

CASE NO: I EIR-98-41-5  
EXHIBIT NO: B 324  
DATE ADMITTED: 20-3-2008  
TENDERED BY: D. E. F. E. N. U. E  
NAME OF WITNESS: R. V. P. U. T. T. E. N.

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FM CAPT R.A. VAN PUTTEN, GLO 302 SQN RNLAf, GILZE-RIJEN AFB, NL,  
FAX 32-1-011311612-98267  
TO MGEN R.A. DALLAIRE, DEPUTY COMMANDER LFC, FAX 1-514-462-8025

General, Sir

I finally found my notes about the radiomessages from the first 24 hours of the Rwandese crisis. The following happened, in the evening at about 20.15 the president's plane crashed. An explosion was reported and later there were rumours on the radio that a plane crashed. At about 21.00 hours people started to call you. At least one minister and the prime-minister (she did sound relieved). At about 22.00 hours somebody informed you about a meeting in the office of the chief of staff of the army. We went to this location. Here I started with my first notes.

6 april 22.53 hrs

F8 patrols around American Club

6 april 22.57 hrs

K9 automatic gun fire heard

6 april 22.59 hrs

F0 shooting downtown

6 april 23.00 hrs

ZK9 to F8 American Club/Milles Collines no patrol but only four armed jeeps

F8 team to pick up CAO, that's why

6 april 23.05 hrs

ADO to F0 small arms fire close to gate American Club

F8 they must remain inside, sporadic fire in the streets, soldiers nervous

ZK9 to F8 cannot comply to your requirement

F8 roger, I'll keep monitoring

Movcon to MCO situation airport normal, no transport to take us to residence

6 april 23.15 hrs

F0 to F8           panic near Meridien roundabout

6 april 23.27 hrs

C0 to F0           will you send armed escort

F0                   yes

F8 to K9           contact team Kanobe

K9                   no, company commander (?) always busy

F8                   info

K9                   unit taken weapons and ammunition

K9                   no info aircraft, not allowed to leave building

F9                   sitrep, chief of staff genmdarmerie/army wish  
alert (?), presidential guard back to camp. He  
wishes our support to calm the city. They are in  
place until the political situation is clear

F38 to F9          info to RPF ?

D0                   acknowledge

ZF9                  wait

In between we went to the house of the SRSG, we were accompanied by a colonel and ltcol Rwabalinda. Just before the Meridien roundabout we saw people, arrested by the FRG. After your meeting with the SRSG we went back to the office of the chief of staff of the army.

7 april 00.58

ZF9 to F8          from K9, completed discussion maintain (joint)  
patrols, K9 only problem presidential guards back  
to barracks

F8 to K9          are you commencing joint patrols immediately

K9                   positive, contact gendarmerie, maximum patrol

F8                   rescue mrs de Liso

K9                   roger, try asap

7 april 01.20 hrs

K9 no report crash site  
 F9 one element at least at crash site, chief of staff  
 gendarmerie has no problems  
 F9 people cannot approach site  
 F9 to F8 sitrep on conv (?) New York

7 april 01.22 hrs

F9 recommunicate New York

We went back to HQ, you started to call with UNNY and early in the morning people started to call us (beginning of arresting people). Among the people calling was also the Prime-Minister. As far as I can remember also mr Lando called us before he "disappeared". After 10.00 hrs we went to downtown Kigali. We went with Peter Maggen (major, artillery, Belgian Army). He drove the car, we took a route avoiding the Meridien roundabout. We finally arrived at the Milles Collines Hotel. There was an UNMO and also two Bangla Desh BTR's. You went with Peter Maggen to the Ministry of Defense and told me to try to reach the hiding-place of the Prime-Minister. You ordered, through me, the BTR-crews to stay near the Milles Collines Hotel.

There was no possibility to pass the road-blocks to the PM's hiding-place. Though warned several times, one of the BTR's left. (When we returned in the afternoon, the other BTR was also gone without permission.) There was a lot of shooting in the neighbourhood (small arms and hand grenades), I couldn't see where the shooting came from. After about half an hour, Peter Maggen came to pick me up and took me also to the Ministry of Defense. At this location I made the following notes.

7 april 11.30 hrs

K0 to F9 luting at the marketplace between Remera and  
 airport

F4 to F38 smoke from airport

H to F0 from G, 15 people within hour evacuated

F0 to K9 from ZF9A(?) location PM designate in house next  
 to his house

7 april 12.00 hrs

K9 to ZF9 report 13 Belgians killed in Camp Kigali, released  
 Togo UNMO is making statement, they are executed,  
 two confirmed and eleven suspected

K0 to ZF9 call civpol police officers to centre de transport de Kigali, problems

F6 to F0 to all staff officers, report before nightfall in HQ. Shells of mortars in front of Amahoro stadium

F38 to ZF8A our house (Don Bosco) under siege, group of youth entering

F38 to F8 organize something  
roadblock in front of Amahoro stadium

7 april 13.00 hrs

F38 to ZF9 note, to mgen Dallaire from mgen Kagame; I have just learned many homes of our (suspected) supporters are surrounded by RGF-soldiers. The intentions certainly clear. Informing you that own forces have to react to protect own. I'm very serious and want to info you before.

ZF8A serious situation, start burning things

K8 to R9 civil ?? climb into house 250 m Milob HQ

7 april 13.15 hrs

F0 to F6 machinegun fire around Meridien/King Faisal Hospital

to ZF9 Dr Kabia to pick up

K0 2 APC's to move, cannot go  
3 APC's surrounded near Amahoro

Kabia, 33 avenue Paul VI

cleaning roadblocks

F38 to F9 fm Kagame to FC, text, we have no object which people investigate planecrash. UNAMIR should do all it can to protect arrested politicians, the sooner the better

F8 to F3 put APC through roadblock

F3 people in front

F3 people lying  
APC to other locations

C0 to K0 from airport, 40 RGF, two pick-up and one bus, to Remera  
 K9 to F9 PA1 waiting  
 ZF8A to F8 ZF8A with team 15 people in house, when move they will be killed

**7 april 13.45 hrs**

ZF8A to F8 I'll move, people very violent  
 F8 to ZF8A wait for a while  
 2 APC Milles Collines when ready to you (maybe)  
 K0 to F0 3-ton with armed escort to Amahoro from Rutbat will collect UN members from different locations  
 F3 to F9 vice premier RPF 86942

**7 april 14.00 hrs**

F31 to F38 first message FC to Mulindi transmitted  
 F6 to O send transport  
 O wait for our sign to start  
 F6 send ten pick-ups  
 O trying pick-ups and escort  
 F6 not before 16.30 hrs  
 F8 to ZF8A own judgment  
 ZF8A situation desperate

**7 april 14.30 hrs**

F4 to F8 protection for Meridien  
 F4 not allowed to leave without clearance, security?  
 V21 to ZF9 Urugio guards drinking  
 F7A to F31 ask F9 call 86942 mr Kito RPF  
 F8 pickups for Meridien  
 V21 self vehicles

F8 to Meridien

H2 to C8 coast is clear from Urugio to Meridien

ZF8A start moving

K9 to F8 problem in front of Amahoro stadium, 14.20 (hrs?)  
Kibat surrounded by crowd, K9 no contact with  
Gendarmerie CO, action, they will fire to stadium,  
K9 need Gendarmerie CO

K9 to ZF9 info

**7 april 15.06 hrs**

K69 to F8 collected want to withdraw cars as (?)

F38 to F8 info three pickups from RPF standby in front CND  
RPF confirm they want to save threatened people,  
F9 long talk, RPF don't keep looking at killing

F8 go out know, lot of problems

Movcon Airport situation normal

306 to ZF9 heavy firefight Amahoro stadium

F8 to F38 you under attack in front stadium (?)

F8 to F9 (from K9 ?) RGF beeting bat cdr of light armoured  
vehicles

F8 gunfire down

ZF9A many people fled

At 15.20 hrs you sent Peter Maggen and me (together with three or four gendarmes) to the residence of Dr Kabia. We were stopped and threatened by Presidential Guards. We came back without Dr Kabia and at about 15.45 hrs we tried again to pick him up, now together with a pickup full of gendarmes. We finally managed to take him with us.

**7 april 16.00 hrs**

K9 to F9 recce bat comes to stabilize positions with four  
vehicles

F0 to F5 troops moving to Meridien roundabout

**7 april 16.15 hrs**

F38 road from Meridien to Amahoro under heavy fire  
don't use it

F8 to F9 RPF attack presidential guard camp

F8 to ZK9 want to know situation about kidnap

ZK9 one squad missing, thirteen persons

F4 to F8 civil armed group surrounding roundabout

to ZF9 New York for F9 74022

**7 april 16.40 hrs**

F31 to F0 please phone 75347

306 RGF soldiers come in house UNDP

306 to F9 two RGF soldiers went in house

V21 to F8 inform civil convoy in Meridien arrived

**7 april 16.45 hrs**

? CND small arms fire and mortar rounds

C9 to F9 RPF communicate

KR9 RGF/Gendarmerie firing on RPF near Amahoro stadium

to F38 from RGF communications CND under fire  
RGF-RPF contact

? Where Prime Minister

? executed in UNDP

? New York confirm where and how Prime died

F38 to PA2 discussing with RPF-representative who told me no  
talk with RGF as killing carries on

F38 intermedium

**7 april 17.10 hrs**

F38 to PA2 after discussion with RPF-representative, but stop  
presidential guard killing innocent, negotiate at  
CND

PA2 not at CND

F38 then we have a problem

F0 to ZF9 we see many RPF soldiers near Meridien

F4 military people in garden Meridien,

F4 to F0 one section position rear side Meridien, not UNAMIR, think RPF

F38 to F9 someone in touch recce because RPF fights presidential guard

F0 to F4 act as commander Meridien, Kibat soldiers to protect Meridien, just show presence

F38 to F9 86942

F38 to F9 84213

F2 to F8 VIP assassination Kivu confirmed

C9 to F9 call me 1018

7 april 17.45 hrs

K3 to F0 contact liaison officer RGF, now where living, asked armed escort, back before dark

K0 to F0 from Rutbat, RPF reached location

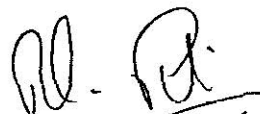
F4 to F0 no protection at Meridien, nothing seen

F0 to K0 RPF not in stadium, not much danger

We left the Ministry of Defense, you went to the office of the chief of staff of the army, before, you dropped me at the UNDP house to keep an eye at the 25 people that were supposed to be there (with another UNMO). After about twenty minutes, you had me picked up because there was nobody in the house. Later that evening we went to Kigali Hospital to count the killed Belgian soldiers. After that we went back to HQ. Though guided by a pick-up loaded with gendarmes we were ambushed on our way back. After arrival at HQ, the gendarmes were afraid to go back. We kept them at HQ for about 24 hours.

Sir, this is what I remember me and what I understand from my own notes.

Regards,

  
Robert van Putten  
Captain RNLA