.

2 MS NDAGIRE: [12:04:56]

3 Q. [12:04:57] Madam Witness, I will ask the question again. The LRA also burnt civilian homes at

4 Abok camp, isn't it?

5 A. [12:05:12] We had already fled, I did not see.

6 MS NDAGIRE: [12:05:22] Your Honours, I request that we now move to private session. I'll be

7 asking a few questions for about five minutes or so.

8 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:05:46] Okay. Then for about -- like always, we do not know

9 exactly, for about five minutes we go to private session.

10 (Private session at 12.05 p.m.)

11 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:05:56] We are in private session, Mr President.

12 (Redacted)

13 (Redacted)

14 (Redacted)

15 (Redacted)

16 (Redacted)

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21 (Open session at 12.33 p.m.)

22 THE COURT OFFICER: [12:33:12] We are in open session, Mr President.

23 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:33:13] And let me say also something in open session. Of course,

24 having a full picture what happened to the witness, I word it very abstractly, also might enhance her

25 credibility, if we have everything or most of it on the table.

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1 Ms Ndagire, do you have further questions for the witness?

2 MS NDAGIRE: [12:33:47] No, I have none, your Honour.

3 Thank you, Madam Witness, for answering my questions.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:33:51] Ms Sehmi.

5 MS SEHMI: I have a few questions, your Honour.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:33:53] Yes, please proceed.

7 QUESTIONED BY MS SEHMI:

8 Q. [12:33:54] Good afternoon, Madam Witness. My name is Anushka Sehmi and I am going to be
9 asking you a few questions on behalf of the victims participating in this case.

10 Now, Madam Witness, you said you were in school when you were abducted.

11 A. [12:34:14] Yes, I was.

12 Q. [12:34:15] Were you able to continue with your education after you escaped from the LRA?

13 A. [12:34:22] Yes, I was able to.

14 Q. [12:34:29] Now you told the Court that you escaped after the attack on Abok IDP camp. Could
15 you help the Court understand what made you decide to escape?

16 A. [12:34:42] Life in -- it wasn't my wish to be in the bush, that is why I made the decision to escape.

17 Q. [12:34:56] And after you escaped, did you receive any assistance or support, either from NGOs or
18 the government?

19 A. [12:35:09] I did not receive any direct assistance.

20 Q. [12:35:19] Thank you for that, Madam Witness. And what impact did your abduction have on
21 your life now?

22 A. [12:35:37] My abduction has made my life very difficult. I'm not happy, I cannot be happy like
23 people who were not abducted. I'm constantly sad.

24 Q. [12:35:56] Thank you for sharing with us, Madam Witness.

25 MS SEHMI: [12:35:57] I have no further questions, your Honours.

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1 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:36:00] Thank you.

2 Ms Walter.

3 MS WALTER: [12:36:05] No question, your Honour. Thank you.

4 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:36:07] Any further questions by the Defence? I don't assume.

5 MR OBHOF: [12:36:10] No, your Honour. Thank you.

6 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:36:11] Thank you, Mr Obhof.

7 Madam Witness, this concludes your testimony. On behalf of the Chamber I would like to thank you
8 that you came to the video-link location and helped us establish the truth. Let me say that talking
9 about these painful events in the past is very difficult, we all know this in this courtroom, and it is a big
10 achievement of the witnesses to come to the video link or to this Court and to tell us about it so that we
11 can establish the truth. So it is a big achievement by you that you speak freely about what has
12 happened to you. We want to thank you for that. We wish you a safe trip back home and hope you
13 are well in the future.

14 THE WITNESS: [12:37:06](Interpretation) Thank you.

15 (The witness is excused)

16 PRESIDING JUDGE SCHMITT: [12:37:07] This concludes not only the testimony of this witness, but
17 also the hearing for today.

18 We continue on Monday with D-134 at 9.30.

19 THE COURT USHER: [12:37:20] All rise.

20 (The hearing ends in open session at 12.37 p.m.)

21 RECLASSIFICATION REPORT

22 Pursuant to the Trial Chamber' IX's instructions, ICC-02/04-01/15-497, dated 13 July 2016, the public
23 reclassified and lesser redacted version of this transcript is filed in the case.