Trial Hearing (Open Session) ICC-01/05-01/08

- Witness: CAR-OTP-PPPP-0209
- 1 International Criminal Court
- 2 Trial Chamber III Courtroom 2
- 3 Situation: Central African Republic
- 4 In the case of The Prosecutor v. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo ICC-01/05-01/08
- 5 Presiding Judge Sylvia Steiner, Judge Joyce Aluoch and Judge Kuniko Ozaki
- 6 Trial Hearing
- 7 Tuesday, 7 June 2011
- 8 (The hearing starts in open session at 9.38 a.m.)
- 9 THE COURT USHER: All rise. The International Criminal Court is now in session.
- 10 Please be seated.
- 11 THE COURT OFFICER: Good morning, your Honours, Madam President. We are in
- 12 open session.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Good morning, court officer. Could you please call the
- 14 case.
- 15 THE COURT OFFICER: Situation in the Central African Republic, in the case of The
- 16 Prosecutor versus Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, case reference ICC-01/05-01/08.
- 17 THE INTERPRETER: Message from the interpreters: The French booth is having a
- technical problem and cannot hear the proceedings.
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Apparently, we are having a problem with the French
- 20 booth. Please let me know when the problem is solved.
- 21 THE COURT OFFICER: Madam President, apparently there is a technical difficulty in
- 22 the French booth with the equipment. It's going to be resolved very soon, I hope. And
- 23 I'll keep you informed. Thank you.
- 24 Madam President, actually, there is no French interpretation because of a problem with
- 25 the microphone, or the equipment related to the microphones, but it's going to be

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- 1 probably solved in a few minutes. If it will take more than that, then I will inform you as
- 2 soon as I can.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes, since we don't have translation into French,
- 4 nor French transcript, it's just a short reminder that you want to address the Bench.
- 5 MR HAYNES: Yes. I don't want to add to the problems, but we don't appear to have a
- 6 working I-Transcend system.
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: And I have mine in French, which is very unusual, so
- 8 maybe we could try to solve all problems at the same time.
- 9 THE COURT OFFICER: Madam President, if I may, I am hearing now there is French
- 10 interpretation so that problem is solved and a technician will come into the courtroom to
- 11 help out Mr Haynes and other members of their team with the transcript problems they
- 12 have.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: All members of the Defence team are having problems
- 14 with the transcript or only Mr Haynes?
- 15 MR HAYNES: No, all of us.
- 16 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: It's a conspiracy.
- 17 MR HAYNES: Your word, not mine.
- 18 (Pause in proceedings)
- 19 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: I am informed that there is a need to restart the system in
- 20 order to have the problem fixed. We are going, then, to suspend for ten minutes. I ask,
- 21 please, the parties and participants to stay around and we hope that in ten minutes we can
- 22 resume the session.
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: All rise.
- 24 (Recess taken at 9.50 a.m.)
- 25 (Upon resuming in open session at 10.26 a.m.)

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- 1 THE COURT USHER: All rise. Please be seated.
- 2 THE COURT OFFICER: Your Honours, we are in open session.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So, welcome back. Let's try again. Good morning and
- 4 welcome Prosecution team, legal representatives of victims, Defence team, Mr Jean-Pierre
- 5 Bemba Gombo. I have no transcript. Good morning to our interpreters, court reporters.
- 6 We will continue today with the questioning of Witness 209. Before we bring the witness
- 7 in, I would like to again ask whether Mr Haynes could give us any estimation on the
- 8 length of the questioning, just in order for the Chamber and VWU to organise themselves
- 9 in relation to the next witness.
- 10 MR HAYNES: I don't think it would be wise to inconvenience the next witness by
- bringing him to Court today. I think I will finish today but, just in case, I don't think it
- would be a kindness to him to bring him here.
- 13 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you, Mr Haynes. I will ask, please, court officer
- 14 to turn into closed session in order for the witness to be brought into the courtroom.
- 15 (Closed session at 10.31 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President.
- 17 (The witness enters the courtroom)
- 18 WITNESS: CAR-OTP-PPPP-0209 (On former oath)
- 19 (The witness speaks Sango)
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please, turn into open session.
- 21 (Open session at 10.32 a.m.)
- 22 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Good morning, Mr Witness.
- 24 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Good morning, your Honour.
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Are you feeling well and ready to continue with your

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- testimony?
- THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) I am ready to continue giving testimony before the 2
- 3 Court.

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- PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you, Mr Witness. Before I give the floor to the 4
- 5 Defence, I need to remind you that you are still under oath; do you understand that, sir?
- 6 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) I fully understand that, your Honour.
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: And I also want to remind you that you are under
- 8 protective measures; that the public cannot identify you and therefore you should refrain
- 9 from giving any information in open session that could lead to your identification. If
- 10 need be, we go into closed session. Do you understand that, sir?
- 11 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I understand.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes, please, you have the floor.
- 13 MR HAYNES: Thank you, your Honour.
- 14 QUESTIONED BY MR HAYNES: (Continuing)
- 15 Q. Good morning, Mr Witness.
- 16 A. Good morning, Counsel.
- I'm going to do my very best to finish my questioning of you today. I hope that 17 Q.
- 18 makes you happy.
- 19 A. It all depends on the intensity of the work that we are about to begin.
- 20 Very well. Well, shall we begin? O.
- A. Yes. 21
- 22 And because of what we're going to talk about, I'm going to ask that we go straight Q.
- 23 into private session so that there's no danger of your identity being revealed to the public.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please.
- (Private session at 10.35 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session 25

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- 1 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 2 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much.
- 3 Q. Mr Witness, do you remember yesterday afternoon, when we finished, we were
- 4 talking about the (Redacted)?
- 5 A. Yes, I remember that.
- 6 Q. Did (Redacted) any of the commanders of Mr Bozizé's
- 7 forces?
- 8 A. In my statement yesterday I said that (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted) immediately thereafter I fled so I was not in a position to meet
- 10 with him.
- 11 Q. Did (Redacted) any of the commanders of Mr Bozizé's
- 12 forces?
- 13 A. Let me repeat, Counsel, on the 28th I fled because (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted) one of the commanders of Bozizé's
- 15 men?
- 16 Q. Well, (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted) the commanders of Bozizé's forces?
- 18 A. Counsel, yesterday I told you that (Redacted)
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 They would have considered (Redacted) to be a supporter of Bozizé. It was difficult for a
- 21 (Redacted) Bozizé's men; that is very clear.
- 22 Q. Thank you. When you (Redacted), what made you
- 23 think that (Redacted)?
- 24 A. But who sent Mustapha here? It was Mr Patassé who asked him to come to the
- 25 country. Once -- well, since (Redacted) it was quite normal (Redacted)

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- 1 (Redacted) That was why I wasn't worried when (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 Q. Thank you. Now, I want us to look again at the document we were last looking at
- 4 yesterday afternoon when we finished.
- 5 It's document number 4 on the Defence list. The last four digits in the English version
- 6 are 0115, but in French they are 0065, and it ought to be the French version which is put on
- 7 the screen for the witness.
- 8 I think we need to scroll down a little. And could the paragraph which begins, "D'accord.
- 9 Lorsque je suis sortie" be made as big as possible for Mr Witness.
- 10 Sir, are you able to read the words on the screen?
- 11 A. Yes. I can't read and you are asking me questions. How can I read the text and
- 12 you're asking me questions?
- 13 Q. Well, I will wait until you have read it, and when you've read it and you are ready
- 14 for a question, will you please tell me?
- 15 A. Counsel, you can ask your question.
- 16 Q. Thank you very much, sir. When you discussed what (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)?
- 18 A. Counsel, I find that all those proposals are to be found in the text on the screen. It's
- 19 just a matter of finding a safeguard of safeguards to ensure that there was no longer
- 20 any looting. In actual fact, it was to (Redacted) a way of living together, or coexisting in a
- 21 peaceful way, so that was the meaning. Correction, that was the reason for (Redacted)
- 22 Q. But (Redacted) what assistance he wanted from the local
- 23 population?
- 24 A. (Redacted) the soldiers that were accompanying were of various origins. He
- could help (Redacted) but he could not keep control of everyone. Amongst his men there were

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- 1 soldiers lacking in discipline, and he (Redacted) of
- 2 matters in case things went out of control so that he could intervene.
- 3 Q. Well, let me put something very specific to you: Was the question of
- 4 accommodation for officers (Redacted)
- 5 A. No, (Redacted) about accommodations. (Redacted) about the security of the
- 6 various goods that the inhabitants still had in their possession, as well as raising the
- 7 awareness of the people in the bush, encouraging them to leave. (Redacted) about
- 8 officers' accommodations.
- 9 Q. Just so that we're clear, I mean places for them to live, was that not (Redacted)
- 10 A. Counsel, the person that (Redacted) had forces. He was representing the Head
- of State in the locality, who had given him an agreement to live in the house belonging to
- the (Redacted) They had full powers. They had power. The population
- 13 the fled. They had taken over the homes of the residents. No one could drive them out
- of the homes where they were. (Redacted) about accommodations of officers or of
- 15 soldiers.
- 16 Q. Who had given him permission to live in the house of the (Redacted)
- 17 A. I've told you here, they had weapons. They were sent by the Head of State. They
- 18 took control of the locality. The population fled. Who could he have asked permission
- of, to live in one particular house or another? He was able to do what he wanted to at
- 20 that period of time.
- 21 Q. Very well. Can we look at item number 4, please. Can you see that on the page
- 22 on the screen?
- 23 THE INTERPRETER: Correction from the English booth: In the last reply the witness
- said, "They did not need permission to obtain what they wanted to get at that time."

25 MR HAYNES:

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- 1 Q. Why (Redacted) that it would create problems if a
- 2 married woman was raped?
- 3 A. (Redacted) you see, in our society, if someone sleeps with someone else's
- 4 wife, that causes problems and misunderstandings in the community. So there you have
- 5 it. (Redacted) that matter because if the MLC soldiers started to sleep with the
- 6 wives of the inhabitants, that was going to create problems between the local population
- 7 and the soldiers. You see, the problem of a wife is very very delicate if one is to -- if one
- 8 wishes to ensure peaceful coexistence.
- 9 Q. So what (Redacted) was, "Your soldiers should not sleep with
- 10 married women." Is that correct?
- 11 A. No, it wasn't like that. I told you if there are consensual relations between soldiers
- and unmarried women that's not a problem, but if they were to sleep with married
- women that would create problems. I said that the soldiers were free to approach
- unmarried women and to have consensual relations with them, but not married women.
- 15 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much. I think we can now venture into open session,
- 16 Madam President.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please.
- 18 (Open session at 10.53 a.m.)
- 19 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session Madam President.
- 20 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we are now in open session. Be careful
- 21 with any information that could lead to your identification. Mr Haynes.
- 22 MR HAYNES: Thank you, your Honour.
- 23 Q. On 10 December, was there any fighting in the town of Damara?
- 24 A. What fighting are you talking about, Counsel? I'm not aware of any.
- 25 Q. Good. I think that answers my question. Were you aware on 10 December of the

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- 1 position of the front line?
- 2 A. I said that there was no fighting on the 10th when I came back out. So there you
- 3 have it; that's all I can add.
- 4 Q. Okay. Where was the front line between 10 December and the end of January?
- 5 A. What fighting are you talking about? Counsel, I've told you that on the 10th, when
- 6 I came out, the Banyamulengue had control of the locality. There was no fighting. It
- 7 was on the 10th that I went, in the company of the notables, to the camp to see Mustapha.
- 8 Please try to be clear. What are you talking about? On 10 December there was no
- 9 fighting when I came out.
- 10 Q. Was the fighting between the loyalist forces and Bozizé's men about 10 kilometres
- 11 outside Damara?
- 12 A. Is that what you're talking about? Well, indeed, the Banyamulengue had
- established a kind of checkpoint on the road to Sibut.
- 14 Q. And was that about 10 kilometres outside the town of Damara?
- 15 A. Indeed, it was indeed 10 kilometres away. After taking control of the town of
- 16 Damara the Banyamulengue moved up to 10 kilometres away, along the road towards
- 17 Sibut, and that is where they met with the other forces.
- 18 Q. Thank you. And is that where the Banyamulengue remained throughout most of
- 19 December and January and part of February?
- 20 A. No, no, no. Up until January, I believe after they moved, they moved -- when they
- 21 were attacked around the 31st, around the 31st of December or mid-January, they moved
- 22 towards the town of Sibut. They did not stay only at that particular point, at that place
- where they had set up a kind of checkpoint.
- 24 Q. Did you ever go to the checkpoint?
- 25 A. During the war, what could I have gotten at that place, at that checkpoint? I'll have

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- 1 to tell you: Now, you see, during these events they had all the power. They had the
- 2 strength. I had nothing. What could I have done there at the checkpoint?
- 3 Q. I'll take that as a "no." But did you understand that the majority of the troops were
- 4 stationed at or near the checkpoint 10 kilometres outside Damara?
- 5 A. Counsel, when there is a military camp, is the checkpoint just kind of a line of
- 6 demarcation? They were controlling the locality. The headquarters were the house of
- 7 the Member of Parliament, Mr Sorongope.
- 8 MR HAYNES: Thank you, sir. This was a very short session, but I think we have to
- 9 take a break now.
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you, Mr Haynes.
- 11 Mr Witness, we are going to suspend for half-an-hour. You can have a coffee, take some
- 12 rest. It's 11 o'clock now. We will resume at 11.30.
- 13 Please, court officer, turn into closed session in order for the witness to be taken outside
- 14 the courtroom. And in the meantime, we are going to suspend and resume at 11.30.
- 15 (Closed session at 11.01 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President.
- 17 (The witness stands down)
- 18 THE COURT OFFICER: All rise.
- 19 (Recess taken at 11.01 a.m.)
- 20 (Upon resuming in closed session at 11.36 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 21 THE COURT USHER: All rise. Please be seated.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Welcome back. Could, please, court usher bring the
- witness in.
- 24 (The witness enters the courtroom)
- 25 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please turn into open session.

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- 1 (Open session at 11.38 a.m.)
- 2 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you. Mr Witness, welcome back.
- 4 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Thank you, your Honour.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Are you ready to continue giving your testimony?
- 6 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I have no problems, your Honour. I feel a little bit
- 7 ill with my cold, but I have taken something for it and I feel a bit better at the moment.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So we will continue with the Defence questioning.
- 9 Mr Haynes, you have the floor.
- 10 MR HAYNES: Thank you, your Honour.
- 11 Q. Mr Witness, we are in open session so I'm not going to ask you any questions about
- 12 who you are or what you do or what you did or people that you may have met. If you
- think that the answer to any of these questions involves you telling us who you are or
- 14 what you did or about a conversation with anyone in particular, please stop yourself and
- ask to go into private session. Do you understand?
- 16 A. Yes, I understand.
- 17 Q. Good. Then let's try. How many loyalist troops did you understand had come to
- 18 Damara?
- 19 A. Counsel, I believe that I have told you that the document we saw that was written
- 20 by the press is not truthful. Throughout that whole period from 7 December to
- 21 mid-February, no loyalist troops were present in Damara. Even if you send an
- 22 investigating team, nobody will tell you that there were loyalist troops in Damara. There
- 23 were, of course, policemen and military police who were posted in the locality, but I did
- 24 not see loyalist forces in Damara.
- 25 Q. By "loyalist," I mean troops who were fighting on behalf of President Patassé. How

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- 1 many of them were in Damara, to your knowledge?
- 2 A. Counsel, I don't know what you mean by "loyalist." You are putting together
- 3 everybody who was fighting to defend President Patassé's regime and the Central African
- 4 forces. I think it's important to draw a distinction.
- 5 Q. Well, let's ignore the word "loyalist." How many troops were in Damara, to your
- 6 knowledge, after 10 December?
- 7 A. Counsel, I don't understand your question at this point. The forces fighting on
- 8 behalf of President Patassé in Damara? The forces who were fighting Bozizé's rebels?
- 9 I'm not too sure what you mean by all of this.
- 10 Q. Well, it's quite a simple question: How many of them were there?
- 11 A. But, Counsel, you're asking me how many of them were there, but I'm asking you to
- 12 clarify what you mean. Are you talking perhaps about the people who had come to help
- 13 Patassé's regime? They weren't there on the 7th. But I can tell you about the troops
- 14 from the 10th onwards. Or if you're talking about Bozizé's troops, I know that from the
- 15 27th onwards I can tell you something but I don't really understand what your question is
- 16 getting at. So I really don't understand the question.
- 17 Q. I'm talking about the people who took the town on the 7th, (Redacted)
- 18 (Redacted) and who were there until the middle of February. Are you clear
- 19 what I'm talking about?
- 20 A. Well, yes, now the question is clear. Until now, it really wasn't precise to my mind.
- 21 To answer a question, it really needs to be a question that is clearly asked and clearly
- 22 understood.
- 23 The people you are talking about who came with the intention of repelling Bozizé's rebels,
- 24 well, I think that after the 30th or the 31st, when the Banyamulengue rebels suffered a loss

25 in Damara, (Redacted) about this but, in this regard, he told me that

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- 1 (Redacted) soldiers and, as far as he was concerned, if he put (Redacted)
- 2 soldiers to fight against the population the damage would have been enormous. So
- 3 that's the estimated figure, (Redacted)
- 4 Q. Did you understand there to be MLC troops in other parts of the Central African
- 5 Republic?
- 6 A. Yes. I think that it was around three localities. In any case, I know that there were
- 7 three localities in the province of M'Poko. There were four, in fact. They were in
- 8 Damara. And there were three others; Boali, Bossembele, Bozoum, as well as Damara.
- 9 Q. And was that at the same time that they were in Damara?
- 10 A. Yes, indeed, because their headquarters was in Damara.
- 11 Q. Now, to your knowledge, who was paying the MLC troops.
- 12 A. I never tried to find that out. I saw soldiers but, as far as their recruitment goes or
- their treatment, it is not something that's directly relevant to me. You could ask me the
- question all day and I don't have a meaningful answer to give you.
- 15 Q. Nobody told you who was paying them?
- 16 A. No, I did not go with the aim of finding out about their military organisation. That
- was not my objective. Not only that, they represented the Head of State in the locality.
- 18 It would be risky to ask a question of that nature. Of course, in certain discussions they
- 19 would reveal certain information, but you cannot ask a soldier if he is paid for the work
- 20 he does.
- 21 THE INTERPRETER: Interpreter correction, page 16, line 17: "treatment" should be
- 22 "salary."
- 23 MR HAYNES:
- Q. And who, so far as you were aware, was feeding these troops?
- 25 A. But it's not for me to try and find out who was feeding them. Because they're paid

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- to do this work, you can't ask this kind of question, Counsel. You can't ask a question
- 2 like this of a soldier. It's their internal organisation. It's of no concern to civilians.
- 3 This was a conflict situation. I could not take the risk of asking this question of even a
- 4 single soldier. I couldn't ask them who was providing their food. Counsel, I'll say this
- 5 again: If you ask me this kind of question from morning through to night, I still couldn't
- 6 give you the answer.
- 7 Q. And from whom were the commanders of these troops getting their intelligence and
- 8 information?
- 9 A. Counsel, I think that all of this is within the military domain and I cannot answer it.
- 10 Even if the soldier were your brother, he would never tell you that this or that other
- person is providing information. That's not the kind of thing that is talked about.
- 12 Q. The commander that you've mentioned, and I don't want you to mention his name
- again, to whom was he accountable in the field?
- 14 A. I haven't understood the question. (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)? Is that the question you're asking me? Because it's important to clarify it;
- 16 otherwise, I really can't answer.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please, let's turn into private session.
- 18 (Private session at 11.54 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 19 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 20 MR HAYNES:
- 21 Q. It was Mustapha I was referring to. To whom was he reporting?
- 22 A. (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted)" No. As far as I was concerned, at a certain date (Redacted)
- 25 was working for Patassé.

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- 1 (Redacted) "This is not the problem of the (Redacted).
- 2 This is the Head of State's problem and I meet with the Head of State." Now, sometimes
- 3 when (Redacted) that kind of information, and so that would be
- 4 the answer.
- 5 (Redacted) up to a certain date Mustapha was reporting to President Patassé. It is only
- 6 afterwards, in one of his -- or on the basis of one of (Redacted) that (Redacted)
- 7 that's how things were. That's my answer.
- 8 Q. Thank you. I just want to look briefly at a few of the things you said on this topic
- 9 during the course of your interviews. And can we start, please, by looking at Defence
- 10 document number 2. The page for those following in English is 0082. Can the witness
- please have on the screen the French page, which is 0034.
- 12 THE INTERPRETER: Interpretation correction, page 18, line 20 of the English transcript:
- 13 "meet with" should be "report to." Thank you.
- 14 MR HAYNES:
- 15 Q. Sir, is that big enough for you to read?
- 16 A. Yes, I have just read this and it is my statement, but the question that you've just
- asked doesn't go along the same lines as all of this. This statement was made after
- 18 13 January 2003. It relates to the period after 13 January 2003, after the property was
- 19 taken away by plane and the Banyamulengue were hoping to find property or goods in
- 20 Sibut, but because the inhabitants of Sibut were aware of this situation they had carried
- 21 away all of their goods and protected their property.
- 22 On my return, (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted) I
- 24 understood that this was a tactic, because if (Redacted) he would perhaps
- 25 have understood that (Redacted) with Bozizé because (Redacted)

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- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 This statement was made concerning the period after 13 January, so if you are asking me
- 3 who was the hierarchical superior, I couldn't say that it was Bemba because I didn't have
- 4 that information. It is important to provide evidence. In the first instance, Mustapha
- 5 was acting under the control of Patassé. That's my point of view. But after the 13th,
- 6 (Redacted) who his boss was. The property was loaded into a plane, and
- 7 after that they went to Sibut. But it was after the 13th. They didn't find anything there.
- 8 That is indeed my statement. Even the Prosecutor asked me this question and I gave an
- 9 answer to it. The legal representatives of the victims, Madam Lawson, asked me the
- same question. But as your question is phrased, it is not clear. Three billion, well, three
- billion, if there had been three billion, they wouldn't have been complaining that they had
- 12 to eat fish every day. When they had nothing, they complained. People came out of the
- 13 bush when they had nothing.
- 14 Counsel, may I ask you a question? Ask Mustapha this: Was he in Damara? There
- 15 you have it. If he was not in Damara, people might think that I had dreamed up all of
- 16 these answers. I might have made a mistake concerning the date. But if you have any
- other questions to ask, of course I am at your disposal to answer them.
- 18 Q. I hadn't actually asked you one, but I will now. Where did you get the information
- 19 from that Patassé had paid the MLC three billion?
- 20 A. I got that information from the (Redacted) They went to Sibut
- on 7 December, gathered all the property and brought it back. By the time they went to
- 22 Sibut, their intention was to gather the property of the inhabitants, but unfortunately for
- 23 them, the population had been informed of their arrival and had taken certain measures.
- 24 They came back empty handed, and they were angry because they hadn't found anything.
- 25 So there were a number of problems, and then they started killing goats and taking away

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- 1 forcibly all the property of the inhabitants. So when they returned from Sibut there was
- 2 tension in the air, and the colonel himself did not agree. So I myself could not have
- 3 dreamed up this amount. (Redacted) president had given their
- 4 leader, Bemba, three billion, whereas they who were on the ground were only eating fish
- 5 and beans.
- 6 So I realised that (Redacted). On the one hand, he had asked for (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted), and that to me appeared to be a trap. So all what I have told you is
- 8 what (Redacted)
- 9 Q. Thank you. So who did you understand was paying the MLC troops?
- 10 A. Yes, indeed, Counsel, I was not aware of the three billion francs. I do not know
- 11 what arrangements Bemba and Patassé had between themselves. (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted) who provided me with that information. They did not have enough food
- and towards the end they were complaining about the need for them to live well, and that
- is why they had to find food, even at the expense of the population. That is why I was
- 15 wondering what was happening. It was at that time that tension grew (Redacted)
- 16 Q. I don't want to be unfair to you, but did you actually say that it was on 7 December
- 17 that these troops went to Sibut?
- 18 A. No, no, no. There must be a total confusion somewhere. On 7 December, that is
- 19 the date on which they occupied Damara town. Up until 13 January 2003 they remained
- at the Apabara (phon) checkpoint and my testimony has been very clear up until the 15th
- 21 of January. It was up to the time when the plane took the property back to the DRC that
- 22 they decided to move on to Sibut, with a view to collecting the property belonging to the
- 23 inhabitants.
- 24 THE INTERPRETER: From the Sango booth, once again an appeal for the witness to be
- 25 asked to slow down. Thank you.

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1 MR HAYNES:

- 2 Q. I asked you that question to clear up something that appeared on the Court record.
- 3 It did appear that you said 7 December, and it may be because you are speaking a bit too
- 4 quickly for the interpreters to translate what you're saying accurately. So we've cleared
- 5 that up, but can you just slow down a bit so that we get a proper understanding of what
- 6 you're saying? Is that okay?
- 7 A. I have understood you, Counsel.
- 8 Q. Thank you. I want to look at another passage of your interview. The last four
- 9 digits of the ERN, for those following in English, is 0131, but for the witness and on the
- screen, can we have 0083, please.
- We need to go down a little way, please. And if the paragraph that begins with the word
- 12 (Redacted)" can be enlarged for the witness, that would be helpful.
- 13 Sir, can you read the answer you gave, beginning, (Redacted) quand ils etaient
- 14 arrives a Bangui"?
- 15 A. I have read that excerpt, Counsel.
- 16 Q. And (Redacted) when he and his troops arrived in Bangui
- 17 they received information from the Head of State, Patassé, that the rebels were based in
- 18 Damara?
- 19 A. Yes, indeed. The rebels spent two months in Damara. The Banyamulengue took
- 20 control of the town, and I told you that when they returned from Sibut there was a change
- 21 in attitude. They took down a barn belonging to one inhabitant and took out all the
- 22 maize that was in it. (Redacted) that
- 23 what they were doing was proper. When we arrived in Bangui, it is Patassé himself who
- 24 received us and told us to be very careful because all the inhabitants of Damara were

25 supporters of the rebels. (Redacted)

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- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted)
- 3 (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted)
- 5 Q. Thank you very much. And can we move to another passage, please, and that is,
- 6 for those following in English, 0136; but for those following in French and for the witness
- 7 on the screen, please, 0088. A little further down, please. Thank you. I don't know if
- 8 the three paragraphs that begin with "je suis d'abord" can be made any bigger for the
- 9 witness's benefit. One more paragraph, please. Yes.
- 10 Sir, can you read those paragraphs?
- 11 A. You want me to read from the passage which begins with (Redacted)
- 12 (Redacted) Is that what you want me to read?
- 13 Q. Please, if you'd be so kind.
- 14 A. I am done reading the excerpt, but I have realised that my statement was not
- 15 properly recorded. The investigators appear to have modified what I said. They said I
- 16 first went to (Redacted), and that it was thereafter that I saw
- 17 Wabeta's head near the road. Now, with your leave, I can provide an answer or I can
- take this all over. Counsel, is that okay with you?
- 19 Q. I wasn't going to ask you about Wabeta's head. What the investigators have
- 20 recorded -- and, perhaps, we ought to go into this a little bit. This interview, was it, so
- 21 far as you could see, recorded on an audio device?
- 22 A. My statement was recorded, but not on an audio device or on a tape. Since this
- 23 statement is here, somebody must have jotted some points down. But I want to point out
- 24 that the meaning in this excerpt is not what I intended to convey to the investigators.
- 25 Q. Okay. Well, I'll ask you about a couple of sentences. Can you see in the fourth

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- 1 paragraph down on your page, it says "They were in CAR territory and, since Bemba was
- 2 far away in Gbadolite, the person to whom they were accountable in the field was
- 3 Patassé"? Is that accurately recorded as what you said?
- 4 A. Yes, indeed.
- 5 Q. And was that truthful and accurate?
- 6 A. You see, it is not possible for one to just be by themselves and dream up something
- 7 to narrate. (Redacted) I cannot just sit down and begin to imagine
- 8 things and tell you. These things that I'm telling you happened a long time ago and, as a
- 9 human being, I may have forgotten some aspects of these things. But what I am
- 10 narrating to you is in connection to things that I saw or things that I heard from other
- 11 persons.
- 12 Q. Okay. Well, what I wanted to know was whether it was true and accurate, from
- 13 your observation, that the MLC troops were accountable in the field to Patassé?
- 14 A. You asked me whether I was the one who made this statement, and I said yes.
- Now you ask to know whether it is true. Well, your question was whether I was the one
- 16 who made the statement, and my answer is, yes, I do acknowledge having made this
- 17 statement myself.
- 18 Q. Is the statement true?
- 19 A. Counsel, you have asked me this question three times already and I have told you
- 20 that it is the truth. If you put the question to me again a fourth time -- in any event, I will
- 21 not refuse to answer but, as far as this matter is concerned, they were on Central African
- 22 territory and Bemba was far away in Gbadolite.
- 23 And so the person to whom they should have reported was Patassé, because he is the one
- 24 who asked Bemba to send them in. So I have already told you that I am the one who
- 25 made this statement; so how is that you're asking this question three times over, Counsel?

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- 1 Q. Thank you. Now, please don't get upset with me, but can you see in the second
- 2 paragraph the very last sentence reads in French "Ils ne relevaient que de Patassé"?
- 3 A. What paragraph are you referring to, Counsel?
- 4 Q. It is the paragraph that begins "Je suis d'abord," and the last sentence which is only
- 5 six words is "Ils ne relevaient que de Patassé", which is translated as "They were only
- 6 accountable to Patassé."
- 7 A. Well, (Redacted)
- 8 THE INTERPRETER: But it would seem that the witness is having difficulty reading the
- 9 excerpt, if the interpreter has understood what he is saying properly.
- 10 MR HAYNES:
- 11 Q. Okay. Well, I'll put the question: Do you confirm that the MLC were only
- 12 accountable to Patassé in the Central African Republic?
- 13 A. How do you expect me to confirm that? Patassé was the Head of State of the CAR.
- 14 There was a foreign army operating on the territory of the country through an
- arrangement between Patassé and the troops. There was a minister of defence in place.
- 16 Why was the MLC not accountable to the minister of defence? That is just how things
- 17 worked out.
- Normally, the general staff is under the ministry of defence, in normal circumstances; but
- 19 when you have a non-conventional army operating within a country, the
- 20 non-conventional army, under those circumstances, is accountable to the Head of State,
- 21 isn't it? I cannot confirm that, but I hope that I have provided an answer to your
- 22 question.
- 23 We cannot strictly say that the MLC was accountable to the Head of State. That is a false
- 24 problem. The issue is that there was an arrangement. Because, normally, the army is
- 25 under the minister of defence, but the role of the Head of State only comes in after within

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- 1 the context of those arrangements. So I don't know whether you can establish the
- 2 contrary for us today, Counsel.
- 3 MR HAYNES: No, thank you, sir, that was very helpful. I think we can venture into
- 4 open session.
- 5 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please.
- 6 (Open session at 12.27 p.m.)
- 7 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 8 MR HAYNES: Thank you.
- 9 Q. Again, sir, please do not give any answer which might indicate who you are by
- 10 reason of what you do or anybody you might have met with on a specific occasion. And
- if you feel you have to say that, please warn us. Do you understand?
- 12 A. I do understand you, Counsel.
- 13 Q. Now, I want you just briefly to tell us about the various nationalities which
- 14 comprised the forces in Damara after 10 December. Do you understand?
- 15 A. Yes, I do. I believe that I already answered that question in one of my statements.
- 16 And when we met, we realised that they were broken up into groups and sub-groups.
- 17 There were former soldiers who were all from Congo, former soldiers of Mobutu; then
- 18 there was a group of Mbaka, those who had lightened their skin. That is the Mbaka
- 19 group. Then there was a group of Rwandans, including the chief. Then you had the
- 20 Banyamulengue. They had been conscripted and taught weapons handling in Damara.
- 21 So they had at least four groups, and for purposes of feeding, they were broken down into
- 22 those four groups. This is what I observed during the two months that I spent with them.
- 23 I observed that they were broken down into those four groups, and I believe that I already
- 24 made this clear in one of my statements.
- 25 Q. Thank you. Now, I just want to explore whether there were four groups or more

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- 1 than four groups. Were there any of these soldiers who spoke Mandja?
- 2 A. No, no, no, I didn't talk about Mandja. There aren't any Mandja people in Congo.
- 3 I told you what the breakdown was. There were the various groups, and I've described
- 4 them, in response to questions from the Prosecution. I didn't say anything about Mandja
- 5 people, no.
- 6 Q. Okay. Well, there may have been a problem there. But you do agree that people
- 7 who speak Mandja, by definition, do not come from the Congo?
- 8 A. No, Counsel, I think there has been some misunderstanding. The question that
- 9 you're asking is not clear. Are you talking about the general population of the locality?
- 10 You're talking about military groups; you're talking about ethnic groups. In my
- statement I said that amongst the military groups, there were various groups. I didn't
- 12 talk about Mandja, but if you're talking about the actual population of Damara, agreed,
- 13 the population was broke down in that way. There were the Banda, Mbaka, Mandja,
- 14 Mbaka, but it's a Bantu people so there are various ethnic groups on each side of the
- 15 border. But I think -- well, I'm confused. Apparently -- well, even your way of putting
- 16 the question is confusing. I would suggest that you verify your notes carefully.
- 17 Q. Where do the Mandja people live?
- 18 A. But the Mandja are part of the population of Damara. It's a minority group that is
- 19 part of the general population. It has nothing to do with the Democratic Republic of
- 20 Congo.
- 21 Q. Thank you. Were there elements of this military force which spoke Swahili?
- 22 A. How could they not speak that language? Some of them spoke Swahili.
- 23 Q. And where did they come from?
- 24 A. No, Counsel, I think this is a slippery slope. I'm sticking to my statement. I think

25 I mentioned four, four different ethnic groups and ask a soldier these questions. The

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- 1 various populations live side by side. When you mentioned Mbaka, well, I surmise that
- 2 it might be a Mbaka-Mandja from Zaire, and if one speaks of Swahili, well, that is a
- 3 language that is used that is spoken amongst them. I don't understand it. But when
- 4 they want to talk about a matter that doesn't concern others, they'll use that language.
- 5 Well, I wasn't trying to find out where they came from. I can't ask a Mbaka person, "Do
- 6 you come from Équateur province?" (Redacted)
- 7 (Redacted). I didn't need to ask such things. I think that it is important to stick with the
- 8 statement. Apparently, you are trying to push me onto a slippery slope here. I am wise
- 9 enough; I'm wise to that.
- 10 Q. Do you speak and understand Swahili yourself?
- 11 A. I've told you, no. When I was in contact with them, they would speak that
- language to set themselves apart, to distinguish themselves. They all understood Lingala,
- but amongst the subgroups, or when they were talking about sharing goods, perhaps,
- 14 amongst three or four of them, they would use Swahili. And if they were asked, they
- 15 would say, "No, that language is different." I don't speak Swahili. I don't understand
- 16 Swahili. Lingala, well, (Redacted) and I can just use the ordinary words
- or greetings, that sort of thing. In my statement I did not mention anything about
- 18 Swahili. That is a language that they would use to exclude others from one-third of the
- 19 conversation. Counsel, I have nothing else to add to that.
- 20 Q. In what language did you converse with the people who spoke Swahili?
- 21 A. Counsel, it is important to listen to me. It's nearly noon and I don't think we're
- 22 entirely clear here. I only spoke to -- I didn't -- I didn't -- (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted) and they spoke Swahili amongst themselves, but I didn't understand
- 24 anything. If they had spoken Lingala, I would have at least recognised that language.
- 25 If it had been Mbaka, well, I would have recognised that. But the language used was

dated 20 June 2014, the version of the transcript with its redactions becomes Public

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- different, and I asked the question. I'm asking -- if I -- if I asked a question of (Redacted)
- 2 (Redacted) I would say -- if I said, "Do your soldiers speak a particular
- 3 language? What language is that?" They would say, "No, that's Swahili." I don't
- 4 understand or speak Swahili. So why would I speak Swahili to a soldier? If you wish
- 5 to speak of these things, please take into account my answers. You are a lawyer and I
- 6 think it is important to refrain from asking me the same questions over and over again.
- 7 You are a lawyer, and you seem to be putting me off track.
- 8 Q. Without giving us any names, did any of the people who you spoke to speak in
- 9 Sango?
- 10 JUDGE ALUOCH: Mr Haynes, do you mean soldiers, or anybody?
- 11 MR HAYNES: Thank you, your Honour, that's a sensible clarification.
- 12 Q. Any of the soldiers you spoke to, did they, any of them, speak Sango?
- 13 A. (Redacted)
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted)
- 16 (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted)
- 18 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Let's go into private session, please.
- 19 (Private session at 12.42 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 20 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 21 MR HAYNES: I'll ask the question again.
- 22 Q. (Redacted)
- 23 A. Counsel, I think that you have my statements, the statements I made to the OTP
- 24 investigators. The first phase, well, during that phase (Redacted) French. So,
- 25 initially, (Redacted) he didn't speak French. In our

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- 1 (Redacted) because those people did not speak Sango.
- 2 Q. (Redacted)
- 3 A. It's difficult for me to estimate that. After the 13th -- no, after the 30th, the 31st, just
- 4 after the death of several Banyamulengue, *6 or 7 days after that incident, (Redacted)
- 5 (Redacted) But on the 10th, and after the 10th, (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted) I can tell you that myself,
- 7 I don't drink alcohol but sometimes (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 And before I went back, well, (Redacted) and I would say that two out of one before
- 10 they left the town. *It was the beginning of February or mid-February, after the return
- 11 from Sibut. There were these various difficulties (Redacted) This is the answer I can
- 12 provide you with.
- 13 Q. Would that occur once a week, or more or less than once a week?
- 14 A. I've told you that it was difficult, (Redacted)
- 15 (Redacted) but to say once a week or something like that, I think you're going
- 16 too far.
- 17 These are questions, asking questions like this -- your Honour, I'm feeling tired. Your
- 18 Honour, I'm feeling somewhat tired, because I've been giving testimony. If he goes
- 19 outside of the framework, this is putting me onto a slippery slope. He is putting me on a
- 20 slippery slope.
- 21 Your Honour, try to see this problem. I've said no and I've been answering his questions.
- He has to realise that I've given testimony, and he's showing me documents and I'm
- 23 saying that I confirm these documents, and now he's asking me questions about these
- 24 documents. So I want to let you know that, because you are the arbitrator here in this

25 trial.

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- 1 THE INTERPRETER: Note from the English booth: The witness has switched from
- 2 Sango into French.
- 3 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we understand that you are tired. You've
- 4 been giving testimony for almost two weeks. I just wanted to explain something to you,
- 5 to see whether it helps you to understand the system.
- 6 You gave testimony to the Prosecution. You have written statements that you gave to
- 7 the Prosecution. The Defence has the right to get some information from your written
- 8 statements and to check it with you, to see whether you confirm or you can clarify
- 9 something. Maybe you can change some information.
- 10 So what the Defence is doing, when the Defence asks you to confirm part of your written
- statements, this is how it works. So we ask you, please, to be patient.
- 12 At the same time, of course, the Chamber would like very much to call the attention to
- 13 Defence counsel in order to avoid repetitive questions or asking the witness details on
- 14 issues that in accordance with the position of the witness, on the level of education and
- other specific features, the witness is not able to give the answers and is getting distressed.
- 16 Mr Witness, whenever you don't know an answer, you just say, "I don't know." Maybe
- in that way things become easier for you. Is that fine with you, sir?
- 18 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) I understand, your Honour. I think you've
- 19 pinpointed the problem. If he asks me the question in relation to my statement, that
- 20 would be fine; but questions that go beyond or that don't have anything to do with the
- 21 statement, you're asking the same question.
- 22 That is true, I do know. I realise he's trying to establish the truth, but I see that he's
- 23 taking me down a slippery slope. He's asking me questions that have -- don't have
- 24 anything to do with my statement, more than four times. I know that he's doing his
- 25 work, but just imagine a person who has been speaking for 15 days. It's not easy, you

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- 1 must realise.
- 2 I didn't get worked up. He is trying to mix me up. That is why I am saying that this
- 3 way of going about things is not proper. I would like him to be clear in his ways of
- 4 asking questions; but asking me the same question four or five times, in any event, you
- 5 have to realise that the fifth time, I'm a human being, I can't answer. Other than that, I
- 6 understand all the advice you are giving me, and I will stick to it.
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you very much, Mr Witness. Let's try to proceed,
- 8 Mr Haynes. And whenever, Mr Witness, you don't know an answer, just say, "I don't
- 9 know."
- 10 MR HAYNES: Can we please put Defence document 16, that is CAR-OTP-0035-0176,
- 11 into eCourt, please.
- 12 Q. Do you (Redacted) the person in that (Redacted)?
- 13 A. (Redacted) The events occurred a long time
- 14 ago. That is a (Redacted) from the MLC, unless I'm mistaken.
- 15 Q. Defence document 16 -- Defence document 13, please. That's CAR-OTP-0035-0160.
- 16 Do you (Redacted)?
- 17 A. (Redacted) that I just saw. It's been more than ten years. I wouldn't
- 18 be able to (Redacted) The events date back many years. The MLC soldiers
- 19 were not in the habit of shaving. I don't know the (Redacted) well.
- 20 Q. So you can't put (Redacted)?
- 21 A. Counsel, you know these events occurred -- well, if it were two years ago, I would
- be able to give you a name, but the events go back so many years. So to put (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted) that could lead me to tell a lie. If I were in the habit of seeing that (Redacted)
- 24 (Redacted) and I would be able to give you (Redacted) But to ask me (Redacted)
- 25 (Redacted) Counsel, I can't. (Inaudible.) I'm not in a position to put (Redacted)

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- 1 (Redacted)
- 2 MR HAYNES: Could we have a look, please, at Defence document 39. That's
- 3 CAR-OTP-0035-0291.
- 4 THE INTERPRETER: Correction from the English booth: The last reply included,
- 5 "Nine years have gone by since the time of the events."
- 6 MR HAYNES:
- 7 Q. Can you see the (Redacted)
- 8 (Redacted)
- 9 (Redacted) would always go in front with something in his hands to
- 10 terrorise the population. (Redacted)
- 11 (Redacted) were soldiers of the rank and file, and his
- 12 aide-de-camp (Redacted) It is, indeed, (Redacted)
- 13 MR HAYNES: And, lastly, can we have a look at Defence document 12; that's
- 14 CAR-OTP-0035-0159.
- 15 THE INTERPRETER: Correction from the interpreters: In the previous reply, the
- witness mentioned "a spear in his hands."
- 17 MR HAYNES:
- 18 Q. We'll look at this (Redacted) again later, but do you (Redacted) in that
- 19 (Redacted)
- 20 A. I don't (Redacted) -- I don't (Redacted). I am looking at this with some glasses
- 21 that don't belong to me, so I'm having some trouble seeing. But I can tell you that the
- 22 (Redacted) isn't clear so I couldn't give you the (Redacted). Now, (Redacted)
- 23 (Redacted), that was (Redacted), but this (Redacted), no. I wouldn't want to
- say a lie, so I can't tell you (Redacted)
- 25 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much. I think you've earned your break.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we'll have now our lunch break. You can
- 2 have your lunch and take some rest. It's 1 o'clock now. We'll be back at 2.30.
- 3 I ask, please, court officer to turn into closed session for the witness to be taken outside the
- 4 courtroom. In the meantime, we will suspend and resume at 2.30.
- 5 (Closed session at 1.02 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 6 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President. All rise.
- 7 (Recess taken at 1.03 p.m.)
- 8 (Upon resuming in closed session at 2.35 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 9 THE COURT USHER: All rise. Please be seated.
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Good afternoon. Could, please, court officer turn
- 11 first into open session.
- 12 (Open session at 2.36 p.m.)
- 13 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you. Welcome back. Before we continue
- with the questioning of Witness 209, the Chamber has two oral decisions to be issued.
- 16 The first one can be issued in open session and it is the decision on the application to
- 17 question Witness 110 submitted by Maître Zarambaud.
- On 14 March 2011 Maître Zarambaud filed with the Chamber an application on
- 19 behalf of the victims he represents to question Witness 110. It's filing 1329-Conf
- 20 which was rectified on 1 April 2011. The application contains a list of eight sets of
- 21 questions.
- Having considered the reasons given by Maître Zarambaud as to why the personal
- 23 interests of the victims he represents are affected, the Chamber allows his application
- 24 to question Witness 110.
- 25 Turning to the proposed questions, the majority of the Chamber, with the Presiding

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- 1 Judge dissenting, allows the questions to be asked under the following conditions:
- 2 One, in relation to the set of questions, number 8, they are not allowed, as they appear
- 3 to be leading, speculative and irrelevant to the charges brought against the accused.
- 4 These aforementioned questions are rejected.
- 5 Second, with regard to the set of questions number 6, they should be rephrased in the
- 6 following manner: "Did you inform the CAR authorities of the looting of your
- 7 house? If so, did the CAR authorities take any action?"
- 8 The Presiding Judge would have allowed all the questions in the way they were set
- 9 out in the aforementioned filing as she considers them not to be speculative, leading
- 10 or irrelevant and she would refrain from dictating how counsel should phrase his or
- 11 her questions.
- 12 Judge Ozaki has a separate opinion, already discussed in paragraph 13 of her partly
- dissenting opinion on the order on the procedure relating to the submission of
- evidence based on the Appeals Judgment issued on 3 May 2011, filing 1386. Judge
- Ozaki will maintain this position in the future; although, being bound by the
- majority's views, it will not be repeated insofar as the facts do not justify departing
- 17 from it.
- 18 The Chamber needs to issue an oral decision on protective measures for Witness 110,
- and for that purpose, I ask, please, court officer to turn into private session.
- 20 (Private session at 2.40 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 21 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you very much.
- 23 Oral decision on protective measures for Witness 110:
- 24 On 17 May 2011 the Prosecution filed an application for protective measures for
- 25 Witness 110. It's filing 1412-Conf. In its application, the Prosecution requests that

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1 the Chamber assign and authorise the continued in-court use of a pseudonym,

- 2 authorised image and voice distortion, and the use of limited private sessions for
- 3 parts of the testimony where the witness provides information that would tend to
- 4 disclose her identity.
- 5 The Prosecution submits that, in light of the fears expressed by the witness, the
- 6 requested measures should be granted in order to facilitate the witness's testimony
- 7 due to her subjective of the risk and in order to enable the witness to provide her
- 8 testimony freely and to continue living in her current community without the fear of
- 9 threats or harassment as a result of her testimony.
- 10 The Prosecution further submits that the request is in accordance with the VWU's
- 11 recommendations in respect of victims who are in similar circumstances as Witness
- 12 110. In its response, filing 1459-Conf, the Defence submits that the measures sought
- are unwarranted and not adequately justified, as the fears expressed by the witness
- are not further supported by any evidence.
- 15 Therefore, the Defence requests the Chamber to reject the application or, in the
- alternative, to permit preliminary examination of the witness in closed session in
- order to establish whether the threshold criteria for the requested measures are met.
- 18 Having considered the submissions, and pursuant to the Chamber's obligation under
- 19 Article 68(1) and (2) of the Statute, Rule 87 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence
- 20 and Regulation 94 of the regulations of the Registry, the majority of the Chamber,
- 21 Judge Kuniko Ozaki dissenting, is of the view that the protective measures requested
- for Witness 110 are necessary since Witness 110 is a dual status individual and since
- 23 her fears are considered legitimate.
- 24 The measures will enable Witness 110 to provide her testimony freely and allow her
- 25 to continue living in her current community without the fear of possible threats or

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- 1 harassment on herself or members of her family as a result of her testimony before
- 2 the Court.
- 3 The majority further considers that the protective measures are reasonable and
- 4 proportionate. They are provided for in Rule 87(3) of the Rules and are considered
- 5 as generally non-intrusive measures allowing the Chamber to appropriately balance
- 6 its duty to respect the principle of publicity with its obligation to protect victims and
- 7 witnesses.
- 8 Furthermore, the identity of Witness 110 is already known to the Defence and
- 9 imposition of the protective measures requested will still enable the Defence to
- 10 question the witness publicly for the majority of her testimony, save for the parts that
- 11 would tend to identify her.
- 12 The majority of the Chamber, therefore, grants the requested in-court protective
- measures for Witness 110 and authorises the use of image and voice distortion, the
- 14 assignment and use of a pseudonym, as well as the use of limited private sessions to
- protect her identity, provided that this is indicated in advance to the parties,
- 16 participants and the Chamber.
- 17 Parties and participants should make every effort to question Witness 110 on
- 18 identifying information at the beginning of her testimony. The Chamber requests
- 19 the Registry to take all the necessary steps for the implementation of the
- 20 above-mentioned protective measures.
- 21 Now I ask, please, the court officer to turn briefly into closed session in order for the
- 22 witness to be brought inside the courtroom.
- 23 (Closed session at 2.47 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 24 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President.
- 25 (The witness enters the courtroom)

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: We can turn into open session, please.
- 2 (Open session at 2.49 p.m.)
- 3 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 4 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you very much. Good afternoon,
- 5 Mr Witness.
- 6 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Good afternoon, your Honour.
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Did you have lunch and manage to rest a little bit?
- 8 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I had a pleasant rest.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Are you ready to continue giving your testimony,
- 10 sir?
- 11 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, I am ready. We can continue.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you very much. Mr Haynes, you have the
- 13 floor.
- 14 MR HAYNES: Thank you, and good afternoon, Madam President.
- 15 Q. And good afternoon to you, Mr Witness.
- 16 A. Good afternoon, Counsel.
- 17 Q. I want to go back to really where I started with you and ask you some questions
- about the town of Damara. Okay? But please don't reveal anything about yourself
- 19 that might identify you whilst I'm asking you these questions. Do you understand?
- 20 A. I understand. We can continue.
- 21 Q. The town of Damara stands on national route 3, doesn't it?
- 22 A. Not only that. The town of Damara is crossed by two national routes, but the
- 23 tarmacked road is route -- national route 3.
- 24 Q. Thank you. You've predicted my next question. And where does national

25 route 3 go from and go to?

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- 1 A. National route 3 goes through Sibut, and at Sibut it divides into two: One part
- 2 goes to Kaga-Bandoro and another towards Bambari. So it goes from Bangui to
- 3 Sibut and Bambari. Those are the three towns.
- 4 Q. Thank you very much. And is it a busy road in the Damara area?
- 5 A. Yes, of course. I think that is the best part of the surfaced road. It's like
- 6 the kind of road you can see in Europe.
- 7 Q. Okay. And does traffic travel on that road in both directions all day?
- 8 A. Are you talking about the section at the level of the crossroads?
- 9 Q. Yes.
- 10 A. I think that national route 3 is the busiest road; it is 75 kilometres away from the
- 11 town. But when you stop at PK12, you're at -- you would have done a total of 63
- 12 kilometres. But you will encounter buses every few minutes and there are also
- various localities that you will go through.
- 14 Q. Thank you very much. And in addition to buses and other vehicles, do people
- and animals use the road as a route around Damara?
- 16 A. What animals are you talking about, Counsel? You would need to be more
- 17 explicit in your question. What type of animals are you talking about?
- 18 Q. Cows, pigs, goats, how about them?
- 19 A. But how can you have cattle on the road there? You know, the road is
- 20 designed for vehicles and for human beings. There is also a road that is designed for
- 21 cattle so that the cattle don't hamper traffic on the road reserved for human beings.
- 22 Q. Very well. Can you help us as to how wide the road is as it passes through
- 23 Damara?
- 24 A. I am not an expert on roads, so I can't give you the details of how wide the road
- 25 is. I would ask you to ask this question of an expert in the field who could give you

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- 1 the various dimensions.
- 2 Q. Well, let me try a different question. Is the road -- is national route 3 as it
- 3 passes through Damara flat, or does it go up and down?
- 4 A. Counsel, you are a European citizen. I have told you that the road there is
- 5 very similar to a European road, but, really, once I've told you, given you that image,
- 6 how can you ask me a question like that?
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness -- I'm sorry, Mr Haynes, if I interrupt.
- 8 I think the question put by counsel could be easily answered by you, because even in
- 9 Europe we have many flat roads and others that go up and down when you are in a
- 10 region with hills, mountains. This is what counsel is asking and it's a valid question.
- 11 Could you please try to answer, to the best of your knowledge, whether it's a flat road
- or goes up and down hills or mountains. That's the question. Please, sir.
- 13 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Your Honour, when you talk about a road that goes
- 14 up and down, I don't understand. If I review the statistics, I could compare the
- 15 Central African roads, particularly the one that we are talking about at the moment,
- 16 to European roads. If you look at all of the Central African roads, then you could
- say that most -- the best part of that road system is the road that we are talking about
- 18 now because this part of the road was built using the same materials that are used in
- 19 Europe. But what exactly are you talking about? When you talk about the road
- 20 going up and down, do you mean that it runs through valleys and across hills?
- 21 What exactly do you mean? Your Honour, I would like the question to be phrased
- 22 clearly so that I can answer.
- 23 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: This is exactly what I meant. Maybe we are having
- 24 an interpretation problem. Don't take offence, okay? It's exactly what I meant,

25 whether the road goes up hills or not, or is flat.

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- 1 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Well, that is clearly expressed, your Honour. But
- 2 the question had not been phrased clearly before. When he asks me -- for example,
- 3 if he asked me was the road inflated, or swollen, if he was asking me a question about
- 4 the condition of the road between Bangui and Damara, well, perhaps I could answer
- 5 that. The land form is not entirely regular, so, yes, it's possible that the road can run
- 6 over hills. But if that is what counsel is aiming at, then the question need to be
- 7 phrased clearly so that I can answer it.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Maybe you can phrase it better than I, Mr Haynes.
- 9 MR HAYNES: I think your Honour has done very well, and I'm going to leave that
- 10 topic there. Thank you for your help.
- 11 Q. I'm going to ask you about the lateral straightness of the road now. Is it
- straight, or does it have bends in it as it passes through Damara?
- 13 A. We are talking about a tarmac road which is well built, so we cannot have
- potholes, or holes, on that kind of road. That would be my answer.
- 15 Q. Well, thank you for that, but what I wanted to know was is it straight like this
- pen as it passes through Damara, or does it bend to the left and right a little bit?
- 17 A. I have already answered, telling you that the road is not straight. It goes
- around hills now and then. It passes by streams, and things like that. That is the
- 19 answer I gave you.
- 20 Q. Thank you very much. And particularly, close to Damara, what is at the side
- 21 of national route 3? What is at the side of the road?
- 22 A. There are homes along the road. You can see homes along the road, built by
- 23 inhabitants, of course.
- Q. Thank you. Would some of those homes be within 10 metres of the side of the

25 road?

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- 1 A. In all countries, there are laws. The ministry for town planning has laws that
- 2 determine the distance between homes and the road. So when you talk about 10 or
- 3 15 metres from the road, it is, in fact, the ministry that I have just mentioned which
- 4 determines those distances. And I believe it is between 10 and 15 metres. And
- 5 I think that between culverts and homes, the distance also is between 10 and 15
- 6 metres.
- 7 Q. Thank you. And where there are no homes, are there trees at the side of the
- 8 road?
- 9 A. Quite naturally, Counsel. Our country is not like Europe, and in that area we
- did not have farms, as such, but there were a number of trees that grew naturally.
- 11 Q. And are there ditches at the side of the road as well?
- 12 THE INTERPRETER: The Sango interpreters did not hear the first part of the
- 13 witness's answer, Madam President.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Could you please repeat the question, Mr Haynes,
- because the Sango interpreter could not hear the answer.
- 16 MR HAYNES: Certainly.
- 17 Q. At the side of the road, are there ditches?
- 18 A. Yes, there is drainage on both sides of the road to avoid any depreciation of the
- 19 road, so there are ditches along the road.
- 20 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much for all your help. Can we pass briefly into
- 21 private session so that I can seek your Honour's guidance?
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please.
- 23 (Private session at 3.08 a.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 24 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 25 MR HAYNES: Your Honour, I propose to put two exhibits on the screen in due

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- 1 course; but they are confidential exhibits, they are of a sort that we have already seen
- 2 today. For my part, I don't see the need for the questions based on those exhibits to
- 3 be heard in private session. The documents will not be broadcast and the questions
- 4 will be very similar to those I have just asked, which have all been heard in open
- 5 session. They will just have a visual aid as well, but I will accept your guidance on
- 6 the topic.
- 7 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Are you talking about (Redacted)
- 8 MR HAYNES: Your Honour, yes, I'm sorry to be so elliptical.
- 9 (Pause in proceedings)
- 10 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Just in order for the Chamber to be fully aware of
- which (Redacted) are you tending to show could you please tell us the numbers?
- 12 MR HAYNES: Yes, I'm very sorry. I should have done that before. The last four
- 13 digits of each ERN is 0159, 0176 and 0256.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Which you have already shown. No, the two first
- ones you have already shown.
- 16 MR HAYNES: Your Honour, yes.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: My only doubt would be in relation to the last one,
- 18 256. Has the Prosecution any concern in relation to (Redacted) 0256?
- 19 MS KNEUER: The Prosecution would prefer that all (Redacted) are shown in private
- 20 session.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: The questions related to the two first (Redacted) were
- 22 put in private or in open session in the morning?
- 23 MR HAYNES: Private.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So we will continue in private.
- 25 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much. Can we have a look, please, therefore at

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- 1 Defence document 16. That's CAR-OTP-0035-0176. Yes, I don't want to concentrate
- 2 on the (Redacted) I want to concentrate on the road, so can we
- 3 zoom out.
- 4 Q. Are you able to identify that section of road as being part of national route 3?
- 5 A. I can see that it is a tarmac road which does, in fact, (Redacted) that road. (Redacted)
- 6 (Redacted) I don't know whether this is because of the nature of the
- 7 (Redacted) I say this because the road itself does not have (Redacted), but
- 8 from the (Redacted) on the road. I don't know
- 9 where that (Redacted) comes from. That notwithstanding, the width or breadth of the
- 10 road is somewhat similar to what (Redacted)
- 11 Q. Thank you, Mr Witness. You are helping me a great deal this afternoon. Can
- we, therefore, then just quickly look at (Redacted) 30. That's CAR-OTP-0035-0256.
- 13 And, again, can you (Redacted) that as a section of national route 3?
- 14 A. It is the same distance, but I am disturbed by the (Redacted) on the road.
- 15 I don't know whether this is because of the (Redacted), I don't know, but I would
- like to say that it is the same distance. I notice that this area is Bagbara (phon),
- 17 I believe, and it is located some 10 kilometres away from Damara. (Redacted) some
- 18 (Redacted) along both sides of the road. So this looks like Bagbara.
- 19 Q. Thank you. But does that (Redacted) give us some idea of how close to the
- side of the road the (Redacted) are and what (Redacted) where the road ends?
- 21 A. No, I did not notice that. There is a service which cleans the streets and clears
- 22 along the roadsides. It is difficult to (Redacted) less than 10 metres
- away from the main road.
- 24 MR HAYNES: Your Honour, it's a little after guarter-past-4. I didn't
- 25 know what -- quarter-past-3, I'm sorry.

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- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we still have 40 minutes in this
- 2 afternoon's session, but the Chamber would like to know whether you want to have
- 3 10-minutes' break or whether we can continue?
- 4 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Counsel, it is not for you to put that question,
- 5 Counsel, it is for the Presiding Judge to raise the issue. So it is for the Presiding
- 6 Judge to ask the witness for his opinion and not for the counsel to put that question to
- 7 me.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, I put the question to you. I will repeat:
- 9 We still have 40 minutes. Would you like to have a 10-minutes' break or would you
- 10 prefer to continue?
- 11 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Madam President, I am the one answering the
- 12 questions and I'm doing my level best. Now I feel a little bit tired and, even if we
- were to break just for five minutes, it would be proper for us to go by the standards
- or the norms. I feel tired, I feel mentally weak, and I've been talking since this
- 15 morning. So even if it were just for two minutes, I think it would be proper to
- 16 observe the break.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So we are going to have 10-minutes' break in order
- 18 for you to have a coffee, a glass of water, and then we will have only 30 minutes left.
- 19 Could, please, court officer first turn into open session.
- 20 (Open session at 3.21 p.m.)
- 21 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 22 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we respect the fact that you are tired.
- 23 We are going to have, then, 10-minutes' break. You can have some coffee, some
- 24 water. We will resume in 10 minutes; meaning, at 3.33, 3.34. Court officer, please
- 25 turn into closed session in order for the witness to be taken outside the courtroom.

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- 1 (Closed session at 3.22 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 2 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President.
- 3 (The witness stands down)
- 4 THE COURT OFFICER: All rise.
- 5 (Recess taken at 3.23 p.m.)
- 6 (Upon resuming in closed session at 3.37 p.m.)* Reclassified as Open session
- 7 THE COURT USHER: All rise. Please be seated.
- 8 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Welcome back. Can we continue, Mr Haynes, even
- 9 if you are facing some highlighting problems?
- 10 MR HAYNES: Yes, we can. Sorry we had to rearrange ourselves when you came
- in, but the technicians were working on the other desk.
- 12 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Could, please, court usher bring the witness in.
- 13 (The witness enters the courtroom)
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Let's turn into open session, please.
- 15 (Open session at 15.40 p.m.)
- 16 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Thank you. Mr Witness, did you manage to take
- 18 some rest?
- 19 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Yes, your Honour, I was able to unwind for a
- 20 moment.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So we have only 20, 25 minutes. I hope you don't
- 22 feel too much tired.
- 23 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Let us continue.
- 24 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes.
- 25 MR HAYNES: Thank you, your Honour.

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- 1 Q. Well, welcome back, sir. I'm going to try --
- 2 A. Good afternoon again, Counsel.
- 3 Q. I'm going to try and ask you the last 20 minutes of questions this afternoon in
- 4 public session, so do you understand everybody can hear what you are saying?
- 5 Okay.
- 6 It's important, therefore, that you don't say anything that might identify yourself and,
- 7 in particular, that you don't talk about anybody you might have been with. Do you
- 8 understand?
- 9 A. I understand, Counsel.
- 10 Q. And so that you understand, I'm going to ask you questions about an aeroplane
- but it's only what the aeroplane looked like. So I don't want you to tell me who you
- were with when you saw it, I just want you to tell me what you saw. Do you
- 13 understand that?
- 14 A. Counsel, I understand perfectly well. I'm all ears.
- 15 Q. I'm glad to hear it. Now, you have told us that on 13 January 2003 you saw an
- aeroplane come in to land on national route 3, the road that we have just been looking
- 17 at; do you recall that?
- 18 A. Have you finished, Counsel?
- 19 Q. I have, yes.
- 20 A. Counsel, I can't come here and imagine things and say them before the Court.
- 21 You have asked questions about the various aspects of the road. I know that it was
- in relation to the landing of the aeroplane. I'll be specific. The aeroplane landed in
- 23 front of the compound belonging to the member of parliament, that house that was
- 24 being inhabited by Mustapha. You have that opportunity. One can go here, one
- can go to Bangui, you can send investigators to Bangui and ask the question in

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- 1 Damara to the inhabitants of Damara,
- 2 If an aeroplane did not land on 13 January. You know, a mother cannot repudiate
- 3 her child even if the child is a -- does wrong or is a poacher or a theft. I can't say
- 4 things, I can't just pull something out of a hat and say it in front of the Court. I am
- 5 not a child, I am an official.
- 6 Q. Well, let's start with this: Which direction did the aeroplane land; towards
- 7 Bangui or towards Sibut?
- 8 A. Well, that's a good question. When the aeroplane landed, the head was
- 9 pointing towards Bangui and the end towards Sibut. Counsel, I'm going to ask you
- 10 a question: All the looted goods taken by the Banyamulengue, how were those
- goods taken to the Democratic Republic of the Congo? By vehicle or was it by plane?
- 12 I've told you in one of my statements that I went to see Mustapha about a young child
- who had been abandoned by the parents during the general chaos, and that was why
- 14 I tried to go see Mustapha when the aeroplane landed, and I had a witness,
- 15 Mr Giuliani, an Italian who had come to Damara to give some money to Mustapha so
- 16 his company could be protected.
- 17 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Let's go into private session.
- 18 MS KNEUER: Thank you, Madam President.
- 19 (Private session at 3.49 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 20 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in private session, Madam President.
- 21 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes.
- 22 MR HAYNES:
- 23 Q. When the aircraft left in which direction did it take off, towards Sibut or
- 24 towards Bangui?
- 25 A. I've said here clearly that the head of the aeroplane was pointing at Bangui and

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- 1 the tail was towards Sibut. (Redacted) his
- 2 leader who I didn't know, three people came out of the aeroplane. When -- now,
- 3 they were -- when they were loading the goods into the plane, (Redacted)
- 4 (Redacted), motorcycles, refrigerators, scooters, loading these things into the
- 5 aeroplane (Redacted), the aeroplane took off (Redacted) and flew over the town
- 6 because the headquarters, the headquarters of Mustapha, were two kilometres from
- 7 the centre of the town. After turning, the plane headed in the direction of Oumba,
- 8 which was the border between Damara and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- 9 Q. Did the aeroplane take off in the same direction it had landed or did it turn
- 10 around?
- 11 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes, if I may.
- 12 Mr Witness, the Defence still has some questions in relation to the aeroplane to put to
- 13 you. Is that possible for you to answer to these questions without mentioning
- 14 (Redacted)
- 15 THE WITNESS (Interpretation) I said that I saw the aeroplane and I saw them
- loading generators and refrigerators into the plane. (Redacted)
- 17 (Redacted) It was when the head of the -- when the head of general staff,
- 18 he saw -- that was in front of the road, in front of the road of -- in front of the house of
- 19 the (Redacted) and this is the place where the colonel was living. And 30 minutes
- 20 later, I saw with my own eyes the goods being taken out of the house and loaded into
- 21 the plane and then, after that, the aeroplane took off, and as it took off, it headed
- 22 towards Bangui but turned in the air and headed in the direction of the Democratic
- 23 Republic of Congo. I would like to ask the counsel -- I saw the aircraft head towards
- 24 the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Can you send -- can you send investigators

25 to ask the people?

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- 1 When the Banyamulengue had taken control of Damara, were there aeroplanes flying
- 2 over Damara? No. There was only Bombayake's plane and the aeroplane that
- 3 brought the leader, the chief of Mustapha, and that plane went in the direction of the
- 4 DRC, flying over Bangui, making a turn and heading towards the DRC. That is
- 5 what I can tell you, Counsel.
- 6 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, we are trying again to go into open
- 7 session. So if you think you need to mention names, inform the Chamber before,
- 8 then we go into private session. Is that fine with you?
- 9 THE WITNESS: (Interpretation) Your Honour, if the question is put to me clearly, if
- 10 the Defence counsel knows that the answer to his question is likely to reveal my
- identity or requires private session, he'll-- he should say so. So, by asking such a
- 12 question of me, I -- I'm caught in the crossfire, so to speak, and I can give the answer
- 13 that may require a private session.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes, let's continue in private session.
- 15 MR HAYNES:
- 16 Q. Just remind us, what colour was the plane?
- 17 A. I told you in my testimony that the aeroplane was green.
- 18 Q. And by that do you mean completely green, not camouflaged or green and
- 19 another colour?
- 20 A. The main colour of the aeroplane was green. I would say 10 per cent of the
- 21 surface was green. That is why I am saying, in general, the aeroplane was green.
- 22 Admittedly, there was some white parts; about 30 per cent of the plane was white.
- 23 Q. And was it a jet plane or a turbo-prop plane?
- 24 A. Counsel, I'm not a specialist in aviation so I couldn't tell you any more than that.
- 25 If it were a helicopter, I could say that it was a helicopter. If it was an aeroplane, I

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- 1 would say it was an aeroplane. I can't give you any further information about this
- 2 aircraft. But let me specify that it was not a helicopter.
- 3 Q. Okay. And how big was it?
- 4 A. In principle, I am the one who should be asking you such a question. If I tell
- 5 you that the plane carried refrigerators, motorcycles and other goods, that should
- 6 indicate to you that it was quite a large aeroplane. I didn't go close to the plane,
- 7 close enough to determine the tonnage or any other sign of its size.
- 8 I beg your pardon. The house of the (Redacted) was 50 metres from the
- 9 main road, and we had been asked to stand aside, at about a distance of 25 metres
- 10 from the road. There were some mango trees (Redacted) and the place where the
- 11 aeroplane was. But when the goods were being taken out to be loaded into the
- 12 plane, I was there and I saw that.
- 13 I would like you to ask this question: How could it be that this entity was -- how
- 14 were these entities transported? How were they taken to the Democratic Republic of
- 15 the Congo?
- 16 Q. Did the aeroplane have one engine on its front or more than one engine on its
- 17 wings?
- 18 A. Counsel, your question is welcomed but I would say that I am not an expert in
- 19 aviation. All I know is that I can make -- I can distinguish between an ordinary
- 20 aeroplane and a helicopter. I've told you that it was not a helicopter and I didn't go
- 21 close enough to the aeroplane to determine what kind of aeroplane it was. All I
- 22 know is that on 13 January 2003, and I'm being very specific about that, there was an
- 23 aeroplane that was able to land in Damara and it transported the goods to the
- 24 Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- 25 MR HAYNES: Thank you very much, sir.

Trial Hearing (Closed Session) ICC-01/05-01/08

Witness: CAR-OTP-PPPP-0209

- 1 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Haynes, we still have -- I think the interpreters
- 2 will indulge us with five more minutes.
- 3 MR HAYNES: I think I'll pass on that, if you don't mind. I'm going to move on to
- 4 something else. It will involve putting something into eCourt, and I don't think I'll
- 5 ask many questions this afternoon with another five minutes.
- 6 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Court officer, please turn into open session.
- 7 (Open session at 4.01 p.m.)
- 8 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in open session, Madam President.
- 9 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: Mr Witness, it's 4 o'clock. We will adjourn for
- 10 today. We thank you very much for your efforts. It has been another difficult day,
- 11 very tiring. Tomorrow will be, for sure, the last day of your questioning. Am I
- 12 correct, Mr Haynes?
- 13 MR HAYNES: Your Honour, yes.
- 14 PRESIDING JUDGE STEINER: So we hope you can take a very, very restful night
- and tomorrow you will be in this courtroom for the very last time. So we thank you
- very much, and I thank very much the Prosecution team, the legal representatives of
- 17 victims, the Defence team, Mr Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo. I thank very much our
- interpreters, court reporters, our court officer, court usher.
- 19 We are going to turn into closed session in order for the witness to be taken outside
- 20 the courtroom. And, in the meantime, we will adjourn and resume tomorrow
- 21 morning at 9.30 in this very same courtroom.
- 22 (Closed session at 4.03 p.m.) * Reclassified as Open session
- 23 THE COURT OFFICER: We are in closed session, Madam President.
- 24 (The witness stands down)
- 25 THE COURT OFFICER: All rise.

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Witness: CAR-OTP-PPPP-0209

- 1 (The hearing ends at 4.04 p.m.)
- 2 CORRECTION REPORT
- 3 The Court Interpretation and Translation Section has made the following corrections
- 4 in the transcript:
- 5 *Page 26 line 4
- 6 "after that incident,"
- 7 is corrected by
- 8 "6 or 7 days after that incident,"
- 9 *Page 26 lines 10
- 10 "It was beginning of May or mid-May,"
- 11 is corrected by
- 12 "It was the beginning of February or mid-February,"
- 13 RECLASSIFICATION REPORT
- 14 Pursuant to Trial Chamber III 's Orders, ICC-01/05-01/08-2223 and
- 15 ICC-01/05-01/08-3038 and the instructions in the email dated 20 June 2014, the version
- of the transcript with its redactions becomes Public.