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Reports and Correspondence

C/POL/113 (6-4) - Incident of 17 July (Demonstration of Katangese Women) 18/07/1962 - 07/08/1962

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Encl. 1962

9 août 1962

RAPPORT EN DATE DU 6 AOUT 1962 DE LA COMMISSION DE L'ONUC  
CHARGÉE D'ENQUÊTER SUR L'INCIDENT D'ELISABETHVILLE DU  
17 JUILLET 1962

A. Introduction

1. Dans la matinée du 17 juillet 1962, une foule nombreuse de Katangais, femmes et enfants pour la plupart, s'est rassemblée à la commune Albert, région presque entièrement habitée par des Africains, et s'est dirigée vers le centre de la ville d'Elisabethville. Lorsqu'elle est arrivée au poste de contrôle des Nations Unies situé sur l'avenue Tombour, la foule et les troupes des Nations Unies en sont venues aux mains.
2. Dans le courant de la journée, M. Tshombé a adressé à M. R. A. A. Gardiner, fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, une lettre dans laquelle il accusait les soldats indiens d'avoir tiré sur la foule, tuant une femme et blessant plusieurs personnes (annexe I).
3. Dans sa réponse du 18 juillet, M. Gardiner a nié que des coups de feu tirés par les troupes des Nations Unies aient tué des Katangais et a déclaré que la manifestation des Katangais avait été préméditée et organisée à des fins politiques. M. Gardiner a ajouté qu'il avait ordonné une enquête sur l'incident (annexe II).
4. Le 18 juillet, M. Gardiner a chargé de cette enquête une commission de trois fonctionnaires de l'ONUC. Cette commission devait déterminer les causes et les circonstances de l'incident, vérifier si les troupes des Nations Unies avaient tiré sur la foule, tuant et blessant des manifestants, et lui rendre compte sans délai.
5. Les fonctionnaires de l'ONUC nommés à la commission étaient M. T. Omo Bare, Commissaire joint de la police nigérienne, président de la commission, le lieutenant-colonel B. Lindeblad, avocat général de l'ONUC, et M. Charles Taff, conseiller juridique spécial.



B. Historique des troubles

6. Le 11 juillet 1962, les autorités katangaises ont célébré le deuxième anniversaire de l'"indépendance" du Katanga. Auparavant, elles étaient convenues avec les fonctionnaires des Nations Unies que deux compagnies de gendarmes au maximum, soit environ 300 hommes, participeraient au défilé qui aurait lieu à Elisabethville. Or le nombre des gendarmes qui ont défilé a dépassé 2 000. Lorsque ce fait a été porté à l'attention de M. Tshombé, celui-ci a nié qu'aucun accord ait été conclu avec les autorités des Nations Unies pour limiter à 300 hommes l'effectif des gendarmes qui devaient participer au défilé (annexe III).

7. Avant le jour du défilé, les autorités des Nations Unies avaient établi des postes de contrôle sur toutes les grandes routes conduisant à la ville à l'exception de l'avenue Tombeur. Il s'agissait d'empêcher l'entrée dans la ville d'un trop grand nombre de gendarmes et de trop grandes quantités d'armes et de munitions. Les véhicules civils et les piétons ont pu passer sans être arrêtés ni fouillés. Les véhicules militaires et les gendarmes qu'ils transportaient ont été fouillés, et le personnel militaire des Nations Unies a saisi les armes et les munitions qu'il a découvertes.

8. Les fonctionnaires katangais avaient déclaré qu'ils considéraient comme humiliant d'avoir à passer par un poste de contrôle des Nations Unies gardé par des militaires et de s'exposer à ce que leurs véhicules soient publiquement arrêtés et fouillés. Ils ont demandé, pour éviter une telle indignité, qu'une route principale reste ouverte, par laquelle on puisse passer sans encombre. Les autorités des Nations Unies ont accédé à cette requête à condition que la route libre ne soit pas utilisée pour des transports d'armes ou de militaires en armes. Les autorités katangaises ont accepté cette condition, et le poste de contrôle de l'avenue Tombeur a été supprimé après les événements de décembre 1961. Presque tous les gendarmes qui sont entrés à Elisabethville pour le défilé sont passés par l'avenue Tombeur.

9. Etant donné la violation par les autorités katangaises de l'accord concernant l'effectif des gendarmes qui devaient participer au défilé et pour éviter de nouveaux abus, les autorités des Nations Unies ont établi un poste de contrôle sur l'avenue Tombeur le lendemain du défilé, c'est-à-dire le 12 juillet. Le barrage était formé de huit vieux bidons d'essence remplis de sable. Quatre bidons étaient rangés en travers



du côté est de la route; à 50 yards au nord, les quatre autres étaient disposés de la même façon sur le côté ouest. Les troupes des Nations Unies comprenaient trois pelotons, soit environ 135 hommes au total, appartenant tous à la compagnie D, 4ème bataillon des Rajputana Rifles. Deux pelotons étaient postés à l'est du barrage et le troisième à l'ouest.

10. Dans la journée du 12 juillet, les autorités katangaises ont établi un poste de contrôle sur l'avenue Tombeur, à quelque 125 yards au sud du barrage des Nations Unies, et y ont posté environ 100 gendarmes.

11. Entre le 12 et le 17 juillet, aucun incident grave ne s'est produit aux deux barrages. Il y a eu cependant quelques incidents mineurs à l'endroit où se trouvaient les troupes des Nations Unies : plusieurs fois, des piétons ont jeté des pierres et, une autre fois, une parcelle de terre a été incendiée.

12. A 13 heures le 16 juillet, la veille de l'incident, la radio d'Elisabethville a diffusé le texte d'un télégramme que l'Union des femmes katangaises aurait envoyé aux personnes suivantes : reine Elisabeth, à Londres; Mme de Gaulle, à Paris; Mme Macmillan (sic), à Londres; reine Fabiola, à Bruxelles; Mme Kennedy, à Washington; Mme Dodd, dans le Connecticut (sic); princesse Paola, à Bruxelles; Mme Khrouchtchev, à Moscou. Ce télégramme, dont le texte a été reproduit dans le numéro du 17 juillet de l'Essor du Katanga, journal d'Elisabethville, et est joint au présent rapport (annexe IV), était une protestation énergique contre "le plan diabolique dressé par les Nations Unies afin de massacrer les femmes et les enfants katangais par des armes automatiques dirigées contre toutes les communes katangaises... Notre sang criera vengeance au ciel...".

13. Un Katangais a déclaré devant la commission qu'il avait assisté le 16 juillet, à la commune Albert, à une réunion au cours de laquelle M. Munongo, Ministre de l'intérieur du gouvernement provincial du Katanga, avait engagé son auditoire, composé surtout de femmes, à manifester dans la matinée du 17 juillet au poste de contrôle des Nations Unies, sur l'avenue Tombeur, et à protester vigoureusement contre la présence des troupes des Nations Unies à Elisabethville. Aucun des autres témoins qui se sont présentés devant la commission n'a pu donner de renseignements sur cette prétendue réunion.



14. Le 16 juillet, à 16 h 30, un homme qui a refusé de donner son nom mais qui a déclaré appartenir à l'Administration générale, a téléphoné au siège des Nations Unies à Elisabethville pour demander au représentant des Nations Unies de recevoir une délégation de femmes katangaises. Il a été informé qu'un fonctionnaire de l'ONUC serait disposé à recevoir cette délégation au siège, le jour même ou le lendemain matin. L'auteur du coup de téléphone anonyme a dit qu'il rappellerait le lendemain matin pour indiquer à l'ONUC quand la délégation arriverait. Le 17 juillet à 8 h 55, le même homme a appelé le siège de l'ONUC pour demander au représentant des Nations Unies de rencontrer la délégation quelque part en ville. Il a été informé que la délégation pouvait venir au siège de l'ONUC et qu'elle y serait reçue : "C'est regrettable", a-t-il répondu, et il a raccroché.

#### C. Déclenchement des troubles

15. Les manifestants sont arrivés à l'emplacement du barrage routier de l'ONUC vers 9 heures le 17 juillet. Selon les estimations diverses données à la commission, ils étaient alors au nombre de 300 à 1 500. Comme il a été indiqué plus haut, il y a eu immédiatement des heurts entre les manifestants et les troupes des Nations Unies.

16. Dans des communiqués de presse publiés séparément le 17 juillet, M. Tshombé et l'Union des femmes katangaises ont déclaré que les Katangaises, après avoir attendu M. Jean Back, représentant de l'ONUC à Elisabethville, qui avait "promis" de venir les trouver, avaient commencé à remonter l'avenue Tombeur. D'après la même déclaration, les femmes et les enfants ont renversé le barrage katangais mais, lorsqu'ils ont atteint le poste de contrôle des Nations Unies, les troupes les ont empêchés de passer et les ont attaqués (annexes V et VI).

17. Des soldats des Nations Unies ont fait savoir à la commission que les manifestants n'avaient pas essayé de franchir le barrage mais s'étaient mis immédiatement à enlever les bidons d'essence et à les attaquer. Ils ont ajouté qu'ils n'avaient rien fait pour empêcher les manifestants de passer, puisqu'ils n'avaient reçu pour instructions que d'empêcher l'entrée dans la ville d'un trop grand nombre de gendarmes et de trop grandes quantités d'armes et de munitions.



18. Le témoignage des soldats des Nations Unies est confirmé par celui d'un journaliste indépendant qui se trouvait au poste de contrôle au moment de l'arrivée des premiers manifestants. Comme il importe de savoir si la responsabilité du déclenchement de l'émeute incombe aux manifestants ou aux troupes des Nations Unies, voici des extraits du témoignage de ce journaliste :

"Je suis arrivé juste avant 9 heures. J'ai d'abord constaté que des gens parlaient et se groupaient; je ne savais pas ce qu'ils voulaient. Après une vingtaine de minutes, ils se sont précipités et ont enlevé les fûts du barrage katangais, qu'ils ont lancés dans le fossé. Cinq femmes et un petit garçon se sont détachés et, brusquement, d'autres sont apparus derrière eux et se sont dirigés vers le barrage de l'ONU. Les Indiens attendaient patiemment, pratiquement sans broncher. Pendant un moment, rien ne s'est passé, puis la tension a monté au fur et à mesure que les gens entouraient les Indiens et leur manifestaient de l'hostilité. La situation a alors empiré, et quelqu'un a eu l'idée géniale d'allumer un feu de brousse; une femme a commencé et d'autres ont suivi son exemple."

Question : "Avez-vous vu les manifestants qui sont arrivés les premiers au barrage de l'ONU?"

Réponse : "Oui."

Question : "Pouvez-vous nous dire si les soldats postés au barrage ont essayé de s'opposer au passage des manifestants qui s'avançaient?"

Réponse : "Non. A ce moment-là, les femmes se sont simplement précipitées au travers des soldats et se sont mises à enlever les fûts et le poteau indicateur."

Question : "Quand les femmes ont atteint le barrage, elles n'ont pas cherché à le franchir mais se sont mises aussitôt à enlever les fûts qui constituaient le barrage?"

Réponse : "Oui. Quelques Indiens se trouvaient sur la route, mais ils n'ont rien fait pour empêcher les gens de passer."



D. L'émeute

19. L'émeute a aussitôt gagné les deux côtés du poste de contrôle où se trouvaient les soldats et le matériel des Nations Unies. A mesure que le tumulte grandissait, le nombre des participants augmentait : d'après l'Echo du Katanga, journal d'Elisabethville, il a dépassé 10 000 au plus fort de l'émeute. Les manifestants comprenaient surtout des femmes, mais il y avait aussi des hommes, des jeunes gens et des enfants. L'émeute a duré environ trois heures et s'est terminée à 12 h 15.
20. On n'a pas vu de manifestants armés. Toutefois, un certain nombre de véhicules des Nations Unies qui stationnaient à proximité ayant eu leurs pneus tailladés, quelques-uns des manifestants devaient avoir des couteaux ou des pointes.
21. Le nombre des policiers katangais qui se sont rendus sur les lieux pendant les troubles n'a à aucun moment dépassé 50. Ils étaient armés de fusils mais n'ont pas réussi à contenir la foule. Certains témoins ont affirmé avoir vu des policiers encourager les émeutiers. D'autres ont déclaré avoir vu les policiers essayer énergiquement, mais en vain, de refouler les émeutiers. Aucun manifestant n'a été arrêté.
22. Les 100 gendarmes qui se trouvaient au poste de contrôle katangais, à 125 yards du barrage des Nations Unies, n'ont pas bougé et aucun d'eux n'a été vu, à aucun moment, sur les lieux des troubles. Le colonel Michel Kiembe, Chef d'état-major de la gendarmerie katangaise, est arrivé au poste de contrôle des Nations Unies vers 10 heures, y est resté une quinzaine de minutes et est reparti.
23. Les manifestants ont lancé des pierres aux soldats des Nations Unies, les ont frappés à coups de bâton, les ont griffés, ont allumé des feux de brousse à proximité, ont incendié une case, ont endommagé des véhicules et autres biens de l'ONU. D'après l'Essor du Katanga, "l'objectif était, on le sait, de combler les trous creusés par les Indiens pour faire disparaître ces positions menaçantes".
24. Pour se défendre et chasser les manifestants, les soldats des Nations Unies les ont attaqués à coups de bâton et de piquets de tente, ont lancé des pierres et les ont menacés de la crosse de leur fusil.



25. Le général de brigade R. S. Noronha, commandant de la section B à Elisabethville, a fait savoir à la Commission qu'il avait donné l'ordre au major Choudhary, commandant de la compagnie des Nations Unies stationnée sur les lieux, de n'ouvrir le feu qu'en dernier ressort. Le major Choudhary et le lieutenant-colonel Shinde, commandant du bataillon, ont déclaré que, tous leurs efforts pour mettre fin aux troubles et pour refouler les émeutiers ayant échoué, les hommes, agissant sur l'ordre du lieutenant-colonel Shinde, avaient tiré en l'air neuf coups de fusil : cinq vers 11 h 30, deux à 11 h 45 et deux à midi. Ils ont ajouté que, la déclaration de M. Tshombé, selon laquelle une jeune femme et un garçon avaient été atteints, ayant été faite vers 10 heures, ces décès ne pouvaient pas être attribués au tir de leurs hommes.

26. D'autres témoins ont dit avoir entendu, à divers moments entre 9 h 30 et midi, des coups de fusil venant des positions des troupes des Nations Unies. Les avis étaient partagés quant au nombre des coups de feu : les chiffres signalés variaient entre deux et quinze environ.

27. Les officiers et les hommes de troupe des Nations Unies ont également déclaré qu'avant 10 heures ils avaient entendu des coups de fusil venant du barrage katangais où se trouvaient des gendarmes, et qu'ils avaient vu des policiers katangais tirer des coups de fusil sur les lieux de l'émeute. D'autres témoins ont dit n'avoir ni vu ni entendu, à aucun moment, de coups de feu venant du barrage katangais ou tirés par des policiers katangais.

28. Vingt et un officiers et hommes de troupe des Nations Unies ont été blessés pendant ces troubles. Les blessures étaient toutes sans gravité : meurtrissures, coupures, écorchures dues à des coups de bâton, des pierres et des coups d'ongle.

29. Dans le communiqué de presse mentionné au paragraphe 16 ci-dessus, M. Tshombé a déclaré qu'une jeune femme de 17 ans avait été tuée d'une balle dans l'aîne, qu'un garçonnet d'une dizaine d'année avait été atteint au bras et au foie, puis frappé d'une baïonnette par un soldat des Nations Unies, qu'un jeune homme de 17 ans avait été blessé d'une balle qui avait traversé les deux fesses et que 13 femmes avaient été grièvement blessées. (annexe V)

30. La Commission a été informée que le jeune homme de 17 ans n'était pas mort; il se remettait de ses blessures à l'hôpital Prince Léopold à Elisabethville.



31. Exception faite de deux personnes - M. L. Vrancken, correspondant de l'Essor du Katanga, et M. M. Kerten, employé du gouvernement provincial katangais - aucun témoin n'a pu donner à la commission de renseignements sur quiconque aurait été tué ou blessé pendant les troubles. Personne n'a vu qui que ce soit atteint par une balle ni grièvement blessé, et personne n'a observé d'indices permettant de croire que quelqu'un aurait été frappé d'une balle ou grièvement blessé : sang sur le sol, personne saignant abondamment, ambulance emportant qui que ce soit des lieux de l'émeute. En outre, tous les témoins ont déclaré avoir parlé à diverses personnes pendant les troubles, mais n'avoir jamais entendu dire que quelqu'un aurait été atteint d'une balle ou grièvement blessé.

32. M. Vrancken a indiqué que, vers 9 h 30, il avait aperçu deux ou trois soldats indiens entourés par un groupe de femmes katangaises; il avait entendu des coups de feu venant de cet endroit, il avait vu les femmes s'enfuir, et une jeune femme qui portait un bébé sur son dos était tombée à côté de lui. L'endroit où cette femme serait tombée se trouve à quelque 35 yards au sud du poste de contrôle des Nations Unies et à cinq pieds à l'est de l'avenue Tombeur. Toutefois, ce témoignage semble contredire le récit contenu dans un article de M. Vrancken paru dans le numéro du 18 juillet de l'Essor du Katanga. Dans cet article, il ne faisait aucune mention d'une femme qui aurait été frappée par une balle. La seule mention d'une femme qui serait tombée à côté de lui figure dans la phrase suivante : "Au début, les Indiens ont riposté en lançant à leur tour des pierres et des mottes de terre. C'est ainsi qu'une femme qui portait un bébé sur son dos et qui se tenait à côté de moi est tombée, atteinte par des pierres" (annexe VII). La commission n'a pu achever l'interrogatoire de M. Vrancken en une seule séance et lui a demandé de revenir le lendemain. Malgré les assurances qu'il a données à la commission, M. Vrancken n'est pas revenu et n'a fourni aucune explication.

33. M. Kerten a déclaré que, vers 11 h 30, il avait aperçu plusieurs hommes transportant un garçon qui, selon toute apparence, avait été grièvement blessé. M. Kerten avait mis ce garçon dans sa voiture, constatant qu'il avait été frappé par une balle au bras et dans la région du foie, et l'avait conduit à l'hôpital de la Reine Elisabeth. Il a ajouté qu'il ne se trouvait pas près du garçon au moment où celui-ci avait été blessé et qu'il ne savait pas d'où venait la balle.



34. Afin de recueillir d'autres renseignements sur les désordres et notamment sur les décès signalés d'une jeune femme et d'un jeune garçon, la commission a commandé dans un magasin local, Photo-lux, des copies de plus de 100 photographies prises par un employé de ce magasin. Après avoir accepté de vendre ces copies 11 100 francs katangais (l'équivalent de 220 dollars des Etats-Unis), Photo-lux a changé d'avis et a refusé de remettre même une seule de ces photographies à l'ONUC.

35. M. Tshombé avait donné aux fonctionnaires des Nations Unies l'assurance qu'il fournirait à la commission une liste des personnes qui se trouvaient sur les lieux au moment des troubles et qui seraient disposées à témoigner. Toutefois, cette liste n'a jamais été communiquée à l'ONUC.

36. Le 18 juillet, trois médecins de l'hôpital de la Reine Elisabeth ont pratiqué des autopsies sur les cadavres d'une jeune femme et d'un garçon. Trois médecins de l'ONUC ont assisté à ces autopsies en qualité d'observateurs. Dans leurs rapports, les médecins se sont accordés à reconnaître que la jeune femme et le garçon étaient morts de blessures infligées par des balles qui leur avaient traversé le corps. Les rapports concernant le garçon indiquaient qu'il n'avait pas été blessé à coups de baïonnette.

37. La commission a appris qu'aucune balle n'avait été extraite des cadavres de la jeune femme et du garçon. Le 24 juillet, M. E. Falmagne, Procureur d'Etat du Katanga, a fait savoir à la commission que des morceaux de métal avaient été retirés des deux cadavres sur lesquels des autopsies avaient été pratiquées le 18 juillet à l'hôpital de la Reine Elisabeth; ces morceaux de métal avaient été placés dans une enveloppe cachetée qui a été remise sous serment à un expert local que l'on a chargé d'envoyer le contenu en Belgique pour le faire analyser. M. Falmagne a ajouté qu'un représentant de l'ONUC pouvait assister à l'analyse. La commission a répondu à M. Falmagne qu'elle voudrait connaître les résultats de l'analyse mais qu'elle ne souhaitait pas qu'un représentant de l'ONUC y prenne part étant donné que l'ONUC n'avait observé et n'avait été invitée à observer aucune des mesures initiales de précaution qui avaient été prises au sujet des morceaux de métal.

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E. Conclusions de la commission

38. L'émeute survenue à Elisabethville le 17 juillet a été soigneusement préparée et pleinement appuyée par les autorités katangaises. Les témoignages fournis à la commission infirment nettement les allégations de M. Tshombé selon lesquelles l'émeute aurait éclaté spontanément par suite du refus des troupes des Nations Unies stationnées au poste de contrôle de l'ONUC de laisser passer les manifestants. Des témoins oculaires qui se trouvaient au poste de contrôle au moment où sont arrivés les manifestants ont attesté que ceux-ci n'avaient pas cherché à franchir le barrage, mais avaient immédiatement attaqué les troupes des Nations Unies. A aucun moment de l'émeute, qui a duré plus de trois heures, l'effectif des policiers katangais présents sur les lieux n'a dépassé 50 hommes. Ils n'ont ni réprimé l'émeute ni arrêté un seul émeutier. Alors qu'une centaine de gendarmes katangais se tenaient à 125 yards seulement du poste de contrôle des Nations Unies, aucun d'eux ne s'est rendu sur les lieux de l'émeute pour aider à rétablir l'ordre.

39. En dépit de provocations extrêmes auxquelles ils étaient en butte, les officiers et hommes de troupe des Nations Unies qui se trouvaient au poste de contrôle ont fait preuve d'une discipline et d'une modération exemplaires. Ils étaient armés de fusils, de mitraillettes et de matériel lourd. Il est évident que s'ils avaient tiré sur la foule le nombre de morts aurait été très élevé.

40. La commission considère comme non fondée l'accusation selon laquelle des coups de feu tirés par les troupes des Nations Unies auraient causé la mort d'une jeune femme et d'un garçon katangais. Tous les témoins qui ont vu les troupes des Nations Unies tirer ont attesté que les hommes avaient uniquement tiré en l'air, par-dessus la tête des émeutiers. La seule personne qui ait déclaré qu'une femme katangaise avait été frappée d'une balle tirée par des soldats des Nations Unies était un journaliste de l'Essor du Katanga, journal d'Elisabethville, or ce témoignage contredisait directement l'article que l'intéressé avait écrit pour ce journal et où il précisait que la femme en question avait été atteinte par des pierres. En ce qui concerne le jeune garçon dont la mort a été signalée, aucun témoin n'a déclaré que la victime avait été atteinte par des balles qu'auraient tirées les troupes des Nations Unies.



Les documents suivants, qui, en raison de leur longueur et de leur importance limitée, ne sont pas reproduits ici, étaient annexés au rapport de la commission de l'ONUC :

- I. Lettre adressée au fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, le 17 juillet 1962, par M. Tshombé (sera jointe en annexe au rapport du fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, S/5053/Add.11).
- II. Lettre adressée à M. Tshombé, le 18 juillet 1962, par le fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC (sera jointe en annexe au rapport du fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, S/5053/Add.11).
- III. Lettre adressée au fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, le 12 juillet 1962, par M. Tshombé (sera jointe en annexe au rapport du fonctionnaire chargé de l'ONUC, S/5053/Add.11).
- IV. Télégramme adressé à la reine Elizabeth, Mme de Gaulle, etc., le 16 juillet 1962, par l'Union des femmes katangaises.
- V. Communiqué de presse en date du 17 juillet 1962 publié par M. Tshombé.
- VI. Communiqué de presse en date du 17 juillet 1962 publié par l'Union des femmes katangaises.
- VII. "Les événements au fil des heures", article paru dans l'Essor du Katanga le 18 juillet 1962.
- VIII. Rapports des docteurs Jacquerye, Pieter et Lenelle, de l'Hôpital de la Reine Elisabeth, à Elisabethville, sur les autopsies qu'ils ont pratiquées le 18 juillet 1962 sur les cadavres d'une femme et d'un garçon.
- IX. Rapport en date du 19 juillet 1962 des docteurs Cenerelli et Cipolat, de l'ONUC, sur les autopsies mentionnées à l'annexe VIII.

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The position occupied by UN troops in Elisabethville the 17th July 1962 was :

- 800 yards Avenue Cobalt - from east to west.
  - 250 yards east from Avenue Tombeur, direction west/east  
550 " direction east/west
  - 2 pelotons were posted west side  
1 peloton at east side, east of Avenue Tombeur
  - The demonstration took place 30/35 yards east of Ave. Tombeur.
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COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY -

Notes of INTERROGATION on Saturday: 21st JULY 1962

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WITNESS: J C 12250 JAMADAR RAMNATH (Account of the Incident of 17th JULY 1962)

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QUESTIONED BY COL/ LINDBLAD:

Q What was your position ?

A My position was on the right of Av. Tombeur facing the Commune Albert and I was holding the defences in that area. On the morning of the 17th at about 8 a.m. I found a large crowd approaching us in the direction of Commune Albert.

They arrived up towards the Gendarmerie Check Post and threw aside the drums that were placed there. They advanced further towards our check post and similarly threw aside drums that were placed there.

After this we received orders from my Company Commander to be ready in our positions. The crowd started demonstrating by throwing their clothes away and setting fire to the grass, throwing stones at us and so on.

At about this time a Police jeep arrived which was stopped by my Coy Commander, but they left without taking actions to control the mob. The situation continued to get worse and again we were approached by a Police jeep which again left the position without intervening.

The crowd were pushing into the position we held and at about the same time we were hearing a few shots fired from the direction of the Gendarmerie Check Post.

A short time later another vehicle carrying some Policemen arrived at our Check Post. I saw from my position my Company Commander approaching them and from the manner in which he was gesticulating it appeared that he was trying to ask them to intervene.

The situation continued to get worse. The crowds were throwing stones, using their catapults, when my Coy Commander gathered some men behind him.

The Coy Commander was seen to attack the mob with the men who were armed with sticks, but the Police seemed to be between them and the mob. Again we heard a few shots from the post occupied by the Gendarmerie.



This continued for a while and eventually my Company Commander organised the men armed with sticks and ordered them to charge into the mob.

We also heard about this time a few shots fired this time from the direction of the crossing on Av. Tombeur and Av. Limite Sud from where the Policement were arriving.

A fresh charge was organised by the men attacking the mob with sticks with the Coy Commander in the lead, followed by a few men who were armed with rifles.

During the course of this charge the people who had rifles loaded, fired three rounds. I noticed that the firing was in the air.

The mob retreated and moved to the extremities of our position.

The party under the Coy Commander turned about and moved up Av. Tombeur towards the Church. There was a mob coming down that road. About this time two helicopters landed near the Industrial School..

The mob which was advancing from the Church end of Av. Tombeur was attacked by the stick party led by my Coy Commander.

When they were attacking this party two more rounds were fired by the men following the Company Commander. While the Coy Commander was charging up Av. Tambeur towards the Church we were attacked by a mob which had earlier dispersed.

The situation on my post became complicated and the lives of my men and the safety of my weapons endangered. I therefore ordered two of my men to load one round each in their rifles.

I ordered these two men to fire in the air. As soon as these two shots were fired the crowd dispersed.

Col. L.

Can you show us your position on the Sketch?

Witness

(He pointed out the position)

Col. L.

During this time did you see any dead bodies?

Witness

No I did not see any dead bodies.

Col. L.

From your position are you able easily to overlook this area?

Witness

From this position I can see the whole road and the right extreme position of 11 Platoon.



Col. L. How long did you stay in your position?

Witness I stayed in my position from the time I was given orders by the Coy Commander to be ready in our positions until the crowds dispersed - at about 8 o'clock.

Col. L. Did you see any ambulances coming?

Witness No.

Col. L. Did you see any people coming to take care of those injured?

Witness No I did not see anybody - besides, we were also being attacked at the same time.

QUESTIONED BY MR TAFT:

Mr. T. When the demonstrators first reached the road blocks, did the Indian troops attempt to stop them?

Witness People holding their check post withdrew.

Mr. T. Was there any struggle, pushing or shoving at the time the demonstrators first reached the Road Block?

Witness They did not do anything - they stayed at their posts.

Mr. T. At what time did you first observe any clash or attack at the Road Block itself?

Witness At about 9.30 to a quarter to 10

Mr. T. At what time did you first hear any gun shots?

Witness At about 9.30 or thereabout.

Mr. T. From which direction did the gunshots come?

Witness The fire was heard to come from the direction of the Check Post.

Mr. T. Can you tell us whether you know in what direction the fire was aimed?

Witness No, Sir.

Mr. T. You do not know whether the fire was aimed in the air or at any group of people?

Witness No, Sir.

Mr. T. When did you first hear the report that there had been some individuals killed? At or during the demonstration?

Witness We came to know about it from my Commander after the demonstration was over - sometime in the afternoon.



Mr. T. Were you or any other men under your command requested to extend any assistance to the Katangese?

Witness No, Sir.

Mr. T. Did you at any time see any gendarmerie in the Road Block mixing with the people?

Witness They were not recognisable because they were not dressed in the gendarmeries uniforms - but we cannot say whether any were there dressed in civilian clothes.

Mr. T. When did you first see any Katangese Police amongst the demonstrators?

Witness At about 9 o'clock.

Mr. T. Can you make a guess as to the maximum number of Katangese Policemen?

Witness From where I was I gathered from my view there might have been 20 to 30

Mr. T. Did you at any time see a Katangese policeman arrest a Katangese demonstrator?

Witness No, I did not.

Mr. T. Did you see at any time a Katangese Policeman beat or strike any of the Katangese demonstrators?

Witness No.

Mr. T. Did you at any time see any of the Katangese Police demonstrate any hostility towards the Katangese demonstrators?

Witness On the contrary I saw them smile in an amused manner.

Mr. T. Did you at any time see any Katangese individual, woman or child, appear to be seriously injured?

Witness No.

Mr. T. Did you at any time see any Katangese individual lie on the ground - stretched on the ground, unable to move?

Witness No, I only saw them running up and down.

Mr. T. Did you at any time recognise any Katangese official at the demonstration?

Witness No. Do not know them - so would not recognise them.



QUESTIONED BY MR. BARE

Mr. B. You have pointed out your position. Will you now tell us whether the area itself was on a high, even level. Was the ground sloping?

Witness This ground where I held this post slopes down from the area of the Industrial College and there is an undulating ground ahead of me.

Mr. B. When the mob came along did they do so in great numbers?

Witness In the initial stages the crowd appeared to be in the region of several hundreds, but later it increased to two or three thousand.

Mr. B. Did they concentrate just on the crown of the road or did they advance widespread?

Witness They arrived in on the road but later spread out and set fire to the grass, cut and pulled our telephone cables and assaulted the position with stones and bricks.

Mr. B. Where was your Coy Commander. Was he on the same side of the road as yourself?

Witness When all this was happening he was on the other side of the road.

Mr. B. In your position, which I understand slopes down, were you able to see clearly the movements and hear the orders of your Coy Commander?

Witness I could see his movement, but could not hear his orders because of the noise of the crowd.

Mr. B. Now, you mentioned three shots fired. You do not describe whether the later shot was fired in the air or on the crowd. I am concerned with the last shots - were they shot at the mob?

Witness I saw their barrels were raised in the air. ~~The crowd started demonstrating by throwing their clothes away, setting fire to the grass, throwing stones at us~~

Mr. B. You also fired yourself - two shots in your own section. Who gave you orders?

Witness I gave those orders myself because the security of my post and the lives of my men were threatened.

Mr. B. Were your orders consistent with any military regulations?

Witness Yes.



AGAIN QUESTIONED BY MR/TAFF

Mr. T. Excuse me, I would like to briefly ask a few more questions:  
Did you at any time during the demonstration have your  
bayonets fixed in position?

Witness No.

Mr. T. Did you see any rifles with bayonets fixed?

Witness No.

Mr. T. Did you see any soldier strike any of the demonstrators  
with bayonets?

Witness No.

Mr. T. Did you at any time during or after the demonstration hear of  
anyone being bayoneted?

Witness No.

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STATEMENT MADE TO THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY BY MR. BACK on Saturday morning:  
21st JULY 1962.

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I was at home on the 16th at 1300 hours; and, as usual, I was listening to the news bulletin by Radio KATANGA in French. I heard the broadcast of a telegram of the Union des Femmes Katangaïse addressed to Queens and Wives and Chiefs of States to Prime Ministers throughout the world, protesting against the plan conceived by the United Nations to massacre women and children, stating that their blood would cry to heaven for vengeance. That same afternoon at about 16.30 a call was received by Miss Pat Ryan, secretary at UN HQ asking that a UN representative should meet with Katanga women. The caller said he was from the Administration Generale, but refused to give his name. Later in the day a man also stating that he was from the Administration Generale called Mr. Fulcheri, stating that Katanga women wanted to see me or Mr. Fulcheri immediately. Mr. Fulcheri indicated that I was busy, but that he would be prepared to receive the delegation at HQ immediately or whenever they would like. He asked the anonymous caller to confirm the date of the appointment before 1700. The caller said he would call again the next day in order to inform him when the delegation would be coming to HQ. The next morning, the 17th July, at about 8.55 - and I remember the time quite accurately as we were leaving my office to go to the daily staff meeting at 9 a.m. and we were stopped in the corridor by my secretary, Miss Pinto - the same man called Mr. Fulcheri and asked that I should come and meet the delegation of women somewhere in Town. Mr. Fulcheri replied that the delegation should come to HQ where he would receive it, as agreed on the 16th July. The caller said in French, according to what Mr. Fulcheri reported: "C'est très regrettable" and hung up on him. I have prepared a sequence of events which occurred on the 16th and 17th July, which I am handing over to the Committee of Investigation, as I think this might be of interest to consult.

END OF STATEMENT



MR BACK is the QUESTIONED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION :-

- Mr. Taff The local newspaper reported that the delegation was to come from the Commune Albert to your office to present their protests against the UN in Elisabethville?
- Mr. Back The only thing I do know is, as I said before, that some women wanted to see me - the Union of the Women of Katanga. I do not know whether they were to come from the Commune Albert or not. I was at the time busy and requested any delegation to book the time with Mr. Fulcheri and it was understood that any delegation should come to see us at HQ and we were not prepared to see a delegation in town.
- Mr. Taff Has there at any time been a demonstration before the UN HQ here?
- Mr. Back Not to my knowledge - and not since I have been present here. That is - 31st January 1962.
- Mr. Taff Do you know if any threats of any kind had been made before the Road Block and later to our UN personnel there?
- Mr. Back I have not heard of any threats prior to the demonstration. After the demonstration I heard from various sources that threats had been made on the previous day - and even since Friday, 13th July.
- There is something that I may add here - when I went to inform President Tshombe, in company with General Prem Chand, on Thursday, 12th July, at 8 a.m., of the erection of our road block, President Tshombe and all the members of his Cabinet who were present, protested violently against this road block. But no prewise threats were made.
- If the Commission desires a transcription has been made by the Katangaish of my meeting with Pres. Tshombe, and this can be put at the disposal of the Commission. I want to stress, however, that this document does not give a completely accurate picture, and that I sent a letter to Pres. Tshombe - a copy of which can also be given to the Commission - in which I stated that I had reservations about the way the Meeting had been conducted.
- I am now, according to your wishes, handing you over a copy of the transcription and my letter of reservations.
- Mr. Taff We would be grateful for any information as to whether this demonstration was premeditated - and I am now asking you to provide us with any information which may have a bearing on this point?
- Mr. Back This is a very difficult question to answer. I have certainly a distinct impression, and, I stress, a very strong impression, that the whole manifestation was staged. I have no definite



evidence, however, to go on. One thing which is interesting is that the news men, telephones, television, movies, still photographers were already on the spot at 8 a.m. on the 17th July. And it therefore seems that they may have been warned.

However, we were never warned by the Katangese Authorities of any likely manifestation taking place. This is all the more surprising because whenever a very minor incident occurs we are immediately alerted by the Katangese authorities, Gendarmerie, Police, or even President Tshombe's secretary, in order to see to it that nothing untoward happens.

It is, therefore, difficult for me to understand how such a mass demonstration could have taken place without out being warned?

MR/BARE

I would like to ask a question concerning the Road Block. We have heard during the course of this Enquiry that there are other road blocks, erected prior to the 9th 10th 11th 12th? Can you tell us why it was now found necessary to set up that Road Block on that day, and whether this was with your personal permission.

Mr. Back

I would rather call them Check Posts, rather than Road Blocks. At all entries into the Town, when I arrived here in Elisabethville. There was only one through access to the Town from Av. Tombeur. I was told at the time that this access had been left open for reasons, more or less, of prestige for the Katangese so as to be convenient for the passage of ministers and other important people and enable them to enter and to leave town when they wished without having to pass through the UN Check Post.

As far as the erection of this Check Post is concerned, however, these are the events which lead to it:

The Katangese wanted to celebrate the Second Anniversary of their so-called Independence. During June, the Protocol Chief of the Katangese Government, Col. Ryckman de Betz, with Mr. Chaleb, Acting UN Representative in Elisabethville, during my presence in Leo, presented information of the plans of the Celebration.

He indicated that a large number of military personnel of the Katanga Gendarmerie were to take part in it. Mr. Chaleb referred the conversation to General Prem Chand and to Mr. Gardiner, the FC and myself, in Leo.

In turn, the whole question was referred to New York. It was decided that while the celebration would not be interfered with by the UN, a stern view was taken as to the/  
the/



participation of military personnel, and this should be conveyed to the Katanga Authorities. In the course of various lengthy discussion between civilian and military chiefs, the impression was left in our minds that President Tshombe agreed to have the whole matter taken up between our COS and the COS of the Gendarmerie.

Meetings were held between the military personnel, and in the course of these it was agreed that a maximum strength of two Companies of Gendarmeries would take part in the parade.

Our military commanders had faith in a pledge given by a soldier and it was therefore with the greatest surprise that we were informed on 11th July that approximately 2,100 Gendarmeries, plus approximately 800 Police, had taken part in the parade.

They had entered the Town through the Av. Tombeur, where there was no check post at the time. Leopoldville and New York were informed, and it was decided to set up a Road Block at 1.30 a.m. on the 12th July.

Mr. Bare

You mentioned that it was considered to be to the prestige of the Katangese that access was accorded. Would you say that by establishing the Control Post, the prestige would be diminished. Do you think that the prestige of the Katangese was diminished by the setting up of the Road Block against the free movement of the Ministers?

Mr. Back

The setting up of this Road Block has certainly diminished their prestige - and, more than that, it has restricted all movements of the military and others, which, up to that time were not checked by us and which now are checked. This, to my mind, is the reason and root of where their unhappiness lies.

Mr. Bare

Will the restriction of this through movement of the Gendarmerie in this Av. Tombeur in any way jeopardise the safety of the military personnel who are guarding it?

Mr. Back

It is very difficult for me, as a civilian, to say, it is up to the military authorities to make a statement on this question; but I as a civilian would say that it would.

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END OF COMMISSION'S QUESTIONING OF MR. BACK.



Déposition faite par :

Monsieur VRANCKEN Léopold  
BP 3330 - Elisabethville.

Journaliste à l'Essor du Katanga  
l'Agence France-Presse

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Q - Etiez-vous présent à l'Avenue Tombeur, dans la région du barrage le 17 juillet ?

A - Oui.

Q - Qu'avez-vous vu ?

R - Je suis arrivé sur la place du marché de la commune Albert, quelques minutes avant la manifestation. J'ai donc vu la masse de femmes s'ébranler. Elles couraient, danser, chanter, et se donnaient mutuellement, des mots d'encouragement. Alors j'ai suivi lentement, et quand je suis arrivé au barrage de l'Avenue Tombeur, j'ai constaté que les femmes se disputaient avec les soldats indiens, les mains nues. Alors je me suis approché du côté du bois d'eucalyptus, à droite du barrage indien, venant de la commune Albert. Là, j'ai constaté une bataille entre quelques femmes et 2,3 soldats indiens. Les femmes et les soldats se lançaient pierres et mottes de terre. A un moment donné, les trois soldats ont été entièrement entourés par les femmes. A ce moment, j'ai entendu des coups de feu, qui venaient de près. Les femmes qui entouraient les soldats se sont dispersées, et ont été poursuivies par les soldats qui leur jetaient des mottes de pierres et de terre. A ce moment, j'ai vu, couchée sur le dos, au bord du fossé, une femme, dont l'enfant avait roulé par terre. Les trois ou quatre soldats indiens qui étaient retournés dans leurs trous, ont mis en joue le groupe formé par la femme couchée par terre, les trois ou quatre femmes qui essayaient de l'aider et moi-même qui me trouvais là. Voyant que j'étais menacé, j'ai tiré ma carte de presse de l'ONUC je l'ai montré aux soldats indiens de l'ONU, et je leur ai montré la femme couchée par terre. Les femmes qui étaient autour de la victime, m'ont déclaré qu'elle avait reçu des balles de fusil dans le corps. Moi je croyais qu'elle avait été effrayée de la fusillade et s'était évanouie. Elles ont essayé de l'assoir. La femme a ouvert un instant les yeux, puis elle est tombée, les yeux révulsés, comme si elle se mourait, et s'est immobilisée.



Voilà ce que j'ai vu. Je n'ai pas vu les coups de feu quand ils ont été tirés, je les ai uniquement entendus. Ils étaient tirés d'un lieu très proche de nous.

J'ai voulu transporter la femme avec l'aide deses amies. Mais j'ai vu quela chose était impossible. Alors je suis redescendu vers le barrage katangais. Un gendarme m'a demandé ce que je faisais là. Je lui ai dit que j'étais journaliste, et ja lui ai montré ma carte de journalisme de l'ONU. A ce moment, les femmes qui se trouvaient autour de moi ont crié : "ONU, ONU, ONU"... Je suis retourné avec un soldat vers les bureaux de la Commune Albert. J'ai rencontré M. Kakulu, chef de l'Administration Générale, et je lui ai expliqué ce que j'ai vu. Et quand le soldat a vu que Kakulu me reconnaissait, il s'est retiré. J'ai raconté toute l'histoire et demandé l'autorisation de téléphoner pour envoyer une ambulance. Mon confrère de la Voix du Katanga, Hamici, était présent. Il a d'abord téléphoné à l'hôpital Prince Léopold, mais il n'y avait pas d'ambulance ; on a alors téléphoné à l'hôpital Reine Elisabeth, et ils ont envoyé une ambulance. Maintenant je ne me souviens plus : ça peut être le contraire! ;. A ce moment, j'ai vu le ministre Munongo et je lui ai raconté l'histoire. Plus tard, peut-être vers 10.30, je ne me souviens plus, je l'ai rencontré à nouveau à la Résidence de Tshombe, et il m'a dit que cette femme était morte, et que les médecins avaient constaté qu'elle avait deux balles dans le corps qu'elle était morte par des coups de feu. Une ou deux balles, je ne me souviens pas.

Ceci est l'histoire de cette femme, et je peux jurer que tout ce que je viens de dire à son sujet est vrai.

J'ai encore d'autres détails sur la manifestation.

Au moment où les femmes se mettaient en branle vers le barrage de l'ONU, j'ai vu un policier katangais qui courait après un homme qui voulait aller avec les femmes. L'homme, un katangais, a été arrêté, et je ne sais pas ce qu'il est devenu?

Un peu plus loin, au barrage katangais, il y avait une cinquantaine de gamins de 10 à 15 ans qui voulaient également manifester avec les femmes. J'ai vu que les gendarmes les empêchaient de passer. Dans ce début de manifestation, donc, à part les journalistes, je n'ai pas vu d'hommes avec les femmes. Les hommes sont venus après, vers 10.30, il me semble, je ne suis pas sûr. Ils étaient rassemblés autour du barrage, ils venaient probablement de la ville ; c'était peut-être des ouvriers.



Au moment où je quittais les lieux pour me rendre au Téléc, j'ai rencontré le correspondant de l'Agence Reuter, Virgilus Berger ainsi qu'un autre journaliste, et nous nous sommes rendus en ville, par une autre avenue, où nous avons pu passer sans difficultés : avenue Mgr. Dambitine (?) ; et nous avons pu constater le contraste entre la situation avenue Tombeur, et dans ce secteur

Je pense que c'est tout.

Quand je suis retourné sur les lieux, c'était l'effervescence complète ; les coups de feu partaient de partout ; il y avait des disputes entre femmes et soldats indiens. Je suis tout juste resté cinq à dix minutes, et m'en suis allé.

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Q - Pouvez-vous nous situer sur la carte, la position des lieux, Où se trouvait la femme qui gisait sur le sol ?

R - Près de barrage onusien, sur le fossé au bord de la route. Avant le barrage, sur la droite, entre les deux barrages de l'ONU et des Gendarmes katangais. A environ 10,20 mètres du barrage de l'ONU. Peut-être plus ; mais vous savez, avec tous ces événements, je ne crois pas pouvoir être plus précis.

Q - A quelle heure avez-vous vu ces femmes ?

R - Je n'ai pas suivi l'heure. 10 minutes après que les femmes ont atteint le barrage. Vers 09.00 ????

Q - Les femmes ont commencé à marcher vers 09.00 ?

R - Je suis arrivé 5 minutes avant que le premier flot se mette en branle.

Q - Si elles se sont mises en branle, disons à 09.00 ; A quelle heure sont-elles arrivées au barrage ?

R - Entre 09.05/09.10 . J'ai donc vu les femmes entre 09.20/09.30

Q - De quelle direction venaient les coups de feu que vous avez entendu ?

R - Ça devait venir de tout près ; du bois d'eucalyptus où les indiens étaient situés.

Je n'invente rien ; vous pouvez contrôler.

Q - Quels sont les journalistes que vous avez trouvé sur place ?

R - Il y avait Virgilus Berger de Reuter, Hamici Pascal de La Voix du Katanga. Celui-ci me suivait à quelques cent mètres ; il était inquiet, il est resté en arrière.



Q - Avez-vous vu que la femme a été frappée ?

R - Non.

Q - Pouvez-vous dire de quel côté les balles qui l'ont atteint ont été tirées ?

R - J'ai eu l'impression que beaucoup de coups de fusil ont été tirés, de plusieurs directions.

Q - Des coups de feu ont-ils été tirés de l'autre côté du barrage ?

R - Non. Je ne crois pas.

D'ailleurs, après la dispute, je comprend que les indiens auraient tiré, parcequ'ils étaient dans une mauvaise situation.

Q - Qu'entendez-vous par "mauvaise situation" ?

R - Les indiens étaient entourés par des femmes qui se jetaient sur eux. Je pense à mon avis, qu'ils étaient en état de légitime défense. Les femmes se battaient avec eux, et elles étaient en nombre supérieur.

Q - Est-ce que les indiens étaient blessés ?

R - Je n'ai pas vu. Mais j'ai vu des mottes de terre et des pierres qui volaient de toutes parts. Les femmes aussi recevaient des mottes de terre, mais les femmes étaient en plus grand nombre tandis que les indiens étaient, juste quelques uns. Il m'a semblé que les soldats avaient peur. Lorsque les coups de feu sont partis, toutes les femmes se sont enfuies, mais les indiens les pourchassaient à coups de pierre.

Q - Beaucoup de monde a remarqué cette femme blessée ?

R - Il y avait un groupe de cinq à six personnes. Mais tout autour les disputes continuaient.

Q - Vous au point de vue personnel, professionnel, vous n'avez pas cherché à faire venir un photographe, pour prendre une photo ?

R - Quand j'ai vu la femme par terre, je n'ai pas pensé au point de vue professionnel, j'ai pensé à la sauver. D'ailleurs, ma première réaction était de partir, de sauver ma peau, mais quand j'ai vu ça, je suis resté, et j'essayais de demander aux indiens de ne pas tirer.

Q - Pensez-vous que des photos aient été prises de cette scène ?

R - Je ne pense pas. C'était un épisode parmi tant d'autres!



- Q - Vous avez dit que vous étiez sur la route avant que les femmes ne viennent ?
- R - Non. J'ai dit que j'ai vu les femmes s'élancer et je les ai suivi vers le barrage.
- Q - Décrivez ce que ces femmes ont fait.
- R - Lorsqu'elles sont arrivées au barrage, j'ai vu de loin, à 50/100 mètres, une mêlée générale. Des femmes portaient sur la tête des fûts de pétrole, venant de la commune Albert. J'ai d'abord eu l'impression que les indiens laissaient faire, passivement. Ce n'est qu'après que ça c'est envenimé, et ils en sont venus aux mains.
- Q - Il a été dit que ces femmes voulaient se rendre chez M. Back. Vous pensez que tel était leur but, ou bien leur intention était de créer des troubles au barrage ?
- R - D'après ce que j'ai entendu, elles avaient l'intention de retirer les barils du barrage; ensuite j'ai appris qu'elles voulaient combler les trous que les indiens avaient creusés.
- Q - A quelle heure exactement êtes-vous arrivé à l'avenue Tombeur ?
- R - Je suis arrivé Avenue Tombeur, quelques minutes avant que les femmes ne commencent leur marche.
- Q - Vous êtes journaliste. Le facteur temps est essentiel. Il faut que nous sachions exactement l'heure.
- R - Je vous ai promis de ne rien vous inventer. Il est évident que j'aurai pu obtenir l'heure par la suite; mais à ce moment, ce qui m'importait, en tant que journaliste était : les motifs de tout cela, et avoir une idée de l'atmosphère générale.
- Q - Donnez-nous le temps approximatif.
- R - 09.10 / 09.15 . Je ne peux pas être plus précis.
- Q - A ce moment, à 09.10, les femmes ont commencé à marcher ?
- R - Oui, ça doit être ça.
- Q - Où habitez-vous ?
- R - Commune Elisabeth, Avenue Cambouff
- Q - Êtes-vous venu avenue Tombeur, à cause de cette manifestation ?
- R - Un ami m'a prévenu qu'une centaine de femmes se groupaient à l'Avenue Tombeur.



Q - Quel est le nom de cet ami ?

R - Je crois que c'est quelqu'un du Club de la Presse.

Q - Que vous a dit cet ami, exactement?

R - Il m'a dit qu'il y avait actuellement, un grand nombre de femmes qui étaient rassemblées sur la place du marché, Commune Albert.

Q - A quelle heure, cette personne vous a-t-elle téléphoné?

R - Vers 08.50

Q - Combien de temps avez-vous mis pour vous rendre sur les lieux ?

R - 10 minutes environ . J'ai été arrêté quelques minutes au barrage katangais, où j'ai dû montrer mes papiers.

Q - Avez-vous vu la personne qui vous a avisé, sur les lieux ?

R - Non, je ne l'ai pas vu.

Q - Étiez-vous le seul journaliste sur les lieux, au moment où vous êtes arrivé ?

R - Il y avait Hamici Pascal ; j'ai su par la suite que de l'autre côté du barrage, ONU, il y avait Virgilus Berger. C'était vers 09.15/09.20 . Il y avait avec lui un journaliste anglais.

Q - Y avait-il des photographes ?

R - Je n'ai pas vu de photographes.

Q - Avez-vous vu des photographes, à un moment de la matinée ?

R - Vers 10.30

Q - Vous n'en avez pas vu avant ?

R - Non. Je ne peux rien affirmer. Il y avait tellement de monde et tant de confusion , qu'il m'est difficile d'être formel.

Q - Arrivé au barrage de l'ONU, vous vous trouviez à droite ?

R - Oui. Les femmes qui entouraient les indiens étaient vers la droite mais pas sur le bord de la route : elles se trouvaient à l'intérieur des positions indiennes.

Q - Quelle distance y a-t-il entre le lieu où vous vous trouviez et le lieu où se trouvaient les femmes ?

R - J'étais toujours sur le bord de la route.

Q - Du lieu où vous vous trouviez, vous avez vu une femme et un enfant couchés ?

R - Exact.



Q - Les deux étaient morts, ou seulement la femme ?

R - Je ne suis pas médecin. Il m'a semblé que la femme était morte. Mais l'enfant était vivant. Une autre femme l'a pris sur son dos.

Q - Vous savez si la femme et l'enfant ont été transportés ensemble à l'hôpital ?

R - Je n'en sais rien.

Q - Savez-vous si la femme a été transportée à l'hôpital ?

R - On me l'a dit, mais je n'ai rien vu. D'après les témoignages que j'ai recueillis, c'est cette femme qui a été transportée à l'hôpital.

J'avais l'intention de faire un reportage. On m'avait dit qu'il y aurait une démonstration, et, j'ai suivi la démonstration, puis je me suis rendu au téléx pour lancer la nouvelle.

Q - A quelle heure avez-vous été au téléx ?

R - Entre 09.30 et 09.45. Vers 10.30, je suis retourné au barrage.

Q - Est-ce qu'il y avait des coups de feu au barrage ? A 10.30 ?

R - Oui.

Q - Savez-vous par qui, ces coups de feu étaient tirés ?

R - A mon avis, ces coups de feu étaient tirés en l'air. Et d'un peu partout.

Jedois avouer que j'ai commencé à craindre pour ma vie, quand j'ai vu les indiens qui dirigeaient leur fusil vers moi.

Q - Qu'est-ce que vous fait dire que, les coups de feu étaient tirés en l'air ?

R - Je n'imaginai pas que l'ONU pouvait tirer sur la foule.

Q - Pouvez-vous estimer le nombre de coups de feu, tirés ?

R - Au moment où la femme était tombée, 5,6 coups, jecrois. Après cela, les coups de feu étaient tirés par intermittence.

Q - Avez-vous vu des blessures sur le corps de la femme ?

R - Non. J'ai vu simplement d'autres femmes qui liaient sa jambe avec un pagne, et l'ont serré très fort.

Je n'ai pas demandé à voir, parcequ'à ce moment, je ne croyais pas qu'elle était morte.

Je n'ai pas vu de sang sur le sol.

Q - Et le petit garçon était-il blessé ?

R - Il se peut, je n'ai pas prêté grande attention au garçon ; il me semble qu'il n'avait rien d'anormal.



Q - Donc, d'après votre témoignage, il se pourrait que, la femme n'ait pas été touchée ?

R - Je n'en sais rien . J'ai raconté ce que j'ai vu.

Q - C'est vous qui avez avisé Munongo qu'une femme a été tuée ?

R - J'ai d'abord informé Kakulu afin de demander une ambulance ; et comme Munongo était présent, je lui ai raconté ce que j'avais vu.

Q - A votre retour du téléx, êtes-vous revenu directement au barrage ou bien avez-vous d'abord passé à la Résidence de Tshombe ?

R - J'ai été à la résidence. Au téléx j'ai appris qu'il y avait une conférence de presse chez le Président. C'était pour 10.30 je crois. Mais je suis arrivé cinq minutes en retard. C'est le Club de la Presse qui m'a annoncé la conférence de presse, comme il fait toujours. Le téléx se trouve dans les locaux de l'Essor du Katanga.

Q - Avez-vous vu des femmes lancer des pierres sur les indiens au barrage ?

R - Oui. Et les indiens à leur tour leur jetaient des pierres.

Q - A 10.30 quand vous êtes retournés au barrage, avez-vous trouvé des indiens blessés ?

R - Non.

Q - Voulez-vous nous expliquer de nouveau le schéma que vous nous avez dessiné tout à l'heure. Avez-vous traversé le fossé qui est à droite ?

R - Je ne me souviens pas exactement si j'ai traversé ce fossé ou non. Je vous ai raconté ce que j'ai vu exactement. Vous me demandez des choses exactes et précises, que sur le moment je n'ai pas remarqué.

Q - Quand vous avez entendu les coups de feu, combien de femmes entouraient les indiens ?

R - Une vingtaine environs.

Q - A quelle distance du fossé se trouvaient ces femmes et indiens ?

R - Une vingtaine de mètres environs.

Q - A quelle distance du lieu où vous vous trouviez a eu lieu la dispersion ?

R - Une vingtaine de mètres environs.

Le fossé n'est pas large du tout.



Q - Avez-vous écrit des articles sur ces événements dans des journaux  
R - Dans l'Essor du Katanga et pour l'AFP.

Q - Ces articles ont été publiés ?

R - Oui. L'AFP envoie des dépêches à tous les journaux d'Europe.  
Au début des événements, j'étais seul sur place. Ensuite, M. Ageorges  
Directeur pour l'Afrique de l'AFP se trouvait ici, et c'est lui  
qui a composé avec moi, des le second envoi. J'étais sur les  
lieux, et Ageorges au Téléc.

Q - Ageorges n'était pas Avenue Tombeur ; donc les informations  
venaient de vous ?

R - Oui.

Q - Pensez-vous que tout ce qu'a diffusé l'AFP était véridique ?

R - Ça correspondait à ce que j'ai dit.

Q - Combien de journalistes écrivent à l'Essor du Katanga ?

R - Micolaszak et moi. Pour l'Essor, la première partie c'est moi  
qui l'ai écrite, la seconde c'est Micolaszak. Il était sur place  
je l'ai vu.

Pour ce qui est de l'AFP, je peux vous remettre toutes les copies  
des dépêches qu'on a envoyées. Je pense que des journaux comme Le  
Monde, Le Figaro, Le Matin, La Libre Belgique, ont publié ces  
dépêches.

Q - Avez-vous une idée sur le garçon qui a été tué ce jour là ?

R - Non, je n'ai aucune idée.

- Merci

Fin



Notes on the INTERROGATION by the COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY on  
MONDAY MORNING: 23rd JULY 1962

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MR/TAFF asks the witness, THE AMERICAN VICE CONSUL, *Nan*

CAN YOU TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT THE EVENTS OF THE 17th JULY?

Witness:

It must be understood that my testimony must necessarily be informal and not published without the permission of the State Department:

I was in town about 9 o'clock in the morning talking to some journalists. They said something was happening down at the Road Block; in fact one knew it had something to do with a disturbance with women shouting. I went down there and arrived at the place between 9.30 and a <sup>9:45</sup> ~~1~~ to 10. I stayed there until about 11 o'clock when I left. When I arrived at the Road Block there were thousands of demonstrators. There were many active and others more or less spectators. Those most active were women and boys - pretty big boys - and they were invading the lines of the Road Block and coming into the lines of the troops that were there and there were several Indian Officers as well as the troops. They gotten into the area where the troops were and tried to surround them, kicking them, hitting them and insulting them in dirty ways - it was a thoroughly disgusting sight and I watched there for over an hour and the soldiers showed fantastic restraint throughout. There were no shots fired at all. What happened before I was there and afterwards I cannot testify to. I saw people hitting Col. Chindi with sticks, big bricks and blocks and groups surrounding him and pelting him with big bricks and paving blocks and it seemed as though they were going to kill him - the officers kept the soldiers under excellent control. They were severely provoked. The women did everything they could possibly do to them - all sorts of disgusting displays and so on - and stole their hats and all that sort of thing.

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Mr. Taff: Did you at any time see fixed bayonets.

Witness: No, there were no fixed bayonets. I'm sure of that.

Mr. Taff: Did you at any time that you were there engage in conversation with people there?

Witness: Yes, I spoke to some of the UN people and the reporters - there was David Halpenstein of the New York Times and Roger Asenvour of the UP and the Italian News Agency local representative - Justin Payne of United Press - Reuters, Virgil Verner

Mr. Taff: Did you speak to Roger?

Witness: He was busy photographing - only scraps of conversation - I also spoke to missionaries - American Methodist Missionaries - about four of them who saw this whole thing - I can put you in touch with them.

Mr. Taff: The reason I ask about the individuals to whom you spoke is that I would like to know whether any of them mentioned any women or children having been killed?

Witness: No, I heard nothing. I left at about 11, but I came back at about 12 o'clock, when I came back I was with the British Consul - you know, the British Consul for Rhodesian forces - and I saw the UN rifle pointing in the air - and I was told the Indians had killed some woman - and when I asked who had seen it I was told that Mr. Senn had said it - Mr. Senn of the Red Cross - that he had seen the body in the hospital. But I had heard no shots - I am sure there were no shots while I was there at the Road Block - there were absolutely no shots within my hearing and I was in the middle of the troops and I would have heard them. When I came back at 12 I saw some shots fired in the air by the Indian in an armoured car - APC fired in the air - he was leaning out of the door and the rifle was fired in the air - he fired about ten times while I was in the



car - maybe 12 or 15 times - difficult to say.

Mr. Taff Is it possible that he fired only two shots - only two shots heard?

Witness: No, there were definitely more than 2 shots.

Mr. Taff: You tell us that you first arrived between 9.30 and a  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 10, left at 11 and then arrived again at about 12. How long did you stay then?

Witness: I stayed for another half-hour - the thing was all finished by then.

Mr. Taff: Had the Consul been officially advised by Mr. Tshombe of the affair?

Witness: Yes, he called the Consuls - the British Consul too - I think it was around 10.30 - I can verify this with the Consul and I will let you know.

Mr. Taff: I do not want to ask you for any ~~official~~ <sup>confidential</sup> information you may have, but in your opinion, did this delegation of African Women have any relationship to those ~~African women of any other societies?~~ <sup>Jeunehat?</sup>

Witness: Yes - the same sort of group - they're all sponsored by the Katanga Government - only not under official ruling - like the ~~Gens de Chat~~ <sup>Jeunehat</sup> (J) and they are certainly in contact with the Katanga Government and if the Government wanted them to demonstrate they sure would.

Mr. Taff: Do you have any opinion concerning their connection with Government officials - particularly Manongo ordering them to demonstrate?

Witness: I have heard this but have no definite evidence; but understand the whole thing was worked out the night before and that Manongo was in the conference and did play a roll.

Mr. Taff: Could you put us in touch with any individuals who could give us such information.

Witness: No, I don't think you'd get the information from any individual



MR/TAFF We have received information from local persons, but it would be interesting if <sup>you</sup> you could confirm the details as to the manner in which the deaths occurred, through such local persons.

Witness: I do not know anybody who would be willing to assist - but, wait a minute, I do know one journalist, Virgil Burman - you could get in touch with him, but don't say that I said so. I think he might be able to give you further details.

Mr.Taff: We have received information from two local sources and would like to get further confirmation.

Witness: Most local people are afraid.

Mr.Taff: Can you give us any details as to how the Police acted?

Witness: The first groups to arrive did not do anything except to make some feeble attempts to control the people. One officer - a higher policeman in uniform, was pushed a little by the women and he was smiling at them and got into his car and drove away. Then a group came from Town - Elisabethville - about 10.30 who did something, ten of them.

Mr.Taff: Can you give us a guess as to the maximum number of police there?

Witness: At the Road Block itself, I do not think any more than 150. After about 10.30 they did try to take some effective measures and they did assist the Indians to a certain extent. I am afraid the stories about their firing at 10.30 is not right. They did not fire.

Mr.Taff: Was there any firing by the Gendarmerie?

Witness: There was so much noise and screaming - and there might have been without my hearing the shot. If the Police fired, however, I would have noticed it as they were next to me. The Gendarmerie were apart - and could have fired without my hearing.



Mr. Taff: Did you see the Police <sup>assist</sup> assisting anyone?

Witness: No, they did not <sup>assist</sup> assist anyone.

Col. Lindablad: Did you see any ambulance passing?

Witness: Yes, but whether anyone was in it or not I do not know.

Mr. Taff: In what direction did you see it?

Witness: It was not a UN ambulance. I was beside an anthill some distance from the road and simply saw this thing pass.

Col. Lindablad: Was it passing fast?

Witness: No, it couldn't, because of the other traffic in front of it. It did not sound its siren so I assumed there was no one in and no emergency.

Col. Lindablad: Did you see any activity by anyone taking up the injured.

Witness: I saw no injured - except the UN soldiers who were hit - and the women who kicked, when the kicking was retaliated.

Col. Lindablad: Why I asked is to find out whether and where the woman and child were found there.

Witness: I <sup>saw</sup> found no bodies, and saw no one lifting injured.

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INTERROGATION by THE COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY of WITNESS:-

CAPT MARCEL KERTEN, TECHNICAL ADVISER to the GENERAL ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE CITY OF ELISABETHVILLE. Tuesday morning: 24th JULY 1962.

Q: Would you please tell us your name?

A. I am Capt Marcel Kerten. I am Technical Adviser to the General Administration of the City of Elisabethville. My office is in the Commune Albert.

Q. You understand that this interrogation will be in English. Is this agreeable to you? Yes, but I do not understand many English. If you speak slowly I understand, but I speak with difficulty and I do not know if you understand what I am saying.

Q We understand what you are saying. We ask you to interrupt us and question us if there is anything you do not understand.

A. Certainly.

Q. First, I will speak to you in French, then I will translate in English for the benefit of the others. The secretary will take down in English what I say to you.

A. I agree.

Q Were you present at Av. Tombeur on the 17th July?

A. Yes, my office is there.

Q. Will you tell us what you saw and did during the disturbances of that morning?

A. Yes. That morning I was working in my office and suddenly I heard gunfire. At first - at 9 o'clock to 10 o'clock - I had not my watch on that day it was in a shop for repairs. But the time was between 9.30 to 10 o'clock. The first thing I saw was a young man who seemed to me to be 17 to 18 years old, who was injured. I do not know exactly where - either in the thigh or in the buttock. I do not recall whether on the



right or left. I took some notes of what happened - these are very brief notes - and these were taken not during the disturbances but afterwards. I would like to consult them. Let me say that they were taken not before 4.30 p.m. My notes do not indicate whether it was the right or left part of the body where the injury was. I do, however, have the name of the injured person. The name is:-

KABWEBWE EVARISTE

I do not have his address. He is at the present time at the Hospital Prince Leopold on the 3rd Floor.

I saw that this man was injured because he was transported on the shoulders by several Katangese men - on their shoulders - and I saw him since he was so high up. Therefore I asked that they put him in my car and I transported them.

Q. Where did you bring him?

A. To the Hospital Prince Leopold - to the Dispensary there. I do not know who received him there but it was at that hospital. After that I returned to my office and transported several women - how many I cannot say, but none of them were seriously injured - just cuts and bruises - I brought them all to the same hospital. I returned again to my office for the third time, and things were quiet for a certain period. Then, after 11.30, I think, I cannot be sure of the time as I have not the time - at about 11.30, I was working in my office and I again heard noise ; no gunfire, but people shouting. I went out of my office and went, not into Av. Tabara, but Av. Tombeur - that is the street that passes the Industrial School, and also passes the office in which I work. I saw a lot of people running and a little later I heard people who began to sing a dirge - that is to say, the song people chant when there has been a death. At that time they transported on their shoulders a small boy who had, I saw, the



the intestines outside of his body. The people said that this child was already dead. I saw that he still breathed and I had him put into my car. I had a white robe from the Red Cross. I wrapped it around him and I transported him <sup>not</sup> to the Hospital Prince Leopold, but to the Hospital Queen Elisabeth. I arrived at the Hospital, Queen Elisabeth, a few minutes before 12 noon. I cannot give you the precise time I arrived, for the reason I told you that I had not a watch. I know it was not yet noon time as I did not see a large circulation of vehicles and people moving about, but I think Dr. Lanelle can tell you the exact time at which I arrived. I was accompanied by a priest, but I do not know his name and I have not seen him since. He held the child so that it's body would not be shaken by the movement of the car. When we wished to take the child out of the car to put him on the stretcher he was still alive, but he said in swahili: "I feel that I am going to die" but he did not give the impression of suffering. The priest at that moment then baptised him with water. I think that there would be about ten minutes between the moment they put the child in my car and arrival at the hospital. I do not know -- I did not myself see -- <sup>where</sup> ~~whether~~ the child had fallen and how he was killed. That I cannot tell you. I do not know the name of the child. I am going to tell you something more: I do not know whether you will find it interesting. When we were already at the Hospital, they brought in a second child, which they told me had been brought from Hospital Prince Leopold. This boy had also been injured -- I am not sure where, I think it is in the chest and in the arm -- the elbow. I also assisted in putting him on the operating table, and this boy gave me his name while he was lying on the operating table. It is



MBALA ATHANASE, address: 94 Shilashimba, Com. Kenia. This child is still in the Hospital Reign Elisabeth. I heard it said later that this child was injured at approximately the same spot as the other boy who died. But I myself did not see that. After that I went home to eat, and then returned to my office. I would not tell you what was said to me after I returned to my office as so many different things were said and I had not seen anything except what I have already told you. If you have any questions to put to me, I am at your disposal.

MAP:-

- Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING OTHER PEOPLE WHO WERE INJURED SERIOUSLY?
- A. Injured seriously, no - except for a young boy who's eye was injured, hit by a stone, but it did not strike me as anything serious. His eye was closed. I have his name here in my notes, it is: MWASA CHARLES/ Excuse me, but I do not know the names of the women who were slightly injured. I did not think it of importance because their injuries were very slight. I know only the name of the woman who was killed, but I saw nothing and was in no way involved in transporting her, but I think you people must already have heard her name. No, I am sorry, I do not have it written down here - ah! it is Seraphina - I have already given her complete identity to the hospital, no, not to the Hospital,



to the 'Parquet'. I wish also to add that amongst my duties I was brought to question several persons, but I am bound by professional secrecy. The statements I made are with the Parquet whom you can consult. I am an official of the Judicial Police by my former title, but I no longer perform these functions, since I am now Employment Adviser

Q. YOU SAW THIS PROCESSION WITH THE BOY APPROACHING YOUR OFFICE -- DID YOU GO DOWN AV TOMBEUR AND MEET THE PROCESSION?

A. Yes, I left my office and met the procession?

Q. HOW FAR ALONG THE ROAD WERE YOU WHEN YOU MET THE PROCESSION?

A. 20 metres.

Q. DID YOU HEAR ANY FIRING?

A. The only time I heard gun shots was when I was in my office and I heard the shots before I had left and it was because I heard the shots that I subsequently went out. No, let me say I did not leave my office because of the gunfire I heard, but because I heard shouts from the crowd.

Q. CAN YOU SAY FROM WHERE THE SHOTS CAME OR WHO DID THE FIRING?

A. No, because there was such a huge mob in front of my office. All I could say is that the shots were not shot from immediately in front of our office.



REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT OF KATANGA REGARDING THE INCIDENTS THAT TOOK  
PLACE IN ELIZABETHVILLE ON 17 JULY, 1962, IN THE COURSE OF A DEMONSTRATION  
STAGED BY KATANGESE WOMEN.

(Translation from French)

Following the incidents that took place at Elisabethville on 17 July, 1962, during the demonstration by Katangese women, his Excellency, Mr. Moïse Tshombe appointed a commission charged with investigating on the spot the origins and the course of this manifestation.

The report of the investigating commission is based on witnesses from among the demonstrators, foreign and local journalists and foreigners residing in Katanga.

The commission likewise visited the scene of the incidents in order to verify the truth of statements made by certain witnesses.

I. ORIGINS OF THE DEMONSTRATION OF TUESDAY 17 JULY, 1962.

1) Situation in Elisabethville between 12 and 16 July, 1962.

During the night of 11 to 12 July, 1962, the armed forces of the United Nations, composed of Indian soldiers, occupied a position on avenue Tombeur, on the borders of the communities of Albert and Elisabeth. A road block was set up at a distance of about 200 meters from a road block previously established by the Katangese armed forces at the entrance to the Albert community. Avenue Tombeur being on a decline, the United Nations' position was at a level higher than that of the Katangese. By establishing themselves on avenue Tombeur, the United Nations completed the encirclement of the Elisabeth Community, all exits from which henceforth were controlled by the UN armed forces.

The establishment of this road block gave rise to serious tension in Elisabethville. Numerous families left the Albert Community. Many Katangese were afraid of entering into the Elisabeth Community. While traffic remained free to circulate, it was subjected to strict check controls at both the Indian and the Katangese road blocks.

The spokesman of the United Nations justified their road block by stating that it constituted part of the measures undertaken to ensure security of the United Nations troops.

President Tshombe appealed for calm on repeated occasions and no significant incident took place.

On 13 July there is a noticeable relaxation, although the UN reinforced its positions. In addition to the road block, the Indian soldiers occupied the eucalyptus groves that separate the communities of Albert and Elisabeth. Their positions now extended to a point 150 meters from the Prince Leopold maternity hospital.



2) Discontent and restlessness of the female population.

A number of Katangese women including, in particular, the president of the Union of Katangese women (Union des Femmes Katangaïses) were questioned as to the origins of the demonstration.

From the time that the Indian road block was established, the population of the Albert Community lived in the fear of serious incidents. The deployment of UN troops positioned on public highways, recalled the events of September and December 1961. Few women dared to go to the maternity hospital of Prince Leopold, because of the proximity of the Indian troops.

Furthermore, the trails across the eucalyptus groves, regularly used as short cuts by the Katangese women carrying heavy loads on their heads and traveling in groups, were barred to them.

That is why on Sunday 15 July the Committee of the Union of Katangese Women decided to present its troubles to the representative of the United Nations.

On Monday 16 July, the same committee contacted the UN by telephone and requested an interview. Their request was in vain. Tuesday 17 July at 8 AM, the committee again phoned the UN. Receiving no satisfaction, the committee decided to immediately visit UN headquarters, gathering together the largest number of women possible. Hastily recruited, certain of the women, according to their own statements, thought that this was going to be a protest demonstration at the Indian road block. Many others familiar with the steps taken since Sunday by the committee, joined the leaders to express their discontent and to carry their protest to the representative of the United Nations.

II. DEMONSTRATION AND INCIDENTS.

Within a half hour the news of the protest demonstration spread and at about 8:30 AM a large number of women gathered at the seat of the association in the Albert Community, and numerous other groups joined them on the way. Children accompanied them. A representative of the press information service notified the journalists and press agents in the Hotel Leopold II of the demonstration. Advised of it by an official of his department, the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs immediately warned his colleague the Minister of Interior.

At about 9 AM the demonstrators came out of the Albert community, reached avenue Tombour and crossed the Katangese road block after overturning the empty fuel drums that barred the way. They crossed the 200 meters separating the two road blocks and were stopped at the UN road block. Several armed Indian UN soldiers blocked their passage. The women danced and sang in front of the soldiers, while others brandished placards with slogans hostile to the UN.



At this moment, according to statements by witnessing journalists, the demonstration had no violent character whatsoever. However, a boy 6 or 7 years old, who had arrived at the road block with the first demonstrators, approached an Indian soldier and uncovered his own chest. He said something to the soldiers of which only the word "Katanga" was understood. His attitude seemed to say: "You may kill me for Katanga." The soldier lifted the muzzle of his gun towards the boy's chest, aimed it for a moment and then lowered it smiling, while the boy remained motionless, later rejoining the demonstrators.

Between 9:15 and 9:30 AM at a distance of 100 meters of the UN road block, i.e. half way between the two road blocks, the situation suddenly became more serious. Some women tried to throw earth into the holes dug into the anthills, hoping to fill them and force the Indian soldiers out of them.

Several shots were fired and a woman carrying her baby on her back, fell down. The autopsy carried out by UN doctors and Katangese government doctors showed that the bullet of a firearm had entered the left thigh at the level of the great trochanter, traveled through the pelvis and came out through the right thigh. Taken by ambulance to the Prince Leopold hospital, she died on arrival.

The victim, Madame Seraphine Kalama was hit midway between the two roadblocks. She was on the right shoulder of the road facing the UN roadblock and was hit when about 8 meters from an anthill in which were Indian soldiers. The bulk of the demonstrators was behind her between the spot where she was hit and the Katangese road block. It is utterly impossible for Mrs. Kalama to have been killed by a bullet fired from the Katangese road block.

A 16-year old boy, Evariste Kabwebwe was also hit when this firing took place. He was wounded in the buttocks and was taken to the hospital where he is still under treatment as of this day.

The rumor spread among the crowd that a woman had been killed and the demonstration immediately assumed a violent aspect. The situation worsened and became very confusing.

Some women threw clots of earth and rocks towards the Indian soldiers and tried to tear of their insignia. Some soldiers reacted by also throwing rocks and brandishing sticks. Other utilized their rifle either holding it in a horizontal position to push the women, or in swinging it around. Several wounded occurred on both sides.

The demonstrators also started small bush fires that the soldiers tried to beat out with their sticks.

Mr. Munongo, the Minister of Interior, arriving on the scene at that time, directed the Katangese police to restore order. On several occasions, the latter busied themselves with either freeing UN soldiers set upon the crowd or freeing UN vehicles immobilized by the demonstrators. At the borders of the Albert community they prevented young men from joining in the demonstration.



At about 10:40 AM the Indian soldiers again opened fire. One witness asserts having seen some UN soldiers firing horizontally.

From 11:30 AM on, Indian soldiers, who seem to want to end the business, start firing again.

Two young boys, Athanase Mubala and Kapenda aged about 12 were hit. They were hit as they were walking towards the Albert commune after having passed the Katangese road block. They were therefore going away from the scene of the demonstration.

Mubala fell about 8 meters from the Katangese road block and Kapenda fell about 28 meters from that road block.

Kapenda died later at 1 PM at the Reine Elizabeth hospital, and Mubala is still hospitalized. In the mean time, Indian soldiers, firing in the air, cleared avenue Tombeur and chased the demonstrators into nearby streets. At about 12:15 PM, calm returned to avenue Tombeur and its vicinity.

The witnesses are unanimous in stating that the Indian soldiers, in order to protect themselves used only offensive weapons. They had no means usually employed by a police force to maintain order, such as sticks, tear gas bombs, shields, etc.

### III. INVESTIGATION.

On 17 July at about 2:30 PM the Procureur d'Etat of Elisabethville got in touch with representatives of the United Nations and requested an autopsy of the victims to be carried out by UN and Katanga State doctors.

Discussions continued until 3:30 PM 18 July.

In the course of the last meeting with the Procureur d'Etat, Mr. Charles Taff, legal adviser of ONUC, announced the four conditions set forth by Mr. Gardiner for a joint autopsy:

- 1) It could be only a medical autopsy.
- 2) UN and Katanga State doctors would present separate reports.
- 3) The number of doctors would be limited to two on each side.
- 4) The tribunal (parquet) would not be permitted to be present at the autopsy.

These conditions having been accepted, the autopsies took place the same day at 7 PM.

The autopsy reports of the UN and the Katanga State doctors respectively are identical. The report of the UN doctors "s'en explique" (states so explicitly ?) in the preamble.

In both cases the doctors conclude that the death was violent due to firearms.



The bullets extracted from the bodies of the victims have been sent to Europe for expertise, after having sealed in envelopes by the Katangese doctors in the presence of the UN doctors.

The commission reminds that at the present time the courts are continuing legal investigation of the 17 July incidents.

THE COMMISSION

ROULEZ, Commissaire de Police, Chief of Special  
Investigations Brigade

(signed)

TCHEDA, Sous-Commissaire of State Security

(signed)



2  
Secret

SECRET

OPERATION "GRAND STAND"

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1 In view of Katangese Government holding Celebrations on 11 July, there is a possibility of incidents taking place, and these in turn leading to a challenge of UN authority in ELISABETHVILLE. In view of this, the following instructions are issued for the guidance of Commanding Officers. Based on this, the Commander directs that suitable Unit instructions will be issued to all troops and it will be ensured that these are understood by them.

GENERAL

2 It must be our constant endeavour to avoid incidents and should incidents occur, these should be localised and not allowed to turn into a conflagration.

3 With effect from 1200 hours on 10 July, the following measures will come into effect:-

- (a) All troops will be placed on alert.
- (b) Unless on duty, no troops will visit the town.
- (c) Vehicles will not move singly.
- (d) All administrative personnel and detachments will move about armed/outside their Unit areas.
- (e) Duty Officers will be alert and always available on telephone/wireless set.

4 Unit rear links will be open continuously from 110600 till 120600.

Local Civil Population

5 In keeping with the tradition of our Armies, every courtesy will be extended to both the African and European population and those seeking our protection will be given this in full measure.

6 Should groups of civilians turn hostile and resort to violence in the way of throwing stones or forcibly trying to remove barriers, the civil police positioned at the barriers for this day, will restore order. If the situation gets beyond the capability of the civil police, minimum force will be used by own troops, initially by firing single rounds on the ring leaders, and then automatic, only if the security of own troops is seriously jeopardised. Fire on both occasions, must be controlled by Commanders at all levels.

SECRET



1

SECRET

2

7 Casualties inflicted on civilians will be taken care of as if they were our own, and after necessary first aid, will be evacuated to ONUC hospital.

8 Should civilians fire on our troops and if this fire is effective, only then will fire be returned. Haphazard firing by civilians will be ignored.

Civil Police

9 Armed police will be permitted to move about, as in the past, in carrying out their duties of maintenance of law and order. Should elements of these become aggressive and hostile endeavours should be made to disarm them and if this is not practicable, only then will force be used.

Gendarmerie

10 For the parade on 11 July, two Companies worth of armed Gendarmerie have been permitted to enter the town via Avenue TOMBEUR. The parade will start at about 0900 hours and is expected to finish by 1230 hours.

11 At the barriers held by us, unarmed Gendarmerie will be permitted to enter as in the past. Should any gendarmerie try to enter with arms, they will be told to go back to the Communes and if they persist in crossing the barriers, then they will be disarmed. To this end, force may be used if necessary.

12 Should the Gendarmerie resort to firing, either in the town or in the vicinity of barriers, initially, fire will only be returned if the gendarmerie fire is effective and likely to cause casualties to own troops. Thereafter, the Plan as discussed will be implemented to eject the gendarmerie from the town as well as from the vicinity of barriers.

No 1013/4/GS(O)  
HQ SECTOR 'B'  
(HQ INDIAN INDEPENDANT BRIGADE GROUP)  
ELISABETHVILLE

9 July 1962

  
Major  
COS

Distribution:

All Units in EVILLE (List A )

HQ KATANGA Area    Ø    for info.  
Civ Rep                    Ø

SECRET



101314/45(0) -

4 R5 Rif

— 13

2/5 GR

— 08

2nd Indef Bde Sig Coy

— 24

14 Tunnel

Det 22 42 Coy Engrs

4 Etk

5 Am Sqn

121 Sty Mar Bldg

Det Sqn Det of Engrs

4 Maser

210 To 279

2 Coy 4 Maser

Movement Control

C Sqn 1 Rec Det M51

ON VC Strip Engrs

No 1 Act

To See See

Adv Part 37 9th L Bn

ON VC Area Pl

307 Camp Pl

For Jns Engrs

18 handed over  
to Sigs at 1615B  
RDS



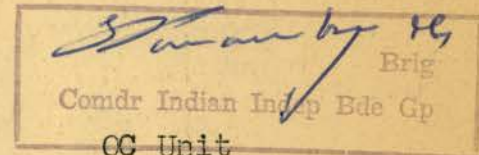
INJURY REPORT

1 No **IC-1879** Rank **Lt Col** Name **F P SHINDRE**  
Age **41 yrs** Service **19 yrs** Unit **4 Raj Rif**

- 2 Circumstances under which INJURY/INJURIES were received.  
This officer who is CO of 4 RAJ RIF while controlling the hostile mob on 17 Jul 62 at check post at Avenue TOMBEUR ELISABETHVILLE was injured due to stones thrown and sticks used by the mob.

C/o 56 A P O

21 Jul 62



3 Nature of INJURY/INJURIES

1. Contusion- abrasion back in three places
2. Incised wound scalp over occipital protuberance.
3. Abrasion left forearm.
4. Abrasion left proximal interphalangeal joint, index finger post aspect.
5. Abrasion pinna rt side.
6. Contusion right side chest.

C. O. ONUC Hospital Elisabethville  
(Capt. G. Cipolat)

MO I/C



INJURY REPORT

1 No **IC-3860** Rank **Maj** Name **PAR CHOUDHARY**  
Age **36 1/2** Yrs Service **16 Yrs** Unit **4TH BN THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES**

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2 Circumstances under which INJURY/INJURIES were received.

This officer while controlling the hostile mob on 17 Jul 62 at check post at Avenue TOMBEUR ELISABETHVILLE was injured due to stones thrown and sticks used by the mob.

*ARL*  
OC Unit

---

3 Nature of INJURY/INJURIES

Abrasion left angle of the mouth, Upper left incisor loose in socket Incised wound scalp over left parietal eminence.

*Sasikumar*  
(C.D. SASIKUMAR)  
MO I/C

Capt. AMC  
RMO 4th Bn The Rajputana Rifles



LIST OF EXHIBITS

1. List U.N. injured troops
2. Injury Report on Lt. Col Shinde
3. " " " Major Shoudbary
4. Intelligence Summary
5. Funeral Oration by President Tshombe
6. General Instructions (Operation "Grand Stand") No.1
7. " " No. 1 " " " No.2
8. Letter by Mr. Red Cross Officer
9. Transcript of Discussion President Tshombe/Mathu
10. Seven Photographs of the scene of incident.
11. Two expended bullets
12. Nine expended cartridges.



DETAILS OF INJURIES SUSTAINED BY INDIVIDUALS ON 17TH JULY 1962

Sr No	Army No/ Personal No	Rank	Name	Unit/Coy	Details of injuries
1	IC-1879	Lt Col	FP SHINDE	4 RAJ RIF	Contusion-abrasion back- in three places Incised wound scalp over occipital protuberance Abrasion left forearm Abrasion left proximal interphalangeal joint index finger post aspect. Abrasion pinna rt side Contusion right side chest
2	IC-3839	Major	PAR CHOUDHARY	"	Abrasion left angle of the mouth, upper left incisor loose in socket Incised wound scalp over left parital eminence
3		Capt	L.A.P. SEQUEIRA	121 Hy Mor Bty	Contusion scalp.
4	2838710	Nk	KEDAR SINGH	4 RAJ RIF (Sp Coy)	Lacerated wound left pinna (Cartridge involved)
5	2845680	Rfn	PURAN SINGH	D Coy	Contusion neck(post) and abrasion left pinna
6	2842106	Nk	SURAJBHAN SINGH	"	Abrasion rt forearm medial aspect middle third , Contusion chest.
7	2846280	Rfn	REWAT SINGH	"	Abrasion left jaw and contusion lip, lower.
8	1027915	Sr	PURAN SINGH	63 Ca v	Abrasion right elbow.
9	932391	Nk	GIAN SINGH	4 MAHAR MG	Abrasion rt external orbital margin.
10	2848383	Rfn	HARI SINGH	D Coy	Contusion neck (Complains of diminished hearing both ears)
11	2849020	Ba rber	KESHAV PARSAD	"	Contusion rt forearm, upper arm, back
12	2846379	Rfn	HARI SINGH	"	Contusion neck. Abrasion left forearm and chest (in side)
13	2843729	L/Nk	FATEH BAHADUR	"	Contusion groin.
14	2849118	S-pr	MUNGA RAM	"	Contusion rt wrist.
15	2844921	Rfn	BALBIR SINGH	"	Contusion back & rt side of chest.



Srl	Army No/ No	Personal No	Rank	Name	Unit/Coy	Details of injuries
16	1027449		Swr	RAMCHANDER SINGH	63 Cav	Contusion left hand
17	2846773		Rfn	RADHEY SHYAM	Sp Coy	Contusion - abrasion right hand
18	2849505		M/C	K P KURUP	Adm "	Abrasion - contusion chin, contusion chest.
19	JC-1699		Sub	CHATARBHUI SINGH	D " I	Minor injuries - were treated for contusions and abrasions.
20	JC-8202		Sub	ARJAN SINGH	D " I	
21	JC-12250		Jem	RAMNATH SINGH	D " I	



# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Date, Time & Place	Summary of events	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)
110015	D Company, 4TH BATTALION THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES moved from present location to establish road block near crossing of Av TOMBEUR and Av KATUBA.	
120230	D Company took defensive positions and established road block.	
120630	Brigade Commander and Commanding Officer, 4TH BATTALION THE RAJPUTANA RIFLES visited D Company.	
120850	Civilians and few Gendarmeries started assembling on the far side of road block.	
120900	Mr MUNUNGO and Colonel KIEMBE with Major General DEWAN PREM CHAND and Brigadier R S NORONHA went round the defended locality.	
121005	Gendarmeries tried to remove barrels from road block. Warned by own troops.	
121015	Gendarmeries advanced and occupy road block on the crossing.	
121030	Own troops recover from Gendarmerie vehicle the following :-	
	(a) Rifle FN - 1	
	(b) SMC - 1	
	(c) Grenade - 1	
131630	Gendarmeries set fire to grass in area opposite 12 Platoon and around their road block.	
131640	Rifle No I Mark III confiscated from Gend vehicle. Own troops took no retaliatory action.	
132000	Telephone cable through hospital area reported cut thrice.	
132345	Colonel KIEMBE Gend Chief of Staff came and talked to Captain SURINDER NATH Mortar Officer for one hour. He accused UN troops to be Americans Mercenaries.	
141215	Grass apposite No 10 Platoon set on fire by Gend Section who ran away on seeing own troops.	
141830	Following arms recovered from Gend vehicle:-	
	(a) Rifle .303 No I Mark III -1	
	(b) Cartridges FN -30	
	(c) Rounds .303 -230	
	(d) Rounds Tracer .303 -60	
141130	Gend seen digging opposite 12 and 10 Platoons in the NALA 80 yards away. Students threw stones at own positions. Brigade informed. Staff visited positions.	



(a)	(b)	(c)
150830	Troop 5 Indep Armed Squadron withdrawn.	<i>kn Bay</i>
16 July 62	No major incident except occasional throwing of stones with catabult or otherwise still being resorted too Brigade being informed.	
170800	Large crowd of women, men and children seen near Commune ALBERT.	
170805	Major PAR CHOUDHARY Company Commander ordered stand to as the crowd was seen advance.	
170815	Crowd rushed through Gend Barrier turning over their drums.	
170822	Leading elements crowd approach UN Check Post, threw away the drums and <del>start</del> started singing and dancing, women threw their clothes away and provoked UN soldiers. Soldiers took no notice crowd near barrier estimated between 800 to 1500 road leading to Commune ALBERT completely Blocked with surging mass of humanity throughout their advance some local press photographers were seen to be taken photographs.	
170830	Police jeep drove through the barrier. Company Commander spoke to them and asked them to control the crowd. They left without answering.	<i>from commune</i>
1 832-170841	Some shots estimated approximately 10 rounds fired by the Gend. No casualty reported. Crowd continued to demonstrate.	<i>How quiet a distance? In what direction</i>
170845	Company Commander positioned some men on either side of UN Check Post to control the crowd and restricted their entry to UN area.	
170915	Battalion Headquarters informed of situation.	
170930	Police jeep returned but would still not intervene.	<i>Police human? In what language?</i>
170935	The Commanding Officer Lt Col F P SHINDE and Second-in-Command Major MACH SINGH arrived. They were surrounded and men handled by women demonstrating.	
170940	Brigade Headquarters was informed of the situation.	
170945	The crowd became worse and started advancing into the position setting fire to the grass and the shack next to the check post	
170947	Two or three shots were heard from Gend barriers side.	
170949	More women, children and men seen advancing and pushing the leading elements into the position.	
170951	Women and children started putting stones at our troops. Catabults were also used.	
170956	Katanga police arrived but stood around and took no action to control the crowd.	<i>30 or 40 - What kind</i>
171000	Brigade Commander spoke to Company Commander on wireless set and instructed him to charge the crowd with lathies.	<i>photos</i>



*How were the jawans spanked?*

- | (a)    | (b)  | (c) |
|--------|--|-----|
| 171003 | Lathi charge was made but the Katanga police intervened and said that they will control the crowd. They however did nothing to push the crowd back.  |     |
| 171005 | Women and children started insult UN soldiers, abusing them spitting on them and attempted to snatch their weapons. Boys from the rear threw stones and used their catabults. Grown up men in the rear rows stood and watch women set fire into the grass and advance into the position. The Katanga Police did nothing to intervene except to obstruct our lathi charge.  |     |
| 171017 | More Katanga police arrived they fired a few shots others still appear to take no action to disperse the crowd. Some policemen were seen to be laughing and encouraging the demonstrators.   |     |
| 171024 | Company Commander injured.   |     |
| 171027 | Lt Col SHINDE, Major MACH SINGH and Major SUNDERJI also hurt several jawans were also injured.   |     |
| 171046 | The crowd surged forth again soldiers again try to push them back. Women set fire to the grass in the position. Katanga police made no effort to control the crowd but intervened every time the soldiers tried to push the crowd back.  |     |
| 171057 | Orders were received to charge the crowd with sticks. Police tried to stop this but still made no effort to control the crowd  |     |
| 171101 | The crowd became more aggressive. Stones and bricks were thrown by them. Women got hold of sticks and attacked UN soldiers, Catabults were used by youths. Several UN soldiers were hurt. Women attacked officers and men snatched their berets and helmets while others tried to snatch their weapons. A few more shots were heard from the other side.   |     |
| 171110 | Crowd attempted to set fire in UN cars and jeeps parked on the road. Officers who tried to drive them to safety were men handled.  |     |
| 171115 | An APC was pulled back to escort reinforcement youths threw stones in the APC and beat the sides with sticks.  |     |
| 171117 | 2 UN helicopters seen circling over head.  |     |
| 171120 | A fresh attempt was made to charge the crowd with sticks. Again the Katanga police stopped us and made no effort to control the crowd.   |     |
| 171123 | Company Commander again received injuries several jawans also injured.   |     |
| 171125 | (n) The helicopters touched down near the Industrial School. Company Commander formed two rows of men. The front row approximately 15 jawans with lathies and the second row a few yards behind them with rifles. He ordered Rifleman MANGEJ SINGH, Rifleman HARI SINGH, Rifleman BHANWAR SINGH, Rifleman SUGAN SINGH, Rifleman REWAT SINGH, L/Nk NAIN SINGH and Rifleman ROOP SINGH who were in the 2nd row to load one round each into the rifle. He then ordered the front row who were armed with lathies to charge the crowd. He led the charge the push the crowd back towards the Gend barriers. The crowd made a fresh attempt to charge the soldiers when he ordered L/Nk NAIN SINGH Rifleman SUGAN SINGH, Rifleman MANGEJ SINGH to point their |     |



(a) (b) (c)

barrel into the air and fire one round each. The crowd Gend dispersed toward the Commune. The Company Commander turned round and again leading the men on with sticks charge up the road to disperse the road who are attempting to come into the camp from the Church side when once again the crowd appeared to take no notice of the lathies. Lathi charge and continue-s to come forward. He ordered Rifleman HARI SINGH, Rifleman BHANWAR SINGH to fire one round each into the air at which the crowd dispersed.

- 171126 Major General PREM CHAND GOC Katanga Area and Brigadier R S NROHNA were seen at the road block.
- 171212 Road Av TAMBEUR was cleared of demonstrators and normal traffic resumed.
- 171230 GOC and Brigade Commander left.
- 182020 Position visited by GOC and other senior officers and Ministers from Government of Katanga.
- 182140 Orders issued to pull back the road block for 19th. Police would remain on the road to traffic. Wire put up along both sides of the road.
- 190805 Lonrdg Officer arrived and stayed here. Police link the road traffic normal. A post procession of about 150 went by carrying flags.
- 191225 Police left.
- 191240 Police officer arrived and relieved the road.
- 191415 Commanding Officer left.
- 191430 One Gend armerie vehicle carrying rifles went through protest made to police. Police promised to check on return journey.
- 191648 Police NCO said he was going away and talking his men. He was informed that he must stay still 1800 hours when other relief of policemen were expected. He refused.
- 191705 The UN check post reestablished. Rest NTR.
- 200810 Commanding Officer and Second-in-Command arrived.
- 200850 Some UN officers arrived. Commanding Officer spoke to them and Company Commander took them around the position.
- 201055 UN officers left.



LIST OF LOSSES AND DAMAGES MADE BY CROWD

Srl No	Items	Qty	Remarks
1	<u>Beddings-11</u>		
	<u>Details of each bedding</u>		
	Blanket BK	1	
	Bed sheet	2	
	Ground sheet	1	
	Pillow with cover	1	
	Net mosquito	1	
	Cap waterproof	1	
2	Pack web with complete scale	6	
	<u>Details of each pack</u>		
	Blanket	1	
	Dress - Shirt AD - 1 and Trouser OG	-1	
	Shoes canvas	pairs 1	
	Chhagul universal	1	
	Jungle shoes	" 1	
3	Haversack all ranks with complete scale	5	
	<u>Detail of each haversack</u>		
	Towel hand	2	
	Vest cotton	2	
	Comb hair	1	
	Under wear	1	
	stool		
4	Stoll Helmets	17	
5 7	UN Helmets	8	
6	Beret Rifle green	7	
7	Beret rifle blue	2	
8	Overall combination	2	
9	Wire aerial of 110 feet of 19 set	1	
10	India Sign	prs 20	
11	UN Badge	20	
12	Para Badge	3	
13	Watches	2	
14	Ridge pole 180 lbs	3	
15	Ridge pole 40 lbs	5	
16	Standing pole 180 lbs	6	
17	Standing pole 40 lbs	4	
18	Tent 40 lbs	1	
19	Lamp hurricane	2	



Srl No	Items	Qty	Remarks
20	Blanket (interpretor)	3	
21	Food container	1	
22	Great coat	2	
23	Shirt AD	5	
24	Chair folding	1	
25	Unit Board	1	
26	Drums	15	
27	Camp cot	2	(one officer pattern)
28	Patromax UN	1	





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(1)

- 110015 B Coy 4p H RAY RIF moved from Present location to establish road block near crossing of AV TOMBEUR and AV KATUBA
- 120230 D Coy 4p took ~~the~~ Det Positions and established road block
- 120630 Bde Comdr and CO 4 RAY RIF visited D Coy.
- 120850 civilians and few Gendarmeries started assembling on the far side of ~~the~~ rd block.
- 120900 ~~MIA~~ MUNUNGO and Col KIEMBE with Major General PREMCHAND with Brig R.S NOROMYA went round the defended locality
- 121005 Gendarmeries tried to remove barrels from rd block owned by own troops.
- 121015 Gendarmeries adv and occupy road block on the crossing
- 121030 own troops recover from Gend veh. the following:-
- |          |   |   |
|----------|---|---|
| Rifle FN | = | 1 |
| SMC      | = | 1 |
| Grenade  | = | 1 |
- 2 grass in
- 131630 Gend set fire to area opposite 12 PL and around their rd block
- 131640 no I HK III Rifle confiscated from Gend veh. own troops took no retaliatory action.





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(2)

- 132000 Telephone cable through Hospital area reported cut  
thrice.
- 132345 Col RIEMBE Genl chief of Staff came and talked to  
Capt SURINDER NATH Mor offr for one hour. He  
accused UN Troops to be Americans Mercenaries.
- 141215 Grass opposite No 10 PL set on fire by Genl Sec  
who ran away on seeing our troops.
- 141830 Following arms recovered from Genl Veh 1
- |                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Rifle .303 No I Mk III | - 1   |
| Cartridges F.N         | - 30  |
| Rds .303               | - 230 |
| " Tracer .303          | - 60  |
- 1130 Genl seen digging opp 12 and 10 PL in the NALA 80 yds  
away. Students threw stones at our positions. Bde  
informed. Staff visited positions.
- 150830 Tp 5 indep Armd Sqn withdrawn.
- 16 July 62 No major incident ~~except~~ except occasional throwing  
of stones with catapult or otherwise still being  
resorted to. Bde not being informed.





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(3)

Date Time Place

Summary of Events

- 170800 large crowd of women, men and children seen near commune ALBERT.
- 170805 Major PAR CHOUDHARY Coy comdr ordered stand to as the crowd was seen advance.
- 170815 crowd rushed through bend barriers turning over their drums.
- 170822 heading Elements crowd approach UN check post, threw away the drums and started singing and dancing, women threw their clothes away and provoked U.N. soldiers. Soldiers took no notice crowd near barrier estimated between 800 to 1500 ~~on~~ road heading to Commune ALBERT completely blocked with surging mass of humanity. Throughout their advance some local press photographers were seen to be taken photos.
- 170830 Police jeep drove through the barriers. Coy comdr spoke to them and asked them to control the crowd. They left without answering.
- 170832-0841 Some shots estimated approximately 10 rounds fired by the bend. No casualty reported. Crowd continued to demonstrate.
- 170845 Coy comdr positioned some men on either side of UN check post to control the crowd and restrict ~~to enter them to their entry to UN area.~~ ~~to enter them to their entry to UN area.~~ Bn. HQ informed ~~of~~ situation.
- 170915 Police jeep returned but would still not intervene.
- 170930 The commanding officer Lt Col F P SHINDE and 2 I/C Major MAH SINGH arrived. They were surrounded and men handled by women demonstrators.
- 170940 Bde HQ was informed of the situation.
- 170945 The crowd became more and started advancing into the position setting fire to the grass and the shack next to the check post.
- 170947 Two or three shots were heard from bend barrier side.





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(4)

170949

More women, children and men seen advancing and pushing the heading elements into the position. Women and children started pelting stones at our troops. Catapults were also used.

170951

170956

Katanga Police arrived but stood around and took no action to control the crowd.

171000

Bde Comdr spoke to Coy Comdr on wireless set and instructed him to charge the crowd with lathies.

171003

Lathie charge was made but the Katanga police intervened and said that they will control the crowd. They however did nothing to push the crowd back.

171005

Women and children started insult UN soldiers, abusing them spitting on them and attempted to snatch their weapons. Boys from the rear threw stones and used their catapults. Grown up men in the rear rows stood and watch. Women set fire into the grass and advance into the position. The Katanga police did nothing to intervene except to obstruct our lathie charge.

171017

More Katanga police arrived they fired a few shots. Others still appear to take no action to disperse the crowd. Some policemen were seen to be laughing and encouraging the demonstrators.

171024

Coy Comdr injured





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(5)

171027

Lt Col SHINDE, Major MACHSINEH and Major SUNDERTI also hurt several Tamans were also injured.

171046

The crowd surged forth again soldiers again try to push them back. Women set fire to the grass in the position. Katanga Police made no effort to control the crowd, but intervened every time the soldiers tried to push the crowd back.

171057

orders were received to charge the crowd with sticks. Police tried to stop this but still made no effort to control the crowd.

171101

The crowd became more aggressive. Stones and bricks were thrown by them women got hold of sticks and attacked UN Soldiers. Caterpills were used by youths. Several UN soldiers were hurt. Women attacked officers and men snatched their Berets and helmets while others tried to snatch their weapons. A few more shots were heard from the other side.

171110

crowd attempted to set fire in UN cars and trucks parked on the road, officers who tried to drive them to safety were men manhandled.

171115

An APC was pulled back to escort reinforcement youths threw stones in the APC and beat the sides with sticks.





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(6)

- 171117 2 UN Helicopters seen circling over head.
- 171120 A fresh attempt was made to charge the crowd with sticks. again the Katanga police stopped us and made no effort to control the crowd.
- 171123 Coy comdr again received injuries several Tamans also injured.
- 171125 The Helicopters touched down near the industrial school. Coy comdr formed two rows of men, the front row approximately 15 Tamans with batons and the 2nd row a few yards behind them with rifles. He ordered Rbn MANGET SINGH, Rbn HARISINGH, Rbn BHANWAR SINGH, Rbn SUKANSINGH, Rbn, REWAT SINGH, LINKNAIN SINGH and Rbn RUP SINGH who were in the 2nd row to load one round each in to the Rifles. He then ordered the front row who were armed with batons to charge the crowd. He led the charge and pushed the crowd back towards the bend barrier. The crowd made a fresh attempt to charge the soldiers, when he ordered LINKNAIN SINGH, Rbn SUKANSINGH, Rbn MANGET SINGH to point their barrel into the air and fire one round each. The crowd then dispersed towards the commune. The Coy comdr turned round and again heading the men armed with sticks charge up the road to disperse the crowd who were attempting to come into the camp from the church side when once again the crowd appear to take no notice of the baton.





BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(7)

charge and continued to come forward  
He ordered Rtn HARI SINGH and BHANWAR SINGH  
to fire one round each into the air at which  
The crowd dispersed

- 171126 Major General PREMCHAND GOC KATANGA area and  
Brig R. S NARONA were seen at the road  
block
- 171212 Road Avenue TAMBELU was cleared of demonstra-  
tors and normal Traffic resumed
- 171230 GOC & Bde Comdr met.
- 82020 Pasm visited by GOC and other senior officers and  
ministers from Govt of Katanga.
- 182140 orders issued to pull back the rd block for 19th Police  
would have the road to control traffic: wire put up along  
both sides of the road.
- 190805 Comdg offr arrived and stayed here. Police worked the road  
Traffic normal. A post procession of about 150 went by  
carrying flags.
- 191225 Police met.
- 191240 Police officers arrived and relaxed the road.
- 191415 Comdg officer met.
- 191430 one Gen Army veh carrying rifles went through protest  
made to police. Police promised to check on return  
Journey.
- 191648 Police vco said he was going away and talking his  
men. He was into that he must stay till 1800 when  
another relib of policemen were expected. He  
refused.



ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES  
AU CONGO



UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION  
IN THE CONGO

BOITE POSTALE 7248  
LEOPOLDVILLE  
REPUBLIQUE DU CONGO  
CABLE: ONUC. LEOPOLDVILLE

(8)

- 191705 The UN check post reestablished. Rest NTR
- 200810 Comdg offr and 2 i/c arrived,
- 200850 Some UN offrs arrived, Comdg offr spoke to them  
and Coy Comdr took them around the posn.
- 201055 UN offrs left.



# List of losses and damages made by crowd.

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Beddings

= 11

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Detail of each Bedding

Blanket B. K. = 1  
Bed Sheet = 2  
Ground Sheet = 2  
Pillam with cover = 1  
Net mosquito = 1  
cape water proof = 1

Detail of items contained in pack

Blanket = 1  
Dress } shirt A/D = 1  
          } trousers O/D = 1  
Shoes canvas prs = 1  
chagul universal = 1  
Jungle shoe prs = 1

Detail of items contained in Haversack

Towel Hand = 2  
Vest Cotton = 2  
Camp hair = 1  
under wear = 1

Pack web with complete scale = 6

Haversack A/R with complete scale = 5

Steel Helmet

UN = 17

Beret Rifle green = 8

" " Blue = 7

overall combination = 2

Wire Aerial of 140 ft of 146 ft = 2

INDIA SIGN = 1

UN Badge = 20

Pen = 20

Matches = 3

Ridge Pole 180 lbs = 2

" " 40 " = 8

standing Pole 180 " = 5

" " 40 " = 6

Tent 40 lbs = 4

Lamp Hurricane = 1

Blanket (interceptor) = 2

Food container = 3

Great coat = 1

Shirt A/D = 2

Chair folding = 5

unit Board = 1

Drums = 1

Camp cot = 15

Petromax UN = 2

= 1

one officers hat