



WITNESS STATEMENT

K0114333

Date of interview: Thursday October 28, 1999

Place of interview: Ministry of Defense, Kigali

Languages used in interview: English, French and Kinyarwanda

Name of interviewer(s): BESSEM-ASU Clemens, AFRIYIE Yorke and Boswell Esther-Ann

Other persons present during the interview:

Interpreter's name used in interview: GATABAZI Jean-Marie

I: IDENTIFICATION OF WITNESS

- 1) Last Name: HABYARIMANA
First Name: Emmanuel
Nickname:
- 2) Date of Birth: 1953 Age: 46 Sex: Male
- 3) Religion: Catholic
- 4) Nationality: Rwandan
- 5) Ethnic Origin: not provided
- 6) Occupation:
In April 1994: Army Officer
Current: Minister of State for Defense
- 7) Address

CASE No: ICR 98-44-1
 EXHIBIT No: P 529(B)
 DATE ADMITTED: 16/09/2010
 TENDERED BY: PROSECUTOR
 NAME OF WITNESS: HABYARIMANA
EMMANUEL
(Dwong 9)

	Place of birth	Current	In April 1994
Cellule:	Gihengeri	Cellule:	Nyagatere
Sector:	Kabongoya	Sector:	Nyagatere
Commune:	Bwisige	Commune:	Nyarugenge
Prefecture:	Byumba	Prefecture:	Kigali Ville
			Prefecture: Byumba

Date: le 18/11/99
 Signature of witness

Signature(s) of interviewer(s)

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- 8) Parents
 Mother: MUKARUBIBI
 Father: MGAYABAREZI
- 9) Marital Status: MARRIED
 Name: MUKAMURENYI Agnes
 Number of Children: 4
- 10) Languages spoken: Kinyarwanda, English and French, Swahili
- 11) Languages written: Kinyarwanda, English and French
- 12) Past residence outside Rwanda
 Period: NIL
 Country:
 Reason:
 Remarks:
- 13) Member of social or political association
 Name: NONE
 Function:
 Period:
 Remarks:
- 14) Name and Address of a friend, relation or relatives who might help to locate you if you change residence.
 Name: Ministry of Defence
 Address: Kigali, Rwanda
 Tel: 76032
 Fax: 73782

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① I knew Callixte NZABONIMANA from October 1991 to February 1994. Before then, I only heard of the name but I did not have any contacts with him. From this period October 1991 to February 1994, we both worked at the Ministry of Youths and Sports. Callixte was then the Minister of Youths and Sports and I was the Director of Sports in the same ministry. I was jailed from October 27, 1990 to the end of July 1991 by the HABYARIMANA government. I was accused of being an accomplice of the RPF. It was after my release from prison that I was removed from the Ministry of Defense and redeployed at the Ministry of Youths and Sports of which Callixte NZABONIMANA was the then Minister. Many lawyers, intellectuals and other high ranking officers of the military who did not agree with the HABYARIMANA government policies were also jailed with me.

Multi party politics was reinstated also in Rwanda in 1991. There were so many political parties opposed to the then ruling party, the MRND. There were parties like MDR, PSD, PL and others. Callixte NZABONIMANA was a very prominent member of the MRND political party. As a matter of fact, he was the chairperson of the party in his home prefecture in Gitarama. He was in charge of organising youths and disseminating the propaganda literature of his party, the MRND. There was a singer called BIKINDI who worked at the Ministry of Youths and Sports when Callixte was minister. BIKINDI composed songs for the MRND political party which were anti ethnic groups. He did this with the authority of Callixte NZABONIMANA, the Minister of Youths and Sports. Some of the songs were anti PSD, PL, MDR and other political parties. As a matter of fact, BIKINDI headed a section at the Ministry of Youth and Sports which I cannot remember at this point in time.

② I want you to know that the Minister, Callixte NZABONIMANA used part of the budget of his ministry, if not most of it, to finance the activities which were being carried out by BIKINDI. Youth groups at the communal level were provided with money by the Minister through Bourgmasters who in turn distributed the money to the youths for propaganda and sensitization of the local population against other ethnic groups. The Bourgmasters sometimes invited BIKINDI to their respective communes to sensitize the local population against the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF). I knew most of what I am telling you because I was the Director of Sports which was a high position in the Ministry. I was sometimes invited to some of the meetings but I always declined to attend any of the so-called meetings.

Callixte relegated to the background most important functions of the Ministry of Youths and Sports and concentrated most resources and attention to the sensitization against the RPF. In fact, most of the time I spent at the Ministry of Youths and Sports, Callixte was more interested in the propaganda business than the normal day to day affairs of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. They wanted me to be involved in this propoganda business but I refused. I refused because it was against my beliefs.

③ Callixte NZABONIMANA, as I told you, was a very strong member of the MRND political party. The youths he recruited were youths of the MRND political party. The youths of the MRND political party were called the Interhamwe. Not all the youths became the Interhamwe but most of them did. I saw some of the Interhamwe youths with their uniforms of red, green, black and yellow colours come to the Ministry of Youths and Sports to see Callixte NZABONIMANA in person. I saw them sometimes with guns and grenades and no one would question them. I do not know who provided them with the grenades and guns but Callixte saw them with these grenades and did not even question nor object to their being armed when entering the Ministry. At some point, these youths used government vehicles to attend rallies and demonstrations, and the

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demonstrations, and the authorities, including Callixte, never questioned these activities. Some powerful people who were in government also attended some of these rallies and carried grenades and guns.

Moral sensitization is very important as far as I am concerned. Callixte NZABONIMANA immensely contributed to recruiting, financing and providing means for the training of the Interhamwe youths which eventually culminated in the events of April to July 1994. The training of the Interhamwe militia was directly under the control of Colonel Theoneste BAGOSORA. Callixte worked hand in hand with Col. BAGOSORA. I can now recollect that arms and grenades were actually provided by Colonel BAGOSORA to the best of my knowledge and Callixte NZABONIMANA knew all about these, but his primary responsibility was sensitization and propaganda. Callixte NZABONIMANA disseminated literature against the RPF and other opposition parties in the country.

4 In February 1994, I went back to the Army and I was posted to Nyagatere. I decided to go back to the Army with the understanding that the Arusha agreement between the HAYARIMANA government and the RPF was going to be implemented and things would be better. Unfortunately, things did not work out as I thought. I would not have gone back to the Army if I was not convinced that the Arusha Accord would be implemented. I was again going to resign from the Army together with other senior military officers who shared the same views with me. Other officers and myself who did not like what was going on in Rwanda put out a declaration called the "KIGEME DECLARATION" condemning the genocide that had started in Rwanda. This declaration was all over the mass media and the world at large.

5 After President Juvenal HABYARIMANA died in a plane crash on April 06, 1994, I only got the news through some UNAMIR officials on April 08, 1994. These officials told me that the plane crashed in Kigali and killed the president and that the whole of Kigali was at war. The Interhamwe and soldiers of the Presidential Guard started killing Tutsi; some Hutu were also being killed.

Keep in mind that in 1990, the RPF had attacked Rwanda from Uganda and from then onwards, they were regarded as enemies of the HABYARIMANA government. The Interhamwe then started working to eliminate members of the Tutsi ethnic origin and moderate Hutu. The International Community was aware of this and did nothing to try to settle the situation. After the death of President Juvenal HABYARIMANA in a plane crash, UNAMIR instead pulled out of Rwanda and made the situation worse.

6 The HABYARIMANA government had sensitized the Rwanda Hutu population against the RPF. The sensitization and planning of the 1994 genocide had started after 1990 when the MRND government started killing Tutsi. Some members of the Hutu ethnic origin were also killed.

7 I would tell you from what I know that people like Callixte NZABONINAMA planted the seeds of genocide in Rwanda. This contributed immensely to the events of April to July 1994 that took the lives of almost one million innocent Rwandans. The role played by Callixte NZABONIMANA was very very important. If he and others who were in positions of ultimate authority had objected to the genocide, I do not think we could have had genocide in Rwanda. Instead he and others folded their arms, incited the local population, provided finances and trained the Interhamwe to kill the Tutsi and other moderate Hutu. Callixte NZABONIMANA, as far as I am concerned, is an accomplice in the 1994 genocide. He should be held responsible with others who were in the same capacity as him and had all the powers to stop the killings, but instead encouraged the killings.

WITNESS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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