

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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CASE CONCERNING

THE APPLICATION OF THE CONVENTION  
ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT  
OF THE CRIME OF GENOCIDE

(CROATIA v. YUGOSLAVIA)

**MEMORIAL**  
**OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

ANNEXES

REGIONAL FILES

VOLUME 2  
PART I

EASTERN SLAVONIA

1 MARCH 2001



## CONTENTS

<b>ETHNIC STRUCTURES</b>	<b>1</b>
Eastern Slavonia	3
Tenja	4
Antin	5
Dalj	6
Berak	7
Bogdanovci	8
Šarengrad	9
Ilok	10
Tompojevci	11
Bapska	12
Tovarnik	13
Sotin	14
Lovas	15
Tordinci	16
Vukovar	17
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS TENJA</b>	<b>19</b>
Annex 1: Witness Statement of M.K.	21
Annex 2: Witness Statement of R.J.	22
Annex 3: Witness Statement of I.K. (1)	24
Annex 4: Witness Statement of J.P.	29
Annex 5: Witness Statement of L.B.	34
Annex 6: Witness Statement of P.Š.	35
Annex 7: Witness Statement of D.M.	37
Annex 8: Witness Statement of M.R.	39
Annex 9: Witness Statement of M.M.	39
Annex 10: Witness Statement of M.K.	41
Annex 11: Witness Statement of I.I.*	42
Annex 12: Witness Statement of Z.B.	52
Annex 13: Witness Statement of A.M.	54
Annex 14: Witness Statement of J.S.	56
Annex 15: Witness Statement of Z.M.	58
Annex 16: Witness Statement of J.K.	60

## IV

Annex 17:	Witness Statement of L.R.	63
Annex 18:	Witness Statement of Đ.B.	64
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS DALJ</b>		<b>67</b>
Annex 19:	Witness Statement of J.P.	69
Annex 20:	Witness Statement of I.K. (2)	71
Annex 21:	Witness Statement of A.K.	77
Annex 22:	Witness Statement of H.S.	79
Annex 23:	Witness Statement of S.D.	80
Annex 24:	Witness Statement of E.M.	82
Annex 25:	Witness Statement of M.P.	84
Annex 26:	Witness Statement of M.D.	85
Annex 27:	Witness Statement of M.A.	88
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS BERAK</b>		<b>89</b>
Annex 28:	Witness Statement of J.G.	91
Annex 29:	Witness Statement of J.B.	94
Annex 30:	Witness Statement of M.H.*	101
Annex 31:	Witness Statement of K.M.	107
Annex 32:	Witness Statement of M.M.	109
Annex 33:	Witness Statement of Z.L.	111
Annex 34:	Witness Statement of M.M.	112
Annex 35:	Witness Statement of P.B.	115
Annex 36:	Witness Statement of A.P.	118
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS BOGDANOVCI</b>		<b>121</b>
Annex 37:	Witness Statement of Z.M., M.S.	123
Annex 38:	Witness Statement of A.C.	124
Annex 39:	Witness Statement of A.T	125
Annex 40:	Witness Statement of M.K.	127
Annex 41:	Witness Statement of M.B.	130
Annex 42:	Witness Statement of V.S.	131
Annex 43:	Witness Statement of M.M.	132
Annex 44:	Witness Statement of Z.P.	134
Annex 45:	Witness Statement of Đ.B.	137
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS ŠARENGRAD</b>		<b>139</b>
Annex 46:	Witness Statement of Ž.M.	141
Annex 47:	Witness Statement of P.Š.	143
Annex 48:	Witness Statement of A.G.	145
Annex 49:	Witness Statement of M.G.	146

Annex 50:	Witness Statement of I.G.	147
Annex 51:	Witness Statement of B.Ž.	148
Annex 52:	Witness Statement of O.Š.	152
Annex 53:	Witness Statement of A.L.	155
Annex 54:	Witness Statement of L.C.	156
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS ILOK</b>		<b>159</b>
Annex 55:	Witness Statement of F.D.	161
Annex 56:	Witness Statement of D.T.	162
Annex 57:	Witness Statement of B.K.	163
Annex 58:	Witness Statement of P.V.	165
Annex 59:	Witness Statement of M.V.	166
Annex 60:	Witness Statement of D.M.	167
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS TOMPOJEVCI</b>		<b>169</b>
Annex 61:	Witness Statement of L.M.	171
Annex 62:	Witness Statement of V.V.	173
Annex 63:	Witness Statement of S.L.	176
Annex 64:	Witness Statement of I.B.	177
Annex 65:	Witness Statement of M.L.	179
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS BAPSKA</b>		<b>183</b>
Annex 66:	Witness Statement of K.B.	185
Annex 67:	Witness Statement of A.K.	186
Annex 68:	Witness Statement of A.Š.	187
Annex 69:	Witness Statement of J.K.	192
Annex 70:	Witness Statement of I.F.	194
Annex 71:	Witness Statement of I.L.	196
Annex 72:	Witness Statement of P.M.	197
Annex 73:	Witness Statement of S.T.	199
Annex 74:	Witness Statement of F.K.	200
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS TOVARNIK</b>		<b>205</b>
Annex 75:	Witness Statement of J.I.	207
Annex 76:	Witness Statement of J.V.	208
Annex 77:	Witness Statement of L.S.	209
Annex 78:	Witness Statement of Đ.M.	210
Annex 79:	Witness Statement of M.P.	212
Annex 80:	Witness Statement of M.G.	216
Annex 81:	Witness Statement of B.H.	221
Annex 82:	Witness Statement of S.T.	231

VI

Annex 83:	Witness Statement of M.D.	231
Annex 84:	Witness Statement of I.Đ.	241
Annex 85:	Witness Statement of R.Đ.	245
Annex 86:	Witness Statement of A.I.	247
Annex 87:	Witness Statement of A.G.	248
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS SOTIN</b>		<b>251</b>
Annex 88:	Witness Statement of M.M.	253
Annex 89:	Witness Statement of B.U.	256
Annex 90:	Witness Statement of H.V.	260
Annex 91:	Witness Statement of S.L.	264
Annex 92:	Witness Statement of P.H.	268
Annex 93:	Witness Statement of B.M.	269
Annex 94:	Witness Statement of V.G.	278
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS LOVAS</b>		<b>281</b>
Annex 95:	Witness Statement of P.V.	283
Annex 96:	Witness Statement of I.F.	286
Annex 97:	Witness Statement of S.P.	291
Annex 98:	Witness Statement of L.S.	297
Annex 99:	Witness Statement of M.M.	302
Annex 100:	Witness Statement of N.M.	302
Annex 101:	Witness Statement of P.M.	303
Annex 102:	Witness Statement of Z.T.	306
Annex 103:	Witness Statement of N.K.	310
Annex 104:	Witness Statement of J.K.	313
Annex 105:	Witness Statement of V.R.	318
Annex 106:	Witness Statement of F.D.*	320
Annex 107:	Witness Statement of Z.B.	323
Annex 108:	Witness Statement of A.M.*	324
Annex 109:	Witness Statement of M.M.	327
Annex 110:	Witness Statement of D. and A.J.	328
Annex 111:	Witness Statement of S.V.	330
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS-TORDINCI</b>		<b>333</b>
Annex 112:	Witness Statement of T.R.	335
Annex 113:	Witness Statement of A.I.	336
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS-VUKOVAR</b>		<b>339</b>
Annex 114:	Witness Statement of F.K.	341
Annex 115:	Witness Statement of B.R.	345

VII

Annex 116:	Witness Statement of H.E.*	345
Annex 117:	Witness Statement of M.M.*	347
Annex 118:	Witness statement of J.P.	349
Annex 119:	Witness Statement of V.Đ.	350
Annex 120:	Witness Statement of D.P.	351
Annex 121:	Witness Statement of F.G.	353
Annex 122:	Witness Statement of M.M.	354
Annex 123:	Witness Statement of F.V.	355
Annex 124:	Witness Statement of M.Š.	357
Annex 125:	Witness Statement of M.F.	358
Annex 126:	Witness Statement of A.S.*	359
Annex 127:	Witness Statement of E.M.	361
Annex 128:	Witness Statement of T.C.*	364
Annex 129:	Witness Statement of F.J.	366
Annex 130:	Witness Statement of G.K.*	367
Annex 131:	Witness Statement of V.O.	368
Annex 132:	Witness Statement of A.D.	369
Annex 133:	Witness Statement of S.R.	372
Annex 134:	Witness Statement of D.G.	373
Annex 135:	Witness Statement of P.S.	376
Annex 136:	Witness Statement of N.K.	377
Annex 137:	Witness Statement of V.H.	378
Annex 138:	Witness Statement of D.K.	379
Annex 139:	Witness Statement of K.O.	381
Annex 140:	Witness Statement of J.Z.	383
Annex 141:	Witness Statement of M.R.	384
Annex 142:	Witness Statement of N.L.	385
Annex 143:	Witness Statement of L.D.	386
Annex 144:	Witness Statement of B.B.*	386
Annex 145:	Witness Statement of E.Č.	388
Annex 146:	Witness Statement of P.B.	392
Annex 147:	Witness Statement of M.L.	396
Annex 148:	Witness Statement of J.R.	397
Annex 149:	Witness statement of A.H.	397
Annex 150:	Witness Statement of M.G.	403
Annex 151:	Witness Statement of B.V.*	404
Annex 152:	Witness Statement of J.L.	408

## VIII

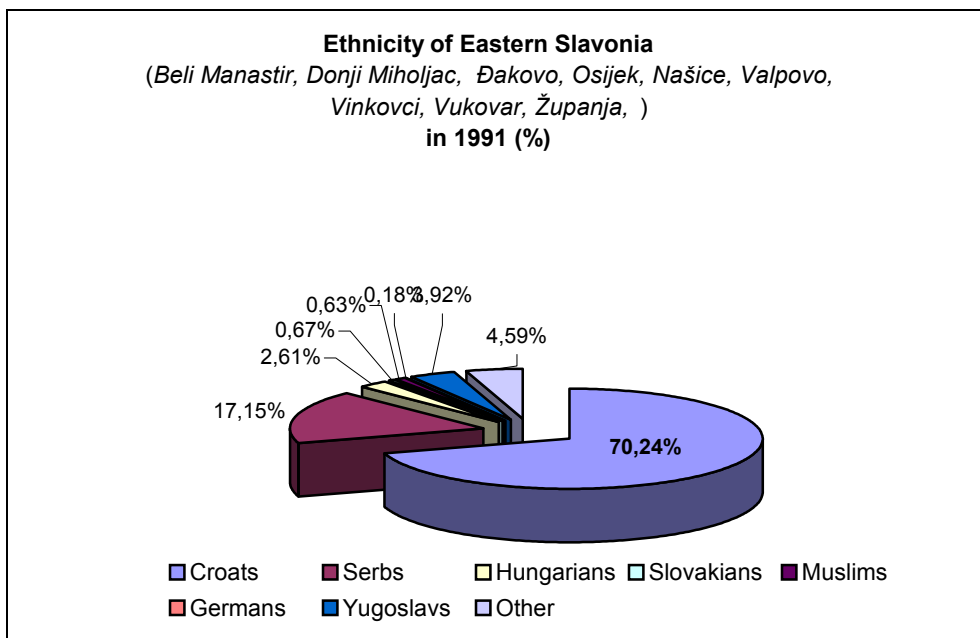
<b>WITNESS STATEMENTS REFERRED TO IN “PRISON CAMPS” (ANNEXES, VOLUME 5, APPENDIX 6)</b>	<b>409</b>
Annex 153: Witness Statement of T.H.	411
Annex 154: Witness Statement of F.K.	415
Annex 155: Witness Statement of B.I.	418
Annex 156: Witness Statement of A.S.*	420
Annex 157: Witness Statement of T.V.	422
Annex 157a: Witness Statement of Z.K.	425
Annex 157b: Witness Statement of M.S.	426
Annex 157c: Witness Statement of S.G.	428
<b>MILITARY DOCUMENTS</b>	<b>431</b>
Annex 158: Order on the Defence of the JNA Facilities, 14 May 1991	433
Annex 159: Command: of the 158 <sup>th</sup> Mixed Anti-Armored Artillery Brigade	435
Annex 160: Written Agreement on Naturalization and Free Evacuation of the Vukovar Hospital	437
Annex 161: Agreement between Major General Dragoljub Arandžević of the JNA and Representatives of the Town of Ilok and Šarengrad, 14 October 1991	438
Annex 162: Command of the 1st Proletarian Guard Mechanised Division, 4 October 1991	439
Annex 163: Letter by Ministry of defence of the RH	441
<b>OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS</b>	<b>445</b>
Annex 164: List of Mass Graves in Vukovar-Srijem	447
Annex 165: List of Exhumed Mass Graves, Požega-Slavonia	448
Annex 166: Mass Graves of Eastern Slavonia	448
Annex 167: Record of Dissection No.101/98 (Overview of Exhumed Remains from the Village of Berak)	451
Annex 168: Records of the Autopsy of the Bodies of the Members of ZNG and MUP of RH in the file of the District Court of Osijek no. K-95/94...	460
Annex 168a: UNHCR List of Expelled Persons from Bapska, 29 June 1995	465
Annex 168b: Exhumation Document – Lovas	468



## **ETHNIC STRUCTURES**

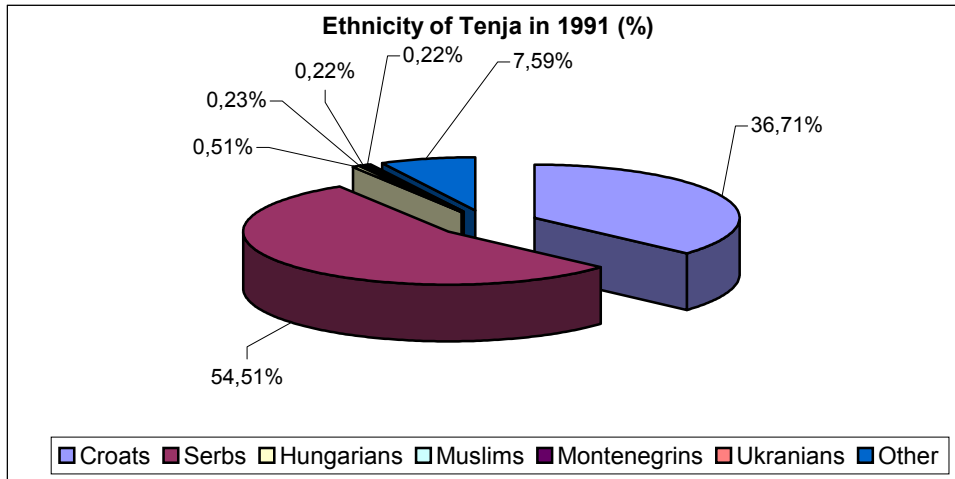


## EASTERN SLAVONIA



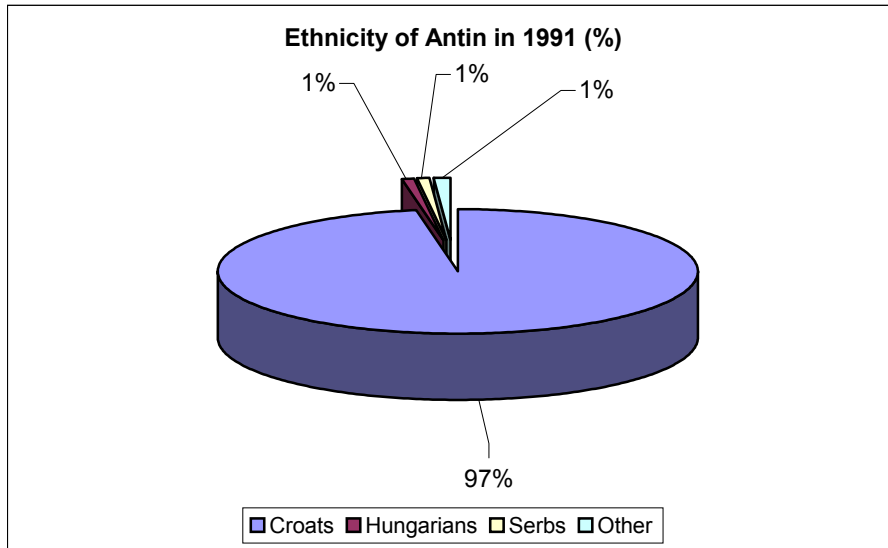
Croats	420359
Serbs	102660
Hungarians	15618
Slovaks	4020
Muslims	3742
Germans	1079
Yugoslavs	23472
Other	27484
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>598434</b>

## TENJA



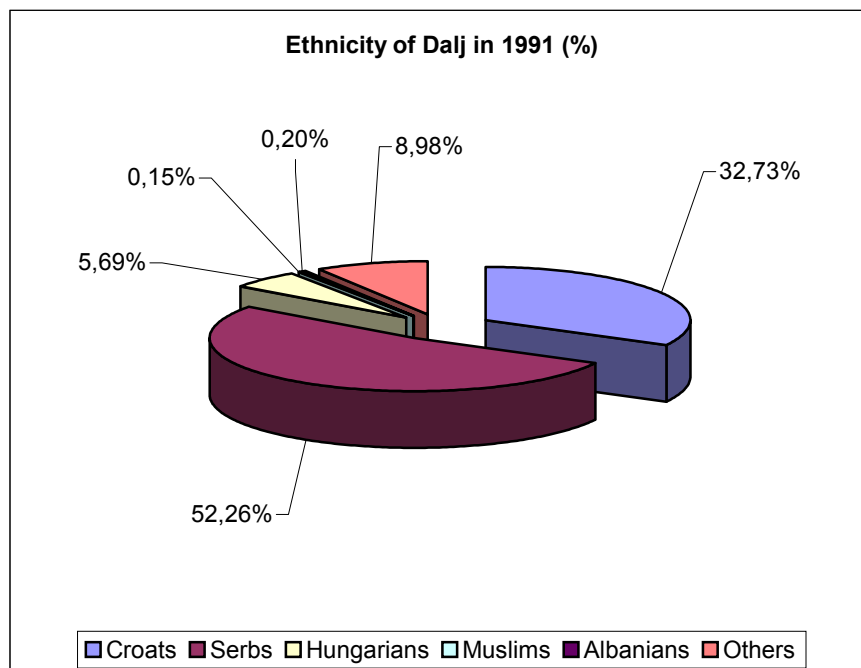
Croats	2813
Serbs	4177
Hungarians	39
Muslims	18
Montenegrins	17
Ukrainians	17
Other	582
GRAND TOTAL	7663

## ANTIN

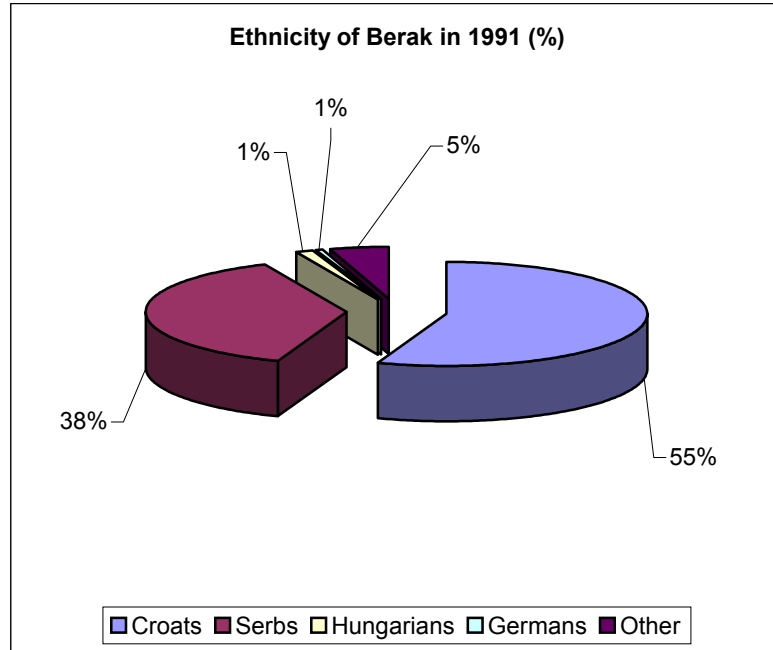


Croats	950
Hungarians	9
Serbs	6
Other	12
GRAND TOTAL	977

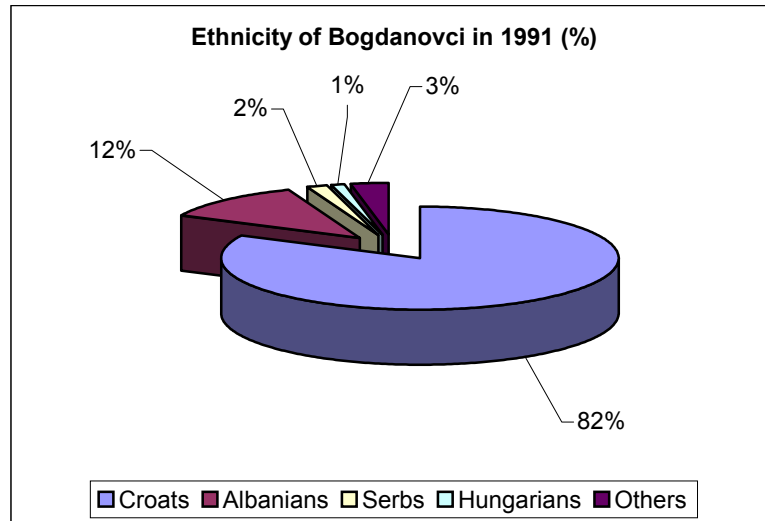
## DALJ



Croats	1805
Serbs	2882
Hungarians	314
Muslims	8
Albanians	11
Other	495
GRAND TOTAL	5515

**BERAK**

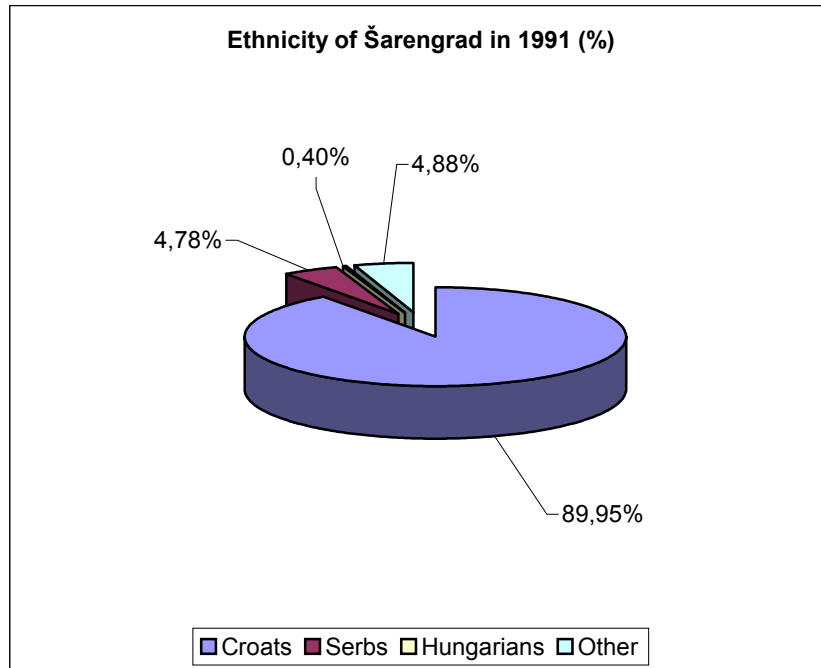
Croats	515
Serbs	348
Hungarians	13
Germans	6
Other	44
GRAND TOTAL	926

**BOGDANOVCI**

Croats	914
Albanians	133
Serbs	19
Hungarians	13
Other	34
GRAND TOTAL	1113

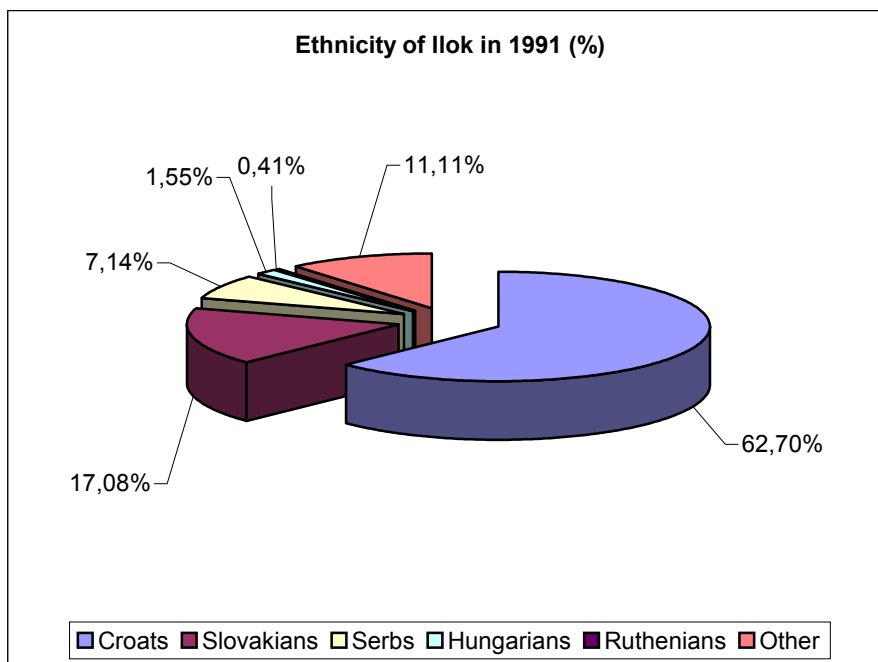


## ŠARENGRAD



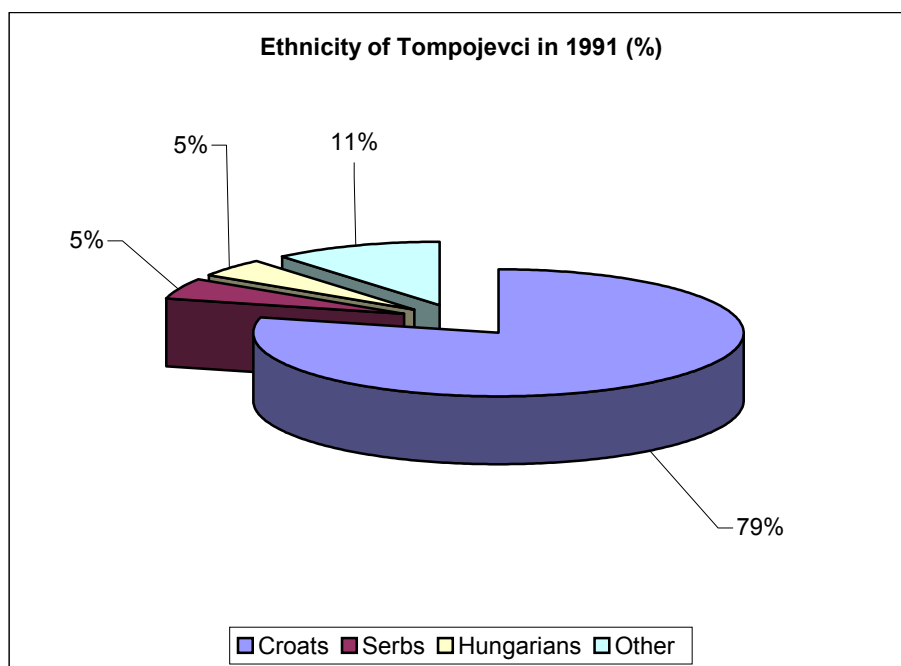
Croats	904
Serbs	48
Hungarians	4
Other	49
GRAND TOTAL	1005

## ILOK

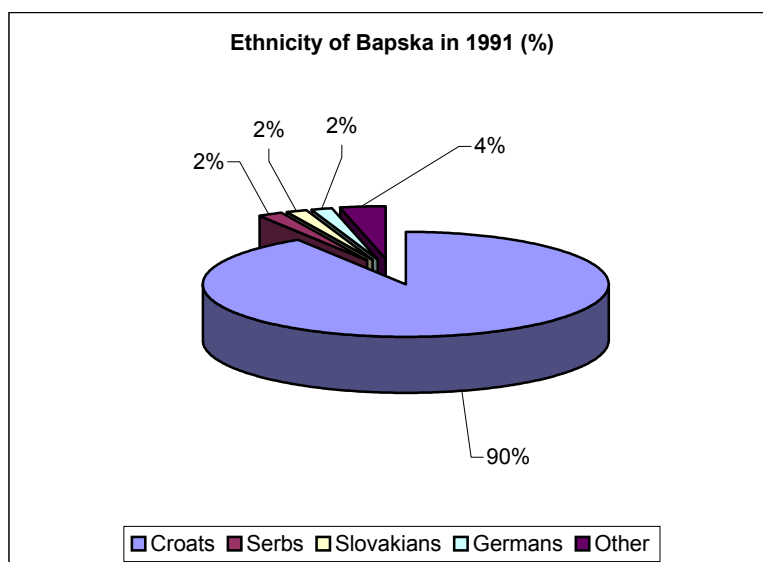


Croats	4248
Slovaks	1157
Serbs	484
Hungarians	105
Ruthenians	28
Other	753
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>6775</b>

## TOMPOJEVCI

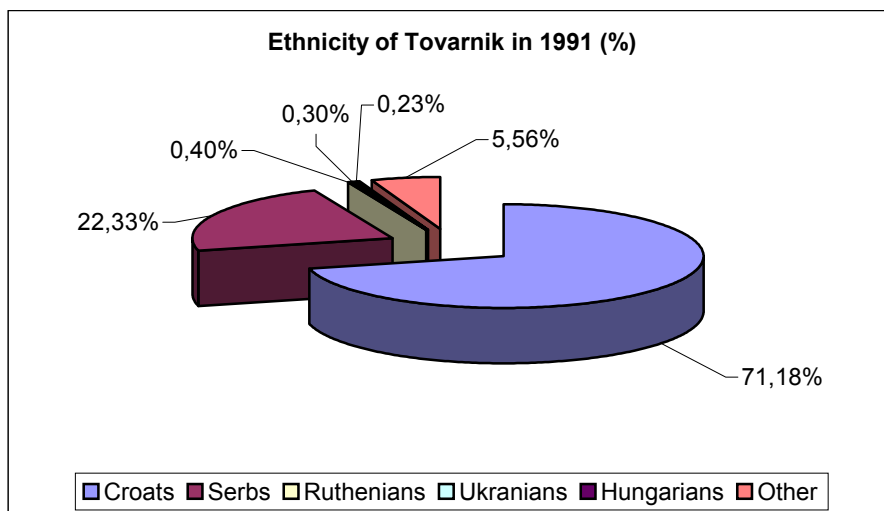


Croats	402
Serbs	27
Hungarians	24
Other	57
GRAND TOTAL	510

**BAPSKA**

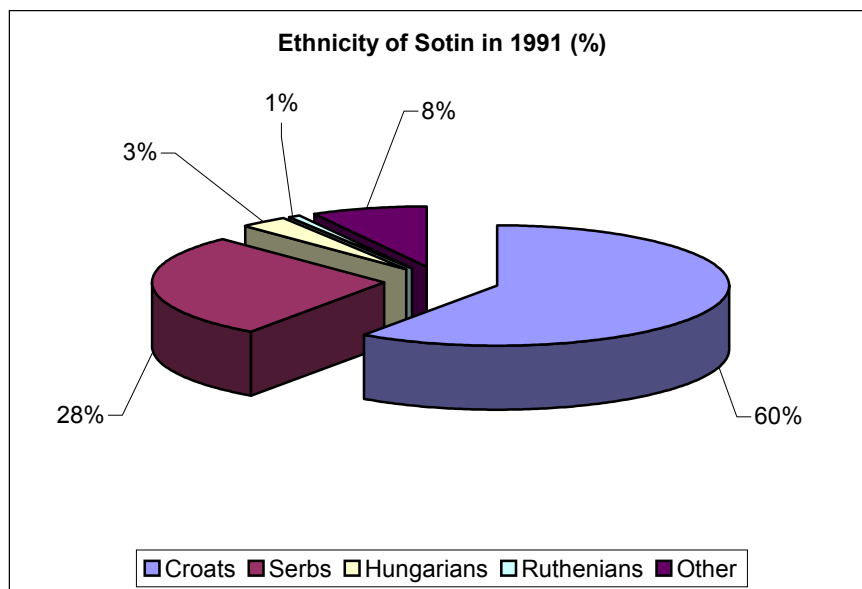
Croats	1478
Serbs	33
Slovaks	28
Germans	25
Other	60
GRAND TOTAL	1624

## TOVARNIK



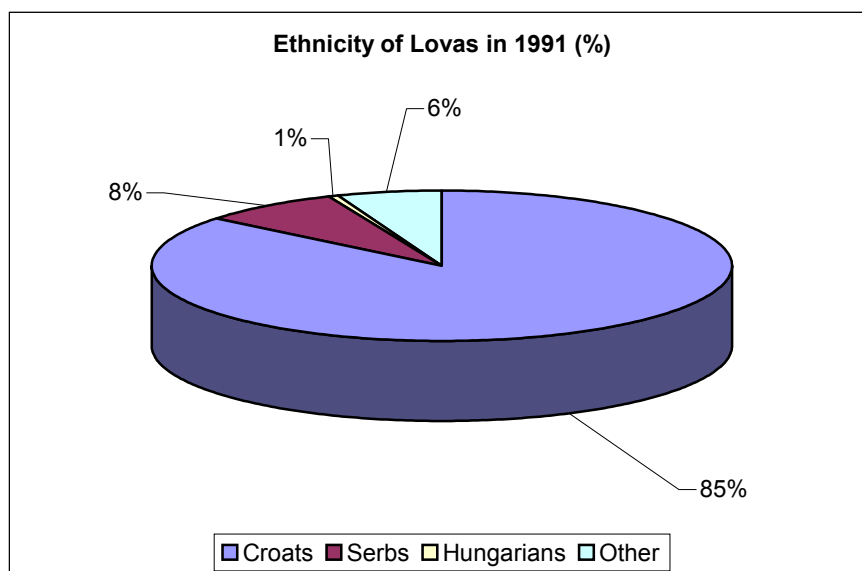
Croats	2136
Serbs	670
Ruthenians	12
Ukrainians	9
Hungarians	7
Other	167
GRAND TOTAL	3001

## SOTIN



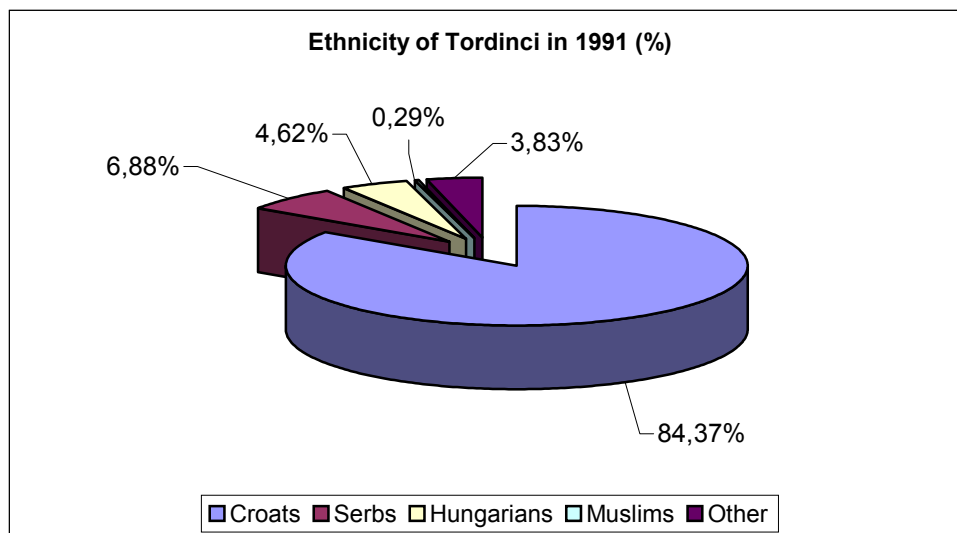
Croats	789
Serbs	372
Hungarians	44
Ruthenians	14
Other	105
GRAND TOTAL	1324

## LOVAS



Croats	1441
Serbs	133
Hungarians	10
Other	97
GRAND TOTAL	1681

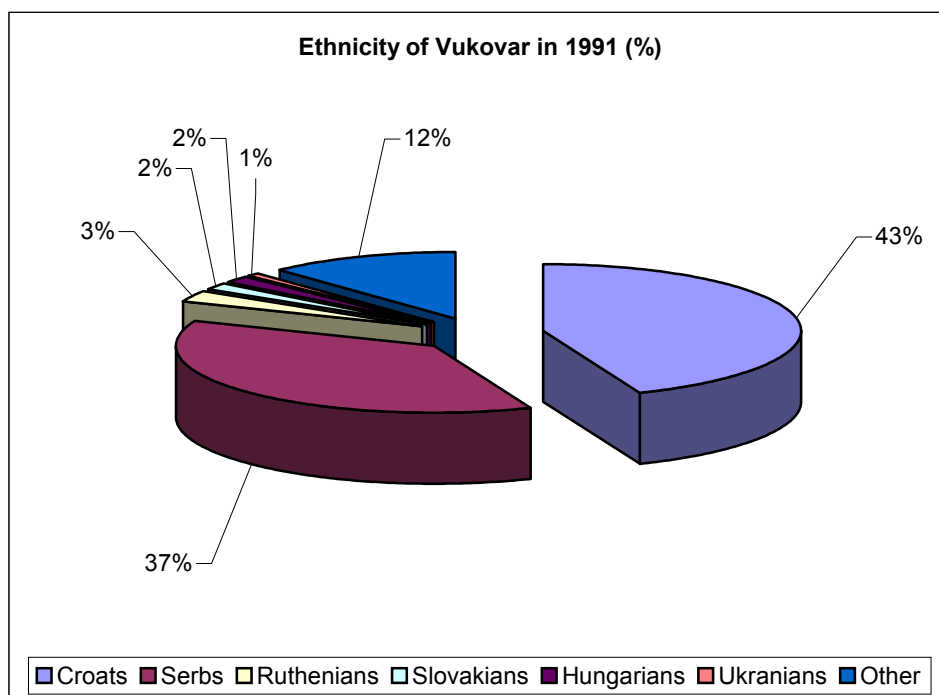
## TORDINCI



Croats	858
Serbs	70
Hungarians	47
Muslims	3
Other	39
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1017</b>



## VUKOVAR



Croats	36910
Serbs	31445
Ruthenians	2284
Slovakians	1383
Hungarians	1375
Ukrainians	793
Other	9999
GRAND TOTAL	84189



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
TENJA**



**ANNEX 1:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.K.**

TESTIMONY – TENJA

WITNESS M.K., son of M., 56 years old, born in Trušina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, residence in Tenja, ... Street .. a, now as a refugee he lives in... , ... street, friendship Camp (...), he is a retiree, not related, not hostile.

The witness was warned to tell the truth, that a false statement is a criminal act. He was also warned that he does not have to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP).

The witness makes the following statement:

After Tenja was temporary occupied, my wife and I remained in our house, while our eight children were in the free territory of the Republic of Croatia. The administration of Tenja, after its temporary occupation was the so-called Territorial Defense Headquarters, Jovan Rebrača was in charge of the headquarters. I know that besides Rebrača the following were also in the headquarters, i.e. the administration: Mile Jajić, who was in charge of the labor troops of Croats who had to perform different chores, Božo Vidaković who was my neighbor and especially stood out in Serbian extremism. I know that this Božo Vidaković personally killed several Croats, and I remember that on one occasion he told me how it was a little difficult to kill someone for the first time, but after you had done it once it is not difficult to kill somebody later. I also know that Dragan Čugalj was also in the administration in Tenja. I remember that he came to my house with another four armed persons in the first days of the occupation of Tenja; they searched my house for weapons and claimed that there were weapons in my house, which was not true; I did not have any weapons.

This Božo Vidaković told me that he was protecting me, so that I did not get killed, but I believe that he did not kill me because his superiors would not let him, and I believe that he would have killed me otherwise.

For seven months I was I the work platoons, i.e. I was forced to carry different chores with other Croatian citizens from Tenja; for example: repair damaged roofs on Serbian houses, transport coal, garbage, wood etc. I remember that on the morning of 20 April 1992, we came to the place where we were assigned our chores, but on that morning we were not assigned any chores instead somebody told us to go home. After half an hour after I had returned home, my neighbor Božo Vidaković aka "Trafikant" came to my house and told my wife and me to leave our house as soon as possible, to leave the key in the door and to go to the center of Tenja, or the police would come and get us. My wife, V.K., and I obeyed this order and came to that place where we were called out and ordered to get on a large bus. We were 93 in that bus and we were all Croats from Tenja. I do not know the name of the person who called the roll of Croatian citizens who had to leave Tenja. A large rail-car took the 93 of us outside Tenja where we had to get out of the bus and the UNPROFOR members took us over and escorted us across the line of separation and then we came to the Agricultural Faculty in Osijek.

The witness does not have anything else to add to his statement.

The witness is not asked any further questions.

The sides do not have any remarks to the witness statement.

The witness was not under oath.

The witness does not ask for refunds.

After the statement of the sides the witness is dismissed from the courtroom.

Statement was taken by: Court council

Statement was given by: M.K.

**ANNEX 2:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF R.J.**

TESTIMONY – TENJA

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT (PU) VUKOVAR-SRIJEM  
Crime-investigation Department  
No. 511-15-04/2/98  
Date: 19 October 1998

OFFICIAL RECORD

R.J., a TOOLMAKER by occupation, born on ....., UCRN..., residence in ..., at ... Street no ... On 16 October 1998 he gave the following information to an official of the PU Vukovar-Srijem in connection to the capturing and detention at the prison in Borovo Selo.

On 14 July he went to Tenja with two of his friends K.L. and T.F., to get some things from the house of K.L., at Unska Street no. 18.

Tenja, the new part of Tenja, was already empty at that time, and they came to the house with a Škoda type car and entered the village 500-600 m to the crossing with Unska Street, entered the street and stopped in front of K.'s house.

They loaded the house supplies and clothes into the car, and K. locked up his house, and then all three of them went to the car. Two armed unknown men stopped them. The older unknown man pointed a Thompson machine gun, told them to get into the car and together with them and the other armed man went to the "border" between Old and New Tenja.

They put them into a house, where they had to wait for the person who would "check" them. After a certain period, the armed Bogdan Ugrica came and took them to the car and hit K.L.'s head with his fist. After they reached the house, he requested the car keys, and when K. wanted to take the key off the chain, Bogdan Ugrica took the whole key chain from his hands, and told him that he will not be needing them anyway. They took them to the cinema with that car and put them into a room next to the cinema. There were 2-3 other men in this room already, after that they also brought Zdravko Meter to this room and later even Mate Nađ.

A guard, an unknown man from Tenja, killed Mate Nađ during the night. R. did not see this since it was dark, but he heard it. They were there for three days after which they

took off the handcuffs, which were on their hands the entire time; then they tied them up with a rope with their hands behind their back, put them on a van of unknown type, and over fields took them to an unknown destination. They took them to Borovo Selo, to the Local Committee's centre, to the room where they usually charged entrance for the disco. After that they forced them into the room on the ground-floor and untied them. In that same room were already other prisoners from Tenja: M.B., J.S., I.K., M.C., M. (he cannot remember the surname) and A.G., which came to a number of 8 people. While they were taken away, the stations TV Beograd and TV Novi Sad filmed them. That same morning, a group of five Arkan's soldiers came from Macedonia, from Struga.

In the afternoon of that day, the new prisoners were questioned at the Local Committee building in the centre of the village. R.J. was taken from the prison's room, and with his hands behind his back and with his head bowed; he was taken on foot to the Local Committee's office for questioning. He entered the local Committee's building, and went inside the room left of the entrance, which was only scarcely furnished, only a long desk or several connected desks.

There were already six (6) unknown individuals in that room. An unknown individual, around 180-185 cm tall, chestnut-greyish hair, of approximately 40-45 years of age, dressed in a camouflage uniform of the JNA and with a beret with a red star on his head, was standing in the middle of the room and questioned the prisoners. An unknown male individual in civilian clothes, approximately 170-175 cm tall, of larger built, bigger head, dark curly hair and a moustache was sitting at the desk and taking notes, i.e. making official notes of the questioning.

The unknown individual in camouflage uniform issued the order to the other Chetniks to beat the prisoners, and (illegible) a statement on the membership in the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union), as well as on the robberies of the Serbian houses, and anything else they asked. Three unknown Chetniks in civilian clothes were beating the prisoners with official gunstock, "batons". After he confessed, he was taken back to prison. After several days had passed, he was taken for questioning again, but this time to the first floor of the same building the prison was situated in.

When he entered the interrogation room he saw that there were three unknown men in the room. He had seen the unknown individual who was conducting the questioning during his first interrogation, and that same person was taking notes on this occasion. Two unknown individuals were standing next to the desk, and each had a long baton in their hands (they were made from telephone cables). Again they questioned him about the same things: nationality, party membership, the robberies of the Serbian houses, the work organisation, the structure of the defence etc. if the prisoner would stop or denied anything during the questioning, the interrogator would nod in the direction of the prisoner and ask "Should we refresh his memory?", and the other two Chetniks present would start beating him all over his body with gunstocks or their fists.

After the physical and psychological abuse they would sent him back to prison.

He remembers that that there were two exchanges, during which eight people from Dalj and two unknown individuals were exchanged, and later the remaining prisoners were also exchanged.

During the first exchange, an Albanian from Vukovar and I.K. were exchanged, allegedly Merčep had negotiated on their behalf. R.J. was imprisoned from 14

July 1991 until 15 August 1991, of which he spent three days in Tenja, and the rest in Borovo Selo.

R.J. recognised and identified the interrogators from his imprisonment in Borovo Selo on the basis of photographs, which were shown to him in the following order from 1-6:

1. FRANJO LERNER from Borovo, ... Street ...
2. MILENKO DAF(illegible)from Borovo, Trg ...
3. DRAGIŠA CANCAREVIĆ, from Vukovar, ...
4. SIMO SAMARDŽIJA from Vukovar, ...
5. DUŠAN VORKAPIĆ from Vukovar, ...
6. DUŠAN VOJNIC from Vukovar, ...

After he had studied the photographs carefully, R.J. showed special attention to the person in photograph no 3, and described and identified the person as the one who conducted the interrogation (the interrogator), with the remark that this person made notes during the first interrogation in the Local Committee in Borovo Selo.

Statemet was taken by AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

Milan Paulenka

Statement was given by: R.J.

### **ANNEX 3: WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.K. (1)**

Date: September 10, 1994

#### **OFFICIAL NOTES ON THE INFORMATIVE INTERVIEW**

I.K., son of the late M., born on September ..., ... in ..., the town of ..., of Croatian nationality, has Croatian citizenship, member of the 126<sup>th</sup> regiment, commander of the tank company, no rank, former active Second Lieutenant in the so-called JNA.

The informative conversation has been conducted on September 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 1994

Purpose of the conversation: participation of I.K. as member of the so-called JNA in the aggression on the Republic of Croatia.

#### **CONTENT OF THE INFORMATIVE CONVERSATION**

After finishing elementary school, I.K. enrolled on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1983 into "OSVŠ" "Bratstvo i jedinstvo" in Belgrade. He spent four years in that school. After finishing secondary school he went to the Military academy "KoV" in Belgrade. There he spent three years taking general courses, after which he went to the Military academy "KoV" in Sarajevo, where he specialized in infantry. In July 1991, he graduates from the Military academy in Sarajevo and receives his rank of a Second Lieutenant. During the education in Srajevo he was urged to join the League of During the education in Srajevo he was urged to join the League of Yugoslav Communists, which he rejected. The strongest pressure came from the assistant for political work in the Academy, captain "Ikl" Zoran Krsmanović. He had very rare contact with the "KOS" military officers (whose names he does not know), and the conversations he had with them all came down to getting information on the behavior of the cadets in the Academy. When asked whether there where attempts of



recruiting, he answers in the negative. During his education in 1991, he went home only for national holidays. After he had graduated, he went to the commencement in Belgrade, where for the first time he was informed about his serving location, Kragujevac.

He was stationed in the corps of Kragujevac of the so-called JNA. He went to Kragujevac By the end of July 1991. Immediately after his arrival he was sent to the field, because his formation was already stationed in Western Vojvodina. He was assigned into the 51<sup>st</sup> Mechanized Brigade, with the headquarters in the town of Pančevo. After his arrival in Pančevo he was allotted into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mechanized Platoon, of which he was commander, and then went on terrain in the Serb village SRPSKI MILETIĆ, town of Bogojevo in Western Vojvodina, near the bridge across the Danue near the village of Erdut.

He is acquainted with the following officers in the command of the 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Brigade and the officers in the brigade:

- Commander of the brigade, ENES TASO, a Colonel, a Muslim
- Chief of Staff, ZORAN, surname unknown, a Major, a Serb

He is acquainted to the following officers in the command of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion:

- Commander of the battalion, MIRKO BROČETA, a Major, from the town of Zrenjanin, a Serb
- Deputy Commander of the battalion, VALENČEK, first name unknown, a Major, a Czech or Slovak
- Commander of the tank company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, MRČELA, first name unknown, a Captain
- Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mech. Company, ALEKSANDAR FILKOVIĆ, a Captain
- Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Company, JOVO STOJANOVIĆ, a Second Lieutenant

He is acquainted to the following commanding personnel in the companies:

1<sup>st</sup> Mech. Company:

- Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, PREDRAG MARČETA, a Second Lieutenant
- Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon, LEPOSAVIĆ, first name unknown, a Second Lieutenant

2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Company:

- Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon, DAVOR BULJ, a Second Lieutenant, reserve
- Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon, ZORAN, surname unknown, a Sec. Lieutenant
- Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, I.K., a Sec. Lieutenant, a Croat

According to I., the complete 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was stationed on a farm in the village of SRPSKI MILETIĆ. Near Danube and the border with the Republic of Croatia the 1<sup>st</sup> Mech. Battalion, the armored battalion and the brigade artillery of the 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Brigade were stationed. They stayed in Srpski Miletić for 6-10 days. During that time, I.'s brother

drowned in the river of Cetina and he did not get the allowance to go home. While they stayed in that village, training had been conducted and there were no operations. The battalion was of a mixed structure, young soldiers and reservists who were continually rebelling and escaping.

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991, the whole 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Battalion crosses the river Danube and comes to Slavonia, seizes all the villages in the area, including the village of Erdut, and reaches the Serbian village of Bilo Brdo, where it entrenches itself. That village is situated before Sarvaš. Before Erdut was seized, the artillery, the tanks and aircrafts had shelled it, especially the fort in Erdut and the areas where the National Guard was stationed. According to I., a church and a winery in Erdut were damaged, while the other buildings were only slightly damaged. His 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion arrived last in Erdut and according to him it was the only one that stayed in Erdut, while all the other formations of the 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Battalion were assigned to the positions around the village of Bilo Brdo. The concrete task of I.'s 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon was to control the entrance and exit of Erdut from the directions of Slavonia and the Danube. He claims not to have seen any civil or military losses during his stay or the arrival in Erdut. During the first days of the seizure of Erdut the MP was searching the houses, and according to him there was no plundering, because the JNA allegedly protected the houses from plunderers-volunteers. In August 1991, the Šeselj supporting reservists rebelled because of the control and the prohibition of plundering the houses, and after that "police cerfew" was launched. According to I., members of the JNA brought down two Croat houses, one of which had been brought down on the command of the Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, Major Mirko Bročeta, and the other on the command of the Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Captain Aleksandar Filković. After that, Chetnik volunteers started plundering. I. and his platoon stayed in Erdut until mid-September 1991. He says that they conducted patrols and trainings in the village daily.

At the beginning of September 1991, the attacks on Sarvaš started. The same day the JNA withdrew from the town of Osijek. At that time, operations in Osijek were also conducted. According to I., the operations in Osijek were conducted by the formation, which was stationed in Osijek and at range C. The 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Brigade, that means the Armored Battalion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, the tank company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion and Serb volunteers and local Chetniks conducted the attack and the seizure of Sarvaš. According to I., the attack on Sarvaš was the first combat operation that had been conducted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, of which he was a member. After the fall of Sarvaš, companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion arrive in the village and position themselves about 500m before Sarvaš, but in the direction of the Croatian National Guard. According to I., there were no wounded or dead civilians or soldiers in Sarvaš, although it had been reported that during the attack 3 or 4 National Guardsmen died. Immediately after the seizure of Sarvaš the Chetniks and volunteers started plundering and tearing down buildings. The JNA did not take part in it. The army stays in Sarvaš for 6-7 days, in which time there were no combat operations because a truce had been signed. I.'s 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon was not on the line of fire, but stationed behind the lines, in Sarvaš. The tank company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat., the "MB" of the Battalion and the brigade artillery, which was stationed in the village of Marinci, conducted most of the attacks on Sarvaš.

After leaving Sarvaš, the whole 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat. Was ordered back to the village of Aljmaš. During their stay in Aljmaš there were no military activities and training was conducted, because the village was far off the lines of fire. They stayed in Aljmaš until October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1991, at which time one part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat. (the tank company, two mech. platoons from the 1<sup>st</sup> Company and I.'s 3<sup>rd</sup> Mech. Platoon from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company) goes to the

village of Bršadin and others, of which names he has no recollection. I. reached these areas together with three transporters and about ten other men. According to him, the transporters were used for transferring people and taking out of the wounded. Two platoons from the 1<sup>st</sup> Company were used as direct security for the tank company during the attack, while I.'s 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon had the task mentioned above. The transporters from his platoon were assigned by the elevators in Bršadin, which at the same time was the commanding location for the attack, and also in a village near Bršadin, at the exit to the village of Borovo Naselje, the name of which he does not remember. At that time, the Croatian National Guard was stationed in Borovo Naselje. I. stayed in this area for 5-6 days, while in the meantime Borovo Naselje and the defence line of the town of Vukovar had been massively attacked. of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat, the tank company and two platoons of the 1<sup>st</sup> Company took part in these attacks, while I.'s platoon moved behind them and transferred people and took out the wounded. The street Vinogradska ulica in Borovo Naselje was exposed to the most powerful attacks. According to I., this attack was not successful, and the army withdrew to their former positions with great losses. I. mentions that during all these attacks beside his own formation also many other formations of the so-called JNA took part. The same day of the unsuccessful attack, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat. has been once again ordered to withdraw to Aljmaš. Then the reservists organized a rebellion and many of them escaped, so that the battalion consisted only of officers, young soldiers and a few reservists. Not so long after that, the battalion was filled by new reservists.

They stayed in Aljmaš until October 31<sup>st</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup> 1991, when a new attack on Borovo Naselje and Vukovar started. His battalion was again transferred on the lines of fire and they were ordered to attack across the line Bršadin-the village of Lužac. In the attacks and the seizure of Lužac Arkan's followers took part, and they were also the first who seized it with the help of the tank company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat.. During the attack on Lužac the mech. company from the battalion were in the woods of Bršadin where they waited for the signal to enter Lužac. During the seizure of Lužac, Arkan's followers set the village on fire and teared down the buildings, and also killed civilians. I. says that he knows about 10-15 civilians being brutally slain and buried by the school in Lužac. After seizing the village, the mech. companies entered. According to him, his 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon stayed in Lužac until the end of the seizures of Borovo Naselje and Vukovar. After the seizure of Lužac, the 1<sup>st</sup> Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was transferred to the villages of Ernestinovo and Laslovo, while the tank company stayed in Lužac and operated in Borovo Naselje. The concrete task of I.'s platoon was again to transfer civilians and take out the wounded, and he claims not to have taken part in combat operations. While his platoon was in Lužac, both Borovo Naselje and Vukovar fell. After that, his platoon and the tank company were again ordered back to Aljmaš. On their way to Aljmaš they passed through Borovo Naselje, where he saw buildings in ruins and captured civilians, while he claims not to know anything about the slaughters and massacres. After the arrival in Aljmaš, the companies from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat. each put at disposition one platoon for the positions in Ernestinovo, and he denies the fact that his platoon occupied these positions. I. claims that he stayed in Aljmaš until February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1992, when he escaped from the so-called JNA. In fact, he was granted a leave for ten days, and he went from Aljmaš to Pančevo to the aunt of Predrag Mančeta, the commander of the platoon of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mech. Company, whom he knows from the Military Academy. There he put on civilian clothes and went from Pančevo over Belgrade, Šabac, Zvornik and Sarajevo to Mostar. Being asked whether he tried to escape from the JNA or submit a request to be demobilized, he claims to have asked for transfer to the Corps in Knin in September 1991 because he thought escaping would be easier there, but for safety reasons he did not dare request for demobilization. Of the Croat soldiers who took part in the combats in his company he mentions S. I., a

transporter driver from the village of Dugo selo, and M.H., a transporter driver from Zagreb.

After his arrival in Mostar, where fights were already fought, he registered with the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), the members of which took him out of the town. After leaving Mostar, he comes to the town of Imotski to the Military Police, which brought him tied up in to the command "6.OZ" in Split in the building of the company "Monter". There the official of the "MORH" (Zlatko Barišić) held an informative conversation with him. Then he was referred to the Ministry of the Interior in Split, where he made a statement and was held in custody for two days. After that the officials of the Ministry of the Interior (MUP) took him to Osijek, where again he made a statement in the Ministry of the Interior (MUP) and stayed in custody. Then he was transferred to the Military investigative detention, where against him legal action was brought for war crime. In the Military investigative detention he stays for two days, after which he goes to the trial before the Military court. The trial lasted for 2-3 hours. On the grounds of his statement he has been released. After that he comes back to Split, where he places himself at the disposal of "6.OZ", but everybody rejected him. In that period he stayed at his place in Rumin, and occasionally went with his brother Š.K., member of the Croatian Army (HV) 126<sup>th</sup> brigade, on terrain, where he trained young soldiers in handling with weapons.

He joins the Croatian Army in October 28<sup>th</sup>, 1992, when the Company of Bitel was formed as part of the Home-Guard Battalion in the town of Sinj. He filled the post of a soldier. In that formation he stayed until the liberation of the town of Peruča, when he goes over to the tank platoon of the 126<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the Croatian Army on the post of a gunner. After a certain period he becomes commander of a tank. Since June 1993 he fills the post of the Commander of the Tank Company of the 126<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the Croatia Army. I want to point out that the commanders of the 126<sup>th</sup> Brigade had been warned by the officials of the MORH in Sinj not to admit K. to the Croatian Army and not to assign him on that post.

At the end of the interview he was asked whether he had made any statements for the press or the television. He instantly answered that once, while he was a cadet on the Military Academy in Sarajevo, and during the war in Slovenia, he made statements for TV Sarajevo, together with other cadets of all nationalities. In the interviews they denied the fact that the Croat and Slovene ethnics had been attacked and persecuted in the JNA, and that they had been maltreated in the army. He pointed out that he had been forced to make such statements, because the political officers of the Military Academy organized the whole situation. After having been shown the statement enclosed, he remembered that in September, after the fall of Sarvaš, in the village near Sarvaš where they were stationed, his formation had been visited by the British television. Captain Mrčela, the commander of the tank company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Bat. gave the interview instead of them. I. claims not to have made any official statements, but to have realistically commented on the situation in Sarvaš and around it. In the controversial statement he underlines one section of the paragraph, that were his own words (that no politician, who has the common good of his people in mind, would have done such a thing), saying that by that he meant politicians in general, and not the President of the Republic of Croatia. He claims that at that time the journalist Branislav Gulan, the author of the article, was not in the village and that he gave no interviews to him. He points out that in his comment he was favoring none of the sides, but stayed neutral. At the end of the interview he said that the article came to existence at the time when soldiers were escaping from the JNA in great numbers, and that the article was only propaganda.

OPERATIVE'S NOTE

During the interview, I.K. had mood swings, sometimes he seemed to be honest, and sometimes not. All the time he kept saying that his platoon did not take part in the combat operations, which is understandable, if he wants to conceal some things. Especially vague is the information on the period of time since the fall of Vukovar and Borovo Naselje until his escape from the JNA, and the concrete time of his escape, of which allegedly he has no recollection. During the questionings about the statements for the press he seemed to be insincere, and he was willing to answer only when pressed by some facts. When having been shown the text, in which he defamed the Republic of Croatia and the Croatian Army, he remained rather calm. At the end of the interview it seemed as if he did not want to leave the office. He kept saying that the controversial article was propaganda and that it was a set up. He said that at the trial in Osijek the article had not been mentioned. We suggest that an informative interview should be done with the two soldiers that I. mentioned in the interview, and that after that the statements he made in the MUP and at the Military Court in Osijek should be compared with this informative interview. (...)

Statement taken by:

Second Lieutenant Boško Vladović

Second Lieutenant Vinko Matulović

Statement given by: I.K.

**ANNEX 4:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.P.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSIJEK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
No 511-07-03-KU-431/91  
30<sup>th</sup> April 1992

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Name: J.P.

Occupation steel-bender

Born on ...

Address ...

On 30<sup>th</sup> March 1992 he gave the following information at the Osijek Police Department: In the interview with J.P., he stated that in July, he does not recall the exact date, after the barricades were set up, he was in his family house in Tenja, at the above mentioned address, with his wife K. and three under age children, and he could not go anywhere because they had forbidden any movement outside the place. The barricades in Tenja were organized by, among others, Božo Vidaković and Teodor Katić, nickname "Toša". After the barricades were set up, all the Croatian houses were searched with the intention of finding weapons. Shortly after the blockade of Tenja, regular army with heavy weapons and trucks came into the village. Shortly after that the reserve, mostly from Šabac and Novi Sad, came to Tenja. Weapons, especially heavy ones, were set up on all the points outside the village, towards Silaš and Osijek. Most of the local people were given military uniforms from the army, and later, in March some were given uniforms of the police of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina. Most of the people from Tenja had weapons before the regular army and the reserve came, but he does not know who gave them those weapons. He was also offered weapons and uniform, which he did not want to accept. From the

beginning of the blockade, the HQ of the territorial defence was situated at the Local Community, only to move later to the house of Dragoljub Milovanović. The reserve were relieved every month and during their relief they would take the movables from the houses and take them with themselves. There was no electricity or water in the water supply in Tenja, and they got it all from Serbia, although very sparingly, and the local people were given coupons for bread and groceries from the shop. Immediately before leaving Tenja, M.D., who had a house not far from his own, told him that Tenja would get electricity on the day when the last group of refugees left Tenja, or two or three days after that, and that the wells would be dug out in Adica, and that they would install the water supply. J. furthermore states that on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992, around 11.30 hrs, two men wearing masked uniforms came into his house and told him that before 12.10 hrs he and his family should come into the centre so that they would get out from Tenja towards Osijek, and that they would, if they did not get out on that day, slaughter them all at night, because, as they said, in Osijek the people of Serbian nationality were being slaughtered. When he and his family came into the centre of the village, there he saw, among others, Dragan Čugalj, Božo Vidaković, Dušan Vidović, all in uniforms and with weapons. From the people from Tenja who came there, they took the keys of their houses and pushed them into the buses. They drove them to the end of the village towards Osijek, where they put them in a convoy, two by two, gave them a white flag that Dragan Magdić carried, and showed them the direction towards Osijek. Dragan Čugalj, Duško Vidović and Božo Vidaković escorted them to the end of the village. J. looked at the photographs from the files of the identification documents of the people from Tenja, and he stated the following about some people from Tenja:

DRAGAN ČUGALJ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, he saw him at the centre of Tenja when they were exiled and he went with them to the end of Tenja.

NEDELJKO DELIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons.

MILE PETROVIĆ he saw at the beginning in military uniform, and later in masked uniform with long weapons, and he knows that Petrović was one or two months in the reserve in Bobota.

NEBOJŠA LAKATOŠ he saw in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that Lakatoš was in the reserve for about a month in Antin or Karadžičevo, and that he was on sentry duties in Tenja, and he saw him robbing the furniture from Drago Zelić's house.

MIRKO DUJAN he saw in military uniform with long weapons who was at first on sentry duties in Tenja, and later in the reserve for about two months.

MILOVAN DUJAN he saw in military uniform with long weapons, and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

MARKO BUNDALO he saw in military uniform with long weapons, and he was on sentry duties in Tenja, and he saw him taking away the things he took from Luca Mlikota's house on a tractor.

DRAŽEN BUNDALO he saw working as a policeman of the Serbian Autonomous Region (SAO) of Krajina, wearing masked uniform and long and short weapons, and he also knows that he was a member of the Ministry of the Interior before, and that he worked in Dubrovnik, from where he was transferred to Belgrade and after the barricades were set up in Tenja, he came to Tenja and joined the police of the SAO of Krajina.

STEVAN KOKIĆ he saw in military uniform with long weapons, and he was on sentry duty in Tenja and robbing with MARKO BUNDALO all over the village.

DRAGAN RUDEŽ he saw in Tenja in military uniform, but he does not know his function.

BRANKO BROCIĆ called "Vrtalj" he saw in the village in masked uniform with long weapons, and he works at the HQ of the Territorial defence, and he knows that he was a member of the Ministry of the Interior and retired before the armed clashes.

MILENKO VUKASINOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he came from Germany when the barricades began and now he is at one of the cannons turned towards Osijek.

SIMO TRBOJEVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform, but he does not know his function.

SAVO GRNOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform and long weapons.

MIROSLAV STANKOVIĆ he saw in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

SAVO ŠARČEVIĆ he saw in military uniform with long weapons, and he was present in the centre of Tenja when the last group of refugees was leaving Tenja.

STANKO KARAICA he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

ZORAN KARAICA he saw in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

DUŠAN REBRAČA he saw in military uniform with long weapons and he was also present in the centre of the village during the exile of the last group of refugees.

ILIJA PODUNAVAC he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty.

GOJKO RAKINIĆ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, he was a policeman of the SAO of Krajina.

MILISAV PODBARAC he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, and he worked as a policeman of the SAO of Krajina.

BRANKO GRKOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, and he worked as a policeman of the SAO of Krajina in Tenja, and he knows that Grković was a member of the Ministry of the Interior before the armed rebellion and that he worked in Osijek.

BRANKO STJEPANOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons and he worked as a policeman of the SAO of Krajina, and he knows that Stjepanović worked at the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia before the armed rebellion.

BOŽO VIDAKOVIĆ he saw in masked uniform with long weapons. I have heard Božo Vidaković saying that as long as he is in the village of Tenja there is going to be no Croats.

ŽELJKO PODBARAC he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, he works as a policeman of the SAO of Krajina, and he brought him a call for the reserve. He knows that Podbarac carried the calls to some other local people for the reserve of the formations of the so-called JNA.

RADE PEŠUT he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

ĐURO PODUNAVAC he occasionally saw in Tenja, he worked as a principal of the Elementary school, and he knows that Đuro hid his children in Stanišić where he often went and that he offended the people of the Croatian nationality calling them Ustasha, and so on.

MILOVAN KAPETAN he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and a short while ago he opened a café where the extremists gather, the local people of Serbian nationality.

PREDRAG TRKULJA he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he was on sentry duties, and he also opened a café recently.

DRAGAN VUKELIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties.

MILAN JAJIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

MILAN VUKELIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

MIRKO JAVOR he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he also was on sentry duties in the village.

MILE VUKELIĆ he also saw in Tenja where Josip saw him in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

PETAR TEGELTIJA he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

MIRKO ŠAKIĆ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long and short weapons, he was a member of the SAO Krajina police, and he knows that Mirko worked at the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia before the armed rebellion.

JOVAN MANDIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

TEODOR KATIĆ, his nickname was “Toša”, he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that Katić was in the crew of the cannon towards Osijek for a while.

DUŠAN VIDOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in masked uniform with long weapons, and he knows that Vidović was on sentry duties in the village and that he was wounded and that he now works at the HQ, he does not know his function, but he was present when the last group of refugees was being exiled from Tenja, he actively robbed the houses all over the place and he moved in into the Grgić's house (he does not recall his name, he was killed).

RADE DAVIDOVIĆ, called “Svračak”, he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village and that he participated in the robbery of the houses of the people that were exiled from the village.

BRANKO SAVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he was on sentry duties in the village.

VESELIN KNEŽEVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.



RADENKO ŠALAIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village, and he knows that Radenko was at the reserve outside Tenja for two or three months.

MLADEN PEKEZ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

NOVAK TANACKOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village, and he knows that Novak was in the reserve in Antin.

STANKO MALŽA He saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

DORĐE NOVAKOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duty in Osječka street.

BRANKO NOVAKOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform and with long weapons and he knows that he was in the reserve but he cannot tell how long and where.

MILE PEKEZ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

MIODRAG KLIPANOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was with the cannon towards Osijek.

BRANKO LISICA he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties in the village.

DRAGAN ČUGALJ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

MARKO VUKAS he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he worked at the HQ of the Territorial defence.

STOJAN DELIĆ he saw in Tenja with long weapons and he knows that he carried fuel for the local people.

MIRKO JOVANOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he knows that he worked at the HQ of the Territorial defence.

NIKOLA MIJATOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and being on sentry duties in the village.

DRAGOLJUB MILOVANOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he knows that the HQ of the Territorial defence was situated in his house.

MILOJKO GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons being on sentry duties.

MILOVAN GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village and that he was wounded.

SALVOMIR GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

VITOMIR GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons, and he knows that he was on sentry duties in the village.

DRAGOSLAV GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and being on sentry duties.

MILAN GAVRILOVIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties.

SIMO SEGETLIJA he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties.

DRAŽEN JASNIĆ he saw in Tenja in military uniform with long weapons and he was on sentry duties.

J. has furthermore stated that he could possibly recognize some other persons and give information about them if he would see their photographs.

Statement taken by: Željko Đerd

Statement given by: J.P.

**ANNEX 5:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.B.**

WITNESS L.B., daughter of B., ... years old, born in ..., address: ..., housewife by occupation, unrelated, hostile towards the seventh accused, Božo Vidaković, the witness was warned to tell the truth and not to withhold any information, as well as being informed that a false statement represents a criminal act. She was also warned that she is not obliged to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP).

The witness makes the following statement:

“After Tenja was temporary occupied, barricades were put up in the village so that nobody could leave or enter the village. All of this happened at the end of July 1991; I wanted to go to the doctor’s because I had fallen ill so that my godmother ..., a Serb by nationality, took me to the clinic in Tenja. The doctor Goran Hadžić was there, he had a new house in Tenja and when I told him that I needed medical assistance, he told me that there was no medicine for the Croats and that I should die because they had to save the medicine for the Serbs. I returned home after this, but I did not receive medical help. About Goran Hadžić, I can only say that he was a doctor in Tenja even before the occupation of Tenja, but I am not sure of the fact if he was a doctor in Tenja before the occupation, or if he was working in Osijek. After the occupation of Tenja he worked at the clinic in Tenja. I know that he was one of the main leaders of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) in Tenja even before the occupation, and after the occupation he was one of the important members of the government in Tenja. I know that Jovan Rebrača was one of the people in charge in Tenja. Božo Vidaković aka “Trafikant” was one of the most extreme Serbs in Tenja. I also heard that this Božo Vidaković was ordering and carrying out executions of the Croats in Tenja after the temporary occupation of Tenja. After the temporary occupation of Tenja the Croats were allowed to move into the village limitedly. My husband the late ... was a car-body mechanist and his forced labor was to repair the Serbian cars from Tenja which were damaged. There were also other men, Croats from Tenja had to do different chores. In the night of 19 September 1991, three armed men whose identity I do not know took my husband from our house, later I heard that he was murdered in the center of Tenja. They would not even let me see him before they buried him. They told me that there was

nothing to be seen and he was buried in the village of Čelije. Later I heard that the three men, who came to take away my husband, were from the village of Silaš near Tenja, and that it was Božo Vidaković who had sent them to kill my husband. I can also say that after the occupation of Tenja several men from Tenja who I knew only casually came to our house and took away many things from our house, technical devices, and telephones. There were four of them on this occasion, they were armed and in civilian clothes. After my husband was murdered, my neighbor and godfather ..., a Serb by nationality, came to my house and by force took away many things from my house. He stole the entire furniture and told us that he would like to have our house for his son. Then he told me to go to my sister in Sombor and that this was the only way to save myself, but he told me that I had to leave my house and my car behind. I agreed to this, so this ... took me and my then 14 year-old son ... with his car from Tenja to Sombor where my sister was living. ...'s house is not far from my house, that is it is not ... but .....

. I heard them call him "..., ..."; I used to go to his house occasionally before the occupation and I saw that they were making insignia, SDS arms and they were playing loud Serbian music and provoking all Croats with it. I know that Savo Grnović used to be a policeman before the occupation but I do not know anything else about him.

Statement given by:  
L.B.

**ANNEX 6:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.Š.**

EVIDENCE PROCEEDINGS

The Council makes the following:

DECISION

Evidence will be collected through the witness hearing of P.Š., K.Z., L.B. and S.K.

WITNESS P.Š., son of ., ... years old, born in ..., municipality ..., residence in ..., (Trade house), worker, not related not hostile. The witness was warned that he has to tell the truth and not withhold anything and that a false statement represents a criminal act. He was also warned that he is not obliged to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP). The witness makes the following statement:

"I have lived in Tenja from 1960. I know some of the accused personally and I have become acquainted with them before Tenja was occupied. Tenja was temporarily occupied at the end of July 1991. After Tenja was temporarily occupied, all Croatian citizens from Tenja had to work different physical hard labor; this means that they were forced to do this by the government in Tenja of that time. The third accused, M.J., was the one who was in charge to organize this forced labor. Every morning we had to report at the Local Committee's Office, and then we would be assigned tasks for every single day. Since I was a carpenter by trade, I was always sent to repair roofs that were damaged on the Serbian houses in Tenja, and I can say that I have done this on over 100 houses, I have repaired 113 roofs. Some other Croats had to go bury dead animals, load wood, dig trenches for their army etc. after the temporary occupation of Tenja, I remained in my house until 11 November 1991, after which I stayed in my house during the day and worked, and at night I

would go over to my neighbor's house. My neighbor was M.C., a Serb by nationality. He came to my house and told me not to stay in my house at night, since "the night is the night, night". On 5 October 1991, when I was returning home from forced labor, two unknown armed men came across my way, they were in camouflage uniforms but there were specific insignia on them – these two men were sent as volunteers by Prodanović, aka Ico I do not know his real name but he is a Serb from Tenja. These two first asked me for my documents then they took me to my basement and physically abused me there, they beat me, threatened to kill me and fired their weapons closely to my head in order to intimidate me. After that they took me outside the basement and lead me through the village, a Serb from Tenja, P.G. aka C., saved me then. On 9 November, I was again in life danger. I was returning from forced labor again and from my basement noticed Božo Vidaković aka Trafikant pass by. I heard him reload his rifle. This Vidaković wore a camouflage uniform, but there were no special insignia on it. Vidaković stopped and started shouting. "Neighbors, neighbors". I answered to his shouting and he asked me who lived there, I told him that my wife and I were living there. My wife was somewhere in the yard. Vidaković asked us to lock up our house and give him the keys and go with him in his car with which he had come. I remember that my wife asked Vidaković if she could go put on some clothes, but he told her that she would not need any clothes, that she will not need anything. When I locked up the house, I gave the key to Vidaković. After this my wife and I went to his car. One of our neighbors, Z. J., a Serb by nationality, saw all of this and reported it to B.S., who lived not far from us and was also of Serbian nationality. B.S. was in their police and approached us and asked Vidaković, i.e. he told him "Leave these people alone, what do you want?" and Vidaković answered that he had got an order from Rebrača, but he could not name him, that is he could not tell him the name of Rebrača. I remember that S. told Vidaković that if Š. had deserved to be killed by someone that he would be the one to kill him, but he did not deserve to be killed. S. took us to his house then, where we stayed and he went to their headquarters to see what was going on; when he returned he told me that is my wife, that "Nobody knows anything, that they are doing this without the knowledge of any authority". We stayed at S.'s house for two days, after which we returned to our house, but our neighbor M.C., as I have mentioned before, suggested to us that we should sleep at his house, and we accepted this. After these events, nothing particular happened to me personally, I still continued to go to work. On 20 April 1992, we Croats would just as previously go to the headquarters, but nobody would tell us where to go and what to do which we found a little strange. Around 7:30 a.m. a certain man with the last name Kerajica, I believe that this was, a Serb from Tenja, and he told us to go home since the personnel in the headquarters told them that there would not be any work that day. I returned home and after some time had passed, two of their police officers came to my house. These were younger people who I did not know, and told my wife and me that we had 15 minutes to get ready and go to the main square in Tenja. I remember that they had a list of persons, which they read out the people from this list. We acted according to this order and I saw several Croats from Tenja gathering in this place. We waited there for a long time, and then they started calling us out. Somebody named Savela called out the roll. While we were standing next to the bus, all of the accused were also there and waking around us. I am sure that I saw Jovan Rebrača, Dragan Čugalj and Božo Vidaković, who was armed standing near us, and on the other side M.J. was waking down the street, but I could not see if he was armed. Before Tenja was occupied, I knew the following: M. J., Dragan Čugalj, Jovan Rebrača, Savo Grnović and Božo Vidaković. All I can say about that certain Savela is that he was blond, short and of large built, but I do not know his name or his surname. After we were called out name by name, we would get on the bus. 93

of us got on the bus on this occasion; it was a large bus a so-called rail-car, so that we could all fit into it. The bus took us to the exit of Tenja, after which we had to go on foot across the line separation to Osijek, i.e. we came to the Agricultural Faculty in Osijek. I can point out Božo Vidaković as the most extreme person among them and it was known that who was taken away on his bus would never return again. I do not know anything else about the acts of the accused during my stay in Tenja, except for what I have already told you. This is so because the Croats were not allowed to ask any questions, nor could we move around the village. We had to remain in our houses, and we could leave them only to go to work and return home from work.

The witness does not wish to add anything to his statement.

The question of Council member is answered by the witness:

“I know little about the occupier government in Tenja; I do not who they were since our movement was limited, as I have already told you, and the fact that I was working on roof repairs is another reason for my limited movement in the village. I know that the Serbs from Tenja were always talking about certain “headquarters”, so I concluded that that must have been the government in the village during the occupation. I can also say that Jovan Rebrača was a member of these headquarters, and for M.J. was in charge of assigning forced labor.”

To a question of the defence lawyer the witness answered:

“Not one Croat was killed by grenades in Tenja, but Several Croats disappeared,...

Statement taken by: Court Council

Statement given by: P.Š.

**ANNEX 7:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.M.**

The Council has made the following:

**DECISION**

To collect evidence during the hearing of the witnesses D.M. and M.K.

WITNESS D.M., son of J., ... years old, born in ..., Municipality ..., residence in ..., temporary residence in ..., he is a worker by occupation, he is not related and he is not hostile. He was warned to tell the truth and that he must not withhold any information. He was also warned that a false statement represents a criminal act and that he not obliged to answer any questions from the article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP).

The witness states the following:

I have been living in Tenja since 1966, I was a ... in the village, but I also had other duties in the Local Committee (MZ) in Tenja: I was a ...; I handed in notices from the MZ to the citizens of Tenja. Tenja was temporary occupied around 29 June 1991, I was banished from Tenja together with a group of Croatian citizens on 20 April 1992. A bus took us to the borderline and then we had to cross the borderline – frontline, minefields on foot. There were 98 of us in the group. Before the temporary occupation of Tenja Mirko Tubić, the chairman of the MZ, the late Milan Knežević, assistant chairman of the MZ and

member of the MZ Assembly, Mile Jajić, Milojko Knežević, Zdravko Vučenović, Dragan Čugalj, Goran Hadžić, first accused who would later become president of the SAO Krajina, and Bogdan Reljić were the main activists in Tenja.

For the first accused Goran Hadžić I can say that I started seeing him in Tenja in 1990 since he had a house in this area, where he also lived. I noticed that he came as an activist to the meetings in the MZ. Approximately a month before the temporary occupation of Tenja, I noticed strange things happening in the village, there were unusual hay fires and similar things, and I also saw that trucks of the former JNA, which were covered with tarpaulins, would come to the yards of some Serb citizens from Tenja. I could not see what these were transporting, but I already then suspected that they were transporting weapons. I also noticed some Serb citizens from Tenja were having secret meetings. They would meet secretly at some houses of the Serb citizens in Tenja, and on the graveyard, since I was a gravedigger and found empty food cans. When, a month before Tenja was occupied, I told Darko Novaković, secretary of the MZ, who was of Serbian nationality that I had found several cans in the graveyard, I was not allowed to hand in notices from the MZ anymore, since Novković must have told somebody what I had told him, i.e. that I had found empty food cans in the graveyard.

On 29 June 1991, this was the first day of the temporary occupation of Tenja, I returned to my house around 19:30 from work. My wife suggested that we run away, but I told her that we would not manage to go anywhere since I had already noticed earlier that there were barricades at all entrances to the village and that armed men were guarding those barricades. While we were still talking, approximately 15 to 20 armed people in uniforms of the former JNA came into my house. From the accused I noticed the following persons among them: Dušan Rebrača, Savo Grnović and Savo Sarčević. When these came to my house, they told me that they came to search the house and wanted me to surrender weapons. I told them that I did not have any weapons, and they searched the house then but they did not find any weapons since I did not have any. When they left, they told us that neither I nor my wife, and not even our son who was 18 then, were allowed to leave the house, that we have to have the shutters down all the time. This prohibition lasted for twenty-one days. This group of armed men started searching the houses of all Croatian citizens of Tenja. While I was under house arrest I was allowed to go into my yard to feed the cattle, and I was allowed to stay in the yard long enough to do my work and had to return into the house immediately. While we were digging the trenches the guard kept us at gunpoint and we had to do everything they asked from us. I was not allowed to stay in the yard under any circumstances. The situation in the village was such that we were not allowed to lift the shutters under any circumstances.

Statement taken by: Court council

Statement given by: D.M.

**ANNEX 8:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.R.**

WITNESS M.R., son of M., ... years old, born in ..., ..., residence in ..., temporary residence as a refugee in ..., unrelated, not hostile, was warned that he has to tell the truth and not withhold anything and that a false statement represents a criminal act. He was also informed that he is not obliged to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP). The witness states the following:

Before the temporary occupation of Tenja, I lived in Tenja, and I remained living in Tenja after it was occupied. I was expelled from Tenja with a larger group of Croatian citizens of Tenja on 20 April 1992. While Tenja was occupied and I was living in Tenja, Branko Grković came to my house on one occasion. He was wearing a former JNA uniform and had a weapon in his hand. After he came to my house, he cursed my "Ustasha mother" and pointed his weapon at me and threatened to slaughter me. Suddenly he hit me in the chest with his gunstock and I immediately fell to the floor. He did these things to me because I was a Croat. The Chetniks ordered me to go do hard labor so that together with some other Croats I went cleaning houses, which meant that we took the meat from the freezers outside, this meat had already started to get spoiled since the power was cut off in Tenja. D.Č., the seventh accused, came to my house with a gun in his hand s and told me to leave my house and that he would kill me if I do not do this. That he would slaughter me, and that he would not have to report to anybody for that. As I have already stated, I was in the group of Croatian citizens who were forced to leave their houses in Tenja on 20 April 1992.

The witness does not want to add anything to his statement.

The witness is not asked any additional questions.

The sides do have any comment to the witness statement.

The witness was not under oath.

The witness did not request any refund.

Statement taken by: Court council

Statement given by: M.R.

**ANNEX 9:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT (PU) OSIJEK-BARANJA  
CRIME-INVESTIGATION-SECTION  
War crimes and terrorism department  
No. 511-07-10/11-210-1503/1-96-1159  
Osijek, 14 January 1997  
OFFICIAL RECORD

M.M., a retiree by occupation, born on 6 March 1934, residence in ..., gave the following information to an official of the PU Osijek at this PU, on 13 January 1997:

In the conducted interview, the witness stated that she used to live in ..., where she was surprised by war events at the begin of July 1991, when her village Tenja was occupied by the paramilitary Chetnik formations and the so-called JNA. Since M. did not manage to escape to the free territory of Croatia, i.e. when the barricades were put up, she stayed at her home in Tenja, and her neighbours K.C., K.B. and B.P. came to live in her house.

M.M.'s house is next to the cinema where the captured Croats were held, who were all citizens of the village. A few days after occupation, the paramilitary Chetnik formations and the Serbian citizens from the village started searching the Croatian houses and so they also reached her house. Among the men who came to search her house M. recognised the following: Rade Podbarac and Branko Grković who were armed with automatic weapons. After they entered the house Podbarac took away K.C. to a room, while Grković stayed behind with M., K.B. and B.P., who questioned them about the whereabouts of their husbands and why they had not left the village. M. answered that they were not married and that their ancestors had lived there and that they had nowhere to escape to. After the questioning, Podbarac and Grković told them not to leave the house and that they would kill them if they caught them outside the house.

M. also stated that the named women and she had remained inside the house the entire time, and that her neighbour M.S. brought them food, i.e. bread, since Grković had ordered him to, so that they would not move about the village.

M. further stated that the yard of the cinema could be seen very well from the yard window in her house. The Croats were held inside this cinema, and M. knew M. C., the V. brothers-she knows that the name of one of them is I., and there ten more persons in that prison. K.B. photographed the imprisoned Croats and their armed guards from that window. M. states that she saw the imprisoned on several occasions, when they let them outside, and they were held inside the building for the remaining time. She also saw armed guards in the yard of that cinema, but she did not recognise them. The captured Croats were held inside the cinema until the beginning of August, when one night noise and women screaming could be heard, from that moment M. neither saw them nor heard anything about them.

We showed the photographs 1 and 2 to M., but she only recognised M.C. while she did not know the others.

M. states that at the beginning of August Branko Grković, Rade Podbarac and a certain Jovičić as well as three younger armed men came to search her house again. Grković was their commander and they searched the house, because information was allegedly sent via transistor from her house to Osijek. After this, Branko Grković repeatedly came to them, since he was their commander and had one of the high ranks in the so-called SAO Krajina.

M. states that during her stay in Tenja, she together with K.B. and B. P. were assigned to work at her neighbour M.S.'s house. They had to carry out hard physical work in the garden and in the field, while K.C. had to clean the offices at the police station, which was situated at the kindergarten. She had to clean the offices under the supervision of Podbarac. M. states that K.C. was also physically and psychologically abused by Podbarac and at one occasion she even wanted to kill herself. After this event Grković ordered not to let anybody into the house and not to carry out anybody's orders except when he came to them personally.



In mid August Arkan came to the village with his soldiers, so that on 6 September 1991 one of the Arkan soldiers came to M.'s house and told them to pack their things and that they would be exchanged. He took them to the petrol station where they had to wait for a while, after which that same soldier took them back home again. That same day Arkan's soldiers came back again and exchanged them in Zagrebačka Street. M. states that besides Arkan, Grković was also present during that exchange. After the exchange, M. spent some time in Zagreb, after which she returned to ... where she still lives at ....

Statement taken by: Robert Golub

Statement given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 10:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.K.**

WITNESS M.K., ... years old, son of ..., born in ..., Municipality ..., residence in ..., his temporary residence as a refugee is: ..., he is a worker, not related, not hostile. He was warned to tell the truth and not to withhold anything. He was also warned that a false statement represents a criminal act and that he is not obliged to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law.

He states:

After the surrender of T. Antunovac – Orlovnjak, on 6 October 1991, I was arrested as a civilian in my house and taken to the school in Tenja where their prison was located. I stayed at the prison in Tenja one night and was beaten by Željko Ražnjatović aka “Arkan” and his men. He and his men were in uniforms and had weapons, and I also know that this “Arkan” had a Serbian peasant hat on his head. He kicked me and beat me with his fists so that I fell to the floor and he let me go only after he saw that I had no air anymore, and that I could not breathe anymore. He beat the other prisoners and asked me to tell him the position of the Croatian Army (HV). Besides me the uniformed members of the National Guard Corp (ZNG) F. C., M.V. were also imprisoned, the Serbs also beat them. Ž. L. was also in that group and had his father's railway uniform on him, but he also had his ZNG documents on him. The following day Ciraki and Varga were taken away, to Borovo – so they say – and they took Ž. L. away to show them where the ZNG had placed mines but he never returned. They returned me home to Orlovnjak. Actually, I was not taken back to my house in Orlovnjak, since you could not get through to Orlovnjak, but they placed me in a house in Tenja. The Croats who were left in Tenja, had to do different hard labor. The third accused Mile Jajić personally ordered me to do hard labor. We were doing different assignments, digging trenches for the army, their army, we dug ditches for the dead cattle, transported wood and coal, repaired damaged buildings, roofs of the buildings. They did not abuse me physically anymore while I was living in Tenja but they tortured me psychologically. The second accused Jovan Rebrača would come to my house with several other individuals and would threaten to kill me. I had to keep quiet and was not allowed to say anything.

The first accused Goran Hadžić was in Tenja even before Orlovnjak was occupied, and after Orlovnjak was occupied, he was replaced by Željko Ražnjatović aka “Arkan”. I was banished from Tenja on 20 April 1992, together with a group of Croatian citizens, and we were 98 in that group. They banished me in the way that Goran Karapandža, Drago Cvijić and sixth accused Božo Vidaković aka “Trafikant” came to my house in former JNA uniforms and with weapons and told me to leave the house immediately and that a bus was

waiting in the center of the village which would take us to the barricades, to new Tenja. If I had not listened to them, they would have certainly killed me. I know that Savo Grnović mined and set the Catholic church in Tenja on fire, he also threatened the Croats with guns, he told us that he would kill us, that he would kill us all and take our bodies to the village of Čelije. I know that Dušan Rebrača wore a uniform and had weapons; he threatened me with a gun, that he would kill me, and he also threatened some Croats in Tenja. Savo Sarčević would come to the Croatian houses at night, intimidate them, threatened them that he would kill them, and he also took some people away from their houses. Savo Sarčević took me out into the yard in front of my house, threatened to kill me and physically abused me, by beating me with his rifle butt into my sides. Mile Jajić would assign hard labor to the Croats in Tenja, hand out passes to the Croats who could pass the barricades in order to go to their forced labor assignments. The second accused Jovan Rebrača was the chief commander in the village; he would tell us that we were villains while we were working and he would also tell us that we would not get out of Tenja alive. Not one Croat was allowed to look him in the face when he passed him in the street, because if he did this it was certain that he would not end up well. When they passed him, the Croats would have to turn their heads.

The witness does not have anything to add to his statement.

To the question of the council, the witness answers the following:

I know that a Croat by the name Mate was found dead in his house and that another Croat was taken out of his house and murdered, but I cannot remember his name and surname.

Statement taken by: Court council

Statement given by: M.K.

**ANNEX 11:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.I.\***

The Republic of Croatia  
Ministry of the Interior  
Police Department in Osijek  
No 511-07-04-KU-431/91  
25<sup>th</sup> April 1992

**MINUTES ON TAKING A STATEMENT**

Made by the Police Department in Osijek on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1992.

Authorized official person: Nikola Radenović

Recording secretary: Renata Veić

Began at: 10.00 hrs

Name, father's name: I.I. (Pero\*)

Occupation: Carpenter

Address: ...

Born on ..... in .....

He gave the following statement:

In the beginning of the armed rebellion on the area of the Eastern Slavonia I worked in "Gradnja" and because of the more and more tense political situation, I joined the reserve of the Ministry of the Interior (police) in the Second Police Station, where I got rifle. I have

lived together with my parents, 3 brothers and a sister in Tenja at the above stated address. On 01<sup>st</sup> July 1991 the Chetniks from Tenja, with the help of the so-called Yugoslav Army, closed the entrances and exits so that I stayed with my parents, brothers and sister in Tenja. Since we have lived in the old part of Tenja where most of the Serbs have lived, we could not get out of Tenja. Until 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1991 I was in the house with the rest of my family from which we could not get out or move around the village. On 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1991 in the early morning hours, local people from Tenja came into the house SLAVOMIR MOMČILOVIĆ from ... and a man, for whom I later found out that his surname was RADAKOVIĆ, and they told us that we had to come into the centre of the village, in front of the cafe "Kod Milisava" where we would work in forced labour in the labour platoon for the occupators. I went there and I do not remember who deployed us for the jobs, but until today we had to go there daily and we dug trenches, buried carcasses, cleaned houses, drove coal and woods, fixed roofs and did other jobs. Later STANKO KARAICA from Tenja became the commander of the working platoon, who gave us particular jobs. During my stay in Tenja, nobody molested me physically, probably because of my father who was in good relations with the local people of the Serbian nationality. In the first days, the head of the Police Station of the Serbo-Chetniks in Tenja, the former policeman of the Ministry of the Interior, BRANKO GRKOVIĆ and another one of their policemen came into the house and searched it and then they took my automatic gun that I got from the Ministry of the Interior. In the beginning of the armed rebellion the majority had camouflaged uniforms and military uniforms. In Tenja itself about 500 members of the so-called Yugoslav Army were there, who were separated from the local people in Tenja with their weapons and positions. Few of them went to the positions with the Army while the majority had weapons and controlled the points, the border parts of Tenja. The HQ of the rebelled people from Tenja was in the house of the MILOVANOVIĆ's, Ulica M. Tita. It was well known that the chief commander in the village was JOVO REBRAČA, and his deputy was a man called JOVO; his nickname was "Pucko" from Tenja, Braće Jovanovića 54 or 56. As far as I could notice, the major ones in the HQ were DRAGAN ČUGALJ from ... and SAVA GRNOVIĆ, and the commander of the Civilian Defence was MILE JAJIĆ, and the head of the police was BRANKO GRKOVIĆ. I moved around Tenja mostly when I was working, and the rest of my time I was spending at home. During my stay I found out that the chief of the mortar's group was a man with the nickname PANTA from Osijek, about 50 years old who worked in "OLT", and on 120 mm mortars were DRAGOSLAV SARKIĆ, DUŠAN ŽIŽAK, DRAGAN TRIVANOVIĆ, PETAR TEGELTIJA and ŽELJKO BROCIĆ from Braće Jovanovića. The woods for heating and the food came from Serbia, this goods was put into the shops and one part of it was given. During my stay I did not find out nor did I see that the Croats were molested or beaten by the Serbo-Chetniks, but there were indirect threats, and a normal relations were based probably because of the previous life in Tenja. I know that during that time MATO NAĐ, JURE ŠARIĆ, JOSIP MEDVED, a man whose surname was BAČIĆ, a man with the nickname "Ličan", JOŽA BOŽIČEVIĆ, MATO NIKOLAŠ, ANTE GOLEK and ĐURO KIŠ were taken and probably killed, but I do not know who did that. The story went around the village that a girl whose surname was Navak\* was raped. During the stay in the labour platoon we cleaned houses and on that occasion I noticed that almost all Croatian houses were robbed, that is, empty, and on one occasion I noticed KRSTAN TEGELTIJA taking away things from one Croatian house. The reserve soldiers that were in the so-called Yugoslav Army were taking things to Serbia during the exchange, and they behaved pretty arrogantly during they stay in Tenja which they mostly spent in the cafes. I noticed that about 40 people were buried in the Orthodox cemetery, few of which died a natural death, while the others were probably killed in the armed clashes or on some other way. From the conversations with the people of the Serbian

nationality I found out that the reserve soldiers came mostly with the references of ŠEŠELJ, and it was about the persons who were in prison, the so-called volunteers. On of the coordinators in the political sense was NEMANJA JOVČIĆ, who was situated in Dalj, and he often visited Tenja. According to my opinion, there are 2000 people in Tenja, most of them involved into the armed rebellion, and I saw about 500 men wearing uniforms and carrying guns. In my opinion there are 250 Croats in Tenja. There is no electricity in the village itself, it is forbidden to watch Croatian Television (HTV), and on one occasion when the reserve soldiers found out that D.M. watched HTV, they fired at his house and threatened him. The nearest neighbours that were involved into the armed rebellion kept coming into our house, and the neighbouring relations were still going on. Most of the Croats that moved around the village were those who worked in the labour platoon and women, while men remained in their houses for safety reasons. In the village itself I noticed that about 10 military vehicles with the 150 mm cannons and 3 double-barreled guns were set up towards Silaš. Their tanks were situated near the first line, and I saw about 10 of them, which occasionally passed through the village. On 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992 in the early morning hours, a local man from Tenja in camouflaged uniform came and told us to pack and to come to the centre of the village. He then said that we were going to Osijek and we took our basic things. When we came to report there was about 100 Croats in Tenja, and then they said that we must leave Tenja, and we could not disagree, but we had to obey the order. The calling up was done by brother-in-law, that is, SAVO ŠARČEVIĆ, and on that occasion a number of terrorists were present there with their guns, and I recognized BOŽO VIDAKOVIĆ, SAVO GRNOVIĆ and DRAGAN ČUGALJ. A bus came to the market, and they placed us there and took us near the first lines at the exit of Tenja, where they threw us out of the bus and directed us towards Osijek. As far as I know, the most notorious one for molestation and physical harassment of the Croats was BOŽO VIDAKOVIĆ called "Trafikant". Most of the local people from Tenja who participated in the armed rebellion I know by sight, and it would be much easier for me to recognize them from a photo.

When taking the statement, about 300 files of the identification documents with photographs are shown to I. V. it, and I. recognizes following persons and states about them:

1. SLAVOMIR MOMČILOVIĆ (Ilija), born on 19<sup>th</sup> November 1962 in Osijek, address: .... Vidaković states that he has seen him in Tenja wearing camouflaged uniform, with rifle, and he on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992 came into the house and, that is on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1991, forced me to work in the labour platoon.
2. MILAN MACAKANJA (Dušan), born on 01<sup>st</sup> March 1947 in Tenja, address:.... He is actively involved in the armed rebellion, wearing uniform and rifle, works in the kitchen, and transports food.
3. STEVAN DOBRIJEVIĆ (Simo), born on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1956 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in Tenja wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle. I am familiar with the fact that he went to Stanišić about a month ago, where he works as a teacher.
4. MIHAJLO MILIĆ (Maniša), born on 96<sup>th</sup> October 1951 in Kašinci, address, .... He wore uniform, carried rifle, actively participated in all the armed clashes and in the armed clash in Laslovo in October 1991 he was killed and buried at the cemetery in Tenja.

5. RADOSLAV KAPETAN (Savo), born on 03<sup>rd</sup> October 1962 in Tenja, address:.... I have been seeing him in Tenja carrying rifle and wearing camouflaged uniform, and he works at the police of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina.
6. ANĐELKO KLASNETIĆ (Vaso), born on 04<sup>th</sup> August 1960 in Tenja, address: .... I have not seen him wearing uniform or carrying weapons, but he identified with the local people and did veterinary jobs.
7. ŽELJKO MACAKANJA (Milan), born on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1969 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform and carrying long weapons, and working in their police.
8. ILIJA RAJIĆ (Pero), born on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1942 in Gornji Javoran, address: .... I have not seen him in uniform, but he repaired aggregates and some other electric appliances for the Chetniks.
9. PREDRAG TRGULJA (Milenko), born on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1969 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in camouflaged uniform carrying rifle, working in their police.
10. RADE PEŠUT (Đuro), born on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1939 in Jezera, Ogulin, address: .... I have been seeing him without a uniform, carrying rifle, on sentry duties at the entrances and exits from Tenja.
11. MILAN VIDOVIĆ (Mara), born on 06<sup>th</sup> June 1947 in Brestovo, address: .... I have seen him in civilian clothes with rifle and on sentry duties.
12. MILOVAN KAPETAN (Savo), born on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1955 in Tenja, address: .... I have seen him carrying rifle in camouflaged uniform in Tenja, and I know that he works in the HQ of the Territorial defence, in operations.
13. ĐORĐE MOMČILOVIĆ (Ilija), born on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1960 in Tenja, address: .... He wore camouflaged uniform, carried rifle, worked with mortars, and he was a commander of the people working with the mortars for a while.
14. ĐURO MOMČILOVIĆ (Uroš), born on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1936 in Donja Močila, Slunj, address: .... He was not wearing uniform, but carried rifle and was on sentry duty in the village.
15. ŽELJKO PODBARAC (Slavomir), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> December 1966 in Osijek, address: .... He was actively involved in the armed rebellion, wearing camouflaged uniform, carried rifle, and worked at their police.
16. MIROSLAV VIDAKOVIĆ (Borislav), born on 08<sup>th</sup> October 1933 in Tenja, address: .... I have not seen him wearing uniform, but he carried rifle and was on sentry duties in the village.
17. JOVAN REBRAČA (Ilija), born on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1955 in Tenja, address: .... He was a commander of the village, I have seen him wearing camouflaged uniform with weapons, and a month ago, before the UNPROFOR came, he became a head of the police so that he could stay in the village.
18. BOŽO PENA (Maksim) born on 05<sup>th</sup> January 1955 in Medna, Mrkonjić grad, address: .... He actively participated in the armed rebellion, I saw him wearing military uniform with rifle, and he was probably in other armed clashes.
19. MIRKO PENA (Maksim), born on 07<sup>th</sup> March 1957 in Medna, Mrkonjić grad, address: .... I have seen him in civilian clothes with rifle and on sentry duties in the village.

20. STEVO BASRAK (Dmitar), born on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1954 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle and doing sentry duties regularly.
21. MLADEN VUJASINOVIĆ (Milorad), born on 11<sup>th</sup> May 1960 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle, working at their police.
22. MIRKO KEČEVIĆ (Boško) born on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1956 in Tenja, address: ..., I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle, and being on sentry duties.
23. ILIJA VUKELIĆ (Branko), born on 04<sup>th</sup> April 1948 in tenja, address: ... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle, he was mostly on sentry duties, and a few months ago he opened a shop and a café.
24. DRAGAN TRIVANOVIĆ (Ljuban), born on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1970 in Zut, municipality of Dvor, address:.... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle working with the mortars and in combat actions with these.
25. ĐERO PODUNAVAC (Stevan), born on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1946 in Donji Dobretin, municipality of Dvor, address: .... I have not been seenig him wearing a uniform, nor with rifle, but I know that he was a member of the HQ and that he organized accomodation and education of the pupils in Tenja and that he had identified with those people and thus participated in the armed rebellion.
26. NIKOLA VIDAKOVIĆ (Božo), born on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1948 in Tenja, address:.... He was wearing camouflaged uniform, long and short weapons, and I know that he threatened and molested the local people of the Croatian nationality and from what I have heard I know that in October 1991 he came into the house of PETAR ŠTEFANAC in Tenja, ... with the intention to kill him and his wife which he would have don if there was not for BRANKO STJEPANOVIĆ who was there and stopped him in this.
27. BRANKO STJEPANOVIĆ (Milan), born on 01<sup>st</sup> January 1951 in Tenja, address: .... I know that he was a policeman before, he actively participated in the armed rebellion, wore camouflaged uniform and rifle and worked at their police. I would like to notice for him that he was very correct in his attitude towards the Croats, and that he sometimes protected them from the extreme Chetniks.
28. BRANKO GRKOVIĆ (Miloš), born on 01<sup>st</sup> May 1956 in Tenja, address: .... He wore camouflaged uniform, rifle and he was a commander of the police. He was very cruel to the Croats, and he took my machine-gun from my house.
29. MILISAV PODBARAC (Branislav), born on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1954 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with a machine-gun.
30. BOGDAN PODUNAVAC (Ilija), born on 10<sup>th</sup> April 1969 in Sisak, address: .... He worke camouflaged uniform, rifle and worked at their police.
31. DRAŽEN JANUS (Đuro), born on 09<sup>th</sup> February 1966 in Osijek, address: .... I have not been seein him in a uniform, but he carried rifle and he worked at the communications.
32. DRAŽEN JAŠICKI (Stevo), born on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1970 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in tenja carrying rifle withou a uniform, and a few months ago, he opened a café.

33. GOJKO RAKINIĆ (Milan), born on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1958 in Tuk, municipality of Slunj, address: .... I have been seeing him in camouflaged uniform with rifle, and he worked at their police.
34. ILIJA PODUNAVAC (Božo), born on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1944 in Donji Debretin, municipality of Dvor, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes carrying rifle and during the armed rebellion he was on sentry duties.
35. BRANKO KOSANOVIĆ (Janko), born on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1946 in Gornja Mičila, municipality of Slunj, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle and during the armed rebellion he was on sentry duties.
36. MIĆO ŠEKEROVIĆ (Dušan), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> January 1964 in Medna, municipality of Mrkonjić Grad, address:.... I have often been seeing him in camouflaged uniform carrying rifle, and he worked at their police.
37. ŽIVOJIN STAMENIĆ (Željko), born on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1952 in Tenja, address:....I have been seeing him in Tenja, and I know that he previously worked at the Ministry of the Interior. Now he works at the HQ, but I do not know what is his function, he wears uniform and rifle.
38. ĆEDO ČATLANIĆ (Đorđe), born on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1951 in Požeški Milanovac, municipality of Slav. Požega, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and I know that he was a commander of the unit in Zagrebačka street.
39. JOVICA KAPETAN (Savo), born on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1967 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and he worked at their police.
40. DUŠAN REBRAČA (Ilija), born on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1959 in Osijek, address: .... I know that he is JOVO REBRAČA's, who was a commander of the village, brother. I have been seeing him wearing masked uniform with rifle, but I do not know his function.
41. ZORAN KARAICA (Đuro), born on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1959 in Veliki Gradac, municipality of Glina, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing military uniform with rifle, he drove medical car(ambulance).
42. STANKO KARAICA (Nikola), born on 07<sup>th</sup> July 1960 in Veliki Gradac, municipality of Glina, address: .... He was a commander of a labour platoon in Tenja, where i also worked from 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1991. He gave orders to the Croats what jobs they would do. He carried rifle.
43. SAVO ŠARČEVIĆ (Stanko), born on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1954 in Kremna, municipality of Prnjavor, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and I know that he was a commander of the companies on the first lines towards Osijek.
44. ILIJA MOMČILOVIĆ (Novak), born on 05<sup>th</sup> August 1933 in Tenja, address: .... I know that his sons were extremists and that they were active in combat actions, I have been seeing him with them, I think that he was on some function, but I do not know which.
45. MIROSLAV STANKOVIĆ (Lazar), born on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1965 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in Tenja wearing masked uniform with rifle.

46. MILAN TRBOJEVIĆ (Đuro), born on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1948 in Tenja, address: .... He was a journalist and war correspondent for Serbia, very active in the media against the republic of Croatia, which could have been seen on TV and in newspapers.
47. SAVA GRNOVIĆ (Milan), born on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1950 in Lovča, municipality of Kostajnica, address: .... I know that he previously worked at the Ministry of the Interior, Osijek Police department, he wore camouflaged uniform, rifle and he was one of the major ones at the HQ. He was present when we were exiled from tenja on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992.
48. SIMO TRBOJEVIĆ (Rade), born on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1954 in tenja, address: ..., he wore military uniform, rifle and he has a rank of a First Lieutenant.
49. BOGDAN UGRICA (Milan), born on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1949 in Vuka, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing civilian clothes, with rifle. Afterwards I found out that he was a member of Osijek Police Department before the war, and he worked at the HQ at the connection system.
50. BRANKO BROCIĆ (Petar), born on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1945 in tenja, address: .... I know that he previously worked at Osijek Police department. I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and he was a chief of the point of the exit towards Silaš.
51. LJUBAN TRIVANOVIĆ (Dragan), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> February 1939 in Zut, municipality of Dvor, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing civilian clothes with the rifle and being on sentry duties.
52. LAZAR STANKOVIĆ (Dušan), born on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1939 in Budinci, municipality of Našice, address:.... I have been seeing him wearing civilian clothes with long weapons and being on sentry duties.
53. BOŠKO PODUNAVAC (Miloš), born on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1959 in Osijek, address:.... I have been seeing him in civilian suit with rifle and being on sentry duties.
54. GORAN PRODANOVIĆ (Ilija), born on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1969 in Osijek, address; .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and he worked at their police.
55. MILENKO VUKAŠINOVIĆ (Stamenko), born on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1949 in Tenja, address: ... - I have been seeing him without weapons, in civilian clothes, and I know that he worked with guns and that he was in the weapons maintenance for the Chetniks.
56. SAŠA BRNJEVARAC (Željko), born on 07<sup>th</sup> July 1972 in Osijek, address:.... I have been seeing him wearing a uniform with rifle.
57. DRAGOSLAV SARKIĆ (Dušan), born on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1962 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in tenja wearing camouflaged uniform and with rifle and at the 120 mm mortar with which he was in combat actions towards Osijek.
58. DRAGAN RUDEŠ (Savan) born on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1956 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him with short weapons and in civilian clothes, he was one of the leaders in the Community.
59. ZORAN TUBIĆ (Mirko), born on 07<sup>th</sup> September 1969 in Osijek, address: .... At the beginning of the armed rebellion I have been seeing him with rifle and in uniform, however, I have not seen him in several months.



60. ZDENKO MILOŠEVIĆ (Rade), born on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1959 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle and on sentry duties.
61. BRANISLAV VUČETIĆ (Branko), born on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1952 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in Tenja, carrying rifle and he was in the reserve for a while, so that he wore military uniform, and he probably participated in the armed clashes outside Tenja.
62. NIKOLA VITANOVIĆ (Stevo), born on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1954 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian suit with rifle and on sentry duties.
63. MIROSLAV VIDAKOVIĆ (Branislav), born on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1962 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle, he now works at the police.
64. MILAN MENIČANIN (Vaso), born on 07<sup>th</sup> January 1967 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and he was wounded in the armed clashes and he is now in Serbia on medical treatment.
65. ĐORĐE BRKIĆ (Branko, born on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1952 in Tenja, address: .... I have been seeing him in Tenja without any weapons, he had identifeid with the other local people and he works in the Community.
66. RAJKO ŠAKIĆ (Ilija), born on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1944 in Lisičine, municipality of Podr. Slatina, address: .... I know that he previously worked at the Ministry of the Interior. I have been seeing him in Tenja wearing a masked uniform and with a rifle.
67. ILIJA REBRAČA (Jovan), bron on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1932 in Majske Poljane, municipality of Glina, address: .... ILIJA is JOVAN's father and who was a commander of the village. He wore military uniform, rifle and he was a commander on sentry, mostly to the elder people. He was very arrogant in his attitude towards the people of the Croatian nationality who lived in his street, and he humiliated them, and I know that he insulted JANJA CAPAN, ZORKA MLINAC and some others.
68. ŽELJKO BROCIĆ (Mirko), born on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1968 in Osijek, address: .... He was wearing a uniform with the rifle, and I saw him in combat actions with the 120 mm mortar.
69. KRSTAN TEGELTIJA (Blagoje), born on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1933 in Medna, municipality of Mrkonjić Grad, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle on sentry duties, and as is written above, he was robbing Croatian houses.
70. DRAGOSLAV JAVOR (Slobodan), born on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1970 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in military uniform with rifle, and I saw him several times in combat actions from the 120 mm mortar towards Osijek.
71. GORAN JAVOR (Slobodan), born on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1073 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in military uniform with rifle, and several times in combat actions from the 120 mm mortar towards Osijek.
72. DUŠAN VUKELIĆ (Dragić) born on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1938 in Donja Močila, municipality of Slunj, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle on sentry duties.

73. NENAD VUKELIĆ (Dušan), born on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1970 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him in camouflaged uniform with rifle, and he now works at the police.
74. NEDELJKO DELIĆ (Lazar), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> July 1939 in Vitkovci, municipality of Tešanj, address: .... I have not been seeing him carrying any weapons, but he was one of the leaders at the HQ of the Civil Protection, and he organized and giving orders to the labour platoon.
75. MLADEN DELIĆ (Lazar), born on 28<sup>th</sup> February 1941 in Vitkovci, municipality of Tešanj, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle on sentry duty.
76. DRAGAN ČUGALJ (Aleksa), born on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1949 in Gornji Žirava, municipality of Dvor, address: .... He wore camouflaged uniform, rifle, he was one of the leaders at the HQ and he was present when we were exiled from Tenja.
77. DRAGAN JOVČIĆ (Slobodan), born on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1970 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle, worked at the police.
78. MILIVOJ SUZIĆ (Milan), born on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1939 in Gornji Žirovac, municipality of Dvor, address: .... I have not been seeing him wearing uniform or carrying any weapons, but commanded in the Civil Protection HQ and organized jobs for the forced labour for the labour platoon.
79. LJUBAN MACAKANJA (Dušan), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> March 1950 in Tenja, address: .... He wore a uniform, rifle, at the beginning he was one of the commanders of the company in Zagrebačka street, and a few months ago at the HQ with JOVO REBRAČA .
80. PETAR MILJUŠ (Dušan), born on 01<sup>st</sup> July 1950 in Babjak, municipality of Našice, address: .... I have not been seeing him carrying any weapons, but he was one of the leaders in the Civil Protection HQ who organized jobs for the forced labour at the labour platoon.
81. MIRKO TUBIĆ (Živko), born on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1941 in Tenja, address: .... I have not seen him carrying any weapons, however, he was one of the major ones at the HQ of the Civil Protection.
82. ZDRAVKO VUČENOVIĆ (Stevo), born on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1948 in Tenja, address: .... I know that he previously worked at the Ministry of the Interior. He is now in Tenja and closely works with the HQ, and he was also some sort of a chief at the HQ of the Civil Protection.
83. PETAR TEGELTIJA (Maksim), born on 28<sup>th</sup> November 1953 in Medna, municipality of Mrkonjić Grad, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle, and he was in combat actions with the mortars.
84. MILAN RAJIĆ (Ilija), born on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1966 in Osijek, address: .... He wore camouflaged uniform and rifle and he now works at the police.
85. GOJKO VUKAS (Marko), born on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1932 in Gornja Močila, municipality of Slunj, address: .... I have been seeing him in civilian clothes with rifle and on sentry duties.
86. GORAN UGRICA (Bogdan), born on 04<sup>th</sup> January 1973 in Split, address: .... His father previously worked at the Ministry of the Interior and he now works at the HQ of the communication centre, and I have seen him with his father.

87. ZORAN DANILOVIĆ (Slobodan), born on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1969 in Osijek, address: .... I have not been seeing him carrying any weapons, but he drove the ambulance car.
88. MILAN SUŽNJEVIĆ (Mirko) born on 03<sup>rd</sup> September 1947 in Jagodnjak, municipality of Beli Manastir, address: .... I have been seeing him in military uniform on sentry duties.
89. MIROSLAV MOMČILOVIĆ (Miloš), born on 30<sup>th</sup> July 1964 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him carrying rifle and wearing camouflaged uniform, and he now works at the police.
90. PERICA ŠTRBAC (Slobodan), born on 06<sup>th</sup> May 1970 in Osijek, address: .... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform and carrying rifle, and he now works at their police.
91. MILAN STANIĆ (Stevo), born on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1965 in Tenja, address:.... I have been seeing him wearing camouflaged uniform with rifle and he now works at their police.

I have listened to the dictation of the statement, I do not want to read it and I sign it as my statement.

Done at 15.30 hrs.

Statement taken by authorized official person: Nikola Rađenović

Statement given by: I.I.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Renata Veić

CITIZEN: I.I.

**ANNEX 12:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.B.**

WITNESS Z.B., son of F., ... years old, born in ..., residence in ..., he is retired, unrelated, not hostile. The witness was warned to tell the truth, not to withhold any information and that a false statement represents a criminal act. The witness was also warned that he does not have to answer any questions from article 219 of the Criminal Proceedings Law (ZKP).

The witness makes the following statement:

On 7 July 1991, after the town of Tenja was temporarily occupied, three men in uniform (camouflage uniforms), I knew one of them, he was named Miroslav Momčilović, came to my house where I lived with my wife, and my two sons were in Osijek as members of the Croatian Army (HV). These three told me, while I was lying in bed ill, to come to the police station with them. After they had brought me to the police station, the chief of staff of their police station in Tenja, whose name I do not know, started beating me with a gunstock, and they did not ask me anything before that. I fell to the floor due to this, after which they took me to a room where several beaten Croats from Tenja were staying. They held me there for six days, during which daily they physically abused, beat and made the others prisoners and me kneel down and eat grass. I know one of their policemen, named Milan Živković, he would call the people, the men, women and children to come to the yard of the police station whenever they wanted to beat us. They would do this then; they would come rushing into the yard (men, women and children) and then they would beat us with rubber hoses, which they had previously prepared for this purpose. After they had beaten us for several minutes, Dragan Rudež, who was also a policeman, took a water hose and started pouring water over us, so that in case anybody fainting from all the beating would come to their senses again and they could continue with the beating. I stayed there for six days after which they took me to Borovo Selo, to a camp there; there were more people in that camp, around thirty. We would lie and sleep on a concrete floor and every day between 12 and 14 p.m., i.e. between midnight and 2 a.m. men in uniform would come and beat us there. They would beat us with gunstocks, kick us with their feet, and beat us with their fists all over our body. They would give us a liverwurst and a piece of bread to eat for the entire day. I was in a terrible state after the beating and I thought that I would live for only a few days and that I could not endure anymore, when Milenko Vukašinović, a citizen of Tenja, came to me in the camp in Borovo Selo; I knew him from Tenja and we had a good relationship, since he was my apprentice. This Milenko Vukašinović arranged for me to leave that camp, and took me to his house and hid me there since there was a danger of my being executed if I returned to Tenja. Since I had a serious medical condition, he also told me that he would call me a doctor, so that a doctor came from Tenja, his name was Mladen Hadžić.

This doctor, Mladen Hadžić, prescribed me medication and a medical nurse came almost every day and attended to me. Milenko Vukašinović brought me to Tenja from Borovo Selo around the 15 September 1991. I stayed at the house of Milenko Vukašinović in Tenja for approximately three and a half months. Then I told Vukašinović that I would like to return to my home in Tenja, since my wife was still alone there. He told me that I had to be very careful and hide, since I could get killed if anybody should see me. Until 20 April 1992, I remained in my house, and then three men in uniform and with arms came to my house and told me and my wife that we had to leave the house within five minutes, that we should go to the center of the village, where a bus would wait for us. We asked them if we should lock up our house, but they told us that we should not do it but just leave the house within five

minutes. I only recognized one of the three armed men in uniform but I only know his nickname "Savela", and I do not know his real name and surname. I think that Savela could be his surname. I did not know the other two.

My wife, A.B., and I acted according to the order of the three men, so that we had a plastic bag with bare necessities and left our house and came to the place where we had to go. There we saw other Croats from Tenja and then they put us into two large buses. These two buses were full of Croats from Tenja, around 120 of them. Before we got on the bus somebody read out the names and surnames of the people who had to get on the bus so that my wife and I were also read out, and together with the other people who were read out got on the bus. These two buses took us to the new part of Tenja, after which we had to cross the minefields on foot to get to the line of separation, we crossed it and reached Osijek near the Agricultural Faculty. I believe that at this occasion they expelled the Croats from Tenja who had children or relatives in the free territory of Croatia. Those Croats, who had no children or were in ethnically mixed marriages, were not expelled on this occasion. I believe they hurried the expelling on this occasion, before the UNPROFOR got to Tenja, because on the following day, i.e. on 21 April 1991 the UNPROFOR came to Tenja, that is in 1992.

I can say that according to my knowledge the main organ of the administration in the occupied Tenja was the so-called Territorial Defence Headquarters, and in charge of these headquarters was the second accused Jovan Rebrača. All of the other accused: Mile Jajić, Savo Sarčević, Dušan Rebrača, Božo Vidaković, Dragan Čugalj, Savo Grnović and Dušan Vidović were members of these headquarters and I can point out Božo Vidaković aka "Trafikant", about whom I heard that he had personally killed several Croats from Tenja. I know that when I was taken to Borovo Selo from Tenja, several Croats were killed in Tenja. Among them were: Medved, Sarić members of the Valentić family, Nađ, Đuro Kiš and Ante Golek.

I can say that a few days before I was taken to the police station in Tenja on 7 July 1991, my neighbor, the Serb Ilija Rebrača from Tenja, who was armed and in JNA uniform, ordered me to wrap up two corpses near my house. At that time I did not even know that there were two corpses near my house and when I came to the place Ilija Rebrača had pointed out to me and after Rebrača had left, I saw that these dead bodies were Đuro Kiš and Ante Golek. Đuro Kiš was at that time a member of the Croatian Army and got killed on that duty, I do not know where he was killed, but he was brought there. Ante Golek was according to me killed by that same Ilija Rebrača, who stood out in extremism, and various abuse of the Croatian citizens who had remained in Tenja after the temporary occupation of Tenja. I believe that Rebrača was such an extremist that he was capable of the most horrible crimes, and this is the reason why I said that he had killed Ante Golek.

After Tenja was temporarily occupied, and all the men were imprisoned, the women had to go to perform different chores. I know that Ilija Rebrača, the father of the second accused Jovan Rebrača, was in charge of a work platoon and that the women were forced to perform different chores. So that they daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. had to go pick corn, potatoes, carry roof tiles for the damaged roofs and other different chores. In another work platoon were the men, Croats from Tenja, but as I have already said, Ilija Rebrača was in charge of the womens platoon.

The witness has nothing more to add to his statement.

The witness is not asked any further questions.

None of the sides has any remarks to the witness statement.

The witness was not under oath.

The witness does not ask for any refund.

After the sides have said their remarks, the witness is free to leave the courtroom.

Statement taken by: Court council

Statement given by: Z.B.

**ANNEX 13:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.M.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT (PU) OSIJEK  
No. 511.07  
Date: 23 July 1991

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

A.M., a retiree by occupation, born on 10 November 1951, residence in ....  
Gave the following information to an official of the PU Osijek on 22 July 1991 in Višnjevac, at ....

In an informational interview, A. stated that he did not exactly remember the day last week, if it was Monday or Tuesday, when Božo aka "Trafikant" with two other unknown young men of the age between 30 and 35 came to his house. They were dressed in uniforms and they had the SAO Krajina insignia on their left sleeves. The two mentioned men had automatic weapons, but he does not know of which make, but he supposes that they were of "The Red Flag". Božo did not have a gun.

He was taken to the centre of the village that is to the old part of Tenja, and there they locked him inside a room of the cinema, where he was interrogated. A. also states that on that day, although he was alone in his house and feeding his livestock, nobody disturbed or touched him. They were only forbidden to leave the house or contact any of their neighbours. He was also not allowed to visit any of his Serbian neighbours, nor could they come to his house.

A. recognised Borko Golubovac at the headquarters. He was in civilian clothes and carried a pistol. A. also recognised Branko Grković and said that he did not treat him brutally nor did he question him, but he brought them water, and he also heard behind closed doors that he reminded the other two to bring water for the prisoners. While the two were questioning him he was also exposed to physical and psychological abuse, i.e. they beat him with a rubber hose on the back, as well as with a gunstock on his fingers, and he also had to sing different Chetnik songs which he had never heard before, and he could not remember the words.

During the interrogation they asked him for information about weapons, and they took away a hunting rifle from them, for which they had a licence, and they were especially interested to which Croats Gudelj had handed out weapons, and when he answered that he did not know anything about this, because he had neither been interested in this nor did he want to get involved in it. At this they became very brutal, because A. did not know anything, and on this occasion they beat him. He lost consciousness on several occasions

due to this beating, but they would pour water over him and revive him. At the so-called prison, where he was kept in the rooms of the cinema for 5 days, he lost his orientation, since 5 younger people were also imprisoned in the same room, but he does not know who they are or why they were imprisoned. While he was imprisoned, he only had water and no food, same as the other prisoners. Usually, they questioned him every day in the period between 11:00 and 12:00.

A. also stated that he did not see any vehicles in the village and that they came to get him on foot. He also did not see any tanks in the yard of the cinema or anywhere in the village. According to reports of the citizens who are still in the village, and with whom he had talked before he was taken away, trenches were dug around the church and that these are most likely weapon depots. He did not see any mortars, or any wounded in the village, and he does not know if there were any wounded at the barricades and during the attack by the members of the MUP.

A. also stated that the citizens of Tenja, i.e. individual citizens, were in charge of a street, so that Branko Bročić was in charge of the street that leads to Silaš. He did not see Branko Stjepanović, but he heard that he was also there.

One morning, he does not know exactly when but he believes that it was a Friday, a neighbour, he does not know his name but his surname is Celić, took him out of the cinema and put him inside a vehicle and took him to his house. He told him to stay inside his house, to lock the door and not answer the door to anybody. When A. told him that he would escape, Celić said "All right, but be careful, I do not know anything, and take care.". After that he left him and A. waited until morning when it was still dark, and went on his way across the fields towards Silaš, after which he turned left just outside Betin Dvor, and passed the JNA weapon depot, which is located outside the old part of Tenja towards the road to Vukovar, crossing a cornfield and came to the road to Vukovar where the members of the Croatian police noticed him and rescued and transferred him to the General Hospital in Osijek, where he was medically treated.

A. also states he was questioned by a male person by the name of Jovo, who had a longer beard, but he does not know his surname nor does he know him.

Statement taken by authorized official person: Luka Radovanović

Statement given by: A.M.

**ANNEX 14:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J. S.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE ADMINISTRATION OF THE VUKOVAR – SRIJEM DISTRICT  
Criminal Police Department  
Number: 511-15-04  
Vinkovci, the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 1998

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Citizen J.S., occupation – worker, permanent address ..., on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 1998 in the family house and connected with the circumstances of capturing and the period of imprisonment in the prison in Borovo Selo gave to the authorized official of the Police Administration of the Vukovar – Srijemska district, the following information:

In the conducted informative conversation we have obtained the information that J.S.

was captured in Tenja on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1991 while he was going to work in Osijek where he worked in the Police administration of the Osijek – Baranja district as a reserve policeman. He was taken out of the bus with his weapon that was taken from him on that occasion.

He was taken out and arrested on the position that was on the way out of Tenja in the direction of Osijek and that was occupied by the Chetniks, mostly the villagers of Tenja of Serbian nationality. Božo Vidaković from Tenja and Željko Celić from Tenja took him out and arrested him and after he was taken out of the bus they took him to the yard of the house that was just near that position and on that occasion he saw Ante Gudelja in that yard. From that yard they were taken to the garage of the Subotinović family and then they were taken to Bobot in a personal car owned by Tenja Orthodox priest Tudor who drove the car by himself (Mercedes, white colored). When they came to Bobot they were imprisoned in the basement of the discotheque that was situated near the playground. He remembers that that basement was extremely damp and they stayed there for three days. During the period while they were in the basement they mostly starved and they were systematically, physically abused by unknown persons. After 3 days 4 persons arrived in the basement and those were the following:

1. M. B.
2. M. C.
3. I. G.(Krešo)
4. M. K.

During his stay in Bobota he was interrogated by the unknown person and he was physically abused. After 3 days, after those 4 persons arrived they were taken to the village of Borovo Selo where they were questioned and physically abused. He remembers that the third night after he came there he was taken to a certain room on the upper floor (in relation to the room where they were imprisoned) to the interrogation and he was physically and psychologically abused again.

The following persons were recognized on the photographs and they are listed under the numbers from 1 – 6:

1. Franjo Lerner, born on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 1958
2. Milenko Dafinić, born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1958
3. Dragiša Cancarević, born on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 1961



4. Simo Samardžija, born on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 1952
5. Dušan Vorkapić, born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 1950
6. Dušan VOJNOVIĆ, born on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1951

J.S. recognized Dragiša Cancarević as the third person who interrogated him and in whose presence he was physically abused (beaten). He supposes that Dragiša Cancarević planned the criminal procedure to the full, that is the interrogation with the use of physical – psychological abuse. During the interrogation while the interrogator, Dragiša Cancarević was listening to him, an unknown person approached him and ordered him to open his mouth and then that person put a gun in his mouth and he supposes that it was the 7.65 calibre “red flag” gun. While the gun was in his mouth that person cocked and then pulled the trigger but the bullet was not in the gun so you could hear only a blunt click. As a consequence of the fear he underwent he was completely lost and then they physically abused him, they beat him with batons all over his body, arms and legs. Dragiša Cancarević probably charged the persons who abused him with the physical procedure. The mentioned Cancarević conducted the interrogation of all the imprisoned people and after he came to Borovo Selo where he was imprisoned the interrogations were conducted every night.

During the mentioned interrogations S. was heavily physically injured and he has the medical documentation about it.

After the fall of Dalj the physical tortures were performed on the captured Dalj villagers and then on the arrived 5 Albanians.

During his imprisonment in Borovo Selo besides the abuse and injuries, the prisoners had to perform certain physical activities that consisted of digging the trenches, unloading the wheat etc.

It has to be mentioned that various humanitarian and international organizations visited the prisoners, that is the captives during their stay in the prison but before they would arrive Dragiša Cancarević would come down to visit the prisoners and would warn them what to say and what to say to the mentioned representatives, meaning that it would not be good if they said that they were molested while in prison, instead they had to say that everything was wonderful and nice etc.

The torture that the prisoners in Borovo Selo had undergone is difficult to describe but he remembers that the Serbs especially violently tortured the 5 Albanians and he remembers that you could see the shapes of the scars of the inflicted blows on Talipi Napi's back.

Also, he remembers that one person from Vinkovci was imprisoned too and that person occupied some position in the HDZ but this individual did not stay long in the room where other prisoners were held in captivity, instead they took this person to be interrogated and all the prisoners could hear this interrogation because the interrogation was conducted in the room that was on the second floor, right above the rooms where the prisoners were held in captivity. On that occasion he remembers that the questioning and the hearing was conducted in an extremely brutal way and during that interrogation the ones that conducted it tied the testicles (balls) of this person that was the inhabitant of Vinkovci and they hurt his testicles so he was yelling.

He remembers that a few persons were taken to interrogation in a military armored vehicle to Belgrade and T. A. from Dalj was among these persons. While he was held in captivity he remembers several individuals that he noticed and that were occupying the positions of the guards:

- person named Milenko
- Siniša Stojanović

The captured D. T.(phone number – ...), an official in the Police Administration of the Osijek – Baranja district, Čepin Police station, could also recognize the mentioned guards.

After the exchange was performed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1991 every prisoner had to give a statement to the police officer Kovčalija, who is now the commander of the second Police station, Police Administration of the Osijek – Baranya district.

Statement taken by authorized official: Željko Ileković

Statement given by: J.S.

**ANNEX 15:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.M.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSIJEK POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Section for operative jobs  
No 511-07-02/10-KU-2132/92. ZB  
27<sup>th</sup> April 1992.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Name: Z.M.

Born on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1964

Address: ...

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1992 he gave the following information at the Osijek Police Department:

In the interview he states that he was constantly in the village of Tenja from 27<sup>th</sup> June 1991 until 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992. From the moment of closing Tenja with the barricades he did not have the opportunity to leave the village, so he stayed with his father and mother in the house. In the first days of their staying in the house, nobody of the Serbian extremists and Chetniks came, but at the beginning of July four men came, the ex-policemen Branko Grković, Milan Stanić and Miroslav Momčilović, called Batko and a young man came with them, his nickname was Gurgula. When they came into the house they asked Z. to give them his brother's, I.M., weapons, who works at the ... Police Department. Z. has, as he says, hid the pistol well, and with the search of the house the four above mentioned men only found some of the pistol's ammunition. They did not physically molest him or his parents on this occasion.

A few days later, Dušan Šimić, called Gongilo and Veselin Karalić came into their house and told Z. and his father P. to report to the local HQ the next day so that they would go to work. The next morning they did as those two told them, who were members of the Special unit, and they reported to go to work. When they came to the Crisis HQ they were ordered, together with a few other local people, to dig a trench, that is a shelter around the Community, about 160 m long, while the width of the trench was 1 m. When they were digging the trench, which meandered, they were told that they were digging it so that the liberators of Tenja could hide from the possible attack of the Ustasha. Z. furthermore

states that the labour obligation was done in two shifts, one lasting from 07.00 until 13.00 hrs and the other from 13.00 hrs and until there was daylight.

During the forced labour they were very rarely, that is almost never, getting food.

Z. furthermore states that when the harvest began, he went to Silaš to unload the wheat into the grain elevators. The harvest was done by the people on the combine harvesters. From Tenja Community, and J.K., who came from Tenja and who after a while managed to escape, worked together with him on unloading the wheat. I know that most of the wheat from the grain elevators in Silaš was later transported to Serbia.

In the further interview Z. states that during his free time he was in the house and that nobody molested him and that he used to go to his neighbours' M.M. for a glass of wine. After they found out in the HQ that M. had some wine, he was ordered to give all the wine to the HQ, which he did. Shortly after he gave the wine, he did not show up from his house for the forced labour. This was beginning to get suspicious and when they searched the house they found M.M. dead in his attic, completely naked and he had over 20 stab wounds. Z. states that he does not know who killed M., but after a few days he saw a wrist watch of the late M. M. on Stanko Karajica's, called Karamba, wrist, from which can be concluded that Karajica liquidated him. When he spoke to the Croats in Tenja, Karajica used to tell them all that he had a right to kill them without any responsibility. After they found him, M.M. was taken to the entrance of the village of Čelije and thrown into a hole, that was previously dug out, and in which there already were a lot of unburied bodies.

In the further interview, Z.M. states that on one occasion he was called to unload the grenades to the Betin Dvor where members of the so-called JNA and the volunteers of Tenja were situated, who participated in the combat actions. Stanko Karajica led him to this working task, but as Z. concludes, he was not allowed to do this job, and because of that Karajica was disarmed for a while. They planned to kill him, as he states, because they were afraid that he counted the grenades when he was unloading them and that he would send the message to the Croatian Army. While being on Betin Dvor, he saw a policeman of the SAO Krajina Zvonko Blagojević who took the name of Miloš on his personal request. When he was interrogated in the local HQ in Tenja, he saw an ex-policeman of the Osijek Police Department Boško Surla, and when he met with Nemanja Jovčić he said that he should be killed because he was unloading the ammunition. During the interrogation in the local HQ were Ljuban Macakanja and Milan, and Savo Brnović, who used to work at the Osijek Police Department, and there he saw the retired Bogdan Ugrica, who worked at the Osijek Police Department, at the connection centre.

In the further interview Z. states that he saw at the SAO Krajina police Branko Stjepanović, Boško Surla, Branko Grković, Ljuban Macakanja and Milan, Radoslav Kapetan, Željko and Rajko Podbarac, Željko Sarkić, Veselin Karalić, Milan Stanić, Dušan Šimić, Ivica Bujan, Mirko Šakić and Gojko Rakinić.

In the later interview, Z. states that he knows that one night in the centre of Tenja Stevo Bačić was killed, he was immediately taken away and buried. At the crime scene there was blood left, but there was not a word about who killed him, but Z. concludes that someone from the local police did that. Z. furthermore states that besides Mato Mikolaš and Stevo Bačić, Ivo Prodanović, Joža Božičević, Mato Nađ and a man with the nickname Herceg were also killed. There is not a word who killed Mira Pekež, who was killed at her beauty shop. As to the functions in Tenja, Jovo Rebrača, the ex policeman, is

now the president of the Municipality of Tenja, and his deputy is Marko Vukas . First man of the Civil Protection is a former manager of AMD Slavonia Mile Jajić, and his assistant is a former worker at the Federal Security service Zdravko Vučinović . One of the commanders of the enemy units participating in the armed operations is Branko Bročić, who worked at the Osijek Police Department, and who is now retired.

Statement Taken by Authorized Official Person: Zvonko Borovička  
Statement given by: Z.M.

**ANNEX 16:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.K.**

MINUTES  
of the Municipal Court in Makarska  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 1995  
Judge: Suzana Alač  
Recording secretary: Rozarija Mijačička  
CRIMINAL FILE:  
Request of the County Court in  
Osijek on hearing the witness  
J.K. No K-61/93-64

It has been established that the called witness J.K. has appeared today, and who has been introduced by this Court with the Request of the County Court in Osijek No K-61/93-64 from 5<sup>th</sup> June 1995, while the court-appointed defence lawyer Ilija Brkić, a defender from Osijek did not appear, and the notice for court has not been delivered.

With the hearing of the witness, the evidence is being introduced.

WITNESS: J. (M.) K., agriculturist, with an address ..., born in ..., ... years old, regularly warned of his duty to tell the truth and the consequences of giving a false statement, especially in the sense of article 217 and 219 of the Law on Criminal Procedure that he does not have to testify, that is, that he does not have to answer some questions, he gives the following statement:

I personally know all the accused, because I knew them before the occupation of Tenja, itself. As I have said on previous hearings, I lived in Tenja from about June until September 1991, and in that period of time the occupying Serbian authority was established. Until about May or June 1991 mostly Croats and Serbs lived in Tenja, but the Serbian people were a majority. I remember that one day, during June 1991, Goran Hadžić, who introduced himself as a president of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS), came to Tenja and called the people of Serbian nationality to gather together at the Local Community somewhere around 13.00 hrs, to warn them that the police from Osijek were preparing to attack Tenja, and that because of that, they had to “organize the defence”. Hadžić spoke to the people through the megaphone, and with him were Jovan Rebrača, Božo Vidaković, Mile Jajić, who was also the president of the Local Community, and the others who were in the leadership of the SDS Hadžić. Rebrača and others were wearing camouflaged uniforms with the symbols of the so-called Republic of Serbian Krajina on their sleeves, and they wore guns around their waists, that were in leather holsters. I remember very well that Hadžić said that Tenja was a Serbian village and that all the Serbs must take guns in their hands and defend the Serbian people, while Rebrača said that the weapons were already in the houses of Nikola and

Nemanja Subotinović, Brano Vitanović, Božo Vidaković and others that I personally do not know, as in the barracks of the former JNA, which was at the end of my street.

After that the village was blocked all over with wooden beams, big trailers or similar objects next to which stood armed guards, who were armed with automatic or semi-automatic rifles and machine-guns, while grenade launchers or other heavy weapons were stored in the place itself, and exit or entry into the place was forbidden without their permission. Someone from each street commanded these guards, so that the commander of the barricade in my street was Mićo Štrbac, who until that moment worked as a locksmith in "Olt" in Osijek.

Jovan Rebrača was appointed the commander of the place, according to their terminology, because he had worked as a policeman.

Serbian flags were immediately put all over the streets, and beside the so-called Commands of the place, the Local Community still existed the head of which was Mile Jajić. One cannot tell that in the beginning there was some sort of hierarchy of power, but it functioned, more or less, through the Commands of the place. I personally saw Nemanja Subotinović dealing weapons in front of his house to the Serbs, while on the barricade in my street were almost all Serbs without exception – Vlado Vitanović, Mile Vukas, Anđelko Klasnetić, Vidaković (illegible) and others.

The Croats that remained there were not allowed, in the first days, to go outside, while the houses of the Croats who left were robbed. After that they visited the Croatian houses that were not abandoned and signed in who stayed, registering the sex, age and all other data. That was how Božo Vidaković came to me, dressed in camouflaged uniform, with the symbol of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina, the automatic rifle of "Thomson" make, asking how many of us were there to which I answered that in this house me, my father, my mother, younger (illegible), and my aunt, who also came, who was previously chased away from her house, lived in the house.

Dragan Čagalj was at that time a Commander, or as they say, the Commandant, of one part of Tenja, called "Barice", who visited Croats' houses registering, and then taking them to the Local Community to the hearing.

One day I personally saw a group of "Šešeljevci", Dragan Čugalj taking the postman, called "(illegible)" to the Local Community and who was previously beaten in the house, and especially because he, according to them, sang the Ustasha songs at some meeting of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Party), and after that, they took him back and ordered him to dig some holes in the backyard, and since I was at that moment digging a canal for the pipes – the broken one for water, I heard the postman screaming and calling for help, and "Šešeljevci" cursing his Ustasha mother and soon there was silence, and afterwards I heard that he was slaughtered.

Savo Grković personally participated in the establishment of the Serbian police station in Tenja, because he had worked as a policeman in Osijek. He usually led informative interviews with the Croats, and he asked me where my older brother was, did he have any weapons and the like.

My neighbour J., whose last name I cannot recall at the moment, told me that Grković beat her with his hands and kicked her, with the wooden bats and the like while she was in their prison, which was in the former cinema, and the clinic was turned into a police station. I also remember very well that the prisoners were guarded by Dušan Vidović who had also worked as a policeman before the occupation, and a lot of Croats from Tenja told me about

him that he beat them daily and molested them, which my neighbour G. can confirm, I cannot recall his name, and his wife M., who were so much beaten that they ended in a hospital, and they now live in Osijek.

While I was in Tenja, there was no direct and organized expulsion of Croats, but people ran away every day because life was impossible, we were captured every day, molested, our property was being ruined, taken away without any reason, and on one occasion Božo Vidaković came into my house and ordered me to give up my TV, video and two phones, and I had to sign that this was taken for the needs of the Local Community.

As to your question about the carrying out the decision on expulsion of the members of the Croatian and other non-Serbian peoples from Tenja from 20<sup>th</sup> April 1992, I can say that I was not in Tenja at that time, so that I cannot say anything about that, but in consideration of all the accused, I claim that they were all members of those Serbian paramilitary formations, that they participated in the armed sentry duties at the entrances in the village, that they were with the members of the so-called Commands of the place. Grković personally ordered me to do my so-called labour obligations, and which constituted the robbing of the property of the Croatian houses, loading into the tractors and trucks, leaving in the direction of Serbia. I do not know who of them exactly gave orders or brought certain rules, because they were all in uniform, except that I know of Jovan Rebrača that he was the commander of the place, and of Savo Grković that he was the commander of the Serbian police and Mile Jajić who was the president of the Local Community while the other accused appeared to be, as I have already said, the guards for the prisoners, the sentry at the barricades or they carried out other decisions of this occupying authority.

I also remember very well that Goran Hadžić often came to Tenja accompanied with Željko Ražnjatović, called "Arkan". When I escaped from Tenja, on the separation line at the village of Ivanovac I spoke to my neighbour called "M.", who told me that Božo Vidaković killed my mother and father, allegedly because his grandpa was killed by the Ustasha. To make things worse, I saw that same Božo Vidaković in Stuttgart in Germany in 1992, but when I came close to him, he was already gone. As to the murder of my neighbours and the people I knew, I do not know who personally gave orders for that, but I would just hear that this and this man was killed or missing, because they all did that so that the remaining Croats could not witness to that.

I have nothing more to state, but I ask for the cost payment in the amount of 100.00 Kn, with the request that it should be delivered to the Hotel.

The Court brings a decision.....

Statement taken by judge: Suzana Alač

Statement given by: J.K.

**ANNEX 17:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.R.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSIJEK-BARANYA POLICE ADMINISTRATION  
SECTOR OF THE CRIMINALIST POLICE  
Department for fighting terrorism  
Number: 511-07-10/11-VT-10/35-99 RG  
Osijek, 14 July 1999

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Citizen L.R., occupation: worker, UCRN ..., permanent address: .... On 14 July 1999, at the accommodation of the PA, he gave the following information to an authorised person with the Osijek-Baranja Police administration:

He states that he joined the Territorial Defence of the village Tenja on 7 July 1991. His duty was to work as a mechanic, that is, to take care of the motor pool. He states that on 07 July 1991, after the fight with Croats, he saw on the street BOŽO VIDAKOVIĆ and two unknown persons conduct Đ. K. who was naked to the waist and whose arms were tied with barbed wire. They took him to the cinema hall where the prison and station of the SAO Krajina police were. One or two hours later, while L. was at the motor pool, located between the post-office and the Local Committee, MILAN MACAKANJA came to him and ordered him to follow him to the red "Zastava 850" van. MACAKANJA took him to the cinema hall where L. saw the dead body of ĐURO KIŠ. He was naked to the waist, his hands were tied with barbed wire, and he had a bullet wound on his forehead. Together with MACAKANJA, L. puts the dead body into the vehicle, and they left for the Orthodox cemetery to bury him, but the villagers didn't allow them. From the Orthodox cemetery MACAKANJA took L. to the motor pool, and went with the body in an unknown direction.

At the end of the July of 1991 L. was very near the cinema hall where Croats were detained. On that occasion he saw MACAKANJA conducting A. H., the P. couple, "MEDO" the postman, and a young shock-headed man, some 25 years old, in a truck with a yellow tarpaulin. While being conducted, MACAKANJA beat them with a baton all over their bodies. When he put them in the truck, L. asked him where he was taking them, and MACAKANJA answered that he was taking them to Borovo Selo where they would be exchanged. L. hasn't seen them ever since.

Statement taken by Authorised official person: Robert Golub  
Statement given by: L. R.

**ANNEX 18:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Đ.B.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSIJEK-BARANYA POLICE ADMINISTRATION  
SECTOR OF THE CRIMINALIST POLICE  
Department for fighting terrorism  
Number: 511-07-10/11-VT-10/35-99 RG  
Osijek, 13 August 1999

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Citizen Đ.B., occupation: worker, UCRN ..., permanent address: .... On 12 August 1999, at the accommodation of the police administration, he gave the following information to an authorised official of the Osijek-Baranja police administration:

He states that, at the beginning of the conflict, in July of 1991, in the village of Tenja the Territorial Defence was established. The chief commander was JOVO REBRAČA, his deputy MARKO VUKAS, and his assistant commanders were: STEVO RADAKOVIĆ, SLOBODAN JAVOR, GRNOVIĆ, MIRKO ŠTRBAC, and JOVO KAPETANOVIĆ .

Also, work platoons, who were first under the command of NIKOLA DŽANIRA, and later on under MILE JAJIĆ, were formed. In these work platoons were Croats who had to do hard physical jobs (digging trenches, gathering crops etc.). At the beginning of July, Đ. B. took weapons and joined Tenja Territorial Defence. His duty was to keep watch in the jail which was located at Stevo Kukić's house. Together with him, the following people kept watch: ŠIMO BEKIĆ, BORO GOLUBOVAC, ČEDO VUKAŠINOVIĆ, ŽELJKO BRNJEVARAC, TRBOJEVIĆ, BRANKO REBRAČA. The commander of the watch was SLAVKO SUŠA .

Đ. states that the jail was located in Kukić's house only for a couple of days. They were transferred from there to a new prison located in the cinema hall. In that jail he kept watch for 5 days during July, and there he recognized: the two VALENTIĆ brothers, MEDO the ..., the PENIĆ couple, MARIJA CERENKO, ANA HORVAT, and KATICA KIŠ . They were taken away during one night and he didn't see them when he came to work in the morning. They were no longer in the cinema hall. It was rumored in the village that they were taken to Borovo Selo to be exchanged. It is not known who took them to Đ. Members of SAO Krajina police, whose commander was BRANKO GRKOVIĆ, were in charge of the prisoners (conducting and hearing).

Further on Đ. states that he personally, at the Čelije cemetery, buried, with "Ult", 5 or 6 killed persons. These persons were found dead in the canal near Topolik. By MILE JAJIĆ's command KARAJIĆ, nicknamed "Rakan" and "Dunas", collected them wrapped in nylon with a tractor.

Đ. states that he heard people saying that the KNEŽEVIĆ family was among the killed. Đ. couldn't see the bodies of people he buried because they were wrapped in black nylon bags.

Đ. states that he dug the hole, at the Čelije cemetery, that spread from the beginning of the path (across the canal), 6 meters towards the middle of the cemetery in the direction of a tree that was at the cemetery.



It was rumored in the village that they were the persons killed by BOŽO VIDA KOVIĆ . After that Đ. didn't take part in the burial of the killed. Also, he doesn't know where the other graves are. After some time Đ. heard that BOŽO VIDA KOVIĆ paid some persons from Western Slavonija to transfer the bodies of the killed people, whom he buried at the Čelije cemetery, to Betin Dvor.

Further on, in connection with the killed persons, Đ. knows that on the 7 July 1991 ĐURO KIŠ was captured and killed, and it was rumored about the village that BOŽO VIDA KOVIĆ did that. Also it was rumored that someone called "GRGULA" killed STEVO BAČIĆ in the center of the village.

Also Đ. heard that during 1991 in the village of Tenja the following persons were killed: MATO NAĐ, MATO MIKOLAŠ (killed in his house) and someone called "LIČANIN" (found dead in the park), but he doesn't know who killed them or why.

Đ. states that after he was demobilized, and since the harvest began, he started working at the Tenja Farm cooperative, where he still works.

During 1993 he was mobilized and joined the Territorial Defence again and he kept watch in the settlement of Nova Tenja until 1996 when he was demobilized.

He also knows that during 1991 there was a mortar platoon in Tenja. The commander of the platoon was ĐORĐE MOMČILOVIĆ . In the same platoon were also SLOBODAN and DUŠAN JAVOR, someone called "PANTA" and someone whose surname was MOMČILOVIĆ (Đorđe Momčilović's cousin).

He doesn't have anything else to state.

Statement taken by Authorised official: Robert Golub

Statement given by: Đ.B.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
DALJ**



**ANNEX 19:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J. P.**

J.P. makes the following

STATEMENT:

1. BEGINNING OF THE WAR OPERATIONS ON 25 July 1991

On 25 July, the army, unprovoked by anybody started firing with heavy weaponry from the direction of Vojvodina in the direction of the village of Erdut. On that occasion, civilian objects were damaged, together with houses and the Orthodox Church in Erdut. There were also a few wounded members of the National Guard Corps. At the same time, missiles from the so-called "fire" destroyed the recreation center of the water company Osijek in Dalj, where ten members of the National Guard Corps were killed and seventeen were wounded. The wounded and dead – because there was no possibility to transport them over the hill of Bijelo Brdo – were transported to Aljmaš. There they were taken care of by the hospital staff from Osijek six hours after the attack. That the army was not provoked or attacked by anybody can be confirmed by the fact that the soldiers that were wounded or killed were all asleep when they were attacked, except for the regular guard. That day, all members of the National Guard Corps withdrew to Dalj, where they were accommodated in the building of the local kindergarten, which was across from the Catholic Church. I served a mass for the killed and the wounded. The local congregation and the Members of the Guard were in the mass, a number of whom went to confession and received communion.

2. EVENTS FROM 1 August 1991 AND LATER

On 1 August, around 4.00 am, we were woken up by detonations of missiles from the direction of Bogojevski most, Borovo Selo and Bijelo Brdo. We hid in the basements and stayed there until noon. Around noon, there was a deadly silence, occasionally broken by a few shots. As soon as the firing started, one part of the army with heavy arms, tanks, armored transporters and other military vehicles took off in the direction of Erdut (it is a branch of my parish in Dalj), and according to the testimonies of the refugees, they tore down houses on their way. They do not know what happened to the church. The other part of the army took off in the direction of Dalj, and firing tank missiles, entered the village. Their first target was the Police Station in Dalj, which already had been attacked by the local people. The tanks covered the attackers by imposing an ultimatum to the police to surrender and to the people to come out. Only a few policemen managed to come out of the building before it was fired at with tank missiles. I do not know how many people were killed and wounded.

After that, the local Serbian inhabitants "cleaned" the houses and the basements of the Catholics (the Croats and the Hungarians). During that time, I was alone in the parish house, both in the house and in the basement. I tried to go out of the house and come to the church, but I found myself under crossfire, so I had to return to the basement.

3. LEAVING THE VILLAGE AND THE JOURNEY TO OSIJEK

As the firing got closer and closer to the area called "Šokački kraj", where mostly Croats and Hungarians, that means Catholics, lived, I came out of the basement, and two young men, who were already running, told me that it was the last moment for us to hide. We went to the street with new houses, which had great basements, where since the morning hours

many people were hiding. When we heard that a barge from Aljmaš and buses from Osijek over Bijelo Brdo, escorted by the army, would be sent for us, around 8.00 pm a large group of men, women and children started off in that direction towards the exit of the village. Carrying a white flag and a banner with the inscription "SOS", we went to the main Bogojevo-Osijek road in the direction of Bijelo Brdo, towards Osijek. We were around 400 adults, not including the children, from the age of 80 to 3 months. On the road, we came across a military patrol. They asked us where we were going. When they found out about our intentions, they said that we could not leave.

They recommended us to return to Dalj, because the firing had stopped and nothing would happen to us. We were all afraid of what might happen when there was no army in Dalj. We begged to stay with them on the road over night. They told us that buses were waiting for the refugees in Sarvaš, but, since it was night, it would be "unsafe" to travel.

They told us that they were the Corps from Novi Sad and reservists from Vršac, Pančevo, Kruševac... We spent the night on the road. In the morning, when the captain came, negotiations began and we asked them to get the transport ready that was waiting for us. The army insisted that we should return to Dalj, because it was peaceful there, and because there was no firing and nothing would happen to us. Yet, at that moment, we heard a detonation from Dalj. Then, soldiers went to Dalj to check out the terrain. An hour later, they came back with a bus that was parked in Dalj. They recommended us again to return to our homes. One group of people accepted, and the bus full with people from Dalj started off, escorted by a military transporter. When the bus came back, the army offered a ride to Bogojevo. This time, the bus was also full. Those who remained begged them to take care of them, too, as they had promised. They found a bus of the firm "Agriculture Dalj", and we got on it, women, and children, old and weak people first. I was in that bus, too, because I was a heart patient. Led by a military transporter, the bus drove through Bijelo Brdo and passed the barricades without hindrance. However, the inhabitants shouted at us that the Ustasha would never again pass their village.

From Bijelo Brdo and Sarvaš to Osijek, the bus drove without military escort. We were brought to Županijska Street to the building of the municipality, where we were received. There we rested and restored our strength. Most of us were assigned to Josipovac. Those who were left in Dalj were taken by a bus, which had returned from Bogojevo, to Bijelo Brdo. There they were stopped, maltreated both verbally and physically, plundered and, finally, sent back to Dalj.

On Saturday, 3 August, with great difficulties, the remaining inhabitants of Dalj came over Bogojevo, Sombor and the Baranya to Osijek. On their way through Bačka, reservists told them: "What is the purpose of going to Osijek, when it will be leveled with the ground?" I do not have to mention that the inhabitants left everything behind: houses, cattle, and property.

#### 4. REVENGE AND MASSACRE

Eyewitnesses, who managed to escape, reported that a great number of National Guardsmen and policemen were killed. He said that he personally loaded 28 killed National Guardsmen and 6 civilians on his trailer. They were left on a heap of grass in the churchyard and the next day thrown into graves, which could be opened. It was the Catholic churchyard, of course. Eye witnesses reported that some of them had been treacherously killed, slaughtered in front of their wives, who were later taken in an unknown direction. As I have heard, the Serbian inhabitants initiated the persecution of the members of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ).

## 5. RELATIONSHIP OF THE INHABITANTS IN MY PARISH

I agree with the statement of the Archpriest Jovan Kljajić, rector of the Serbian Orthodox parish in Dalj, that, until recently, there was no strained relationship between the Catholic and the Orthodox people. The tension became obvious since the mass rally of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) a year ago, at which emissaries from Vojvodina and Serbia took part. A month later, a branch of the HDZ came into existence, but still, there were no open conflicts. The people ate and drank together; they met as ever before. About 40 days ago, we celebrated the Holy Confirmation, and the Orthodox priests, abbot Jovan and abbot Sergej, were present both in the service and at dinner. Whenever the bishop or the deacon came to the parish, they visited the Orthodox Church and its priests. We visited each other for every major church holiday and met in a friendly manner. When the church in Erdut was destroyed, I expressed my regrets and disappointment; my orthodox colleague was informed about it. All Catholic inhabitants were stunned over the deeds of their neighbors and relatives, who were Serbian Orthodox. The army had left the remaining Croatian inhabitants and their properties to their mercy. What is happening there at this moment, I can hardly say, because all telephone lines are broken. Those who managed to give notice of themselves dare not tell the whole truth. If we speak in terms of genocide, then I dare say that in this case it is genocide against the Croats and the Hungarians.

Osijek, 5 August 1991, from 10.45 am till 12.30 pm.

Statement given by: J.P.

### ANNEX 20: WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.K. (2)

Kir-36/92

March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1992

MILITARY OSIJEK

MARIJAN GARAC

ACCUSED I.K.

ŽELJKA MERKL

142 "st." 1

9.00

I. K.

M.K. AND I., maiden name J.

Village of Rumin, "SO" Sinj

..., ...in ..., Croat ethnic

Officer in the JNA

Single, no children

Elementary school, Secondary military school, Military Academy

No possessions

SECOND LIEUTENANT

The accused is informed that he is obliged to respond to all the subpoenas, and he is also obliged to inform this court about a possible change of address.

He is also informed that he has the right to choose a defence attorney, who is can start with the questionings.

In addition, the accused is informed about the reasonable suspicions against him, and that he is not obliged to defend himself or to answer any questions.

It is stated that attorney Nedjeljko Rešetar from Osijek is appointed public defender of the accused.

I am aware of all the above-mentioned warning, as well as of the reasonable suspicions against me. I am willing to submit a pleading and answer questions in front of my defender.

Present in the questioning of the accused were the deputy Military Prosecutor Dragan Pandžić, as well as the defender of the accused Nedjeljko Rešetar, attorney from Osijek.

I was born in ...

, "SO" Sinj in a numerous rural working family. I have 6 brothers and sisters. My father died in 1975. My family did not have enough money, so after elementary school I decided to enter the competition for the Secondary Military School "Bratstvo i Jedinstvo" in Belgrade in June 1983. After that I went to Belgrade for a medical examination, and after a while I was informed that I enroll in the mentioned school and that I could start attending in September 1983.

After 4 years I completed my secondary education, I was a rather good student.

After finishing Secondary Military School in Belgrade, I enrolled in the Military Academy for Land Forces, infantry branch, in Belgrade in September 1987. I spent three years at the academy, after which I was transferred to the Infantry Training Center in Sarajevo, in order to specialize in infantry, where I stayed for one year. After the specialization I was transferred back to Belgrade. On July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1991 was the graduation ceremony of my class, when I obtained the degree of the officer of the former JNA, rank of a Second Lieutenant.

The next day I was assigned to the duty in the First Military District in Belgrade, in the Corps of Kragujevac. Then I was transferred in the 51<sup>st</sup> Mechanical Brigade in Pančevo, which was part of the Corps in Kragujevac, while the Corps in Kragujevac is part of the First Military District.

I want to point out that 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Brigade from Pančevo already was on terrain when I joined it.

This Mech. Brigade from Pančevo was assigned to the village of Srpski Miletić, the village of Odžaci, where the command was stationed, and in the village of Bogojevo.

The same day of my arrival in Pančevo in my brigade, I was transferred to Odžaci. Other 19 Second Lieutenants and Sergeants, who previously had graduated from the Military Academy and the Secondary Military School were with me. To all of us this was the first terrain.

In Odžaci Colonel Enes Taso, who at the same time was Commander of the 51<sup>st</sup> Mech. Brigade in Pančevo, gave us reception. Immediately after that I was assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, stationed in the village of Srpski Miletić. The commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion was Second Lieutenant Mirko Bročeta.

As mentioned above, I was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mech. Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon, of which I was Commander, and although I was an infantry- man I remained Commander of that Mech. Platoon. There were 39 men in the platoon, of which 12 of them were soldiers and the others were reservists.

In my platoon I had 4 combat vehicles, each of the vehicles had a 20mm gun and a heavy machine gun PGT. The crewmembers of the vehicles had machine pistols, while the others



had automatic rifles. I personally was carrying a pistol, type "Zastava 765M". I did not fire that gun. When I came there was no commander of my company, because he had ran off, after which Second Lieutenant Voja Kovačević, former active officer in the tank corps of the ex-JNA, was appointed commander.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1991 I filled the post of the commander of the platoon in Srpski Miletić. There we stayed until August 1<sup>st</sup> 1991, where full-time soldiers and squad leaders trained soldiers.

Approximately two days after my arrival in Srpski Miletić, I asked the commander, Second Lieutenant Mirko Bročeta, for a seven days leave, which, according to the law, I had the right to. But the commander did not sanction my request, saying that forces of the Croatian National Guard were gathering around and in front of the bridge in Bogojevo. Therefore we were obliged to protect the bridge.

On July 24<sup>th</sup> 1991 I received a telegram from home, which said that my brother, P. K., had drowned in the river of Cetina. Again I asked the mentioned Second Lieutenant to allow me to go home, so I could attend my brother's funeral. The mentioned commander for the second time did not want to grant the allowance to leave the 2<sup>nd</sup> Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon.

As I have already mentioned, the former commander of my company had escaped. After he had escaped noone, that means the soldiers, the reservists or the officers of the former JNA, was granted a few days off to go home, correction, the reservists were allowed to go home home, because they rebelled and were granted a leave.

On August 1<sup>st</sup> 1991, in the morning hours, during breakfast, suddenly came the order to the battalion, that we had to leave Srpski Miletić and cross the bridge in Bogojevo, because some problems emerged in Erdut and that it was necessary to separate the air forces in the conflict. Besides, there was also a command to open fire only in case of an attack by the enemy. We moved in the ordered direction, my whole mech. battalion, but the complete battalion could not leave, because most of the men power was at home for the weekend, so that one combat vehicle was left behind in Srpski Miletić, because there was no crew. Then we crossed the bridge in Bogojevo, and the commander, Second Lieutenant Mirko Bročeta, ordered me to stay with my platoon at the entrance of Erdut, watched from the direction of the bridge in Bogojevo. At that time, my platoon consisted of three combat vehicles. We were stationed at that position for 4-5 days, and we controlled the passage of the road Erdut-Bogoevo. During these 4-5 days we neither took part in any combat operations nor did we use any infantry weaponry.

2 or 3 days later, a tank with the crew came. It was not under my command, but under the command of the tank company. All around there were other tanks, and also in Erdut.

When we were stationed at that point, two day later came the MP of the former JNA and searched the terrains and houses looking for weapons of persons, at which places weapons had been found. In the period we controlled the area I did not hear any shootings from infantry weaponry, nor did I hear or see that somebody was killed. I can say that, when we came on August 1<sup>st</sup> 1991, the 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Battalion and the 1<sup>st</sup> Mech. Battalion left to the villages of Dalj, Bijelo Brdo and Aljmaš. While they were overrunning these villages, firing from tanks, which means from armored combat vehicles, could be heard. One could hear approximately two or three detonations, after which nothing could be heard.

After a few days at the point came an order from the commander of the battalion that my platoon should withdraw to the hill Čvorkovo brdo, which was on the right side, watched

from the direction of the bridge of Bogojevo and in the direction of Bijelo Brdo, near the railway station in Erdut, where we stayed until September 15<sup>th</sup> 1991. When we came to Čvorkovo brdo, the commander of the company ordered the deployment of the combat vehicles, and ordered to the soldiers to dig trenches. Most of my battalion was up there, in fact my whole battalion was deployed there, while one part of the battalion was at the crossroad in Aljmaš, at the entrance to the village, where it remains until September 15<sup>th</sup> 1991. I personally never did approach the crossroad. During the period my platoon and the battalion were stationed at Čvorkovo brdo we did not take part in any combat operations.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> 1991 my battalion received an order by Second Lieutenant Mirko Bročeta to transfer to Bijelo Brdo, in order to substitute the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, which previously was stationed there until August 1<sup>st</sup> 1991. That battalion was also part of the Corps of Kragujevac.

When we arrived in Bijelo Brdo, my platoon was stationed at the entrance of Bijelo Brdo, while the weapons were pointed in the direction of the farm of Marinovci. My troops consisted of 4 armored vehicles, because one vehicle that was left behind in Srpski Miletić joined us. The number of men remained the same. We stayed there for 5-6 days, in fact we stayed there for 1-2 days and we did not take part in any combat operations. When Sarvaš was attacked, the former JNA ordered me to transfer my platoon between Sarvaš and Nemetin. When we arrived there, there already was a tank unit, deployed in a line with the barrels pointed at the town of Osijek. The 4 combat vehicles from my platoon were deployed in the same line and they too pointed their barrels at Osijek. We stayed there for 3-4 days and we did not take part in combat operations. After 3-4 days the whole battalion withdrew to Aljmaš, because an infantry substituted us, but I am not familiar of which brigade or corps. I think that the infantry belonged to the corps of Novi Sad.

After our arrival in Aljmaš we were stationed in houses, and there we stayed until October 15<sup>th</sup> 1991, while one part of my battalion was assigned to the mountain of Dalj. During our stay in Aljmaš we did not take part in combat operations.

Before our arrival in Aljmaš, there already was a group of volunteers, about 150-200 of them, which was securing and cleaning the terrain.

I would like to point out that around September 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> 1991 instead of Second Lieutenant Mirko Bročeta, Major Milenko Lukić was appointed Commander of the battalion.

During their few days stay in Aljmaš, the volunteer detachment from Šabac started maltreating and bringing in the civilians who still were in Aljmaš, and then they began to plunder possessions. After that, Major Milenko Lukić successively removed them from Aljmaš by sending them back home. We disarmed them.

Somewhere around October 15<sup>th</sup> 1991 the commander of the corps, i.e. the commander of the brigade Colonel Enes Taso, ordered me to move my platoon to the village of Trpinje, which I obeyed. Our commander was commander Tomislav Mrčela, who was commander of the tank company of my battalion. After that, my platoon was under his command. In addition to the 4 combat vehicles, my platoon got another 2 vehicles for taking out the wounded. On October 15<sup>th</sup> 1991, my platoon came to Trpinje, together with the tank unit. The unit consisted of 8 or 9 tanks of the type "55".

When we came to Trpinje we contacted the command unit, which already was stationed there. We asked why we were ordered to Trpinje. We were said that we had to attack Borovo Naselje and Vukovar, along the road of Trpinje, which Captain Tomislav Mrčela

and I refused. The next day came Major Milenko Lukić, because he was informed about our attitude towards the given order.

After our conversation with Major Lukić, we were given the order to go to the elevators in Bršadin, where we arrived on October 16<sup>th</sup> 1991 at 12 o'clock. There we were given the order to secure Bršadin and the elevator from attacks from Borovo naselje. After we arrived there infantry units came in, so that in one or two days 3 infantry battalions, which had the task to attack Borovo naselje and Lužac. The attack was carried out by the infantry between October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 1991. The attack did not succeed, because everybody dispersed. When the infantry attacks on the mentioned towns started, my platoon was continually taking out the dead and the wounded by transporters, which lasted until October 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 o'clock, by which time all the units withdrew and all the wounded were safe.

On October 17<sup>th</sup> 1991, after 12 o'clock, commander Lukić, who all the time was with us, gave us the order to go back to Aljmaš, and we did so. The whole battalion, as well as the tank unit, came back to Aljmaš.

A few days after our arrival in Aljmaš the whole task force escaped from the unit, so that only ordinary soldiers remained. On October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 1991 two groups of people came to expand the ranks of our unit, but they were not trained. Approximately at that time I asked for allowance to go home for some time, but I was not granted my request. I asked Major Lukić and the brigade command, but they would not let me leave.

On November 1<sup>st</sup> 1991, the whole battalion was given the order to go back to Bršadin. We asked for an explanation, and we were said that our task was to secure the terrain.

After we arrived in Bršadin, we were given the order to go to Lužac, which we were supposed to secure, after territorial forces and Arkan's people have seized it, because they were moving forward towards Lužac. That day Vukovar was attacked from all sides. We left Bršadin and came to the Đergaj wood, where we stayed. All the time I was accompanied by my platoon and the transporters, while the combat vehicles and the tank unit were assigned between Lužac and the village of Kriva Bara. The tank unit took part in combat operations. My platoon did not take part in any combat operation. In the early hours of November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1991, Lužac fell, that is, it already fell on November 1<sup>st</sup>, and the territorial forces and Arkan's people got into Lužac in the evening hours. In the morning hours on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1991 my battalion entered Lužac in order to secure the terrain. The territorial forces and Arkan's people were already there, however, they withdrew the same day, although a part of the territorial forces stayed there. One man from Arkan's group slaughtered five people. I got this information when I arrived in Lužac and I was said that these people were Croatian ethnics. When we came to Lužac, there happened to be a number of civilians of Serbian nationality.

The slaughtered people and those who previously died in action, among which there were members of the Croatian National Guard, were all buried in a common grave near the school in Lužac. The order was given by Major Lukić. Our command was assigned there at once, and the territory was put under military administration. We stayed in Lužac till November 22<sup>nd</sup> 1991, in fact, I am not sure of the exact date, but we stayed there until the fall of Borovo Naselje.

Sometime around Nov.4<sup>th</sup> 1991, a unit from Kragujevac, i.e. a battalion and the Military Police, which were supposed to separate Borovo Naselje and Vukovar and attack the area between these two towns from the direction of Lužac supported by the tank unit of my battalion, arrived in Lužac. The attack was initiated Nov.5<sup>th</sup> 1991. Some of my transporters took part in rescuing the wounded, while some of them supplied the area with food.

The way the attack was carried out was the following: the MP attacked from the left when looked from Lužac, that means from the right when looked in the direction of Vukovar. The infantry attacked from the left in the direction of Borovo naselje. The MP advanced in the battle by seizing the elevator in Vukovar, while the infantry had already seized the big sheds in Borovo Naselje. Fighting for the seizure of Vukovar continued.

The aim of the afore-said operations was to “physically” separate Borovo Naselje and Vukovar.

When one part of Vukovar and Borovo Naselje fell, I was given the order to go to Borovo Naselje with my platoon to take the weaponry, which was confiscated during the battles in Borovo Naselje and which was located in the basement of a building, which at that time had the function of a shelter. There were approximately 500 people, women and children, all civilians. Those who were badly wounded by the MP were separated on one side, and those slightly wounded and competent on the other. I am familiar with the information that women, children and the old people were supposed to be transported to Bršadin, and from there to the town of Novi Sad, and I know that the men, who were separated on the other side, were kept in Borovo Naselje. There were around 100-150 men, maybemore, but I do not know what happened to them. Reportedly, they were supposed to be transported to the prisoner-of-war camp in the town of Zrenjanin, but whether this happened or not, I really do not know.

The women, children and the old people were escorted by regular soldiers and tanks to Bršadin, because they had been threatened by territorial forces. The same night my unit was transported to Lužac. The weaponry was loaded on a cargo vehicle. We spent the night in Lužac, and in the morning the whole battalion went back to Aljmaš, which happened, I think, around Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1991. Until February 18<sup>th</sup> 1992 I was stationed in Aljmaš with my unit, after which I was granted a free weekend. During that period my unit did not take part in combat operations. I would like to point out that Colonel Enes Taso was relieved of his duty of the commander of the brigade. Colonel Zoran Jovanović was appointed to the post of the above-mentioned, and it was him who granted me a ten days leave.

In the evening of Feb.18<sup>th</sup> 1992 I came to Belgrade, where I spent a few days at my friends'. I was in Borca, a district in Belgrade, and then I went to the army barracks in Pancevo to get my civilian clothes, which I put on and went back to Belgrade.

Next morning I took off for Sarajevo, then to Mostar, and finally I came to Imotski, where I reported myself at the Military Police. After that I was transported to Split, only to be taken in at the MP in Osijek 5-6 days later.

All the time I have spent in the JNA I was trying to escape, but I would not succeed. Besides, I would like to point out the fact that in the town of Trogir in April 1991 I talked to a certain Vlado about me switching over to the Ministry of the Interior (MUP) of the Republic of Croatia. I was willing to accept, only I had to promote to the rank of Second Lieutenant in order to be admitted to the MUP. However, soon after the promotion we were assigned to our duties, which I already said, after which there was no possibility to escape.

On the question of the military prosecutor I can say that the attack was carried out by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Battalion, and that at that time Major Milenko Lukić was commander, but he became commander of my 2<sup>nd</sup> Mechanical Battalion not before Sept.15<sup>th</sup> 1991. The target of the attack was the line Dalj-Sarvaš.

I was not familiar with the happenings, massacres and slaughter in Dalj until the inspector of the Police Department in Split mentioned it.

When I graduated in Sarajevo, I was expected to join the Yugoslav Movement, because it was a way of expressing loyalty towards Yugoslavia. However, I refused to join the movement, and therefore I was questioned a several times by a certain captain called Dragan, who worked for the State Security Department.

Asked by the defender, I can say that I do not know who the commanding officer of the Unit of Volunteers was.

I was not in the position of leaving my unit without a special pass because the whole area was controlled by the MP. Had I only passed the bridge in Bogojevo, it would not have been difficult to escape.

This is my statement; I have nothing else to say. No further questions.

Questioning finished at 12pm

Statement given by: I.K.

**ANNEX 21:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.K.**

A.K., from .... I was born on .... in Majdan, Mrkonjić grad, Bosnia and Herzegovina. I have been living in Dalj since 1955. I am married and have four children – sons. My son, P., died in the Homeland War in Dalj on 1 August 1991, as a member of the MUP (Ministry of the Interior) reserve. He died in the street when he went to help an attacked police station. P. was born on 7 July 1957. As far as education is concerned, I have completed trade school as a lathe operator. I worked in .... I have been retired since June of last year. During the war I was a civilian in Dalj. After the attack of the “Yugo” army I left on 2 August 1991. I went through Aljmaš on the Danube River to Osijek. Now I am in Opatija, where I was accommodated as a refugee in the Hotel “Rojal”.

I am giving the following:

**STATEMENT**

On 1 August 1991, at about 4 a.m., the Yugoslav army attacked Dalj. They fired grenade launchers and artillery across the Danube River, and even the Yugoslav Navy participated in the attack. In our street two houses were hit. There were dead and wounded civilians in the streets. I know that the baker died, Macedonian of Croatian nationality. Chetniks from Borovo, under the command of Marko Lončarević, barged into their house and killed the baker, his family, and two workers at the bakery. The baker’s name was Antun. Božo Tadijan is one of the workers killed. I know this from a worker who managed to escape from the massacre. He escaped through the drainage ditches to the other side of the village and talked about it there. His last name is P., first name S. I think. The sons of the baker who were killed were taken to Osijek and there buried.

The same Chetniks also killed Ilija Galić in his house on Republika Street. The wife hid behind the stove and saw everything from there. She is now in Zagreb somewhere. I think her name is Ankica.

Chetniks and local Serbs were doing the killing. They killed civilians on their own initiative. Stjepan Lijić was killed by his neighbors Janko Stanar and his son, originally

from Knin. They also killed a Hungarian man who was a driver with OLTU and was retired. His name was Janoš Sabo and he was killed by Chetniks

They also killed a member of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Party) board, Andrija Ripić.

Together with my son a policeman from Sarvaš died – Takač.

First the evacuation started by foot to Osijek. At the Aljmaš intersection JNA tanks were blocking any passing. It was raining. About 200 civilians, many small children were lying in the drainage ditch all night. I escaped through the cornfield to Aljmaš. Aljmaš was full with vehicles. That day, on 1 August 1991, a boat took about 900 civilians to Osijek. I arrived at about midnight between 1 and 2 August. Aljmaš was entirely surrounded by JNA tanks. We stayed the night there. The day after, in the afternoon, about 30 of us gathered. The remaining people from the police station arrived. Most policemen who were at the station died. They leveled it with tanks. Maybe just one wounded person managed to escape out of there.

In the village Chetniks arrested many people and took them to prison in Borovo. I think about 20 persons.

We arrived in Osijek from Aljmaš by boat, where by small boats we got to the shore, and then were driven by truck to Osijek. There was about 30-40 of us on the truck, about ten civilians, the rest were guards and policemen. We arrived in Osijek between 4-4.30 p.m.

Some went from Dalj to Osijek by bus. One busload did not have major problems, but the second was stopped in Bijelo Brdo. There Chetniks beat them and kept mainly all men. One part they took to the prison in Borovo. The third bus came to Osijek across Vojvodina. The fourth bus was an IPK bus from the vineyard, and was the first (1 August 1991) to evacuate civilians to Osijek across Vojvodina. Many evacuated with their personal vehicles across Vojvodina. Some came to Osijek and others stayed in Vojvodina, there they had to report to the Red Cross. They were placed in the Senta area. Many of them were placed in various prisons later: B.A., M.K., and afterwards a professor N.R. – he was severely beaten by one of his former students, because he never gave him an A. they later came to Croatia. There were many people who ended up in prison in such a manner. Stjepan Paček remained in Dalj for one year and then fled across Vojvodina and Bosnia to Croatia, because they were preparing to kill him. Now he is in Osijek as a defender.

The witness A.K. confirms the authenticity of the statement with his signature, that it was given without force, and that the written statement corresponds to the spoken.

In Opatija, 15 June 1993

Statement given by: A.K.

Statement taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

**ANNEX 22:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF H.S.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSJEČKO – BARANJSKA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PS II OSIJEK – PI DALJ  
No: 511-07-56-KU-205/94  
17<sup>th</sup> June 1994

H.S.  
Occupation: worker  
Born on ...  
Address: ...  
Temporary address: ...

**OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM**

On 17<sup>th</sup> March 1994 she gave in the Police department in Dalj the following information:

In the interview H. S. states that on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1991 she was with her husband I.S. in their family house in Dalj, in the so-called Serbian part of Dalj, and when the artillery attack started they took shelter in the cellar of the house. When the artillery preparation finished, her husband I. went out to see whether the house had been damaged. While he was in the backyard, somewhere around 10.00 hrs H. heard a machine-gun burst and her husband I.S. was hit in the stomach after which he soon died. The neighbours, the Serbs, saw the murder of her husband, STEVO GRBIĆ and DARA, STEVO and IVANKA ORSIĆ and VELINKA KIKANOVIĆ. Shortly after the shootings, two unknown, armed men in uniforms came into her house and searched it looking for weapons, which, allegedly, H.'s husband I. owned. They did not find anything during the raid.

On the same day around 15.00 H. went to get a coffin for her husband and she saw at RADOVAN NIŽIVOJEVIĆ's house three dead bodies whose identity she did not find out. When she was going back home, she went to the doctor ŽARKO MEDIĆ and asked him to give her a death certificate and a permission for the burial. He did that and as a reason for death wrote heart attack, and charged for the services. On 02<sup>nd</sup> August 1991 they came for the body of the deceased husband I. with a tractor and a trailer on which a lot of dead bodies were loaded, H. does not know the exact number.

When she came to the Catholic cemetery to bury her husband she saw 37 dead bodies lying in the backyard of the cemetery 7 of which were completely naked. Later, when she was getting home she saw in the backyard of her neighbour I.O., called N., in ... Street, masked uniforms of the Croatian army hanging on a rope, drying.

Furthermore, H. states that several times her house has been shot at from fire-arms and on one occasion in October 1991, around 22.00 hrs, they threw an explosive device at her house and that then the doors were damaged and the windows were broken. She found out from her neighbours that I.O., called N. and D.S., both from Dalj, did that. All that she reported to the Station of the so-called SAO police, but they did not even examine the place.

From fear that she would be killed one day, she went to the president of the so-called Municipality of Dalj, ĐORĐE ČALOŠEVIĆ, called ĐOKO BRIGA and asked for a permit to leave Dalj and go to Hungary. Čalošević said that she could go away from Dalj, but

under a condition that she should give all her property to the Local Community of Dalj. For fear of her life, H. accepted. On 08<sup>th</sup> November 1991 ĐORĐE ČALOŠEVIĆ, BRIGA and ILIJA UTVIĆ from Osijek came to her house and made a Minutes on giving her movables and immovable property to the Local Community in Dalj. Immediately after that, Čalošević permitted her to leave Dalj and gave her the permit. On the same day H. went to Odžaci to her son's Đ.S. where she spent some time, and then she went to the Republic of Austria where she found a job and where she lives in ... In the Republic of Croatia, in Osijek lives her daughter V.S., ....

The witness has nothing more to state about the mentioned events.

ENCLOSURE:

Photocopy of the Minutes on giving the property to the Local Community in Dalj.

Statement taken by Authorized official person: Miroslav Kovčalija

Statement given by: H.S.

**ANNEX 23:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.D.**

WITNESS: S. (I.) D.

age: ...

born in Osijek

Address: ...

Temporary address: ...

Occupation: worker

Warned that he must speak the truth, and that the false statement is a criminal deed and that he must say everything and that he does not have to answer the questions from the article 219 ZKP.

I was exiled from Dalj on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 1992 and about 100 of us were exiled from Dalj, of different age, there were children, young people and old people. There were men and women. We were exiled from Dalj in two buses. As far as I know the national composition of the exiled people was that that there were Croats and Hungarians. After the temporary occupation of Dalj, the temporary occupational government was presented by their so-called Headquarters and I can say that all the accused participated in this government, and among them the most influential were Vaso Gavrilović, Đorđe Čalošević, called "Briga" and Jovan Milinković, called "Grbavi Jovica". We, the Croats, had to report every day to this headquarters, because they were in that way watching that some of us would not escape from Dalj. We, the Croats, were forced to work, we loaded the wheat, mowed the graveyard, that is the grass on the graveyard, loaded the pigs that they had stolen from the Croats. If I had refused to go to this forced work, I think that they would have killed me. All these accused were the members of the SDS (the Serbian Democratic Party) party in Dalj and I can say for all of them that they distinguished themselves as extreme Serbs.

On the day when I was exiled from Dalj I was in fact exiled in such a way that while I was standing on the street a car stopped by me and I was forced to get on a bus and during that I was beaten by unknown men wearing uniforms, I think that these were the so-called "Arkanovci", and with them were two familiar persons, the already mentioned Đorđe Čalošević, called "Briga" and Jovan Milinković, called "Grbavi Jovica". I know that then



these two told these "Arkanovci" that I was a member of the HDZ party and the Ustasha and that I should be killed and so they pushed me into the bus. In two buses we were brought to Sarvaš and then we had to walk towards Nemetin.

When the bus stopped in Sarvaš, I saw there by the bus stop Marko Lončarević and I saw him wearing uniform and weapons and I know that he was a member of their police. That Marko Lončarević was a policeman before the war, and then he was retired as a policeman because of a murder he had done.

I can say that these Serbs from Dalj had a method, that they did not actually molest us, torture and beat us, the Croats in Dalj after its temporary occupation, and I can certainly say that for myself, but they sent some unknown persons to us, the Serbs from other places, and not from Dalj, to beat and torture us, so that they could stay "clean" towards us. These Serbs from Dalj had, however, beaten some other people, Croats, from some other places, the Croats who were not from Dalj, for example, the Croats from Baranja, that they would bring to Dalj, and then they would interrogate in their police station, beat, torture, kill, throw to the Danube, and these were the Serbs from Dalj doing this, the domestic Serbs, because these Croats from Baranja did not know them.

I can say that while there were fights in Vukovar, that a lot of captured Croatian soldiers and civilians from Vukovar, and especially after the clashes were over, were brought to Dalj, and that here in Dalj, and mostly in Dalj, they were interrogated in their police station, that they were beaten, tortured and murdered here in Dalj and thrown into the Danube. So, Dalj was, in a way, the centre where these crimes happened.

I single out one case when the Croatian soldiers that were captured during the clashes in Vukovar, were brought from Vukovar to Dalj and then were dressed into the uniforms of the former JNA and then they were tied up and killed and thrown in the Danube and then the Serbian TV filmed their bodies in the Danube and they showed this as though were the murdered soldiers of the former JNA that were thrown in the Danube by the Croats near Vukovar, but that was not true.

As far as I know, the reason why we were exiled from Dalj, was that the Serbs who came to Dalj from the, possibly, free parts of the Republic of Croatia were to be settled in our houses, so that the occupation authorities in Dalj wanted to show this new state of things, as though we, the Croats, had never lived in Dalj, but that these were all Serbs. I saw that these that came were settled in groups, for example in the fire brigade hall, so they waited there for 2 or 3 days while we, the Croats were exiled, so that they could go into our empty houses.

The witness has nothing more to state.

There are no questions for the witness.

The parties have nothing to object to the witness's statement.

The witness did not take the oath.

After the parties' statements, the witness is excused from the court-room.

The Council brings the

SOLUTION

The evidence will be produced by watching the video enclosed to the papers of the subject.

By watching the video-cassette it is confirmed that in the first part of the content of the film it is seen and heard that the Croats from Dalj and Aljmaš leave these places on a barge, somewhere on the mouth of the rivers of Drava and Danube, including children, women and elder persons, while the young ones stay in these places saying that they will defend these places, and it is about the event that happened on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1991, and on that day there were clashes in Dalj, and it is, together with Aljmaš, occupied on the same day.

Statement given by: S.D.

Statement taken by: Court council

**ANNEX 24:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF E.M.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT OSJEČKO-BARANJSKA  
II PS – PI DALJ  
No. 511-07-56-XU 205/94  
Date: May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1994

OFFICIAL NOTE

Citizen: E.M.

occupation: retiree

Born: ...

residence in: Dalj

Street: ...

on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1994

In the rooms of the Second Police Station in Osijek-“PI” Dalj,

On the subject of \_\_\_\_\_(blank) Temporary residence in: ...

To the authorized person of the Police branch-office in Dalj

Gave the following pieces of information:

In the informative interview E.M. points out that after the attacks of the Serbian Chetniks on Dalj on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991, he stayed in Dalj. His son J.M., employe in the Ministry of the Interior, Police Department in Dalj, died while defending his village, and E. buried him in the local Catholic cemetery in Dalj.

After the seizure of Dalj, E. stayed with his wife R.M., and they witnessed plundering in the Croatian houses by their neighbors from Dalj. During his stay in the temporarily occupied Dalj he went to work at the “Prkos”, pig farm situated between the villages of Dalj and Erdut. E. points out that several times the so-called “Arkanovci” (Arkan’s people) came to the farm and physically maltreated the Croatian workers on the farm, especially ZORAN GORETIĆ from Erdut. The director of the farm was at that time MILOVAN ČURČIĆ from Dalj, who openly protected the Croats.

He stayed in Dalj until April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1992, one day before the Catholic church Easter holiday. According to E., that day, the representatives of the self-established Serbian government in Dalj, with two buses, began to banish the remaining Croatian inhabitants from Dalj.

Around 5.00 pm that day, uniformed and armed, and to him unknown men banged on his gate, and later he found out that they were members of the “Arkanovci” paramilitary units. He did not open the gate immediately, so they broke in and under threat of arms forced him and his wife onto the bus. E. noticed that the process of banishment was led by four inhabitants of Dalj, and they were accompanied by four of “Arkan’s people”, who were wearing green camouflage uniforms and were armed with long automatic weapons. The lists of the remaining Croatian inhabitants, who were supposed to be banished, contained ĐORĐE ČALOŠEVIĆ, called ĐOKO BRIGA from ..., and it was he and JOVAN MILINKOVIĆ called GRBAVI, also from ..., who first came into the court yards and under curses chased them out of the yards, whereby “Arkan’s people” beat them. Together with them E. also saw BOŽIDAR JOVIĆ called BOŠKO TRGOVAC from Dalj, ... and a young man, whom he later found out to be ĐORĐE MILINKOVIĆ, the son of Jovan Milinković, Grbavi. While they were banished, they were not allowed to take their packed bags with them, which they had ready because they had expected to be banished one day. They were told that they would be sent to Tuđman for Easter and they cursed the mayors Kramarić and Glavaš and their Ustasha ancestry. The loudest of them were Đoko Briga and Jovan Milinković, and “Arkan’s people” ardently supported them. Boško Dobrić and Đorđe Milinković stood beside the bus and urged them to get on the bus more quickly, because Tuđman was already waiting for them.

In the interview, E. points out that the bus set off at the beginning of the village, at the entrance from the direction of Erdut. They first drove onto the bus Petar and Stane Paradžik, and then he and his neighbors, the P. family. The bus drove through the whole village and pulled over in front of Croatian houses, and the same picture keeps repeating: Đoko Briga and Jovica Grbavi broke into the court yards and drove the people into the buses and then moved on. E. says that in the bus they were not allowed to look at the faces of “Arkan’s people”, and if they did, they were hit in the head. The last street they passed was Dimitrije Tucović Street, where they picked up the Banović family. With around 60 people in it, the bus set off in the direction of the village of Sarvaš. On the way to Sarvaš they made plans about what to do with the people in the bus. The man called Briga said that it would be best to bring them to Erdut, to Arkan, who would throw them all in the Danube. In the end they decided to let them go to Osijek, where the “Zengas” would kill them, because they thought them traitors of Croatia.

In the late hours they brought them to Sarvaš, and then they were forced out of the bus and sent in the direction of Osijek under the threat that if they came back that they would kill them. The representatives of the self-established government in Dalj, ĐORĐE ČALOŠEVIĆ, JOVAN MILINKOVIĆ, BOŽIDAR DOBRIĆ and ĐORĐE MILINKOVIĆ were in the bus with them all the way to Sarvaš, and they said that all the Croats from Dalj would share the same destiny.

On their way from Sarvaš to Nemetin they passed a mine area, and in Nemetin they were met by the Croatian Army, which together with the representatives of the Red Cross from Osijek and the town government sent them to the town and organized accommodation for them. Since then, Emil lives in ... He has nothing else to say about the afore-said events.

Statement taken by Authorized official: Miroslav Kovčalijski

Statement given by: E.M.

**ANNEX 25:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.P.**

OFFICIAL RECORD – DALJ

M.P., ..., born ., lives in .... Now lives temporarily in

....

In the informative interview with M. she stated that she was at home in Dalj on the day of the attack on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1991, together with her parents and she stated that she did not leave the house, therefore did not see what was happening in the town during that day. On the following days, Željko Čizmić came to her parents' house in the company of M.'s neighbor S.B., who searched the house. During her stay in Dalj she was a witness to the looting of houses of banished Croatian residents.

She stayed in Dalj until 18 April 1992 before she and her parents were banished from Dalj. The banishing was organized and executed by Đorđe Čalošević, aka Đoko Briga, and locals accompanied him from Dalj – Jovan Milinković, Đorđe Milinković and Božidar Dobrić. M. stated that the four were wearing civilian clothing and unarmed, but they were accompanied by security, which consisted of three armed and uniformed persons. They threw them out of the house without permission to pack anything and Jovan Milinković took the keys. During this time M.'s father rebelled which prompted Đorđe Čalošević and one of "Arkan's" men to start hitting him. M. stated that mostly all of her neighbors were gathered and banished.

Into the houses of Croats who needed to be banished first would enter Đorđe Čalošević, he carried a list of Croats to be banished, and was followed by Jovan Milinković, he walked in front of the bus and pointed to the houses that needed to be entered. The bus, which drove the banished Croats, started driving from the entrance into Dalj coming from Erdut and regularly stopped and they would banish the Croatian resident of Dalj who were left in the temporarily occupied town. M. pointed out that there were about 60 persons on the bus and among the last banished was the Banović family from Dimitrije ...

After the bus was filled, they headed for the village of Sarvaš. During the drive they would insult and occasionally strike them, they also cursed their Ustasha mothers and all representatives of the legal Croatian Government. M. stated that on the way to the village of Sarvaš they would talk aloud about where to take them, whether they should take them to Erdut where Arkan was so that he could throw them into the River Danube, but they still decided to take them in the direction of Osijek and said that it would be better since the members of the "ZNG" would kill them because they had betrayed Croatia.

Upon arrival in Sarvaš they let them off the bus and showed them into the direction of Osijek. They got to Nemetin by foot where the Croatian Army waited for them and sent them along to Osijek. She also stated that the group consisted of about 100 people who were banished.

She settled in Osijek with her parents where she lives today in ....

She has nothing more to add to the events which occurred.

Statement taken by Authorized Official: Miroslav Kovčalija

Statement given by: M.P.

**ANNEX 26:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.D.**

LAST NAME D.  
FIRSTNAME, FATHER'S NAME: M., ...  
YEAR OF BIRTH: ...  
PLACE OF BIRTH: ...  
RESIDENCE: ...  
TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:  
OCCUPATION: Guard  
EMPLOYMENT:  
MARITAL STATUS: Married  
CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
NATIONALITY: Croatian

I am giving the following

STATEMENT

They thought that I had weapons and that I handed them around in Varteks in Ilok. This was in February 1992. Later they held me responsible for the fact that M.B. supposedly made bombs, weapons. They said that I had to know this since he was my neighbor. They claimed that I had to know what he made, where he made it and where he hid it. I did not see nor did I know where he hid it: I did not go into his workshop; we just greeted each other on the street. He was a locksmith and had his own workshop and machines.

The day they arrested me the Army did not beat me. They took me for questioning. They kept me in prison at the police station. That night in Prison the police beat me. D. V. was also there. Everyone had his own cell. The prison was at the police station in Ilok. They let me go after three days since I had not confessed anything. Afterwards the police caught me, searched my house and found a gun. That police was of their SAO Krajina.

This happened in March 25<sup>th</sup> 1992 and at that time they arrested me and took me away. I was in that prison for three days and three nights. During the day they questioned me, and they would come three times during the night and beat me. They beat me with a gunstock, fists, feet... Nobody was with me in the room, and then four or five of them came and started beating me. None of them was from Ilok. There were policemen from Ilok but they did not participate in the beating. They knew everybody that beat me. I know only one that questioned me, his name was Milan Babić. They kept me there for three days and took me to Dalj later. I was in Dalj for two and a half months. They kept us in a private house in Dalj on which they had put bars on the windows and doors. That was the second house next to the Catholic church. I was in Dalj when they mined the church in Dalj. After the windows and doors of the house cracked and the roof came down from the detonation, we were transported to another building. The church was mined around 12:30 in the night. The entire church was destroyed only the tower remained. This tower hung on one single wire. They mined this also the next day. I mowed the grass in front of the church the day before. One guard was guarding me, and later three more came to watch the surrounding of the church. Two of them were in uniform and one looked like an agent and was in civilian clothes. He asked the guard how he could get into the church the easiest way. At that time I did not know why he had asked this. The next day I heard when they mined the church. When they went around the church they were looking for where they could put the

explosive most easily. One Serb neighbor was cursing because they had torn down his house. Nobody was killed here only houses were torn down. They transferred me to prison in Beli Manastir from there. They transferred four or five of us to Beli Manastir. That prison was near the bridge when going with the railway. They arranged it so that there were around ten rooms there. The following were in that prison: Đ.B. from Tovarnik, I.Š. from Vinkovci, V. from Vinkovci, two by the last name A. from Pula and another one whose name I do not know. The two from Pula were members of the Croatian Defence Forces (HOS), I. and V. were in the Croatian Army (HV). V. K. was sentenced to two years, which he served. He was at the UNPROFOR and they did not let him into Croatia for an entire month. They did not beat me in this prison since I respected everybody and did not defy anybody. Once I was beaten but by Serbs who were also in prison. They hated us for being Ustasha. I did not even think they would but all of a sudden there were three on top of me. Their police officers came later and defended me. I was all bloody then. They took me for questioning only once. They tortured us in that way that they would take individuals out of their room to another where Serbs were imprisoned. They took us from one room to the other so the Serbs could beat us. When the Serbs in one room would beat us they would take us to another room for the Serbs to beat us. When these would finish beating us they would take us back to our rooms.

When I was at court in Dalj I was sentenced to seven years in prison. I had a right to a defence but I was defended by one of them. They charged me for having bombs at my house, a gun and a shotgun for an armed rebellion against the Serbs. They did not bring any witnesses but just convicted us. They brought us to court with cuffed hands. When they brought us to court they would take off the handcuffs that they would put back on us when we left.

In Beli Manastir the court was in the kindergarten. From that prison we were taken to work on fields or to load and unload wood, coal... Two or three Guards were guarding us. When we were walking down the street nobody knew that we were prisoners. They would hold their revolvers when they would find out that we were Ustashes. Almost everybody had a revolver at that time. When I was there two or three months earlier everybody was free to have a revolver. Then they started to shoot at each other, mostly because of money. For example: they would have a drink or two at the inn, and then they would get into a fight and kill each other. Every now and then somebody would go to prison. Maybe there are around 80 convicted for murder. All of them are Serbs.

One woman from Sinj, Croatian nationality, married a Serb from Kikinda. The two of them went to the battlefield near Vinkovci as volunteers. They also fought near Tovarnik. They stayed there for good later and took a house in Lovas. They are in prison now but they have not been convicted yet. They came to an inn and her husband fired a machine gun at the woman who owned the inn, who then fell. Afterwards his wife came and fired three bullets into the woman's head. Two men came and took the woman away and threw her into a well. They held her in prison for that, her name is Tonka. In prison she told how the Ustasha in Sinj killed her father, mother and daughter. I said at this that I would look into it.

One of them also confessed two murders. This was the one who threw the woman into the well; they called her "grandma". He was a Serb refugee from Croatia. There was also a Gipsy by the name of Savo, he was from Darda. They put him into our cell and then I asked him: "What are you in for?" He said: "I killed two Ustasha." I told him: "It was good that you killed them when they are no good." When he went to court the next day they must have told him that he was in a cell with Ustashes. When he came back from court he denied everything he had said before. I told him: "How could you? See, you thought that these are

Serbs when you came, and now you have seen that there are Ustashas here as well.” Later I found out that he had killed his grandparents in Darda. He wanted to rob them because he had thought the house was empty, and then he killed them and robbed the house.

Before Christmas we were taken for an exchange that did not succeed. Two or three women and two men with machine guns came before us. They came up to the guards and said: “Come on, let the Ustasha go so we can kill them.” They were civilians, and they were shouting this from a car. They came in front of the Red Cross and would not exchange us, as if they wanted to kill us all. There were seven of us and we were sitting from 9:30 a.m. to 20:00 p.m. We were not allowed to go anywhere or they would kill us. The UNPROFOR was waiting in its vehicles and just watching this. They went to these negotiations and did not exchange us. They brought us back in the evening. The Red Cross went after us later in order to see if they were taking us in an unknown direction or to prison. When the Red Cross came to the prison in Beli Manastir they saw us there.

After two or three days they came to us and said: “Now you are going to Otočac. If they do not exchange you, you are going to prison in Knin.” From there they took us to Bačka Palanka, Erdevik and around over Bosnia and Herzegovina to Otočac. They were driving us in one jeep. Everything around us was destroyed, burned and ruined. They took us to the exchange on December 23<sup>rd</sup> 1993.

We had television in prison. The warden of the prison used to be the warden of the prison in Osijek. We could also receive mail there. They would read the letters we would receive before us and also those we would send. We would buy newspapers only once a month because they were very expensive and we had to pay for them ourselves. The imprisoned Serbs could also receive visitors. Their conditions were better than ours.

There were also serious murderers in that prison. One Montenegrin for example who had killed seventeen Croats. He had killed six or seven women and the rest were men. He and his wife were killing people in the area around Darda. They were robbing and killing for money. His name was Dušan and he was awaiting a trial at the international court. They had reported him as a war criminal. Later they brought four boys. They were around the age of seventeen or eighteen. They had killed a boy and his mother. They undressed them later and put the boy on top of his mother. They left them like this. They wanted to kill them at once. They took them to prison after all.

At the end of April 1992 they brought I.S. to prison. When they brought him to my cell he was not aware of anything around him because he had been beaten so much. He had cuffs around his hands and ankles. When he came to the door they pushed him, so that he “flew” into the corridor and he had already been half-dead. They took him inside to show how they had captured an Ustasha. They showed this on Novi Sad TV. They asked him if there were soldiers in the neighborhood and he answered that there were many soldiers and that they were armed now and had a lot of weapons. He told them many things then. They must have dragged him for 10 km up the Danube River only to kill him there and throw him into the river. But since there was always someone along the Danube they did not kill him. They returned with him from there. They took him with me to Dalj. He did not go on walks with us, only once a week he would go outside.

Zagreb, March 11<sup>th</sup> 1994.

Statement taken by: Šimun Penava

Statement given by: M.D.

**ANNEX 27:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.A.**

M. (F.) A.  
Occupation: worker  
Address: ...  
Temporary address: ...  
Age: ...

I have lived with my family on the railway station in Dalj since my husband worked as a railroader, and I worked in Borovo. Since the railway station was far from Dalj, I did not have much contact with the people from Dalj, so that I almost do not know anybody from the village of Dalj. During the fall of Dalj, my husband and I were on the railway station Dalj where the reserve from Bogojevo captured us, demolished our apartment by firing from the fire-arms and in other ways molested and threatened us.

On these days our son was also captured who worked as a policeman in the Croatian police and he was molested in these Serbian prisons until he was exchanged in the middle of August, and my husband and I stayed in our apartment until 6<sup>th</sup> October 1991 when someone named Košutić told us that we had to leave our apartment in the next 24 hrs, because otherwise we would disappear or they would liquidate us.

To get out of Dalj, we had to go to the Serbian command post and ask for permits, and I had to sign in this Command post, where their chief was Milorad Stričevac, a paper that I leave my whole property to the Serbian commands in the village of Dalj.

As to my knowledge of war crimes, I only know that these members of these Serbian forces three or four days after the fall of Dalj killed our friend Franjo Kovčalića, but I cannot say who did that and by whose order. They allegedly killed him for the reason that his brother was a commander of the police in Dalj.

I also heard, during my residence there, that they killed the journalist Stjepan Penić and then set his body on fire, but I also do not know who personally did that.

I have nothing more to state, I do not want to read the minutes because I listened to the dictation.

Done at 09.05 hrs.  
Statement given by: M.A.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
BERAK**



**ANNEX 28:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J. G.**

SURNAME: G.  
NAME, FATHER'S NAME: J., ...  
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ...  
RESIDENCE: ...  
TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
EDUCATION:  
OCCUPATION: farmer  
EMPLOYMENT:  
MARITAL STATUS: married  
CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

STATEMENT

At first I noticed Serb guards. I saw them holding meetings. All of my neighbors held meetings. Those meetings were held in several houses. They were in favor of Chetniks. The army used to visit them. They openly spoke against Croats. They called us Ustashas. The commander of their Crisis Staff was ŽIVKO Momić. He had previously been a farmer. The army treated us, Croats, much better than the reservists. The reservists who arrived were the members of the Arkan and Šešelj units, and they did us wrong, along with the local Serb civilians. The reservists wore camouflage uniforms, and had cockades on their caps. Some Serb villagers wore the army uniforms, and some were dressed in camouflage uniforms. In August our relations deteriorated. Later they blockaded the region.

On September 2, 1991, the village was attacked. My Serb neighbor, Ž.P. was just passing by and he shouted at me that the army were coming and that they would kill all of us. The villagers of Banovci, Orolik, Negoslavci and Laze came along with the army. They came with tanks and occupied the entire village. They wanted to provoke an armed conflict, but there was no resistance. The villagers escaped through the fields. Later we found four murdered civilians. Some people were wounded. The wounded were captured and interned in camps. Some were exchanged, some were not.

I saw when the Serbs were provided with arms by the JNA. A truck arrived. They unloaded the arms at Momić and Branko Jekić's houses. Both of them are villagers of Berak. Branko Jekić was a farmer, some years younger than I (three or four years).

Before this attack there were no incidents in the village. There was some shooting, but there were no murders. They wounded my son at the barricade. We know the one who wounded him was among the villagers who were standing near the local school, because at that time there were no soldiers in the village. This happened at night. We could hear shooting from all sides. Whoever came by was stopped, battered or shot at.

After they had occupied the village, they gathered men in front of the village headquarters. Those were mostly elderly men. ŽIVKO Momić held a speech. He told us to collect our dead and bury them. In addition he said that we had to feed the abandoned livestock of those Croats who had escaped. We also had to bury the dead cattle. Several days later,

while I was feeding hogs in my front yard, my neighbor M.R. (who died in the meantime) came and ordered me to go to the headquarters. He wore civilian clothes, but his sons were dressed in uniform. I asked him what for. He said that he should not tell me, but he would. He said that the army claimed there were two radio transmitters in the village and that we were ordered to find them. When I came to the headquarters, they told me that I was supposed to go to the Cooperative, where I was to be interrogated. The headquarters were stationed in the district office. I went to the Cooperative. A lot of civilians and soldiers were standing there. At that point they brought many men and women who lived in the other street. They pushed in front of themselves with their rifles. All of those people were Croatian villagers, and Serbs brought them. They locked us into a storehouse. We did not get anything to eat. We sat on the concrete. In the morning, the commanders of the headquarters arrived. Those were Dragan Knežević, Đoko Vuletić and Dujo VOJNOVIĆ. They had earlier been farmers and employees in the Borovo plant. They ordered us to tell them the whereabouts of the radiotransmitters, and in return they would let us go. I told Dragan to take us home, and search all houses (Serb and Croat), and as the Army have all necessary tracing equipment, they will not have any problem with tracing up and punishing the responsible. He replied that he would not do that because the radio transmitters were not hidden by Serbs, but by Croats.

In the morning they transferred us to a private home. The owner was interned in the camp together with his parents. There were altogether 88 of us (men and women), we even carried some women on stretchers because they were bed-ridden. We were detained in P. P's house (also a Croat). We remained there for almost four months. They gave us no food, nothing. There was no heating.

The villagers stood guard around the house. The guards' names were: Miloš and Teo Pejić. They maltreated us. Every morning at 6:00 o'clock they lined us up. They would go and drink in the village, and we stood in the cold. The guards escorted us to our homes when we went to feed our livestock. We usually brought some food back so that we could make ourselves meals. In this manner we fed ourselves until they looted us. After that we did not have anything to eat. My neighbor, G.T., with whom I was close, who was like a brother to me, drove me to prison. ŽIVKO Rakinić was with him. When we were left without any food, we demanded that they let us go and have a talk with the headquarters authorities. Five of us went to the headquarters. We told them that we needed food and heating. We demanded that they either give us that or let us go home or kill us. They promised that they would reach a decision by the following day. The following day they came to us and demanded that we make a list of people and mark where each person would like to go. They also ordered us to stay in groups, so that they could control us easier. We made the list and I took it to the headquarters. Jujo Gajin, Ilija Vučić, and Slobodan Matić were there. I told them that we were ordered to stay at home during the daytime, and that we had to be in groups at nighttime. After that they let us go home. Some houses were completely stripped of everything; they even stole beds and stoves. Each night we heard shooting in our frontyards.

One evening, two of Arkan's soldiers came. They may have killed me if it were not for the reservists who came from Vojvodina at the same time, and who slept at my place. On my way to the headquarters I met a headquarters commander and told him about what had happened. He told me not to go anywhere, because they had problems, and that three people had already been murdered. Two women and a young man were chopped to pieces

by axes. They murdered ... and his mother. I do not remember the other woman's first name, her last name is B.

The village swarmed with soldiers, and the members of Arkan units. One could not pass the street from tanks and trucks.

During my stay there, they stole everything from me. A neighbor of mine took my fridge, beans, flour, wheat, and trailer. They drove away all of my livestock. While I was going away, all houses were still intact, except for two or three houses located at the end of the village, which were damaged by mortars fired from Orolik. The villagers, and the reservists looted the place. The reservists came from different places. Those who were staying at my place came from Slankamen in Vojvodina. There were also the reservists who came from Serbia.

While staying at my place, those reservists asked me who fought here in the village. I said that no one fought. They said that they were notified that the village was full of Ustashas who massacred civilians. I replied that no one was attacked or even touched in this village. I told them that they were the ones who blockaded the village and expelled the civilians. The Croats were unarmed, and there was no resistance. 88 of us were interned in the camp. Men and women were put together. First they took away D.P., who was the president of the district office, M.K. and his son, M.L., M. J., and M.M. Later they took away S.M. and his son, S. M. and his son, B., J.K. and his son (his other son was taken from the camp in Belgrade and detained at Berak), F. and M.Z. (father and son), Ž. O., M.B., M.B., and another M.B. and his wife. An eighty-year-old woman was taken away, after she had been battered black and blue. They told her that they beat her because her grandson shot at them. Her name was R. We did not know what became of her. I later heard that she was murdered. I.M. was also taken away. Altogether 50 people were taken away. Our Serb villagers who stood guard would come, roll call them, and take them to a basement of a neighboring house which served as a prison. They battered them there. I was also taken there. When D.K. was brought from interrogation (they interrogated people in a room let in the yard, and in the meanwhile they took the rest of us in the basement so that we could not hear how they battered them), he begged to make room for him to sit down or else he would fall. I let him sit down. At the same moment, Martić opened the door. Martić's nickname is "Pampur", he is from Orolik. His treatment towards us was the worst. He was killed during the looting of Vukovar. He drove straight over a mine. At that point he called us, who came last to the camp, to return to the building where the people were held. Later they took another group of elderly people. Nobody knows what became of those men.

The number of people who were taken away and killed amounts to 56. The whereabouts of those who were taken in an unknown direction is yet unknown. All of them were predominately elderly people.

I know that the following men were murdered: Ivica Ore, Jozo Mrkonjić, Ivica POTOČKI, Tomica Gvozdanić. They were killed during the attack. Later, when I left, another woman was murdered.

The leading investigator was Žarko nicknamed "Kvočka". He came from Zagreb where he used to work as an investigator. The prisoners were battered by a man nicknamed "Bijeli"

from Borovo Selo (I think his name is Željko) who always carried a baton and a gun with him.

In Zagreb, April 6, 1993

Statement taken by: J.G.

Statement given by: Miljenko Buljan

**ANNEX 29:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.B.**

J.B., Berak, municipality of Vukovar, UCRN:.... I was born in ... on .... I have lived in Berak since 1956. My address is: .... I am married with two children. I have finished five grades of elementary school, my occupation is agriculturalist. During the war I was a member of the Civil Protection in Berak – a fireman. After the village was taken by the Chetniks, I was made prisoner in the village and I was, together with 98 citizens imprisoned in a camp in the village, in the house of P. P. – two houses on the same estate. I was in the camp from 02<sup>nd</sup> October 1991 to 13<sup>th</sup> December 1991. On 15<sup>th</sup> December 1991 16 prisoners, including me, were exiled from the village. We were taken to ŠID and from there we came, through Bosnia and Herzegovina, to the liberated part of Croatia. Now I live in the motel ..., where I am settled as a refugee.

I give the following

STATEMENT

Before World War II Germans and Croats lived in Berak. During the war and after WW II Germans were exiled. After WW II Serbs were colonized in Berak. It was about fifty-fifty of us in the village, half of us were Serbs, the other half Croats. After the first democratic elections, the new Croatian democratic government tried to function in the village. No one was touching the Serbs, nor were they endangered by anything. You could tell by them that they were organizing against the Croatian government. After the well-known events in Borovo and on Vukovar area, in the village were loosely organized armed village guards.

On 30<sup>th</sup> August (02<sup>nd</sup> September) 1991 at 07.30 hrs the village was attacked by the JNA, they came from Orolik with tanks, burst into the center of the village and ordered, speaking through a megaphone, the Croats to give up their weapons. After that, they started firing from the tank machine-gun. The Croats in the village were disturbed, they started running towards the woods. On that occasion while running into the woods, 4 civilians were killed; the tank machine-gun killed them. I gave their names in the list that is in the enclosure of this statement. Around the village, the Chetniks set up the barricades. In these barricades were mostly the Serbs from the surrounding villages: Orolik, Negoslavci, Šidski Banovci and Čakovci.

The Chetniks then came into the village. In the first month, they did not touch us very much. They imposed the curfew and limited the freedom of movement; we had to have a permit for moving through the village. . After a month, they picked us up, they told us that we were going to give a statement. They took us to the Community in the warehouse, we from our street were the last to come.

The prisoners from other streets were already in the warehouse. There we spent the afternoon and the night without any food or water. The next day they took us to the house of P.P., where we were left imprisoned.

They picked up all Croats from the village and all other non-Serbs. They were all old people and women, civilians.

On 05<sup>th</sup> October 1991 when ŽARKO KVOČKA came (before he worked as an instructor in the police in Zagreb) he started taking people in and questioning them in the neighbouring house belonging to MATE MITROVIĆ. There they beat people and locked them into the cellar. I was also taken in, questioned and beaten. They told us that we had to be beaten so that we knew who was in authority, that it was not the National Guard. I was beaten with a baton, and some were beaten with stakes and sticks hung with chains. They investigated where the weapons were and where a radio station was, everything about the family and for whom we voted. That questioning was just an excuse so that they could beat us. We did not get any food in the camp, but we had to manage ourselves. In the beginning, we went to our homes under guard and brought ourselves some food. We slept in those houses as best as we could, on the floors, in the stable, on chairs, beds. From 18.00 hrs to 06.00 hrs no one could get out, we could not even go to the toilet outside. We managed by using some buckets for that purpose.

We were taken to forced labor, whatever was to be done in the village and around it: burying the carcasses, pulling out the water, feeding the cattle. We were servants, real slaves to the Serbs. The Serbs cursed at some of us and were telling us all kinds of things, some were for killing us, and some Serbs started to feel sorry for us telling us that it should not come to that. Once, on the forced labor, when we were burying the trash my leg got wet so I came near the fire to dry it. A guard, a Serb, took the burning log and put it against my leg. My sock burnt and he burnt my leg, it was big as my palm. He told me not to tell anyone because he would kill me. They were telling us that we were burying dead cattle and to dig a bigger hole because they would kill us and bury us together with the carcasses.

Two or three times about 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> October 1991, they took a few groups of men to Negoslavci. There we lost all trace of them. They disappeared; I give their names in the list at the end of this statement. 22 of them disappeared that way. Four of them were captured on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1991 when the Yugoslav Army attacked the village; they were taken back to the village, locked in the camp in the cellar at Mitrović's – beaten and tortured. Later they were taken to Negoslavci and there we lose every trace of them. All in all 26 persons disappeared from Berak.

I had the chance to see the citizens who joined and I give the list at the end of this statement together with the names of the killed and murdered persons.

When December came, it was very cold in our camp. We asked them to give us some wood or to let us go. They let us go, but we could not move further than our houses.

On 15<sup>th</sup> December, they picked me up together with 15 persons, loaded us on cars and trucks and exiled us to ŠID. Later they exiled in more groups, all other camp inmates. I think that the last group was exiled in May 1992. The Serbs have ethnically cleansed the village; only a few families of non-Serbian nationality stayed there – Hungarians, and one German house.

All my property was left there, the house, the land, machinery, cattle..., the same as the other exiled citizens. They deceived us to sign that we were leaving voluntarily, and that all our property we were leaving to them. All from my group, except me signed it. They said

that we had to sign so that they would not be tormented by the International Red Cross with the charges of killing us. They stole all our property. For our stolen and sold pigs, they bought the coal from our houses and gave it to the Serbs so that they could heat their houses. Younger women and girls had to go every night and clean and tidy up for the Chetniks and the Yugoslav Army, they had to make them coffee. They would come back in the morning.

With his signature on every page the giver of the statement J.B. affirms the authenticity of his statement, that it has been given without any force, and that the written statement conforms to what was stated.

Ičići, 24<sup>th</sup> July 1993

The statement was taken by: J.B.

The statement was given by: Ladislav Kotrba

The attack on Berak on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1991.

The imprisoned in the camp in Berak:

From Tri ruže street:

1. J.B.	year of birth:...	
2. I.B.		1931.
3. E.K.		1911
4. M.M.		
5. M.T.		
6. L.T.		
7. L.M.	year of birth:	1923
8. L.M.		1919
9. M.B.		1923
10. A.H.		1929
11. A.L.		
12. L.		

From Radićeva street:

13. A. G.		
14. J.P.		
15. M.K.		
16. I.B.	year of birth:	1934
17. Z.B.		1934
18. P.P.		1919
19. M.P.		1921
20. D.P.		
21. M.M.		1939
22.M.H.		1945

From Sotinačka street:

23. J.B.		1941
24. R.B.		
25. L.M.		1919
26. M.M.		1926
27. K.M.		1910



28. M.H. (...)		1933
29. M.M.		1956
30. N.B.		
31. S.B.		
32. T.J.		
33. M.M.		
34. J.L. (...)		1933
35. Z.L.		1960
36. M.K.		1935
37. D.K.	year of birth:	1965
38. J.K.		
39. M.K.		
40. M.K.		
41. J.K.		
42. M.K.		
43. D.R.		
44. A.R.		
45. J.T.		
46. M.T.		
47. D.L.		
48. L.M.		1960
49. S.M.		1931
50. J.M.		1934
51. Z.M.		1965
52. S.M.		1939
53. Ď.M.		
From Oriolička street:		
54. I.B.		
55. M.B.		
56. I.P.		1916
57. A.P.		
58. P.B.		
59. M.B.		
60. M.B.		1926
61. L.G.		1937
62. A.Č.		
63. A.Č.		
64. P.B.		
65. N.J.		
66. I.J.		
67. I.S.		1919
68. L.S.		1923
69. M.R.		
70. I.D.		
71. F.B.		
72. J.P.		
From Čakovačka street:		
73. A.C.		

- 74. A.G.
- 75. L.P.
- 76. J.B.
- 77. J.L.
- 78. Z.L.
- 79. M.L.
- 80. M.M.
- 81. J.G.
- 82. R.B.
- 83. M.J.

From Vinkovačka street:

84. I.I.	year of birth	1933
85. E.I.	“	1908
86. T.M.		
87. L.M.		
88. J.N.		
89. M.N.		

Those taken from the camp and disappeared:

1. MATO TOMIĆ
2. LUCA TOMIĆ
3. MATO MIJATOVIĆ
4. LJUBICA MITROVIĆ (Martin)
5. DRAGO PENAVIĆ
6. MARIN MITROVIĆ
7. TOMO JELENIĆ
8. MARIJAN MARINČIĆ
9. MILE KOVAČEVIĆ
10. DAMIR KOVAČEVIĆ
11. JAKO KUJUNDŽIĆ
12. MARKO KUJUNDŽIĆ
13. SLAVKO MITROVIĆ
14. ZLATKO MITROVIĆ
15. STIPO MITROVIĆ
16. ĐURO MITROVIĆ
17. ILIJA BOJIĆ
18. MATO BORIĆ \*
19. IVO ILANIĆ
20. MILE LATKOVIĆ
21. ROZIKA BALAŽ
22. MILE JELENIĆ
23. MILE ZORIĆ
24. FILIP ZORIĆ
25. MATIJAN KUJUNDŽIĆ
26. ŽELJKO ORE

The last four were captured while running away during the attack on the village. Their trace is unknown.

Those that died during the attack on the village on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1991. They died as civilians trying to save themselves by escaping towards the woods.

1. IVICA ORE
2. TOMICA GVOZDANOVIĆ
3. IVICA POTOČKI
4. JOZO MRKONJIĆ
5. KATA GARVANOVIĆ

After a month of hiding in the cornfields PRŠLJA TOMO was captured and killed.

According to the statement of M.H. and ..., because they had stayed in Berak until May 1992, those who also got killed were:

1. JANKO LATKOVIĆ (godfather)
2. ANA ČUČIĆ
3. LJUBICA POTOČKI
4. On 14<sup>th</sup> December 1991 in the evening three persons were taken out of their houses where they were thrown into the well, and after them a bomb had been thrown into the well. The well is in the backyard of MATO JURATOVAC in Orolička Street. The victims are:
5. LJUBICA GARVANOVIĆ
6. ANTUN GARVANOVIĆ
7. MARIJA BRADIĆ

THE NAMES OF THE TCHETNIK GUARDS:

1. STEVAN PERIĆ
2. MILAN KAJGANIĆ
3. ZDRAVKO BATALO
4. MIRKO BOJANIĆ
5. MILAN TEPŠIĆ
6. MILE RUŠNOV
7. PAJO RUŠNOV
8. DUŠAN ČUČKOVIĆ
9. PERO BUČAN

They guarded the camp in Berak (9 of them).

GUARDS ON THE FORCED LABOUR – they were taking us to forced labor:

1. MICAN EROR
2. BOGDAN BUČAN
3. ŽIVKO PETROVIĆ
4. DUŠKO MACUT
5. ĐURO MUTIĆ
6. NEBOJŠA EKMAN
7. MILE ŠIJUK (the younger one)
8. MILOVAN MOMČILOVIĆ
9. DRAGAN KVOČKA
10. GAJO VUČETIĆ
11. DUŠAN JANJANIN
12. PERO MINIĆ
13. GOJKO TEPŠIĆ
14. DUŠAN POSTIĆ
15. MILAN ŠIJUK
16. MIROSLAV EROR

## 17. ZORAN KVOČKA

The Chetniks who worked in the headquarters for questioning and maltreatment:

1. ŽARKO KVOČKA
2. ŽELJKO from the village of Borovo
3. MARTIĆ (Pampar) from Orolik

The chief organizers of the attack to the village of Berak. They were all in uniforms of the Territorial Defence:

1. ŽELJKO PEREČEVIĆ
2. PERO VUČETIĆ
3. DUŠAN VUČETIĆ
4. ILIJA VUČETIĆ, PAJO
5. MAKSO VOJNOVIĆ, BOŽO, DUJO – three brothers
6. SLOBODAN MACUT
7. DUŠAN JANJANIN
8. MILE CANADIJA, MIRKO, DRAGAN – three brothers
9. ŽELJKO GRUBLJEŠIĆ and MILAN
10. ĐURO KROŠNJAR and MILAN
11. MILORAD MOMIĆ
12. ĐORĐE VULETIĆ
13. BOŽO, NEBOJŠA and JOVAN EKMAN
14. MICAN, DRAGAN, STEVO, GOJKO, NIKOLA and ŽELJKO EROR
15. DAKAN DEJANOVIĆ
16. NIKOLA, DRAGAN and MICAN VORKAPIĆ
17. ĐURO, DUŠAN, MILAN POSTIĆ
18. NEDO and BOGDAN BUCKAN
19. BOGDAN (junior), BOGDAN and BRANKO JEKIĆ
20. ZORAN, DUJO, DRAGAN, MILAN KVOČKA
21. DUŠAN, ILIJA, STEVO, MILAN ČUČKOVIĆ
22. ŽARKO, MILAN, MILAN KAJGANIĆ
23. STEVO, MICA, JUGOSLAV GLEDIĆ
24. LJUBOMIR, ZDRAVKO, LJUBAN BATALO
25. BRANKO BOŽIĆ
26. GAJO, ŽELJKO VUČETIĆ
27. STEVO, MIŠO PERIĆ
28. VELJKO and ZDRAVKO MILJENOVIĆ
29. RANKO and ILIJA MIRILOVIĆ
30. DRAGAN and ŽELJKO VUČETIĆ
31. MILORAD, BRANISLAV, ŽIVKO PETROVIĆ
32. DURICA JANKOVIĆ
33. MILOVAN MOMČILOVIĆ
34. DRAGAN KNJEŽEVIĆ

## WOMEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ATTACK:

They were not in uniforms, but they helped the aggressor in different ways and agitated for our exile.

1. MIOLICA and DAKA MACUT
2. MILKA, MIRKA and DUŠANKA EROR
3. ZORA and MIRA KVOČKA
4. NATALIJA, ANĐELKA and BOŽANA EKMAN

5. ANA MOMIĆ
6. MARA and MICA KAJGANIĆ
7. MICA MILJENOVIĆ
8. EVICA ČANADIJA
9. JELICA VUČETIĆ
10. MARA VOJNOVIĆ
11. DRAGA GRUBLJEŠIĆ
12. DRAGICA VORKAPIĆ
13. MILKA and DRAGA KNJEŽEVIĆ
14. MARA and MIRA MIRLOVIĆ
15. GORDANA POSTIĆ
16. SAVA, LJUBA, SLOBODANKA and SAVKA BUČAN

Statement given by: J.B.

**ANNEX 30:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.H.\***

M.H., women born on ...in Vukovar, lived in Berak, municipality of Vukovar, about events in Berak in the period from August 1991 to May 1992

TESTIMONY

I lived in Berak with my husband and 7 children. On April 1, 1991 Serb started to separate from Croats, they did not want to buy milk from us, they did not want to talk to us neither greet us.

In May 1991 they shot around my house, all of them were my neighbours (called Kordunaši) that I had fed when they were small children. Then my son came home, he was dressed in the police uniform. He became the member of the Croatian police forces at Easter 1990. All the time they were attacking my house and they did not want to leave me in peace nor my children. All that was done by my neighbours from Orolik and Berak: Milorad Momić, Milan Kajganić, Mišo and Stevo Perić.

In September 2, 1991, at half past eight, tanks entered the village. Then my sons ... (1966), ... (1970), ... (1971) and ... (1976) fled through the garden and they waited for me two days. After two days they left to Svinjarevci and then with the Croatian National Guard to Deletovci where they became members and dressed in uniforms. I stayed in Berak with my father-in-law (born on 1919) and my mother-in-law (born on 1922). On October 24, 1991, she was taken away by the people from Negoslavci who wore JNA uniforms. I know them by sight and the one who had given the order to take away was Žarko Kvočka. He earned his pension in Zagreb where he had worked in the police. Before he was pensioned he came to Berak. On September 30, 1991 he arrested all of us and locked us in a farm cooperative building. With us were also my mother (born in 1923) and my husband (born in 1940). My father-in-law had a stroke, my husband is epileptic and my mother had heart surgery on May 2, 1991 so I could not leave them.

On Tuesday ŽIVKO Momić ordered to give to them all weapons. Our people gave them all weapons and on Wednesday they started to search our houses. On that day men from Berak entered my house and stole all gold and money that was in the house. Mile Krošnjar, his brother Muco, Zoran Kvočka and 10 other men were armed with guns. They did not find a

bullet in my house. The only thing they found was a Croatian flag which was partially burnt because they had set fire to it earlier, at Easter.

Then the JNA Captain waited for me and told me: "F... your Ustasha mother, look at the flag you are proud of!"

I told him that it was the only thing I had and then I was harshly beaten by my neighbours, Milan Kajganić and Mile Krošnjar. I saw them taking away my husband to the church. I was beaten with boots over my face, lips and they knocked out 12 of my teeth. They beat me over my back, spinal cord, over my whole body. It happened in front of my house, at Ilija Bojanić's house.

ŽIVKO Momić, Mile Grublješić, Željko Grublješić, Zoran Kvočka called "Pican" took my husband to the church in order to see whether there were any weapons. They did not find anything and they brought him back home.

Then they buried few cassettes and dr. Tuđman's photo. Then they left and ordered us to feed the cattle of people in the village who had left. Later they sold this cattle in ŠID, the better ones they left to themselves. All that was done by the same people. Every day they were stealing something in the village. On October 2, 1991 all Croats from the village were imprisoned in hangars, there were 102 prisoners.

Žarko Kvočka (police inspector) said: "You will stay here until you die of hunger." We slept on the floor. Every day they would come to interrogate and beat us. Željko Veselinović from the Licka street did it. He accused my son that he killed with a car his three years old daughter (his daughter died on 1987, i.e. before the war)

Except him there were also Drago Martić called "Pampur", Žarko Kvočka, Stevo and Mišo Perić. They were taking out people and taking them into my basement and there beating them with anything they found. There were coming all Chetniks who wanted to beat us.

There was also Dragan, called "Srbin", from Svinjarevci, who was provoking us and beating us. One day he said for me: "This woman should be killed."

Dorđe Živković did not let him to do it and so I stayed alive.

11 persons were buried in the valley called Šarvaz, which is situated in the direction of Vukovar, (we know about 11 of them) and 27 persons were driven to Negoslavci. Among those who were taken out from the building and killed were: Ljubica Mitrović (born in 1922), Stipa Mitrović (1941), Mile KOVAČEVIĆ (1941) and Damir KOVAČEVIĆ (1964) which was so beaten that he died on their way. Holes were already dug, they took people near them killed them and threw them in.

Small M.M. (son of a Croat and Serb) went with his father and uncle and saw everything. When he came to the prison in order to visit his grandmother, he said: "There are a lot of men in this hole!" The boy was 5 years old and he saw and heard everything.

Nenad Vujić told Predrag (he moved into Berak, into a Croatian house): "The owner is buried here and now you can do anything you want, all this is yours." The owner was Marijan Marinčić who had been killed.

On October 22, 1991, Perić and Mile Šijuk arrived and told: "F... your Ustasha mother, I killed your son today and buried him in the garden. You don't have to feed him anymore." I asked him why had not they show him to me and kill us together. He answered: "Dig up by yourself and you will see."

My husband dug up and found a buried pig.

The following day he told me that he had killed my son on the playground and I thought that maybe they had found him somewhere and killed him. I was beaten every day. Žarko Kvočka ordered me to cook for the prisoners. His sister Ljubica was in Berak and never did go to church and then she was there every day. Her son, about 6-7 years of age, was born in Zagreb, his father is a Croat. She came to Berak before the war. The child did not want to go to their church neither to write in Cyrillic letters. He said that his grandmother in Zagreb would not approve of it. Ljubica knew where each Croat had been killed and she started to work for their Serbian police. She promised me that she would take away my mother from Berak, in the end she left without her. My mother got permission to pass and I did not. It happened on February 11, 1992.

During our detention, 41 persons died (two elderly women) or were killed or disappeared.

On October 25, 1991 my aunt (born in 1935) together with her brother's daughter, Z. Z., were taken away by Žarko Veselinović. He recognized my aunt because 5 years ago, he worked around her house. As she was beaten on daily basis he said: "Let this woman go away. She did not do anything." The following 5 days they left her in peace. Žarko told that he had transferred her to Mitrovica, to the prison. Then her niece went with her. When they arrived to ŠID, Žarko told them: "Now you are free, you can go anywhere you want. I let you go, aunt, because you would be shot." They went to Zagreb, across Bosnia and Herzegovina.

We all were harshly beaten, especially my uncles D.L. (19...) and J. (19...). D. stayed in Berak, we heard that he is very sick and that is imprisoned in the house.

Executions were ordered by: Gojko Eror (son of Stevo), Dušan Vujanović, Dušan Postić, Micko Postić, Mićo Vorkapić and Dušan Janjan.

Dušan Postić told my husband: "Don't look at me, now I will..."

On October 28, 1991, Mićo Vorkapić and Dušan Janjan took Rozaliju Balaž (woman born in 1916) to the Territorial Defence headquarters and there they maltreated and beat her the whole night. Then at 18:30 they brought a rat and the whole night kept the rat near her head to bite her lips. They brought her back in the night, she was completely bitten.

Mile and Pajo (Pavle) Rušnov (brothers) were coming and called us by names and then beat us.

Žarko was sending Pajo who was beating us with a gun every day.

When my aunt came to Zagreb, she gave the statement and so people heard about us.

On November 11, 1991, came the ICRC and they saw how we were living. They promised that they would take care about food.

Dragan Kvočkin and Mićo KROŠNJAR destroyed the list in order to prevent the ICRC later finding us. With them were also: Jovo Hrkman, Mile Šijuk, Pajo Rušnov, both Perić and Željko VUČETIĆ.

On December 1, 1991 the JNA entered the village, there were about 70 of them and they told that they had to liberate us and that we could go to our houses.

Dragan Vorkapić (son of Nikola), 16 years old, together with his aunt Dragica, Mićo Postić and his father Nikola took out of the house M. B. (woman born on 1920) and

stripped her in front of the soldiers and laughed. On December 19, 1991 somebody took her away from the house, with her there were also her neighbour Ljubica Garvanović and her son Tunica (1958). Maria Bradić was cut in pieces and thrown into a water-well. Near the well they found Tunica's shoe, his leg, one arm and a lot of blood. Serbian military police confirmed that they had been thrown into the well. They were killed in Mate Juratovac's house who died in June. Pero Minić hanged his wife Nada (1931) on the plum tree in their courtyard. It happened on about October 30, 1991. He hanged her because he found a ham that she had hid. She told me: "I am sure that I will never come back because Pero told me that he would kill me. I did not give him a ham and I told him where I hid it."

On October 6, 1991 they brought, among us, 102 prisoners, M.I. (1962), F.Z. (1953), M.Z. (1931), M.K. (1960) and Ž.O. (1962). They were driven from Bubanj Potok, from Belgrade, in order to be condemned by the villagers. They were untidy, dirty, hungry. They stayed with us for 4 days. The fifth day they were driven towards Negoslavci. They would take them out, beat them. When they were covered with blood and beaten up they would bring them back and on the door they would put a big barrel so nobody could enter or give them food. They let them go out only when they wanted to interrogate them or beat them. They had 5 minutes to eat. I was bringing them food and they ate standing. Their faces, ears, eyes, clothes were covered with blood and they were not allowed to clean themselves.

Žarko Kvočka beat them the most often, then Željko Veselinović, Pajo Rušnov, Zoran Kvočka (Pican), Dragan Tepšić, Milan Kajganić and others.

I remember when Žarko and Veselinović ordered my aunt, uncle and other people to put their fingers on one place. Then they had to confess anything he wanted, if they did not, he beat them over the fingers with sticks. Their nails were completely black, they had wounds over the whole body. When they drove people to Negoslavci, they would come with "Picgauer" and they would take away 5 persons. First they would interrogate you, line you, beat and drive to Negoslavci.

J.K. (born on 1906) could not enter the vehicle and then they pushed him and beat him with boots.

Mirko and Nikola Čanadija are brothers that I forgot to mention. They were among the main torturers. They were also on Ovčara when they skinned Z.M. (1965) who was taken away from prison in November. He was beaten and then he had to break 5-10 cm high ice with his head. With them there was also Pajo VUČETIĆ, Ilija VUČETIĆ, Mirko and Željko Grublješić and Mirko Postić. When they came back to Ilija VUČETIĆ's house they were proud and they told that they had done a very good job. Mirko Čanadija told: "We did a good job today, f... his Ustasha mother, now he knows who is Tuđman." The day before it Z.'s father S.M. (1931) was taken away too.

Dana Rušnov who was hidden in the hole for washing cars, heard this conversation.

On October 22, 1991, at 9:30 in the evening, a Serbian policeman came and took out L.M.\* (woman born in ...) and in the morning he brought her back. During all the night they were raping and torturing her. They brought her into my house and raped her there. P.R., both P., M. (P.), M.R., Ž.V. did it.

For a whole month L. and me were their victims. They would take she or me, or both together.

On October 20, 1991, at 9:30 in the evening, my mother-in-law was with me, a lot of people were watching us, Pero Bučan (1959, called "Peša"), small Bučan (1960), Stevo's



son and Dragan Vorkapić (16 years old) arrived. Then Dragan Vorkapić took me out and jumped over me, he gave vent to his low instincts. That night me, mother-in-law (1922) and L. were raped. Peša told me: “Cry and you will see how was it for the first time.” He said also: “ And Russians fucked during the past war and they won, so we do the same.”

J.H. (1929) said one night: “Tonight we will do it with one old and in the morning with the young one.” In the morning they took away my mother-in-law and she never came back. Sometimes they took out me or L. more times during one night and raped us. I was their special target because I have 6 sons and they were threatening me because I had delivered 6 Ustashas. I could not stand it any more, a few of them were jumping over me, torturing, raping me and laughing all the time. All of them, except J., could be my children. J. said that he did it for fun. His son N. and M.Š. were raping me too. M.Š.’s uncle M. called “F.” (1947) only jumped over me but he could not do anything.

In January 1992 F. killed Ana Čučić (1992). He killed her on the street at 12:30 a.m., with a machine-gun. My mother and Danka Čanadija watched it. Danka Čanadija was stealing things from the houses in Berak. When he killed Ana, he moved towards my mother in order to kill her but she escaped across the garden and hid herself in a pig-sty. The JNA Military police arrived and they arrested F. One month later he came back. He threatened to my father-in-law that he would kill him. Later my mother was constantly with me, they did not beat her any more but children with bicycles passed over her and they threw bombs into our house.

Stevo Perić told me: “ If tonight the Army will leave the village, we are going to kill you.” He left a truck and 4 men, he and F. started to run but before he threw a bomb which fell into our stove. Window and curtains were burnt, window glass flew all around but we stayed alive: me, my mother, father-in-law and husband.

I could not go to the doctor in Berak because all of them were Serbs and I could not get permission to go out of Berak. On March 22, 1992, my husband had an epileptic seizure and I went to the Territorial Defence Headquarters and asked permission to have pills for him. Đ.R., my school friend, grabbed me for my hair and the porter reloaded his gun and said: “F... your Ustasha mother, you should die instead of going to the doctor, I will cut you into pieces and send you to your children to cook “gyulas”!”

Outside soldiers were waiting in order to drive my husband to the doctor. When I got out of there, in tears and ruffled, they asked me what had happened. Then Đ. let me go and then fired off in order to frighten me. Later they shot at Major too. Those who shot were: Željko and Mićo Grublješić, Mićo Vorkapić, Micko, Postić, Čučković, Mirlović.

On the first day when they entered Berak, in Branko Božić’s house, Đ. told: “F.. your Ustasha mother, let's kill all of them.”

On September 27, 1991 Branko and Jovan Hrkman, Nabojša Hrkman, M.Š., Zdravko VUČETIĆ, Žarko Kajganić, Dragan Kvočkin and others brought 2 baskets of bombs. Then Nikola VUČETIĆ, called Bane (1947), started to play with the bombs. I told him: “Do not play with bombs, you are not a kid.” Then one bomb exploded and blew Bane to bits. The pieces of his body flew around. I picked them up together with Božana VUČETIĆ, his daughter-in-law, Jovan VUČETIĆ, his brother and Pero Bučan (called Pesa). VUČETIĆ’s wife arrived with their three sons Željko, Predrag and Nenad and she said: “Božana killed him, she is Ustasha’s daughter.” Božana is a Croatian woman. Later those same people shot at the door of all the Croatian houses.

Željko Perenčević (1960) was the first one who brought Chetniks into the village and he took part in each slaughtering. He was also in Velepromet, in Dalj, Sarvaš, Borovo Selo and other places.

On April 3, 1992 the JNA took me with them to Mikluševci because I had begged them to see my sons. But I did not manage to see them and I had to come back. There people told me that in Mikluševci Chetniks cut off noses, tortured them and then took people to Jelaš and killed them like animals. I came back with the Army.

On May 17, 1992 Veselin Rakić called Veso, who was an officer in Orolik, got permission for us and before 12:30 the following day we had to move out. Then me, my mother, father-in-law, my husband who drove a tractor, and three old women went to Mirkovci. There we stayed in a hospital. Those women were: M.B. (1919), A.L. (1923) and A.

H. (1925). Chetniks have threw burning pieces of wood into their houses in order to set fire to their house.

Jovo Hrkman and his son Nebojša took away the fence of a water-well and let the children play near the well. Those women had to watch over the children because they could easily fall into the well. They were destroying chimneys, provoking them, threatening them that they would kill their children and so on.

Then I was at the doctor for the first time. Then my sons came to visit me. The doctor visited me and gave me some pills against pain. I have thrombosis in my left leg, my left lower-leg is swollen and black and it hurts me. My teeth are knocked out.

Ten days later I went to gynaecologist and he told me that on gynaecological side there were no consequences.

I feel pain in my spinal cord due to beating with boots. Up to the present I have had 176 injections against pain, without it I could not walk.

On October 30, 1992 L. was poisoned, they gave her something to drink. When she came back home she was thirsty, she drank 5 litres of water, she cried and became blue. She told her mother: "Say hello to Jelka and Neka." She died at half past 8 the following day.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the statement is given of my own free will and without coercion.

Zagreb March 28, 1994

Statement taken by: M.H.

Statement given by: ANA KLARIĆ

**ANNEX 31:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF K.M.\***

K.M., I was born on ... in Berak, municipality Vukovar with the permanent residence in ...

My occupation is agricultural technician, unemployed, single, my nationality is Croat.

I give the following

STATEMENT

I was imprisoned on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1991 in Berak, as a National Guard Reservist, from where I was taken by helicopter to Batajnica, from Batajnica to Topčider and from there to Bujanj Potok. In Bujanj Potok I remained until 6<sup>th</sup> October 1991. From there, we were taken to Begejci near Zrenjanin. From Bujanj Potok we were, on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 1991 at 1300 hrs., taken by bus in which there was 27 prisoners, to Begejci. With me was my brother M.M.\*, and on the bus were also Z. O., Z.S., I.Z.,

J.M., S.P., I.J., A.M., I.M., S.

J., B.B., A.Š., I.J., M.S., D.A., N.

D., N.D., M.Ž., B.M., T.P., M.H.

M., Z.B., Š., J.K., I.P., I do not know Š.'s

surname, but I know that he comes from Bilje. During the transportation itself, a Chetnik was burning the hand of S.P. with a cigarette; he extinguished the cigarette on the forehead of N.D., and also on the palm of I.Z.. He wound me

round with a wire and forced me to confess who was from the black legion and who was Ustasha, and since no-one was that I had nothing to say. When he saw that I was losing consciousness, he stopped strangling me. A bus with JNA registration plates drove us. During the journey, we had to sit facing the front side, and if someone moved, he would get beaten. All the way, they threatened us that we were going to the new Jasenovac, that they would kill us. On the bus, 4 Yugoslav Army soldiers guarded us, and there was a military vehicle at the front and at the back of the bus. We arrived at Begejci around 15.00 hrs. There Lieutenant Colonel Žarko Živanović, Borko, Voja, Rambo, Cufta and the rest of the army with the shepherd dogs met us. I was immediately worked on by Borko, he took me by the hair and immediately put me against the wall of a stable, hands up, with legs apart, and head by the wall, facing the wall. Here he searched me, took my money, my identification card, and beat me by beating my head against the wall, with a bat on my stomach and back, and he beat me in the spine with a boot. That beating lasted for about 15 minutes, after all that he took us to the stable. There we were questioned again: what kind of weapons you had, were you a member of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Party), MUP (Ministry of the Interior), ZNG (National Guard). How many bullets did you have, bombs, explosives, knives. There we were taught how we should behave, that we had to put our arms behind our back and head down, you answer to only what you were asked, all was to be done according to the order, there we were put in the first corner of the stable, there they signed us up and kept beating us to the place in the stable where we were to lie down. On the day of my arrival to Begejci there were 180 camp inmates in the stable. They were all lying on their stomachs with their heads covered while we were beaten. The other days in the prisoner's camp were the usual ones, we were beaten every day, we sang the anthem "Hej, Slaveni" in the morning and in the evening, sometimes we sang it during the day. During the day we had to work, I worked on digging out the woods, chopping wood, building the fence around the camp, digging trenches, we had to dig our own tombs, but that was a part of the psychological torture. We made a path in the camp in a way that we would heap up the ballast/gravel that we had previously crushed. Between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

November 1991 I was in a group of camp inmates that went digging a canal for the telephone cables in the village of Begejci. We dug from the village of Begejci to the camp itself. There were ten of us in that group. We were mercilessly beaten there; we could not stop and have a rest. We dug from 9 to 13.00 hrs without a rest and in the afternoon from 14.30 hrs until 18.00 hrs. We had to put in the cables immediately and cover up the canal. After covering up the canal we had to ram the earth by marching on it to get it rammed. They did not give us water while we worked, but we were forced to drink water from the puddles. There they would stop the civilians telling them "these were the worst Ustashe" and offered us to everyone for beating. That was how they stopped a car (stojadin) in which there was a man who went out of the car and they told him that we were Ustasha, butchers, the man said that he had a son in Dubrovnik in the Yugoslav Army, and then they told him that we were from Dubrovnik and that we were firing at his son, although not one of us was from Dubrovnik and surroundings. The man started cursing at us, a reserve soldier gave him a bat and he began beating us. They pushed Zvonko Bosankić in that car for that man to take him with him. They had already pushed him in, but then they threw him out of the car. When we moved in a line one by one to the camp to eat, they stopped a civilian bus and offered us there to who wanted to beat us, passengers were particularly in an unfriendly mood, and the driver beat us through the window. While we were working in the forest, we had to cut down one little stake size about 1 meter, with which we were beaten by the reserve soldier, a Montenegrin, and we were particularly beaten if someone looked aside. Between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December 1991, in the afternoon around 16.00hrs we worked on the arranging of the path in the camp and on that occasion, a camp inmate – N.D., from Senj, did not want to do his part of the job so that we had to work for him, when we warned him that he should work too, he threatened us. After that, a few days later Corporal Borko walks into the stable and takes me and my brother M. out by the latrines asking us to tell him who threatened N.D. and who pissed him off. Since none of us confessed, he beat us, slammed us, beat with a bat, with a fist in the stomach, and threatened us that we would see each other in the evening. By the way, that N.D. said in the camp that he would not go to the exchange, that he will activate himself, that he would take us out for pissing, that we would sing to him the anthem "Hej, Slaveni" all the time. He went to town with the army, carried military knapsacks (, while we could not carry our own belt. He ate as much as he could, for him there was no hands ... (illegible) gave the camp inmates' money to buy cigarettes, and in Bubanj Potok he had to smoke the ones from the Yugoslav Army soldiers. He betrayed M.Ž. saying that he killed three soldiers in Bubanj Potok after which they beat him, and broke his jaw. On 20<sup>th</sup> November 1991, I fell seriously ill in the camp, I had a fever of 40,2 degrees for two days, and there were no medicines. They forced me to sing the anthem while I was that sick. At the beginning of December 1991 while we were lying in the stable an earthquake happened, it was around 13.00 hrs. On 20<sup>th</sup> November after midnight, new camp inmates came into the camp, 130 of them. Women came into the camp – 26 women, and one of them I knew to be A.S.\*, around ... years old from Borovo Naselje, and she told me that she had been raped in Prigrevica, at the entrance of the camp, she was constantly followed by Žare – a camp guard. S.A.\* from Sotin had also been raped. I do not know whether it is A.S., L.B. – she was accused of killing two soldiers with a bomb, she is from Tovarnik and her husband and two sons have been killed. She came into the camp all in bruises, she was beaten in ŠID. They beat L.R. in the camp. We heard about the exchange through the Croatian radio, which was smuggled into the camp by the camp inmates from Vukovar, we heard that information on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1991 (Sunday) on the 22.00 hrs news, after which optimism grew in the camp. The exchange was on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1991. The Chetniks told us that the exchange would be on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1991 at

19.00 hrs. Zare told us that there must be order, peace, and discipline. In the evening we, by alphabetical order, we went for our things, the first 45 of us and he told us that that was the first bus. 8 buses came to Begejci around 03.00 hrs on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1991. We set off from Begejci on that day at 05.30 hrs. We went through Zrenjanin to Belgrade where we waited for the bus from Niš – there were 2 of them from Niš, and in Zrenjanin 3 buses from Stajićevo joined us. Through Belgrade, we went to ŠID, and from ŠID to Bjeljina- Brčko, and in Brcko in the barracks, they filled the buses and we came to the exchange place at 13.30 hrs in Bosanski Šamac.

(We loaded the turnips from the road on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1991, it was Saturday, some driver turned over a truck full of turnips, and we removed it from the road. There were 5 of us then, and I remember that there was A.M., and the others were from Vukovar).

Zagreb, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1992.

The statement was given by: K.M.

**ANNEX 32:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

VUKOVARSKO-SRIJEMSKA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Section of the criminalist police, Section for fighting terrorism  
Vinkovci, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2000

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Made on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2000 in Vukovarsko-Srijemska police department, and following the interview with M.M., maiden name L., daughter of P. and M., born on ... in Mrzlo Polje, Žumberak, address: ..., a Croat, Occupation: housewife, about the circumstances of the occupation of Berak during 1991, her imprisonment and stay in the camp in Berak.

In the interview with the above mentioned we found out that Berak was attacked by the JNA and the paramilitary Serbo-Chetnik formations on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1991 in the afternoon hours, and after a while the occupation army, the so-called JNA and the members of the Territorial defence of Berak and Orolik came. After the occupation, she stayed in her house and she was not allowed to move around the village, and on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1991 ĐORĐE VULETIĆ from Berak came to her house, wearing olive-drab uniform and armed with long fire arms, and ordered her to report to the HQ of the Territorial defence in Berak, which was in the centre of Berak, in the building of the Local Community. When she came to the Local Community there she found ŽIVKO MOMIĆ who ordered her to report to the rooms of the community. When she came to the community, she saw a uniformed and armed guard staying in front of the hangar of the community, and who ordered her to go inside the hangar, which she did. When she went inside, she found about 95 civilians there, the local people from Berak of non-Serbian nationality, who were there from before. After that, no one from the occupation army came into the hangar, nor were they allowed to go outside it, so they spent the whole night there. The next morning the members of the occupation army came into the hangar and they took them, under armed guards, to S. Radića Street, into P. P.'s house, where they were ordered to settle as they could, but that they were not allowed to leave this house, and several armed guards in uniform were placed around the house. In the neighbouring house of M. M., interrogations were held, and physical and psychological tortures of the prisoners were done. She states that the following prisoners were in the above mentioned cellar and who disappeared after that: M.

M., M.K., M.K., J.K.,  
 S.M., S.M., Đ.M., Z.M.,  
 L.M., R.B., T.J., M.J., M.  
 L., D.P., L.T., M.T., L.B.,  
 M.B., I.J. and D.P..

Around 15<sup>th</sup> October 1991 she was brought for interrogation to Mitrović's house and she was interrogated by ŽARKO KVOČKA (he came from Zagreb, where he was a policeman) and ŽELJKO VESELINOVIĆ, called "Beli" from Borovo Naselje, during this interrogation she was beaten all over her body, and when she fell on the floor, they kicked her with a boot in her head. She was also beaten on her wrists and fingers, and after she asked them not to beat her on her fingers, Željko Veselinović told her that she "won't need them any more".

After a day or two, they allowed her and a few more prisoners (A.G., J. K. and some others that she does not recall) guarded by armed sentry GOJKO TEPŠIĆ to go to the doctor, and on that occasion she saw that the doctor was a local man from Berak SLOBODAN MACUT, who was wearing civilian clothes, and who gave her a check-up and gave her the appropriate medicine, afterwards she was again taken to the camp. After this visit to a doctor, she never saw Slobodan Macut again.

The next day in the morning hours, she, R.M. and 13 more men were taken by a truck with a tarpaulin, when they were climbing the truck they were beaten with wooden bats by DRAGAN TEPŠIĆ and an unknown person, and after the order that they were not allowed to look out, the truck drove them in some unknown direction (she does not know who was in the truck cabin). After a long drive, the truck stopped, and the prisoner J. G., who was also on the truck, said that they were somewhere between Šid and Sremska Mitrovića and that an officer of the JNA stopped them and ordered the driver to return the truck from where it came. J.G. watched all this through a hole in the tarpaulin. After that they were returned to the camp in Berak, and the women were settled into the rooms of the camp, while the men were taken into the cellar where the interrogation room was. She states that almost all people that were then returned to Berak, have later disappeared, (killed), except for her, M.R. and three men that later died a natural death.

On 19<sup>th</sup> October 1991, all the prisoners in the early morning hours, around 5.30 hrs, were lined up in the backyard of the camp, but she and Z.L. were returned to the rooms of the camp by a person called MARTIĆ from Orolik. Around 7.00 hrs ŽARKO VESELINOVIĆ from Negoslavci and MARKO from Negoslavci (he was a commander of the police in Negoslavci) came into the camp and asked the guards "Beli" and Pajo Rušnov to give them Z.R. and her, after they refused saying that "They should bring some paper from the HQ". After that Žarko Veselinović and Marko left for the local HQ of the Territorial defence, and shortly after they brought some kind of receipt, and after that they put her and Z.L. into the car by which they came, and then drove off from Berak towards Šid, where they left them at some distant relative's. She and Z. L., after they spent the night at this persons, set off by taxi to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the early morning hours, and then to Zagreb.

She has nothing more to state in connection with the imprisonment and her stay in the camp in Berak.

Statement taken by: Authorized official Stjepan Peričak  
 Statement given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 33:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.L.**

Z.L. (daughter of ...). I was born on ... in Samobor. I lived in .... I am a widow and a mother of a grown up daughter and son; he is registered missing. I am a Croat, and by occupation a housewife. I am currently living in .... UCRN: ....

I am giving the following:

**STATEMENT**

My son was on guard with his friend, at the end of the village. Since he had not come home for four days, I decided to go and look what was going on. I thought it odd that he had not come home for so long. All of a sudden, he came running home and said: "You and father must leave!"

I ran away, and he said: "The Chetniks are coming." I did not get far, when gunfire started. I heard them shooting all over the cornfield where I had hidden and stayed the entire night.

The following morning I returned home and found my husband at home. This was on 2 September 1991. My son was captured, but he returned home; the following day they took us all to prison.

They locked 104 of us inside the cooperative hangar; we were mainly women, children, and older people. The commanders were the "White Eagles", and there were also our local Chetniks: ŽELJKO PERENČEVIĆ, GOJKO TEPŠIĆ, STEVO GLEDIĆ, GOJKO EROR, PERO and STEVO VUČETIĆ (brothers) and the sons of DUŠANKA EROR.

Little by little, at night, the Chetniks would take our men away on trucks. This way they had taken away twenty-seven men and nobody has heard anything about them since then.

My sister and I were sleeping on straw beds in our basement, when a drunken Chetnik by the name of STEVO PERIĆ came with a flashlight. He approached me and shook me, at this moment I felt as if my soul had left my body. We had to go to exercises every morning, and then they would abuse us.

STEVO GLEDIĆ robbed my house. They took away everything from the new house, the woodwork, and everything. That same STEVO GLEDIĆ came to our house earlier and said that he would take all of our things to his house, before someone stole them.

We were in the hangar long enough for them to rob everything; we could leave it only to go feed the cattle. They were robbing us the entire time. After they had released us, I suggested to my husband that we should go sleep somewhere else, but he would not leave the house.

One day I came home and could not find my husband. I went to the village Command, but they would not tell me anything. I went to look for him and found him on the playground lying in the shamrock, his head cut in two with an axe, and his body covered with bullet wounds.

My husband J. was murdered on 23 March 1992, and we buried him on 26 March 1992. My brothers had put him in a sheet and threw him into the mass grave.

Prior to this, LJUBICA POTOČKI and MARIJA MANJOČ were murdered. The Serbs had shelled the house the two were living in.

MILE ŠIJUK came to my house on 23 March 1992. I was going to sweep the yard when I heard my sister A.Č. shouting: "Don't MILE, don't MILE!" I went outside to see what was going on, when MILE ŠIJUK pointed a rifle at me; I do not know how I managed to escape, when I saw him shooting my sister. MILE had actually come to shoot my husband and me, and instead my poor sister got killed.

The Chetniks cut MARIA BRADIĆ, LJUBICA and TUNICA (her son) GARVANOVIĆ into pieces and threw them into the well. Some people had seen them doing this, when they were going from the hangar camp to feed the cattle. We found NADA JURATOVAC hanging in her yard. When we went to feed the cattle, a guard with a rifle would always accompany us; they had killed many people this way.

ŽELJKO GROBLJEČIĆ and ĐOKO VULETIĆ were among the Chetnik leaders, as well as MILORAD MOMIĆ and his father, TOMO MIROSAVAC, VLADO and his father JANKO – who are unfortunately Croats, and TOMO RUŠNOV and his sons MILE and PAJO. There was also ĐURO KROCNAR and his brother MILE, VUJO MACUT and his son SLOBODAN who was in the Crisis Center. After my husband was killed, I decided not to go home again. I was afraid. Among the criminals were also MILE ČANADŽIJA, his brother MIRKO, ŽARKO KVOČKA – the main leader and his father MILE, his brother DRAGAN, then STEVO and MIŠO PERIĆ, their father, GAJO VOJNOVIĆ and his sons, ŽELJKO VUČETIĆ and his brothers, MICA and VELJKO MILJENOVIĆ.

Berak had the smallest percentage of Serb population; they were abusing the remaining population and finally banished us. I forgot to mention "BICAK" – DUJO JANJANIN.

I was later hiding at my sister's house, since her daughter in law was Serbian so that they were safer, although the Serbs threw a bomb into the house later.

On 25 May 1992 with the help of UNPROFOR my sister M.G., her husband J. and I were transported to Vinkovci. At an inn in Mirkovci five Chetniks were waiting for us and threatening to kill us, but the UNPROFOR soldiers protected us. STEVO PERIĆ and another man from Oriolik beat me black and blue. A man from Borovo asked me if I wanted him to beat me first or my son.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

Zagreb, 26 March 1995.

Statement given by: Z.L.

Statement taken by: Nada Likarević

**ANNEX 34:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

No. Kio-86-93-89

M.M. (last name and name)

Made on March 16<sup>th</sup> 1998

In the District court in Osijek

Judge: DRAGAN SIMENIĆ

Criminal proceedings against: MILE GLEDIĆ and others for criminal offences from article no. 142 of the Criminal Law of the Republic of Croatia

Official: BORKA MILJEVIĆ

Beginning at 9:45



Name and last name, name of father: M.M., son of L.

Occupation and residence: Farmer from ...

Relation to the accused: none

The witness was warned that according to article 238 of the Criminal Offence Law he has to witness and so he states:

The witness was after that asked to say everything he knows about this subject, so he states:

The witness was warned that he has to respond to every call of the court, justify absence and report a change of address.

He was warned that he has to tell the truth, must not withhold anything and that a false statement is a criminal offense.

He was warned that he need not answer to questions that could embarrass him or his nearest relations, cause material damage or criminal charges, and so he states:

#### STATEMENT

I am a farmer by occupation and I have lived in the village of Berak since I was born, where I was a farmer as well as my family. I had a regulated farm with all agricultural machines and I worked together with my sons and my father.

The former JNA and the Chetnik formations occupied Berak on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1991 and the majority of the non Serb population escaped and took shelter, while some of us were left behind; from my family my father, mother, wife and I. Immediately after the occupation it was forbidden to walk around the village, to leave the house or yard. After a few days the entire remaining population of Berak that was not of Serbian nationality, from the youngest to the oldest, male or female, was taken to the Farming Cooperative hangar where they started to torture, intimidate and beat us. During the night of the second or third day we, the citizens that did not manage to escape (we were around 102-103), were taken to P. P.'s house in Berak. All of us slept in the two houses of P.P. on floors, in the barn, on the hay. We were guarded by our fellow-citizens who now started to call themselves "territorial forces" and had different military uniforms; all had grown beards, had cockades on their heads, tortured and intimidated us in different ways. All of this time we were in the houses of P.P., until December 13<sup>th</sup> 1991. During this time forty-four of us went missing, some were children, women, some younger some older. They went missing in that way that we were "under pressure" all the time because of different interrogations, so that they took individuals in small groups who did not return again. They were murdered in different ways but mostly they were taken away by the so-called "territorial forces" and they are allegedly buried in a mass grave near Berak in the direction of Negoslavci, in the "Šarviz" field. I did not see these executions but I know that the individuals who I will name took away these people and that they did not return anymore nor does anyone know anything about them since then.

I was left behind by chance and released on December 13<sup>th</sup> 1991 exactly when some bearded and neglected individuals started coming to Berak. They came with their poor belongings and entered those houses that the Croats and others had left or houses nobody lived in. We were not allowed to walk around freely or to talk to anybody. We did manage to talk to each other in fear about what could happen to us, so that we would not be taken away. We also told each other what we had suffered or seen. I told my fellow-citizens how I saw Mihajlo Eror, Đoko Vuletić and Đuro Dejanović, as well as some others in territorial uniforms, take away Tomislav Pršlja under the threat that they would execute him. They were taking him down the footboard to the Local Committee Office and I heard Eror saying

how Pršlja should have surrendered his weapons and then he pointed at me and said: "See you are just like Mato, if you had not had weapons, nothing would have happened to you". I did not see Pršlja again; he was murdered three days later, we found him in the moors near Josip Nakić's house and I buried him together with J. B., I. B. and some others.

During our time in this "camp", in the house of P.P., others who lived there would tell us, whenever we would pass them or carry water and feed the cattle, what they had seen. There were stories about tortures with rats; the rats would eat the faces of the women in the camp. This happened to R.B. and everybody including me saw when she was released and told how they kept the rats in birdcages to starve and then the rats would pick her face through the gaps. She was completely lost and her face was swollen, she told all of this in P.P.'s house, but she was taken away because she talked too much, and nobody heard of her since then. Those were mainly "territorial forces" that did this, who include all of the above you have read out. All of them from Mihajlo Eror to Mile Šijuk, who died in the mean time while I was in Berak (I correct myself, he died at the time I had come to Berak at the end of December 1991), except Nikola Gvojić, Đorđe Zuber, Milenko Jamzović and Radislav Jovanović, I know as citizens of the neighboring village Orolik. I did not have any problems with them as I had with the others who tortured me and everybody else in P.'s house. Šljivančanin came to the house with them and was one of the superior commanders and I saw him beat women with my own eyes, among them my mother and wife. Žarko Kajganić, son of Mile and a fellow-citizen, took my tractor while escaping from Berak and wanted to take it to ŠID. He did this but when he saw that I was alive, he said that he took it away to keep it safe for me, and he asked for 2,000 DM for the tractor's return. I reported him to the police and he returned the tractor, but without the money since it was confiscated by the police.

I also know all of those you read out to me, from Milan Kajganić to Dragan Kvočka, from Žarko Kvočka to Stevo Gledić; all of them were from Berak and behaved equally violently towards us. Some of them were more and some less in a slaughtering mood; they would threaten us or take us to a place of no return. Nobody of the above helped me or anybody else even so much as offering us some bread crust, a glass of water or a cigarette. Not one of them behaved like this towards us but all they did was kill and push us around. They told us to hand over our weapons, transmitters, photographs of President Tudman, our sons' and children's addresses, they asked for the photographs of "the Ustasha children", they were saying: "Where are the young Ustasha?".

Besides those who you have read out to me I will mention others who also were there and who were very dangerous; like Đurđica Janković. They were intimidating us in different ways about impaling us on stakes, frying us, skinning us and many other horrors.

The saddest thing is that some of the above like Ilija Mrković, Branko Vujić and Dušan (aka. "Dule") Janjanin used to be good citizens and acquaintances and during these horrors were one of them, are now in the Croatian police in Vukovar.

I could go on about this for two more days, but I told you all the details I had experienced. I am still a returnee without a place to return to since an older house in Berak was destroyed and "settlers" from Western Slavonia currently occupy the other, so that I am still on "nobody's land" in Vinkovci in the house of ...

This Predrag Kukić did all kinds of horrors on living people; he would tie them up with barbed wire and cut them with chain saws. He would not wait for the Croatian Government

but escaped and only the devil knows where he is now. I got many messages from him to leave his house, but I did not have anywhere to go so I neither wanted nor could leave.

I got ill because of these horrors and am mostly suffering and being treated for stomach and heart problems. I am taking medication so I hope that my health will improve.

For three years I have not drunk any alcohol and I used to drink before, mostly beer. I have never been treated for psychological problems except three years ago, when I had some difficulties and could not see straight. Dr. Matijević in Vinkovci then treated me, this was three years ago and I have not been treated since nor have I drunk any alcohol.

I do not have anything to add to this.

There are no more questions for the witness.

The witness was informed and warned according to article 77 of the Criminal Offence Law (ZKP) and he states that he does not want to read the protocol since he has heard the dictate.

The witness will get refunded Transport expenses in the amount of 70,00 Kuna.

Finished at 10:55.

Statement given by: M.M. (signature)

**ANNEX 35:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.B.\***

POLICE DEPARTMENT (PU) VUKOVAR-SRIJEM

Crime-investigation Department

Vinkovci, on 8 May 1999

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made at the official offices of the PU Vukovar-Srijem on 8 May 1999 on the informative interview with: P.B., daughter of ..., maiden name ... born on ... in Berak at ..., a housewife by occupation, of Croatian nationality. This statement was given in connection with the rape of the witness by D.P. from Berak.

During the informative interview, the witness P.B. states that on 2 September 1991 the so-called JNA and other paramilitary formations occupied the village of Berak. In the afternoon of 2 September 1991, MILE KROŠNJAR (currently not living in the Republic of Croatia), a member of the reserve unit of the so-called JNA, came with a long weapon and told the witness that she had to report to the headquarters which were stationed at the Local Committee (MZ) in Berak at Orolička Street, allegedly in order to agree on something. The witness left her house together with her husband M.B.\*, and went to the headquarters after this. While they were leaving the house, the witness also saw other citizens of Berak go to the headquarters.

When they reached the centre of the village, where the headquarters were located, the witness saw a large number of JNA members as well as 80 citizens of Berak, who were then, together with the witness, taken to the hangar of the "Vupik" Vukovar plant, which was also in Orolička Street.

The witness states that she and the other citizens stayed at the hangar for three days. During this time, several of them were taken away for questioning to the headquarters. At that time the following were at the headquarters: ŽELJKO PERENČEVIĆ, ĐOKO RADULOVIĆ and DUŠAN VUČETIĆ (all of them currently do not live in the Republic of Croatia). The guards in front of the hangar were the following: MILE RUŠNOV, PAJO RUŠNOV and ZORAN KVOČKA (all of them currently do not live in the Republic of Croatia).

While the witness was imprisoned in the hangar, she was abused by the above mentioned DUŠAN VUČETIĆ in the following manner: “do you have a transmitter, i know you do, give it back, if you do, nothing will happen to you”.

After she spent three days at this co-operative hangar, the witness and the other prisoners were taken under an armed escort to ..., to the house of P.P., where the aggressor organised a “Camp”, which was guarded by the TO (Territorial defence) members: ZORAN KVOČKA, MILE AND PAJO RUŠNOV, DRAGAN TEPŠIĆ and PERO ŠIUK. During the imprisonment at the camp, the witness went to her house daily to feed her livestock and was escorted by Pero Mimić.

The witness further states that ŽARKO KVOČKA, who was the co-ordinator of the prison camp, questioned the prisoners at the headquarters. During one of those questionings at the headquarters, the witness saw how an individual by the name BELI from Berak physically abused Marijan Marinčić; Beli beat him with a wooden stick all over his body. Marijan Marinčić is listed as missing. According to the witness’s statement the following citizens of Berak were taken away from the prison camp: M.B., D.P., M.M., S.M., Z.M., S.M., Đ.M., L.M., D.K., M. M., M.K., M.K., T.J., M. J., I.B., M.M., M. and L.L., I. J., F.Z. and I.G., Ž.O. and J.

M. These citizens were, according to the witness’s statement, supposed to be expelled to the free territory of the Republic of Croatia. And the witness also states that ŽARKO KVOČKA and MILORAD MOMČILO, who were also citizens of Berak and in the so-called “government”, are responsible for their disappearance.

On 12 December 1991, the mentioned camp at P.P.’s house is closed, and the witness returns to her family house, which was robbed in the mean time.

In the afternoon of 13 December 1991, around 3or 4 p.m., two unknown individuals stood in front of the house of D.P.. These unknown individuals were members of the reserve unit of the JNA and after the witness greeted with “God afternoon”, they answered, “Run along you Ustasha, or it will be good evening for you”. After which the witness went towards her house and on the way she met her neighbour A.S.\* and talked to her for a while, and noticed that the two unknown individuals and a citizen from Berak by the surname Vorkapić (she does not know his first name) were approaching them. At this occasion one of the two unknown individuals psychologically abused A.S. and the witness.

Around 5p.m. of that same day the two unknown reserve soldiers again come to the witness’s family house in which the following persons were staying at that time: I. and A.P. as well as L.M. On this occasion they lined up everybody present in the house, and psychologically abuse them. After that they left the house and after a short period nine unknown reserve soldiers come to the house, to the room where the witness was

staying, and take the witness and the remaining people to another empty room where they lock them up.

After a short period, one unknown reserve soldier of the JNA comes to take away the witness and takes her to the family house of I.J. at ... Street after which another unknown reserve soldier of the JNA takes the witness back to her house, and after another 10 minutes the unknown reserve soldier who came for her the first time and another reserve soldier come to the house and blindfold the witness with a scarf, and tell her "We will kill you, if you say a word when we get out in the street." After that they took the witness to the reeds at the end of the street. At that time the witness asked the reserve soldier: "Where are you taking me?", at which the soldier answers: "I am taking you to Orolik", and at that time the witness is taken back to the village of Berak, i.e. to the house in ..., belonging to Vlatko Mađarac where another reserve soldier was staying. After he had brought the witness to the house, the reserve soldiers knocked on a window and said: "I bring you a tiger", after which they took her inside and at that time one of the reserve soldiers of the JNA screamed "D., is this that tiger", after which a voice from inside says "Yes, it is".

After coming inside one of the rooms of that house, the witness took off the scarf from her eyes for a moment (she had removed it for one or two seconds after which one of the soldiers put it back on her eyes), and noticed and recognised the voice of her neighbour D.P. After that one of the reserve soldiers took the witness tightly by the right hand while another was fastening the blindfold around her eyes, at that same moment the witness felt that somebody was unbuttoning her leather waistcoat, and after they had taken off her waistcoat, they started undressing her completely. They immediately stripped me, and made me kiss and lick their penises. Seven of them raped me, mostly by forcing to engage in oral sex. The whole time I was blindfolded. They raped me. The hardest thing for me was to swallow the sperm and urine. The whole time somebody was shouting: "Fuck your Ustasha mother, where is the gold your son stole." He caught my breasts a few times and hit me in the abdomen, when I couldn't swallow any more, they threw me out onto the concrete floor. After that they pushed onto a crowd of naked men who, according to the witness all had "an erection", they pull her by the breast and say "These are fine breasts you have..."etc. After that, they push the witness to the ground and put their penises into her mouth and say "Swallow you Ustasha bitch", during which the remaining reserve soldiers laughed and shouted, "There are ten of us", and other soldiers shouted, "There are twenty of us". After that they took their penises out of the witnesses mouth and put them inside her vagina, then back into her mouth and said, "If I do not reach a climax, I will kill you", during that occasion they kept calling a certain Nikola, an unknown person to the witness. After three hours the witness was taken from that room and put into a wardrobe. After some time they took the witness out of the wardrobe, during which the witness heard somebody say, "Take her, do with her whatever you want." After which they dress the witness and two of the soldiers take her to the garden, where they leave her and distance themselves. The witness thought that they would kill her, since they whispering. After a certain period, one of the soldiers approached her and took off the scarf from her eyes and told her "Run, can you hear me", after which she heard a shot and squat down, and after a second shot the witness started running. After a period of wandering around (the witness did not know where she was) she reached the yard of her neighbour ...'s house in ... and tried to enter the house of A.S., but did not succeed. After that she went to the garden of L.

P. in that same street, and reaches the garden of A.S. through the garden of L.P. There ... opened the door, and take her inside their house and put her to bed.

In the morning of the following day, the witness was in terrible pain and vomited. She immediately went to the JNA clinic, which was situated in the centre of Berak, and told the military physician that she was raped. After she was medically treated, she went to the TO headquarters to report the rape and met Slobodan Macut, Ilija Vučetić and Đoko Radulović there, who told her "That is what you get for not staying isolated, when you wanted to go home".

...

Statement taken by authorized Official person: Predrag Plecković  
Statement given by: P.B.

**ANNEX 36:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.P.**

A.P., UCRN: ..., born on .... in Mrzlo Polje. I am a Croat, and a housewife by occupation. Residence address: .... Qualification: four years of elementary school. Status during the war: civilian. Current address: ...

I was imprisoned in the camp in Berak; the house of D.P.. I witnessed the beating and torturing of F.Z. junior and Đ.M., as well as the torture and beating of the other prisoners in the house of M.H.. I also witnessed the murder of ANA ČUČIĆ.

I am giving the following

STATEMENT

I had stayed in my house for a month, from 2 September 1991, when the Chetniks and the Yugoslav army attacked and occupied the village, until I was taken to the camp. During this time, we were not allowed to walk freely around the village, so that every time I wanted to go into the garden I had to ask for permission. I had to get permission from the armed civilians who were all Serbs and inhabitants of the village of Berak. They were:

1. STEVAN EROR
2. GOJKO EROR
3. MILE ČANDŽIJA
4. VESELIN RAKINIĆ
5. VUJO RAKINIĆ
6. SLOBODAN MACUT

On 3 September 1991, she was eighty-six years old. The Chetnik ILIJA ČUČKOVIĆ, a citizen of Berak, murdered her. The next day ŽELJKO PERENČEVIĆ, the Serb leader from Berak came to my house and told me to go see K. since we were family. When I came to see her K. had already been taken into the hall from the street. MARA GVOZDANOVIĆ and ANA GVOZDANOVIĆ had done this; A. had seen the murder.

A month later, I was taken to the camp, the house of D.P. GOJKO TEPŠIĆ took me there and said pointing his gun at me: "Now you are crying, but where are your son and grandson?" When I came to the camp there were ninety-seven people in the house; mostly civilians from Berak. Every day they would select a few people and take them to the

basement of M.H.'s house until they had taken twenty-seven people away. They interrogated, tortured and beat the captured men and women in this house.

I saw the beaten R.B. who was brought to the camp with the rest of us. She was black and blue from the beating and her face was swollen. She told me that DUŠAN JANJANIN had beaten and tortured her, and threatened to put a rat into her mouth. She told me that she had been beaten because of the truth. He tried to get her to confess that she had cooked for her grandson, i.e. he was hiding in her house. She did not want to confess this since it was not true. They took her away the next day and she did not return anymore.

Guards took me to my house from the camp, this time MILE ŠIJUK was on guard. I was in my house in the room facing the street. All of a sudden, ANA ČUČIĆ was coming down the street towards MILE ŠIJUK, who fired his rifle and killed ANA ČUČIĆ with one bullet. I was frightened and hid in the pig sty and the hay-barn. One hour later two Chetniks who I did not know came to my house and told me to leave it. I was frightened because I thought they would kill me as well. These Chetniks took me back to the camp.

One day they also took me to be interrogated. I had to wait while they were interrogating and beating M.M., Ž.O., F.Z. and Đ.M.

Ž. and M. were returned from the camp Begejci. ŽARKO KVOČKA a former citizen of Berak and inspector of the Department of the Interior (SUP) from Zagreb, who had returned to Berak, questioned them all. The Chetniks with the nicknames "PAMPUR" and "BELI" also tortured and beat them.

They forced me to say that I was informing the citizens of our village that the army was coming to the village. They returned me to the house of D.P. after the interrogation.

Since I have heart problems and a pacemaker, I was constantly afraid since the local Chetniks were beating and torturing us every day and night. At night, they would come with a flashlight and shine it in front of our eyes. One day they started taking people away in an unknown direction. Then I saw them beating the tied up and beaten M.

K. and pushing him into a truck. M.K. had been returned from the camp Begejci to Berak. I also saw when ZORAN KVOČKA brought the beaten Z.M. and showed him to us. Z.'s mother was also there and had to see him beaten and tortured. Z.'s face was beaten and swollen; I could not see the rest of his body, because of his clothes. Later they took him into an unknown direction and this was the last time I saw him.

The army stayed in Berak until 16 May 1992, whereas the Chetniks remained in the village. That night they threw a bomb through the window into our house, and this was a sign that we had to leave the house. The following day I was banished from the village together with seven other people. We were on a tractor and a trailer; UNPROFOR and a local Chetnik, VESELIN RAKINIĆ escorted us. We were escorted to the UNPROFOR point in Mirkovci, where we had to continue on foot and cross a minefield. From there we came into the Ban Jelačić Street in Vinkovci.

The witness A.P. confirms the authenticity of this statement with her signature; that it was given without force and that the report responds the truth and the statement.

Rokovci, 18 June 1994

Statement taken by: A.P.

Statement given by: Jelisava Garvanović





**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
BOGDANOVCI**



**ANNEX 37:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.M., M.S.**

Drawn up at the County Court in Vukovar on 6 March 2000

Present from the Court:

Investigating judge: NIKOLA BEŠENSKI

Recording secretary: SLOBODANKA ZAMAKLAR

Criminal proceeding against: DUŠAN ČUČKOVIĆ

...

Name, surname and father's name: Z.M., ...

...

On 19 November 1991, I first went, together with other women and my children, to the hospital in Vukovar. After that they ordered us to go to "Velepromet". There we were signed in. The night from 19 to 20 November 1991 I spent with my two daughters in a hangar of "Velepromet". On 20 November, while I was standing in front of that hangar, and when it was almost day, I noticed the imprisoned Vlado Petrik and perhaps three more persons being taken away. I remembered Vlado for being a distant relative of my mother. He looked helpless and miserable, but I do not remember all the details, because all the time while I was at "Velepromet" I was frightened a lot, and especially for my children. Generally, we, the prisoners, could not look around or talk to each other much. The thing I remember was that Vlado was taken about three or four meters away from me towards the railway which was about twenty meters away from me and I saw them firing at his back the same as the other three men, or how many of them were there, I do not remember. I heard shooting. I did not look to remember and describe those persons who took him and those prisoners, but what I remember is a fact that when Vlado was already killed, one of those men that took him there, a tall man, came to us and said that this was a way to treat the Ustashas and I know that some women approved of that, but none of the prisoners.

...

Name, surname and father's name: M.S., V.

...

On 19 Nov 1991, when I and my children went to hide in the basement I found out and realised that the situation was such that we had to surrender. Many of us mostly women and children went to the Vukovar hospital. Members of the so-called JNA and the paramilitary formations, which I call Chetniks, came that same day. I remember that they first separated the women and children. I was in the first group taken to the Velepromet. It was 19 Nov 1991. My children and I spent the night in a warehouse of the Velepromet. In the morning of 20 Nov 1991, all women with children were separated and we were in front of the Velepromet. I remember that my mother in law, N.S., was also there as well as M.S., my husband's sister, M. G. and D. M.'s wife whose name I do not know. We were standing there without any food for a long time, I do not know how long but I think it was past noon already when I noticed a person wearing a leather jacket and a fur cap with a cockade. He was leading Vlado Petrika and two other persons whom I did not know. He was carrying a short weapon; I think it was some kind of automatic weapon. When they approached us I saw that person slapping Vlado Petrik's face so Vlado's glasses fell. Vlado bent to pick them up but this person stepped on his glasses saying he would not need them any more. That person slapped Vlado many times and I heard him saying, "Whose Serbian mother you dare to curse?". I am sure that Vlado did not curse or say anything else. Who would have dared to talk in a situation like that. We were

afraid to open our mouth let alone say something. Approximately fifty metres away from us there was a big wired gate and the train tracks were running through nearby, as well as a channel and a cornfield. I watched, I think my mother in law and M.S. watched it too, and I heard a burst of gunfire after which I saw, for it was daylight, all three persons falling to the ground near the channel. When the person with the fur cap and the cockade was standing near us I saw that another person gave him a bottle of plum brandy. He was drinking it in front of us, he was furious. It was obvious that he was drunk, because he was salivating while he was drinking. It was broad daylight without fog and there was nothing, which would conceal the murders from us. The murders took place behind the gate, which was open, and we could clearly see what happened there. ...I saw. He killed them. He came back and drank almost a litre of plum brandy after which he returned to the bodies and enjoyed in firing again at each body.

Recording secretary:	Investigative judge:	Witnesses:
S. Zamaklar (signature)	N. Bešenski(signature)	(signatures)

**ANNEX 38:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.C.**

A.C. (...), born on ... in ..., municipality of Vukovar. I am Croat by nationality, by occupation housewife. I am married, mother of four children.

...

**STATEMENT**

In autumn 1991, the members of the Serbian paramilitary units and the JNA attacked and fired at us. They entered our houses and took the men to questionings and to camps. Many of them never returned home.

In September 1991, our people told us to run away because an attack had started. My husband I. (born 1931), as well as 60 other men, did not want to leave their homes, and we never again heard of them.

The Chetniks from Bršadin and Pačetin robbed the whole village and burned it down and destroyed it.

My son I. (born in ...), who was a ... in the school in Vukovar, was taken by local Serbs-Chetniks to the plant "Velepromet", where they gathered people. There, they separated him from his wife and forced him into a bus, in which he was transported to Srijemska Mitrovica. I never got a living sign of him; I do not even know whether he is dead or alive. My neighbors told me that they beat the people in the camps very much, and that then they took them out and killed them. This was done by the guards. Some people from Vukovar also came to the camp, but they had stockings over their faces, so that they would not be recognized.

They took many to a market ("drvena pijaca"), where they slaughtered them. The blood was knee-deep. This terrible crime happened at SLAVKO'S (the baker) place.

In Zagreb, 21 June 1991  
Statement given by: A.C.

**ANNEX 39:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.T.**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made on 18 June 1997 in the premises of the police department of the Vukovar-Srijem district during an interview with A.T. (father ..., born ... in ..., municipality of Bogdanovci, with residence in ..., farmer by occupation, Croat by nationality, at the moment living in ... concerning the aggression and occupation of Bogdanovci by Serbian paramilitary units and the so-called JNA during 1991.

During the interview with A.T., we found out that, after the new Croatian government had been established, during 1991, the so-called JNA armed the villages, where Serbian inhabitants were in a majority. After the massacre of Croatian policemen in Borovo Selo, barricades were set up in the neighboring village of Bršadin, and tensions rose between the rebel Serbs and the Croatian authorities, which caused the local Serbs from Bršadin, in the morning of 13 August 1991, to carry out the first mortar attack on the village of Bogdanovci. 6 mortar shells hit that part of Bogdanovci around the Catholic Church. Nobody was killed or wounded in the attack, but great material damage was caused to houses and farm buildings around the church. After the first mortar attack, attacks continued every few days. On 25 August 1991, the tower of the local church was directly hit with a shell. The roof frame was damaged.

During September 1991, mortar attacks by the Serbian army on the village of Bogdanovci continued. During the attack on 15 September 1991, MIHAJLO CETKO and STJEPAN DVOJKOVIĆ were wounded. During September, attacks from the air carried out by the so-called JNA started. In the attack from the air on 17 September 1991, in the early afternoon, two cluster bombs were fired at the village. 17 inhabitants of Bogdanovci were wounded, among whom, according to the recollection of A. T., were the following persons: VLATKO ANOKIĆ, VERA KIŠ, PAVO CRNOMARIĆ, NERC BARLEČAJ and a nurse, whose second name is BARUN. He cannot remember the names of the other wounded persons.

On 30 September 1991, around 1.00 pm, another attack from the air was carried out on Bogdanovci by the so-called JNA. One cluster bomb was fired; three persons were wounded. M. C. was seriously wounded in the head, while A. T. and J. M. were wounded in the leg.

During September 1991, artillery attacks on Bogdanovci continued every day. At the beginning of October 1991 that is on 2 October 1991, a combined artillery and tank attack was carried out, in which around 40 tanks and transporters participated. One part of them entered Bogdanovci in the late afternoon around 4.00 pm from the direction of the village of Petrovac, from the local graveyard, and from the direction of the village of Marinci. During the attack, before dusk, three members of the aggressor army wearing camouflage uniforms and armed with guns, jumped off one of the transporters. One of them wanted to escape, but the other two soldiers killed him by automatic guns. After that, the two soldiers went to the house of Antun Markobašić. In the basement of the house were the inhabitants of Bogdanovci ĐURICA KATIĆ, born in 1933, ZDRAVKA KATIĆ, born in 1934, IVAN KRIŽANOVIĆ, around 60 years of age, and one defender (unnamed) from Lužac. When they entered the basement, the two soldiers killed by firearms the above-mentioned persons in the basement. The two members of the Serbian paramilitary units went to the house of Ana Zvonarević and tossed several hand grenades into the basement, and due to the explosion, the following persons were killed: STANA ŠIMIĆ, ANA ZVONAREVIĆ,

MARTA GRUBANOVIĆ, Marija Marijanović AND Marija Šimić (mother and daughter) were seriously wounded, while JOSIP DOMINKOVIĆ was killed at the entrance to the basement. All mentioned persons were senior civilians. That day, in the evening, a person with the first name ZVONKO, called "STRIKAN", who had moved from Vukovar to Bogdanovci, was also killed. The witness does not remember his second name. The same day, around 9.00pm, DOMINKO CERANAC, the Defence Commander, was killed in M. Tita Street.

A.T. said that, in an official objection, he found out that M. K. from Bogdanovci (at the moment a refugee in Nuštar) recognized one of the two members of the Serbian paramilitary units that had jumped off the transporter and killed the above mentioned persons from Bogdanovci as "Veljo's son from Marinci".

During the aforesaid attack, three defenders, unknown to the witness, were killed. The one from Cerna was taken to the garden of Stipe Kovač, where he was buried together with two other unnamed defenders. They were buried by I. K. (he is at the moment somewhere around Đakovo), while the defender from Vidinac and the defender from Petrovac (whose alleged second name is MANJOŠ) were buried in the garden of the witness in the boundary line with his neighbor Stjepan Dvojković, near an old plum tree, wrapped in a poncho. They were buried by S. K. and T.S. (he died in exile).

During the attack on 2 October 1991, near the chapel, members of the Serbian aggressor army also killed the civilians VINKO MARIĆ and his wife ZORA MARIĆ, who in their car "Zastava 750" tried to flee from Bogdanovci.

The witness also said that the persons (6 of them), that were killed in the basement of Antun Markobašić's house were buried in the yard of the house, at a depth of 0,5 m, and that at the mass grave a metal fence was set up. The bodies were buried by M. A. (he is at the moment in Podravski Podgajci), Joka Anokić, and several others, who later were also killed. The witness also said that the inhabitants killed in the basement of Ana Zvonarević were covered up with sand where they were killed by the above mentioned Mato and Joka Anokić, so that they were not taken out of the basement.

During the next day, the tanks and transporters left the village of Bogdanovci itself, but they were assigned outside the whole village, so that the village of Bogdanovci was surrounded and nobody could either leave nor enter the village. In the surrounded village, 230 persons remained, a part of them were civilians, and a part were defenders.

After the blockade of the village, it was attacked with artillery and tanks from all directions several times a day, and occasionally it was also attacked from the air. During one attack from the air, due to the explosion of a cluster bomb, the inhabitant of Bogdanovci, VERA BARLEČAJ, was wounded. The attacks continued until 10 November 1991, when in the morning around 9.00, a heavy attack on Bogdanovci started from all sides with artillery, tanks and infantry. At 3.00 pm the same day, the Serbian paramilitary army entered Bogdanovci. A part of the defenders and the civilians, around 150 of them, gathered in the afternoon at the so-called Hill in the M.Tita Street, and decided to separate in several groups and in that way try to flee from Bogdanovci in the direction of Vinkovci, because the village could not be defended anymore due to lack of weapons.

The witness said that with one group of around 20 persons he went in the direction of Marinci and Nuštar, and that in the night they met a group in Marinci, which previously had left the village. The group had entered a minefield, and a number of them were killed and wounded. After that, they all together took off to Nuštar, or precisely, to a place called "Vašarište", which they reached around 5.30 am.

The witness said that, during the aggression on Bogdanovci, in an artillery attack, practically the whole village was destroyed, so that not even one house, one farming building, the church and the school had remained undamaged.

Further, the witness states that, according to his own estimation, during the occupation of Bogdanovci, 40 persons disappeared, of which the following persons, according to his knowledge, survived: J. G. (at the moment living in Ogulin at his son-in-law's, Franjo Pehar, tel. ...), M. Č. (at the moment in ..), Đ. M. and his wife M. M. (she died in exile) and M. D. (at the moment in ...), while the other persons are recorded as missing.

The witness also said that at the so-called "school square" there is a place where 5-6 persons, killed before the village had been captured, were buried.

The witness can give no further information on the occupation of the village.

Statement given by: A.T.

**ANNEX 40:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.K.**

Made in the offices of the police Department (PU) Vukovar-Srijem on 24 June 1997 of the informative interview with M.K., daughter of ... and ..., born on ..... in Bogdanovci, Municipality Bogdanovci, with residence in ..., and who is currently a refugee in Vinkovci, at ... Street. As well as with B. K., son of M. and I., born on ... in the village of Galičić, Municipality G. Vakuf, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with residence in ..., and who is currently a refugee in Rokovci, refugee camp "Blace". An interview was conducted also with R. S., son of A. and A., born on ... in Vukovar, with residence in ..., and currently a refugee in Rokovci at the refugee camp "Blace". They all testified concerning the circumstances of the aggression and the occupation of Bogdanovci by the Serbia-Chetnik formations and the so-called JNA during 1991.

During the interview with the witnesses, we found out that during August 1991 the Serbian-Chetnik formations attacked the village of Bogdanovci with tank and mortar fire in the afternoon hours, from the direction of the village of Bršadin and the "Đergaj" forest. During this attack, six mortar and tank grenades fell on the village and one fell on the tower of the local Catholic church, on which occasion the tower and the roof covering of the church were damaged as well as some family houses and farm buildings next to the church. During this attack the civilian Ilija Matijašević was injured in the abdomen.

After this attack the aggressor continued its artillery attacks every few days with 10 to 20 grenades every day and continued destroying family houses and farming objects.

During September, they attacked the village with two planes for the first time and during this period they shelled the medical corps which was located in the house of Cetko Mihajlovic and also threw three cluster bombs. Due to the explosion of these bombs the following persons were injured: VERA KIŠ, ŽELJKO PRCE, VLADO PRCE, ZRINKA BARUN, KREŠIMIR BARUN, VLATKO ANTOLIĆ, PAVO CRNOMARIĆ, CETKO MIHAJLOVIĆ, ANA MIHAJLOVIĆ, STJEPAN DVOJKOVIĆ, FRANJO PENIĆ, VERA BARLEČAJ (suffered severe injuries), and others whose names I cannot remember, which means thirty persons.

During September they continued their daily artillery attacks, i.e. to destroy Bogdanovci from the direction of Bršadin and the “Đergaj” forest which is near Bršadin, and during these attacks, they completely destroyed the Catholic church of “The Holy Cross” and the building of the local school of Bogdanovci.

In the afternoon of 2 October 1991, after artillery preparations the combined tank-infantry attack on Bogdanovci started from the direction of the occupied village of Petrovac, Marinci and Bršadin. During this attack, the village was completely surrounded and nobody could get in or out anymore. During the attack, the following persons were murdered in the house of Antun Mrkobašić: Ana Zvonarević, Marta Grubanović, Josip Dominiković, Josip Marijanović, Stana Šimić, Zdravka Katić, Đuro Katić and Ivo Križanović. They were murdered by members of the so-called JA throwing several hand grenades into the cellar of this house. The following persons survived in the cellar and suffered severe injuries: Marija Šimić and Marica Marijanović. The above-mentioned murdered persons were buried in the yard in front of this house, but the witnesses do not know who buried them (the witnesses do not know the exact location in the yard).

On 2 October 1991, the following persons were also killed: Dominko Ceranac, Zvonko Vuković (aka Strikan) and Silvester Edelinški. All three of them were killed by firearms. The witnesses do not know where the three were killed or where they were buried.

During October they continue to attack the village from the air, and during one of these attacks they also used incendiary bombs, which completely burnt down the family house and the farming objects of Slavko Dvojković.

The village of Bogdanovci was attacked daily with artillery weapons from all directions, until the village fell into the hands of the so-called JA and the other paramilitary Chetnik formations on 10 November 1991, when in the afternoon hours tanks, transporters and the infantry of the aggressor army entered the village.

The civilians and defenders who were still in the village after the aggressor had entered, retreated to the medical corps, to be precise to the cellar, and the aggressor army fired four tank grenades into this building from close range. Since the village could not be defended any longer, the defenders and the civilians split into several groups and started their breakthrough towards Vinkovci in the afternoon.

The witnesses succeeded in breaking through the enemy lines and came to Nuštar in the morning hours of 11 November 1991.

The witnesses testified that, as well as they can remember, the following persons remained in Bogdanovci after its occupation: Ivka Krajina, Franjo Kolar, Katica Kolar, Branko Višić, Dragica Gabrić, Ivo Almaš, Željko Antić, Ivan Barun, Ilija Tadić, Ana Tadić, Mato Ceranac, Anica Ceranac, Kata Ceranac, Stanko Filkovac, Ivica Plum, Ivica Crnomarić, Rozalija Šefčik, Andrija Almaš, Tomislav Konjovod, Pero Matić, Josip Jerković, Anđelina Anokić, Nikola Paljošaj, Zef Barlečaj, Ljilja Barlečaj, Vera Barlečaj, Krasnički, Kristo Lesaj, Stjepan Bartulović, Ivan Begonja, Slavko Begonja, Tomislav Elez, Pavo Katić, Ilija Marić, Pavao Šad, Marija Mazar, Ivan Mazar, Andrija Knežević, Evica Knežević, Martin Panković, Anka Panković, Marika Dvojković, Marin Ceranac, Marija Ceranac, Lela Mesnik, Đuka Mesnik, Marko Penić, Franjo Jerković, Đuka Šimić, Kata Šimić, Slavica Dvojković, Dominko Matijašević, Marko Bajac, Stjepan Matijašević, Josip Knežević, Stjepan Tadijanović, Zdravko Mariček and his wife.



The following from the above managed to leave Bogdanovci after its occupation: Franjo Jerković, Marija Jerković, Anka Panković, Marija Dvojković (she is currently in Vukovar), Đuro Mesnik (currently at his daughter's house in Tovarnik) and Janko Gabrić.

The witness M.K. also stressed that she had spoken to an older unknown male individual from the village of Petrovac who told her that after the fall of Bogdanovci he had helped collect and bury the murdered bodies. The witness also says about this individual that his son works in the logistics of the 10<sup>th</sup> Vukovar Home Guard Regiment, and that his first name is MIROSLAV, and his surname possibly HARHAJ, or something similar.

The witnesses also testify that a certain TIBOR ROKLICER from Vukovar (married to a woman from Bogdanovci) also participated in the collecting and burying of the murdered people after the fall of Bogdanovci, but as far as they know, this individual emigrated to Australia.

The witnesses also state that the village of Bogdanovci was completely destroyed, and that during the destruction ten people who were killed, were buried in the so-called School Square in such a way that their bodies were wrapped in tents and buried with a bottle next to their bodies. These bottles contained the data of the dead persons. The witness states that MARKO PENAVIĆ was buried in his yard next to the shack and that he was buried by Branko Krajina, Marko Konjovod and Ivica Šimunović, they covered the grave with metal.

Statement taken by Authorized Official: STJEPAN PERIČAK

Statement given by: M.K.

**ANNEX 41:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.B.**

M.B., born on ... at ..., residence ...; occupation: skilled ..., now retired, nationality: Croat, during the war a member of a reserve unit of the HV in Bogdanovci, presently situated in ...

B.B., nee ..., born on ... at the village ... near Đakovo, residence ...; a housewife, mother of two – ... and ..., nationality: Croat, presently situated, together with her husband M.B., in ...,

gives the following:

**TESTIMONY**

“We were at Bogdanovci until (ILLEGIBLE WORD) early in October of 1991. When Chetniks attacked the village with tanks, our son picked us up and we ran away by car. Right after, the village was bitterly attacked. There were three attacks. The village fell during the third attack. We left when the first attack started. We know, according to rumors of inhabitants, that the following persons died in the village: Kata Ceranac, Ana Tadić and her husband Ilija. They died in the basement of Željko Matković. Chetniks tossed a bomb in the basement where every one of those persons was and then Chetniks burned them. That happened on ... – the eighth house from ours – the house number was approximately .... Ivo Almaš and his father Andrija, Rozika Sevčik, Stipa Matijašević, Stana Šimić, Josip Marijanović, Stanko Filkovac, Ljuba Burkovša, Ana and Marta Zvonarević, Josip Dominković (he was killed with a pistol – shot in the mouth, when he stepped up to attackers and said: “Why are you doing this? I am an officer of the Yugoslav People’s Army (reserve).” Then a Chetnik killed him.)

All of the above-mentioned, except Josip Darvinković, were killed with a bomb in a basement. All of them were civilians – mostly women and children. In the basement where Marta Zvonarević died, nine Albanians died – mostly women, but we don’t know their names. Vinko and Zora died from a grenade in a car, a red Yugo, at Dol beside a chapel – at the exit from Bogdanovci towards Marinci.

Pavao Šat died from a grenade in a car at a cross at Lipica. Ilija Marić died together with him. Luka Karazila saw them dead in a car. They were already almost completely disintegrated. Stjepan Bartulović (born in 1929) was thrown in a well that was in his yard.

Stevo Katić, Josip Knežević and four guardsmen died on a minefield. That minefield was placed between Marinci, Bogdanovci and Bršadin. Chetniks killed Đuro Šimić, his wife Kata and their son. They crucified a son of Konjovoda Grga, called “Kuštro”, on a lime-tree in front of a church. They tortured him there and he died there. “Kuštro” was wounded, so he couldn’t run. Ivica Mažar and Marija were also killed. Their son was a member of the National Guard, so they were probably tortured. Josip Anokić also died, but I don’t know how. Ilija Crnomarić died. Ivo and Slavko (brothers) Begonja are registered as missing. They were the last ones that stayed behind in a bunker defending Bogdanovci. There is, most likely, a mass grave on the new “mrcinište”, on the field named Naratak “Mrcinište” is to be found between Bogdanovci, Vukovar and Lužac.

**A DRAWING**

It is second or third on the left looking from the direction of Bogdanovci. It is the third on the left (a field road) looking from the direction of Vukovar. "

With their signature M. and B. B. confirm the authenticity of the Testimony. The statement was given without coercion. The written statement is analogous to the statement given.

In Opatija, January 11<sup>th</sup> 1993

Statement was given by: M.B. and B.B.

Statement was taken by: LADISLAV KOTRBA

**ANNEX 42:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.S.**

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on 10 November 1997 in the premises of the Police Department of the Vukovar-Srijem District during the informative interview with V.S. (father ..., born ..., with residence in ... as refugee) on where the defenders and civilians, killed during and after the occupation of Bogdanovci in 1991, were buried in the village Boganovci.

During the interview, we found out from V.S. that in the beginning of October 1991 the inhabitant of Bogdanovci, DOMINKO CERANAC, was killed, and that his body was carried to the front yard of his house, where he was buried in an improvised wooden coffin by Stipe Tadijanović, Stanko Katić and Dominko Matijašević (deceased). The improvised wooden coffin was wrapped in nylon and two metal chains before it was placed in the grave. The grave was 1 meter deep at most. His parents, who later were killed, too, were present at the burial.

At the beginning of October, in the yard of Antun Kobasić's house, the following persons were killed: ĐURICA KATIĆ, ZDRAVKA KATIĆ, IVICA KRIŽANOVIĆ, ZVONIMIR VUKOVIĆ, called Strikan, and one person, whose name is unknown (it could possibly be the inhabitant of Bogdanovci Zef Paljošaj). As the bodies of the above mentioned were not buried for a long time, they started to smell badly, so that V.S., together with Stipe Tadijanović and Stanko Katić, poured petrol over the bodies and burned them. However, the corpses were later buried by persons unknown to him at a location, that is unknown to him, too.

V.S. also said that during October 1991, in the basement of Ana Zvonarević's house, the members of the JNA killed JOSIP MARIJANOVIĆ, STANA ŠIMIĆ, ANA ZVONAREVIĆ and MARTA ZVONAREVIĆ. He also said that the bodies of the above mentioned persons were in the basement for a long time, so that they started to smell badly. Together with Stipe Tadijanović and Stanko Katić, he poured petrol over the bodies and burned them.

On the question of "whether he took part in the burial of the killed defender MANJOŠ", he said that he knows that the mentioned defender was killed, but, as far as he knows, he was buried by persons unknown to him at the so called "school square" on the street to Vukovar, where a great number of killed defenders and civilians was buried.

He also said that, during the defence of Bogdanovci, the Croatian defender SILVESTER EDELINSKI was killed in a trench in the garden of Đurica Katić, so that possibly he remained there, unburied.

Statement given by: V.S.

Statement taken by authorized official:

**ANNEX 43:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on 9 November 2000 at the Police Department of the Osijek-Baranja District, of the informational interview with M.M., maiden name M., born on ... in B..., residence in ..., with current residence in ..., where this informational interview was held. The interview was on the war events and wounding circumstances, the deadly suffering of a large number of people, which happened at the beginning of 1991 in the village of Bogdanovci.

During the interview M. stated how she remained living in her house in Bogdanovci together with her husband, J.M., after the JNA tanks blocked all roads and other communications towards Vukovar on 27 August 1991, while the communications towards Vinkovci remained open until the begin of October 1991. The main reason why M. remained in Bogdanovci was her conviction that just as in World War II nobody would harm her husband and her since they were elderly people, and they were never very interested in politics and another reason was that they had four daughters who were not married and were not living with them any longer. There were no Chetniks in Bogdanovci, since Bogdanovci was inhabited by citizens of Croatian nationality.

M. also stated how she noticed the first signs of this war when the JNA tanks surrounded the village at the end of August and the village was shelled from the surrounding villages (Bršadin, Petrovac, and the later occupied Lužac), which had a Serb majority. Those were the first shellings of the village of Bogdanovci, although there were neither military objects nor large Croatian army formations in the village. In these circumstances, M. and her husband, as well as their daughter M.Š., who could no longer live at her flat in Borovo, and other neighbours, would hide in the cellars until the attack was over. Due to the stated events a large number of women and children left Bogdanovci either in organized buses or with their own cars. The older citizens remained in Bogdanovci in order to save their property and feed their cattle, since they were mainly farmers. At the time of these JNA and Serb-Chetnik tank and mortar attacks, the aggressor started to combine these with attacks from the air by JNA airplanes. M. stresses that until October there were at least twenty of these combined attacks on Bogdanovci, but until October 1991 the Serb-Chetnik army did not try to enter the village of Bogdanovci.

At the beginning of October 1991, after the Serb-Chetnik army had occupied the village of Marinci, Bogdanovci suffered a severe attack, and on 2 October 1991 Bogdanovci was completely surrounded and could not be left even through the corn fields towards Vinkovci. M. learned this while she was hiding in the cellar when her fellow-townsmen, Đuro Bartulović, came and told them that several police officers were killed while they were trying to breakthrough and were left lying in the cornfield, and that the police did not allow anybody to leave through the only possible way out.

After the described events and the severe attack on 2 and 3 October 1991, approximately ten policemen came to their cellar to hide and spend the night there. In addition to M., her husband J., their daughter M. and her mother in law, S.Š. and several neighbours were also in the cellar. Since the intensity of the attacks was not weakening and since a grenade had injured his leg, M.'s husband J. and the remaining persons

except the police officers transferred and hid in the cellar of M.'s relatives, the Zvonarević family at ..., Bogdanovci.

Since the attack continued with the same intensity, M. and the other persons mentioned earlier, remained in the cellar the entire day until the evening when a JNA tank came to Bogdanovci from Petovac. This tank was standing at the entrance of the village, M. does not know if it was hit, just that four unknown men in uniform were standing next to it, who had a red star on their caps and were firing their weapons as they were approaching the houses and they were throwing grenades into the cellars, and they also came to the cellar in which M. and the above were hiding. While they were approaching the cellar four officers of the Yugoslav army threw a bomb into the cellar and told them to get out of the cellar. One of the Yugoslav officers asked them if anybody was still in the cellar and M. tried to explain to him that her husband was still in the cellar and that he could not get out because his leg was injured from the shelling. This soldier then cautiously entered the cellar, while two other soldiers questioned them, and the fourth soldier was standing a little further and holding his gun towards the centre of the village and looking towards them from time to time. After the first soldier had returned from the cellar, he told them to return to the cellar. They all obeyed him and when they were back in the cellar, the Yugoslav soldiers threw several bombs into this room (M. believes it was three or four), and M. remembers a big flash and suffocating smoke after their explosion, she also knows that she fell after being hit and did not feel anything at that moment. M. believes that she lost consciousness after this, and during the night she felt somebody pulling her and after this she also heard an inarticulate voice and recognised her daughter. Her daughter was asking her to help her get a certain object off her neck which would not let her breathe, they recognised then that this object was the body and leg of their killed relatives A. Z. and M.G. who were lying next to them. Since it was night and dark in the room, M. did not know if there were more survivors beside her daughter and her, and because of the pain and fear, none of them dared move. Not until morning at daybreak and before M. had heard somebody calling out from outside the cellar, did she see that everybody except her daughter and her were dead in the cellar, and she also saw that her husband J. was killed with a bullet to his head, and this was done when the Yugoslav soldier had gone to the cellar the previous night to see who was hiding in the cellar. Due to fear M. did not answer any of the calls, until their neighbour Branko Višić came to the cellar in order to help them and called their fellow-townsmen Stipe Tadijanović, and then they first helped M. and got her out of the cellar after which they took her to the neighbouring house of the Ceranac family. After a short stay at the Ceranovac house and after her daughter, who had remained in the car because she could not move due to her injuries, had been brought there, both were taken to the clinic, which was stationed at the Barun family house in the centre of Bogdanovci.

M. further states that due to the circumstances and the continuous attacks on the village, the doctor at the clinic, whom she did not know, decided to send her and her daughter together with approximately twenty other wounded to the hospital in Vukovar. They were escorted by police officers, who brought them to the hospital by driving through cornfields in the night. They arrived at the hospital around 2 and 3 a.m. of 5 October 1991. Doctor Ivanković and a nurse whom everybody called Biba admitted them to the hospital and Doctor Matoš was the surgeon who treated them. M. states that her daughter and her were in hospital in Vukovar for ten days during which the hospital was shelled with a so-called "krmača" by the Yugoslav army. Due to this the organisation "Medicin sans frontieres" transferred them from Vukovar hospital to Mikanovci on 17 October 1991, and after two or three days they were taken to hospital in Koprivnica.

After they were treated in Koprivnica hospital, M. and her daughter M.Š. were transferred for rehabilitation to Varaždin thermal resort, where they stayed until the end of 1993, when they got lodgings at the Friendship camp in Čepin, where they are still living. M. stressed in her statement that she as well as her daughter were declared disabled after their treatment, and they were both declared civil war victims and that they do not know if anybody was indicted for these crimes, and she also states that after the peaceful reintegration of the Croatian Danube-region and the establishment of the authorities she had tried with the help of the police and the Government Commission to find her husband's body since it was never found, just like the bodies of the Zvonarević family and M. G., while the bodies of Ivo Križanović, Zdravka Katić, Đuro Katić and Josip Dominiković were exhumed in the yard they were murdered in.

Statement taken by Official: ŽELJKO HLEVNJAK  
Statement given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 44:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.P.**

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

The official record was composed on 3 December 1997 at the offices of the Military Police, 1<sup>st</sup> Croatian National Guard Corps. The official record is in regard to the interview with First Lieutenant Z.P. concerning the occupation of Bogdanovci by the paramilitary Serbian units.

Z. P., son of ... and ..., was ... in Vukovar. He resides in .... He lives in ...now, .... He is a Croat by nationality, Croatian citizen, and unmarried, employed in the 1<sup>st</sup> Croatian National Guard Corps in the Commanding Company. He is in communication surveillance and a First Lieutenant by rank. He has been a member of the Croatian Army since 2 May 1991.

He states the following:

Ever since he was born, he has lived with his parents and sister in Bogdanovci. In May 1991, after the massacre of the policemen in Borovo Selo, they started keeping watch in the village in the direction of Vukovar. He provided himself with a machine-gun, camouflage uniform and actively joined the defenders of the village.

The first attacks against Bogdanovci were launched around 25 July 1991 from the direction of Bršadin. Every day the Serbian paramilitary formations launched a couple of mortar missiles on the village.

On 23 August 1991, the Serbian paramilitary formations captured the crossroad toward Vukovar (around 4-5 kilometers from Bogdanovci) and deployed around 10 armoured vehicles toward Bogdanovci. In the same way, they deployed more armoured vehicles on the dirt road that runs to the crossroads for Vukovar in the direction of Negoslavci. During the day, they brought a couple of anti-aircraft machine-guns to the mentioned locations and began firing at Bogdanovci. He remembers, that during the attack Dražen Marić from Bogdanovci was wounded by an anti-aircraft machine-gun bullet.

At the middle of September, they dropped two cluster bombs from an airplane, which fell near the church and wounded around 10 persons (civilians and defenders). Željko Prce,

Krešimir Barun, Zrinka Barun, and a person with the surname of Kiš were wounded then, and the names of the others he does not remember.

The first really serious attack was mounted on 2 October 1991, when the Serbian paramilitary formations with around 111-150 soldiers, got into Bogdanovci from the direction of Petrovci and Marinci (which fell the previous day together with Cerić). They brought around 10 armoured vehicles (M-84, T-55, and BVP). From the direction of Petrovci, they captured a half of Maršal Tito Street, and from the direction of Marinci they broke through to the center of the village. The attack against the village began around 8.00 am and lasted the whole day. The defenders managed to destroy two armoured BVP vehicles and two tanks, while more armoured vehicles were damaged.

Before the very attack broke out around 7.00 am, some civilians tried to leave the village by their car. Around 10 persons were killed on the street toward Marinci. He remembers that Pavao Šad, the age of 25, Ilija Marić, the age of 25, Vinko Marić, around the age of 50, and Zora Marić, around the age of 45 were killed on that occasion.

During the attack, the Ceranac family was killed (man, his wife and son, around the age of 35). The following day, they were buried in the yard of their family house, Maršal Tito Street, on the opposite side of the cross. Tomo Elez, around the age of 28, disappeared during the attack. A number of members of Croatian National Guard Corps, and the members of the Ministry of the Interiors from Vinkovci, Nuštar, Ivankovo, Županja, and the other places he does not know the names were wounded while they were defending the village together with the other residents.

In the period from 2 until 23 October 1991, there was no direct infantry attack against Bogdanovci, but every day the village was shelled from the direction of Vukovar, from the crossroads of Bršadin, Petrovci, and Negoslavci. He remembers that Marko Penić, around the age of 40, was killed during a shelling. He was buried in his front yard, ....

On 23 October 1991, around 7.00 am, the village was shelled from all above-mentioned directions with the tanks, rocket-launchers, and artillery. More than 200 shells were launched, so the defenders thought that they would try to occupy the village.

Around 7.30 a.m., the attack from the direction of Vukovar began in the way that the infantry force and armored vehicles got around 200 meters into Vladimir Nazor Street where they were stopped by the defenders. The battles lasted until 2.00 p.m., when the Serbian paramilitary forces retreated to their previous positions (to the crossroads). He recalls that during the attack Miroslav Šimić from Bogdanovci, around the age of 30, and a member of the Croatian National Guard Corps from Vinkovci with the surname Istokovic fell, but he does not know where they were buried. In the same attack Antić (surname) from Bogdanovci, around the age of 35 was wounded.

On 27 October 1991, two members of the Serbian paramilitary formations were captured while they observed the village from the direction of Marinci. Both of them came from Serbia, Valjevo, and one of them was nicknamed *Rambo*. Later, both were liquated while attempting to escape. The two informed the defenders that three teams composed of two members were sent to observe the village. One was captured; the other managed to mine the cannon that was located in the direction of Bršadin and to disable the anti-aircraft machine-gun; they never found out where the third one was.

On 1 November 1991, around 8.00 am, the attack against Bogdanovci was mounted from the direction of Bršadin. They attacked with around 15 armored vehicles and around 150 soldiers. They managed to occupy half of Matija Gubec Street, where they were stopped by

the defenders. As far as he can remember in that attack no defender fell but the Serbian paramilitary formations did suffer heavy losses.

On Sunday of November 10, 1991, around 8.00 a.m., the attack from the directions of Bršadin, Petrovci, Marinci, Vukovar, and the field toward Vladimir Nazor Street was mounted. They attacked from all directions with around 30-50 armoured vehicles and more than 300 soldiers. The battles lasted until 21.00 p.m. when the defenders were left without rocket-launchers and bazookas, and each defender with only 30 bullets. The Commander of his team, nicknamed *Crvenkapica*, was a member of the "HOS". He ordered them to breakthrough. 30 of them (civilians and defenders) gathered in the group and went forward. That night, another 10 groups (civilians and defenders) tried to breakthrough. In this attack, at the entrance of Bogdanovci from the direction of Vukovar, more than 15 persons (the members of the Croatian National Guard Corps, members of the Ministry of the Interiors, and civilians) were killed.

During this attack, the Albanian ten-member family was killed in Vladimir Nazor Street, on the opposite side of Ivica Radoš's house

....

The names of the "HOS" members, who fell or took part in the defence of Bogdanovci are known to Colonel D. R. from Velika Gorica, now a member of the Croatian Army. He works in Pula in *Muzil* barracks. He was the "HOS" Commander in Bogdanovci before the village was occupied.

Concerning the addresses of the persons who left Bogdanovci then, he knows the following:

- V. P., lives in ...
- P. P., lives in ...
- M. G., lives in ...
- S. P., lives in ...
- V. B., lives in ...
- M. M., lives in ...
- S. Ž., lives in ...
- B.K., lives in ...
- A. B., lives ...

About those events, he has nothing else to state, accept he can personally show the locations where the aforesaid persons were killed or buried.

Statement given by: Z.P.

Statement taken by authorized official.



**ANNEX 45:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF Đ.B.**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made on 9 November 2000 after the informative interview with Đ.B., who has a residence in ..., on war incidents in Bogdanovci at the beginning of 1991.

I was in Bogdanovci until the day of the occupation. On 10 November 1991, when the army of the JNA from Niš and Mačva entered the village I was in the basement at M. A.'s house. That day the village was captured. 5 soldiers of the JNA tested whether the pipes were hot. 15 people were in that basement, and when the attack started, I went to the barn door. I knew that they would come to execute the civilians in Croatian houses, because they did it before, during the 6 previous attacks on the village. They used to come to the houses and tested whether the pipes were hot and in that way found out whether civilians were hiding in the house. Then they shouted: "Croats, out!", under "Ustasha" they understood all Croats, even a newborn Croatian child. Everybody that came out of the basement was killed instantly, after which a hand grenade was thrown into the basement, and in that way those who did not want to come out were executed. I saw that they went to every Croatian house. Because it was dark and it was raining, I could not see how close to the basement they had come. I had a hunting gun, from which I fired in their direction as soon as I saw them, so I thought that they retreated, because they thought that resistance would be offered. But soon they came back and threw three hand grenades into the basement. Stjepan Matijašević was killed, and several persons were wounded. My wife then came out of the basement and asked whether I was alive. I said that everybody from the basement should come to the barn, after which we organized ourselves. We were 16, three were seriously wounded, and we started to flee from the village. We went over the field towards the river Vuka, and we lay there until Ivan Matković, called "Lasta" came, who told us that the village had been captured and that the following persons were killed: Pero Matić and Josip Jerković, and that Tomislav Konjevud was seriously wounded. The 16 of us fled to Nuštar, where we surrendered.

Bogdanovci, 9 November 2000

Statement given by: Đ.B.

Statement taken by: authorized official.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
ŠARENGRAD**



**ANNEX 46:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Ž.M.**

LAST NAME: M.  
 NAME, NAME OF THE FATHER: Ž., ...  
 YEAR OF BIRTH: ...  
 PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., Croatia  
 PERMANENT ADDRESS: ...  
 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
 PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: secondary qualifications  
 OCCUPATION: ...  
 EMPLOYMENT:  
 MARRIAGE STATUS: married  
 CITIZENSHIP: the Republic of Croatia  
 NATIONALITY: Croatian

I give the following

STATEMENT

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1991 four transporters came in the village near school. We were ordered that we had to turn in our weapons. The order was issued by the army, at that time the JNA.

M. B., our commander from Ilok, was negotiating in order to save the people. All villages from the area of Vukovar municipality, from Sotin to Ilok, gathered there. The situation was that there was no bread and there was nothing to eat. The man did the best he could. The transporters were already in the village. They were near the school. Eight young men and an officer were there. They collected all the "Kalašnjikovs". There were about 4 or 5 "Kalašnjikovs". Only the hunting guns were left. The army took it all and they went towards Bapska. It all happened on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1991, when the weapons were handed over near the school. We did not see any chetniks there. I approached one of them who was sitting in the transporter and I asked him: "What are you doing?". He said: "I only do what I'm told to do." The other one who was standing on the transporter told me: "My father was going around the village with a major, and they were looking for weapons." I do not know the name of that major, because he did not tell me his name. The one who told me that is Montenegrin. I concluded that by the way he talked. I told him that I did not have any weapon, and that he has nothing to look for here.

Before they came with transporters the village was shelled. Some people got killed. Jura Saračević was killed by a shell. They were in an inn, in a basement in Šarengrad. As the shells were falling, here in the center, the cross was damaged, everything was damaged. That is why he said that it was not safe here, so he would go to his friend's place. And just as he went the shell fell exactly there and it killed him. Josip Vuletić – a veterinarian and two guardsmen were killed then too. Josip got killed near the old school, the shell threw him, together with a car, about 10 meters away. At that time I was working in the Ilok church. We were restoring it. I told my cousin that Šarengrad was being attacked. He said that it was not true. Then he called his father who told him that Šarengrad was attacked. We walked towards Šarengrad. There was no one there. Not even a dog on the street.

They were attacking from the Danube bank, from the Serbian territory. I personally saw five heavy machine-guns. Everything seemed so tense. We all waited for the moment when they would start shooting on us. I was in the pillbox, in the ground. The concrete was falling off because of the detonations. So you can guess the force of these detonations. I was afraid. I looked through the binocular, because they could not see me there. They were attacking the village center. They were shooting out of tanks on the Orthodox Church. Then I saw them shooting at the tower. They threw eight shells on the tower. The first one missed it. I saw it all through binoculars. The other seven shells hit the tower, but it did not fall. The Catholic Church, which is bigger than the Orthodox Church, was hit with one shell. They hit the roof, about a meter away from the edge.

One Serb from the neighborhood, his name is Milivoj Alavanja, immediately ran away and joined the Serbs in Bačka Palanka.

When the convoy left and when we all left, my late godfather's mother came to Zagreb. My father also came to Zagreb. He knows what happened and how it all happened,

Ilija Maslovara from Vukovar worked with me in "Građevinar". He came with a gun and he hit Pero Cvitković "Kockar" with a butt-end, and the chetniks took him from our playground towards the poplar in the center. He was hitting him with a butt-end, and the man fell couple of times while they were asking him to give them his money. M.K. told me all that, and she is still in the village. She lost her son there, so she decided to stay. Her husband brought her dead son on the tractor (like a hog).

On the turn, on the way to Šid, they waited for Ivan Mijić, and they shot at him and killed him. Miroslav Kolak and Antun Vrbanac's wife were killed too.

Mato Mijić's other son was also wounded. He was shot in a shoulder. He was going with his father into the "Kordoš" wood. Miroslav Kolak was climbing over the gates and he was shot with a burst from a machine gun. He fell and he asked for help. Nobody was allowed to help him. He was left dead.

The Šešelj's people were pillaging around the village. That was around the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1991 when the army entered the Šarengrad. I was walking around the village with them. They asked me to whom did the houses belong. I was unarmed. I was afraid that they would kill me. I told them that there was no one there, that there was no weapon. The houses were locked.

Then they took off the Croatian flag and put the Yugoslav flag. They climbed on the transporter. I stood there and watched it. Then they demolished the Local office. After that they went to my friend's place. His name is Pero Jordan, he is from Belgrade. They robbed him too, so he came to get some things that were left. He had some connections among the officers, so he complained to them. They gave him back the stolen things, and he drove them to Belgrade. When he said – there could not be two armies in the Yugoslavia – we conflicted and I got out. We ordered a drink and a coffee then, but I did not want to drink it. After that conflict I got out. I went home and I was looking for something to put on.

The following people were killed at Bapska: my best man M.K., a Serb woman Vrbančić (her husband is in Zagreb) and Ivan Mijić.

Ivan Mijić's brother was heavily wounded in shoulder, so his father Mate drove him through the "Kordoš" wood to Slobodan Župan's house. My parents were there in a basement. They changed his bandages and then they transferred him, I do not know how, to Novi Sad. I came back to Ilok and later on I got out in a column.

In Banjole, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 1993.

The statement was taken by: Šimun Penava

The statement was given by: Ž.M.

**ANNEX 47:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.Š.\***

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
VARAŽDIN POLICE ADMINISTRATION  
CRIMINAL POLICE DEPARTMENT (organizational unit of the Ministry)  
Number: 511-14-04/1-5-T-36/94  
Date: Varaždin, the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1994

OFFICIAL RECORD

Citizen P.Š., occupation – farmer, born on the ..., permanent address – residence – ..., on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 1994 in the offices of the house – ... gave to the authorized person of the VARAŽDIN POLICE ADMINISTRATION (name of the unit of the Interior) the following information:

I owned together with my family the two houses in Šarengrad village, one in ... and the other in ... that his son, K. .... used. He lived with his mother A.Š.\*, born on the ... and his wife K. .... in the old house together with which he owned the farmhouses and about 30 hectares of land. Altogether he owned in Šarengrad the two mentioned houses, 30 hectares of cultivable land, 3 hectares of vineyards, over 300 head of small cattle and over 20 head of big cattle. He also owned 3 tractors with all the necessary additions and the amount of his property totalled about 3 million German marks.

The Serbs did not effectively act in Šarengrad until the Serbs from the surroundings of Orahovica came after the first convoy left Ilok on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1991. About 100 families – Croatians were then moved out of Šarengrad and the Serbs moved into their houses and they came *en masse* from the Slavonia area. When they came the robberies started in the village, curfews, interrogations and tortures began. Immediately after that the army of the former JNA came from Kragujevac. The two captains from Kragujevac known in the village by the nicknames "OSA" (wasp) and "ZOLJA" (rocket launcher) commanded the JNA formations. During the November of 1991 the citizen assembly was convened in the Community center in Šarengrad and it was convened by the mentioned members of the JNA and one major wearing the JNA uniform from Ilok was together with them but I do not know his name.

The members of the JNA asked then that the rules of the life in the village be strictly obeyed which the Serbs who came from Orahovica objected to asking for special treatment for the Croatians including the restriction of their movement around the village without a special pass and the restriction of their going to the fields etc. After the first convoy left Šarengrad in the October of 1991 12 Croatian houses were set on fire and that was ordered by the person in the uniform of the former JNA, captain by rank and they called him

“DOLE” He found out that he was from Kragujevac and a major from Kragujevac in the uniform of the former JNA was with him but he does not know his name. The army from Kragujevac did not stay long in Šarengrad and after they left, the army of the former JNA from Valjevo and Vršac came. The former JNA army quarters were situated in Stjepan Radić Street in the house of Marko Rogić and in the house of Jure Kovčalića and both of them were exiled from Šarengrad in the December of 1991.

He cannot remember exactly when but he thinks it was at the end of November of 1991 when he was taken for interrogation where they kept him for 2 days under suspicion that he was hiding a weapon somewhere on his estate. Then they locked him in school together with B.H., a member of the Croatian Army, I.O., a member of the Croatian Army, T.S., L.S. \_\_ and one other person named I., whose last name he cannot remember. The policemen from Kragujevac questioned them in school and those policemen came together with the members of the Kragujevac garrison. They let him go after two days but they took the five mentioned individuals to the camp in Sremska Mitrovica.

There were 10 % Serbs in the village out of the total population. From the Serbs who were natives Vukoslava Erdevički was the most extreme person, she worked in the Local office. She said into which houses Serbs from the Orahovica area would move and she also issued special passes for moving around the village and for going to the field. The Croatians in Šarengrad were not allowed to move without those permits and their movement was controlled by the members of the so-called JNA. Further on Milivoj Radojičin was a rather extreme person who immediately after the JNA army arrived in Šarengrad joined the Serbian police and now he works in the Police station in Ilok. He, together with Gojko Erdevički, brother of Vukoslava Erdevički, used to hold meetings of the Serbs in the village of Kuzminci near ŠID and there they made plans for the exile of the Croatians and they also planned which Croatian property they had to destroy and burn.

Zagorka Mozirović from Šarengrad was with them and she was in charge of the specific activities connected with the exile of the Croatians.

In the February of 1992 Žarko Belić from the village of Mohovo came to the village often and when he would come to Šarengrad he would stay at Milan Cubrić's house where he would meet with the above-mentioned people and he asked all the Croatians to move out of the village. P.Š.heard it personally from Milan Cubrić .

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1991 Darko Herceg from Milanovci, the village near Orahovica came to his house in Stjepan Radić Street and two persons unknown to him were with Darko Herceg . They were all wearing the uniform of the “territorial defence”. After Darko Herceg came into the house he asked him to show him all his property and his whole estate. When he saw everything he ordered him and his wife Katarina to pack in five minutes and leave the house. They took only some clothes then because they were forced out into the street but buses with Belgrade license plates were parked in the village center but he does not remember what color they were. They put about 110 Croatians from Šarengrad on the bus. That same day the convoy was transferred to Osijek. As far as he can remember about 60 Croatians from Šarengrad were moved out on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 1992.

Immediately after the former JNA came to Šarengrad on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 1991 the members of the police from Knin came to Šarengrad and they moved into the villa “DUNAVKA” – that was 3 km away in the direction of the village of Bapska. Later on he found out that on the estate of the “DUNAVKA” villa one of the camps could be situated because nobody was allowed to enter near the estate and the estate was guarded. There



were suitable buildings on the "DUNAVKA" estate that could be turned into a camp. One man was particularly active in the village at that time and this man moved from Orahovica and they all knew him by the nickname "MAČAK" (tomcat).

After he was moved out of Šarengrad together with his wife, his mother, A.Š., born on the ... in ..., stayed in Šarengrad. She was transferred with the help of the International Red Cross from Šarengrad to Osijek where he personally drove her to Varaždin.

Statement was taken by Official: Boris Iljadica

Statement was given by: P.Š.

**ANNEX 48:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.G.**

A.G., I was born on ... in ..., ... – BIH. I lived in ..., for 20 years. I am married and have two children. By occupation, I am a housewife. I am illiterate. During the war, I was a civilian in Šarengrad, where I was during the occupation until they banished me in March 1992. I am a Croat by nationality. Now I have been accommodated in the Hotel "..." in ...

I am giving the following

STATEMENT

When Šarengrad fell into the hands of the JNA and Chetniks I remained alone in the town, the children left before the war.

The army and Chetniks constantly searched my house, stole everything of value, later they even took away my food supplies. They would take me everywhere and question me about my son who was in the Guard in Vukovar, and they knew this.

One night they chased me into a house and questioned me; afterwards they kept me tied, almost nude, in my yard while pointing several guns at me. They questioned me about my son. They kept me like this from the evening until morning. I was freezing. When they were leaving, they said that I could not tell anyone about this. They questioned me almost every day. It was getting more and more difficult to stand it in the town.

They moved Serbs into the town and even their children maltreated us elders.

In the spring, they drove us out, they took us by force, there were mainly older people, some of us they pushed in wheelchairs, and some they dragged across the streets kicking us with their feet. They forced us to sign a statement that we were leaving by our own free will and were leaving all our property to them.

They put a gun in the mouth of my neighbor, M.G., to force him to sign the statement. In the end, he had to sign so they would not kill him. In this crowd some signed and some did not, they just wanted to drive us out as soon as possible.

This is how I lost everything and was driven out of the town.

With her signature, the witness, A.G., verifies the authenticity of this statement, that it was given voluntarily, and that the written statement corresponds to what was said.

In Lovran, 10 August 1993

Statement taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

Statement given by: A.G.

**ANNEX 49:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.G.**

M.G. (daughter of ... and ...), born on ..., in ...,  
... Residence: ..., Municipality Vukovar. Temporary residence:.... A Croat and by  
occupation a housewife. JMBG: .... Questionnaire no.: 11028.

I am giving the following

**STATEMENT**

At the beginning of October 1991, the members of the JNA (Yugoslav People's Army) and the Serb paramilitary units attacked Šarengrad. They attacked it with tanks from the direction of Bapska, and with cannons from Bačka via the Danube River. Several Houses were torn down and several people killed.

After they entered Šarengrad they started setting houses on fire and arresting people. Luckily, the majority of the population had left Šarengrad in time and hid in Ilok. The Serbs took the people to the school building. They would beat and torture them there. They especially beat and tortured our fellow-citizens: J. V., B. H., and I. O.. They found a military uniform behind the house of the elder woman A. G. and accused the old woman that it was her son's uniform. They forced her to put on that uniform and took her dressed like this through the village to the school building. They beat her at the school. The old woman is more than seventy years old. My husband and children managed to escape from Šarengrad in time and hide in Ilok. They went to the free territory of the Republic of Croatia with the convoy on 17 October 1991. I stayed behind in my house in order to save it, the cows, and pigs. The Serbs stole anything they wanted from the house. These were the newly settled Serbs. Our Serb neighbors did not cause us any problems.

During March 1992, the Serbs started threatening us and banishing us from our houses.

On 17 March 1992, three men came to my house. I did not know them, because they had come from Western Slavonia during the occupation. They threatened me to give them the house keys and immediately leave the house. They took me to a bus. The bus was filled with Croats from Šarengrad who had to leave their houses. We had to sign a document that we were leaving our houses voluntarily. We could not take anything with us. They took us to Bosnia and Herzegovina via Mohovo and Tovarnik. They left us in Bosanski Šamac, in the free part of Croatia. From there, we went to Zagreb, and later to Samobor. We stayed in Samobor for several months, and then we moved to Zagreb.

Zagreb, 27 December 1995  
Statement taken by: Violeta Groznica  
Statement given by: M.G.

**ANNEX 50:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.G.**

My name is I.G.. I was born on ... in ... (BIH), my mother is ... and father .... I am of Croatian nationality.

I am a high school graduate and a waiter by profession. I am married and have one child. Before the war, I lived in ....

So far, I have not charged anyone.

I am giving the following

**STATEMENT**

In the summer of 1991, a pre-war atmosphere ruled. People were scared and panicked. In Ilok, where I frequently used to be, there were units of the JNA grouped.

At the "25. maj" bridge, which separated Ilok and the town of Bačka Palanka, there was such a unit. They came armed and with tanks, demanding that the units of the Ministry of the Interior (MUP) units leave the Croatian border. They threatened them with weapons if they did not acquiesce to their demand. The MUP units retreated to the town of Ilok and the JNA units kept watch and controlled the bridge. Upon their arrival, they removed the Croatian flag and burnt it.

After a certain period, the JNA units began intimidating the Croatian population with their nightly shootings. One night in July 1991, fire was opened up on the members of MUP. The attack happened without obvious motive and completely by surprise. A policeman from Šarengrad lost his life, Goran Štipak, while he was driving in his duty car. Three other policemen were injured. This was the first open conflict of the JNA against Croatia in the area of the town of Ilok and surroundings.

During this time, the residents of Ilok did not have the courage to cross the bridge, because the atmosphere of war was flaring. On one occasion, a few days before the death of the aforementioned Goran Štipak, I had to cross the bridge to Bačka Palanka so I could buy some furniture. At the entrance of Bačka Palanka the Serbian police stopped me. They arrested me based on my nationality, but justified it with the lack of some driving documents. They took me to their jail and kept me there for about six hours. They interrogated me about the Croatian Guard in Ilok, certain Croats, and the overall atmosphere in the town. They beat me and told me that I was a Croatian policeman, even though I was not at the time. In the end, when I confessed, due to severe hitting, to being a policeman they again continued to beat me. Everything I said was used against me. Among the policemen who interrogated me in B. Palanka was an acquaintance of mine, Milovan from Opatovac; I cannot remember his last name. I asked him to help me. But he said that my case was not under his jurisdiction. After the six hour-long interrogation I was released – I did not return there.

I left Ilok in August 1991. The same year, in the fall, I joined the volunteer units of the Croatian Army with the headquarters in Vinkovci. My current address is ....

6 October 1995

Statement taken by: Violeta Groznica

Statement given by: I.G.

**ANNEX 51:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.Ž.**

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on 5 April 1994 at the Department for war crimes and terrorism of the Zagreb Police administration regarding the informative conversation conducted with:

B.Ž., the daughter of ... and ... (born ...), UCRN: ..., born on... in .... She is a student. She is not married and doesn't have any children. She is a Croatian woman. She has citizenship of the Republic of Croatia. Her permanent address is: ....

The conversation with B.Ž. was conducted in relation to the circumstances of her stay on the temporarily occupied territory of Šarengrad, Vukovar municipality. During the conversation she stated:

That ever since she was born she has been living in Šarengrad, which is some 7 kilometers removed from Ilok, and some 32 kilometers from Vukovar. It is a part of the Vukovar municipality. She lives in Šarengrad with her parents and her sister D. (born in ...) who is also a student. But the both of them stopped going to school when the occupation of Šarengrad by the former JNA and Chetnik para-military formations took place. They did so because they wanted to stay away from possible provocations at school and they didn't want to participate in teaching based on the Great-Serbian programme.

Further on she states that Šarengrad was shelled for the first time on 4 October 1991, around 12:30 p.m., from the territory of the Republic of Serbia, probably from Bačka Palanaka. As a consequence of the shelling the following inhabitants of Šarengrad died: Jule Saračević, Zlatan Sremac Street, Miroslav Kolak, Osiječka Street, and Ivan Mijić, Zagrebačka Street. Approximately 1000 people inhabited Šarengrad. They were mostly Croatians. Only 10% were Serbs.

Since the village was without a real defence and as it was constantly shelled, when the news that the former JNA, that is, the reservists of the "Valjevo Corps", were approaching, spread, on 15 October 1991, the village was evacuated. So, her family moved for a while to her uncle J.Ž.'s house (...) in Ilok. On 17 October 1991 they decided to return to Šarengrad, since they had noticed that a lot of the inhabitants had decided to return. Also, the deceased grandmother M.Ž. really wanted to return. On their way to the village they were stopped by the reservists of the "Valjevo Corps", who searched them and without molesting let them return home.

Further on in the conversation she states that soon the organized persecution of the Croats who stayed in Šarengrad took place. So, on 17 March 1992 the first group of people, whose exact number she doesn't know (she only knows that it was a bus full of people), were persecuted. Also, on 24 March 1992 in the same way one more group of people was

persecuted. They were forced to get on a bus. After these events the persecutions weren't conducted in that way but they threatened the people verbally, shot at their houses, and put hidden explosive devices, and because of that only about 100 of the Croats stayed in Šarengrad. Unknown Serbs moved into the houses of the persecuted Croats. These are the Serbs who claim that they mostly come from Western Slavonia and who stood out in persecuting Croats from their homes. As distinguished from these Serbs, the Serbian inhabitants of Šarengrad behaved correctly.

The members of the so-called "Valjevo Corps" stayed in Šarengrad for a short period of time. During that period they set PETAR ĐAKOVIĆ's house on fire. On 19 October 1991 they were replaced by the reservists of the "Kragujevac Corps", who arrested her godfather... whose wife ... they raped, I.O., T.S., I. V., and J.V. These stated persons were locked up in the local school for 4 days. They were tortured and physically molested there. They let I. V. and J. go, and took T.S. and I.O. to a camp in Mitrovica. In April of 1993 S. T. was released from Mitrovica and returned to Šarengrad. She heard that B.H. and I.O. were exchanged in Sarvaš, she doesn't know exactly when, and now they are somewhere on the free territory of the Republic of Croatia, she doesn't know where.

Her father, J.Ž., was summoned to join the Army in the January of 1992. He didn't want to join the Army, so during the night, two unknown uniformed persons came, and by threatening him with weapons, took him to Nijemci, where he was engaged, for a week, in "working obligation". This "working obligation" was doing jobs such as: clearing of forests, agricultural activities, and toilet cleaning. After that they let him go home as he is disabled since the car accident and therefore is not capable of military service. During his stay in Nijemci, father didn't recognize anyone. The only useful information he can give is the fact that the commander at the headquarters was a person whom they called "Čale".

In relation to the persecution of Croats from Šarengrad she states the case of MIROSLAV KOVČALIJA,... (now Street of Serbian volunteers), who, during 1993, was forced, together with his family, to leave his house. He was a fisherman, and at the beginning of 1993, somebody put an explosive device under his boat. The device destroyed his boat, and it is rumored, among the Croats from Šarengrad, that RAJKO TODORVIĆ put the device there. Rajko Todorović, approximately 29 years old, claimed that he moved in from Voćin, and as a member of the "Captain Dragan" unit he was in all the battle-fields in Slavonija and Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also claims that he stepped on a mine somewhere near Nijemci, and now is an invalid who doesn't go to battle-fields any more. In March of 1993 he forcefully entered the house of the persecuted Croat, M. F. . After they put the explosive device under the boat of Miroslav Kovčalija, unknown persons threatened his son Hrvoje. On that occasion they told them that they had a couple of days to move out of their house. They did as they were told and moved in to Kovčalija's friend, fisherman Stevo, whose surname she doesn't know. Stevo, a Serb, persuaded them to return home and made a promise to them that he would urge the local authorities to stop pressuring and threatening them. However when they returned home to Šarengrad, while entering the house, Stevo stepped on a hidden explosive device which was activated as he was entering the room and died as a consequence. Later on in the house three more bombs were found. After that Miroslav Kovčalija, together with his wife Ankica and sons Hrvoje and Davor, moved out and went in an unknown direction. MIRO STOJANOVIĆ, who allegedly came from Pakrac, moved into his house.

Among the Croats from Šarengrad who were victims of Serbian terror she is familiar with the case of FRANJO HIŽA (approximately 60 years old). He was found dead in his house in Zlatan Sremac Street. He was shot in the head. After that the house was robbed, and at this moment no one lives in it, probably because this house is quite small and modest, and as such wasn't interesting to colonizing Serbs.

On the leaving of the "Kragujevac Corps", somewhere at the beginning of 1992, civil authorities took over the power. MILE CUBRIĆ, an inhabitant of Šarengrad, was elected for the first president of the village. Since he was against the eviction of Croats, he was soon removed from office. Instead of him, JOVICA CVIJETIĆ was appointed to be the new president. Jovica Cvijetić is somewhere between 33 to 35 years old. He is also a colonist who moved in to the house (Stjepan Radić Street) of MIRKO BLAŽEVIĆ, a Croat who was forced out of it. After that, in the June of 1991, he was also removed from the position, and the new president became MIROSLAV CRNOVČIĆ, also a colonist who forcefully moved into the house of an exiled Croat, STJEPAN FALETAR in Zagrebačka Street. She doesn't know who is a president of the village at this time, but she knows that in January of 1994 the above mentioned, MIROSLAV STOJKOVIĆ, MIROSLAV CRNOVČIĆ, and JOVICA CVIJETIĆ were in the battle-field in Okučani. Also it was rumored that NENAD BALAC took part in a terrorist act of mining a memorial tablet dedicated to the killed Croatian police officers in Kusonje in 1993. Nenad Balac is approximately 21 years old and had moved in to Šarengrad from Kusonje. Also, during the terrorist attack he was wounded in the leg. Also it was rumored that on that occasion Chetnik para-military formations had 7 dead and 14 wounded people. Nenad Balac is a member of the Serbian Military police and he forcefully moved into the house of an exile called Petar, whose surname she doesn't know, and whose nickname is "Slovenac", in ....

There is neither police station nor barracks in Šarengrad. All the power is in the hands of the colonized Serbs who are terrorizing people. The police station is in Ilok, and its commander, until the February of 1994, is a person called MIJESIĆ. She doesn't know his name, she only knows that he's approximately 60 years old, and that he retired and is, allegedly, living in Vukovar.

Among the Šarengrad inhabitants who worked with the so-called "police of the Serbian Autonomous Region Srem" in Ilok there was MILIVOJ RADOJČIN from .... He is a former driver for the Veterinarian station in Šarengrad. At the beginning of 1992 he became actively engaged in the stated irregular formation. She saw him wearing the blue uniform with the insignia of the "Krajina police".

When it comes to mobilization she states that in the January of 1994 the following Croatian inhabitants of Šarengrad were forcefully mobilized into so-called "labour units": T. Ž. and T.S., who were taken to Cerovac and were forced to labour; D. Š. and N. T. were taken to Okučane to labour. In the May of 1993 pressure on Croats in Šarengrad became less, and bombing and shooting at houses has temporarily ceased, but verbal threats are still present.

She doesn't have any other information about war crimes committed on the territory of Šarengrad. Also she doesn't know anything else about participating of some persons in the armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia. She has only heard people saying that the president of the "Šešelj's Radical Chetnick Party", in Beli Manastir, was RADE LESKOVAC, whom she doesn't know nor has any other information about him.

She has nothing more to state.

According to the files of the Zagreb Police Administration, the following data was obtained about the persons stated in the record:

1. RAJKO TODORVIĆ, the son of Lazar, born on 13 May 1963 in Slatina, Voćin municipality, a Serb, occupation unknown, the last permanent address ..., the Police station III in Slatina reported against him because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion; by the order of the Military court in Osijek in Glasnik no. 236-368-27, published on 12 September 1992, KIO-58/92-4, the Police station III in Slatina established a search for him, on the local level, no. 511-07-60-50-467, because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion.
2. RAJKO TODORVIĆ, the son of Joco, born on 01 June 1969 in Slatina, Voćin municipality, occupation unknown, a Serb, the last permanent address reported: ...; the Police station III in Slatina reported against him because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia; by the order of the District court in Osijek, no. KIO-481/92-43. From 11 January 1993, the Police station III in Slatina established a search for him, on the local level, no. 511-07-60-22-237, because of the criminal offence of war crime against the civilians.
3. JOVO CVIJETIĆ, nicknamed "Cvijo", the son of Milovan, born on 15 March 1953 in Bakić, Slatina, a police officer, a Serb, the last permanent address reported: ...; the Police station II in Orahovica reported against him because of the criminal offence of the war crime against the civilians and embezzlement; in Glasnik no. 078-359-01, from 18 May 1992, the Police station II in Orahovica, under the no. 511-07-50-186-1, established a search for him, on the local level, because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia.
4. MIROSLAV CRNOVČIĆ, the son of Šimun, born on 3 December 1965 in Blatnica, Teslić municipality, Bosnia and Herzegovina; address: ...; the Police station III in Slatina reported against him because of the criminal offence of the armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia; by the order no. KIO-47/92-20 of the District court in Osijek, in Glasnik no. 164-368-09, from 12 June 1992, the Police station III in Slatina, under the no. 511-07-60-50, from 25 May 1992, established a search for him because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion.
5. MILIVOJ RADOJČIN, the son of Dušan, born on 21 February 1956 in Pirot, Serbia, a driver, address: ...; Vukovarsko-Srijemska Police station reported against him because of the criminal offence of the armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia; in Glasnik no. 093-390-39, from 2 April 1992, Vukovarsko-Srijemska Police station, under the no. 511-15-09/4-852/92, established a search for him because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion.
6. RADIVOJ LESKOVAC, nicknamed "Rade", the son of Živojin, born on 5 July 1951 in Vukovar; the last permanent address reported: ...; Osiječko-Baranjska Police station reported against him because of the criminal offence of armed rebellion and endangering the territorial integrity of the RC.

Statement taken by Authorized official: Nenad Rukavina

Statement given by: B.Ž.

**ANNEX 52:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF O.Š.\***

O.Š., ...JMBG: ..... I was born on ... in ... I am of Muslim nationality. I am not married. I am an auto mechanic by occupation, and have a secondary education. I was working at "PIK" and "ELIP" in Vukovar. During the war, I was a member of the reserve unit of the National Guard Corps (ZNG) in Šarengrad. I was imprisoned in Tovarnik for a year, and a little more than a year in Beli Manastir. I was tortured and I witnessed many murders. I figured out the system according to which STEVAN PULIĆ, the warden of the Beli Manastir prison, perfidiously organized the prisoners' torture. I am currently living in the settlement ....

I am giving the following

STATEMENT

STEVAN SRDIĆ from Tovarnik opened a store before the beginning of the war in Šarengrad. We had organized the defence of the village, so that one day in August 1991 I had asked him not to come to the village, since he was transferring information to Serbia. We had noticed earlier that he was transferring information to ŠID. That same STEVAN SRDIĆ arrested me in my vineyard. That happened after they had shelled Šarengrad (on October 1991, they shelled Šarengrad; I saw the body of JURE SARČEVIĆ who had died of a grenade in the street of MATE KALPIJA's house).

The army (JNA) had already entered the village. We were in the fields. They noticed us and opened fire. We were staying in the fields and our weekend houses for ten days. I. O. had jumped down a hill; I looked for him but I could not find him. A few days later they were waiting with a JNA transporter and a "kompanjola" for me. Inside the "kompanjola" were STEVAN SRDIĆ and his father TRIFUN. They fired their semi-automatic rifles (PAM) at me and I was covered with dirt. They shouted I should lie down. STEVAN handcuffed me. They took me to the village, where they beat me for 15 min.; kicking me with their feet and hitting me with their rifles. STEVAN, his father and other Chetniks were beating me. Then they put me into a police car and took me to Tovarnik.

DUŠAN STUPAR from Tovarnik was in the transporter when they captured me, and he beat me. The vehicle that took me to Tovarnik was probably from ŠID. They threw me into prison in Tovarnik. The outside of the window was wired. M.O. from Mikluševci was in prison, as well as M.D. from Tovarnik and his son R., R.B. from Tovarnik and P.D. from Tovarnik. All the above were prisoners; M.K. from Lovas and many others also. I believe there were around thirty prisoners. They were all beat up and nobody talked to each other. They did not beat me the first night. The following night they beat us one after the other. They gave us only half a cold cut to eat. Around 20:00 a Chetnik came for me and took me outside my cell. He took me to a special room with several Chetniks. There I had to sit down at a table and the guards would stand behind my back and beat me regardless of the questions and answers. They mostly kick me with their feet, some of them also used chairs. They forced me to confess that I was a member of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) – I was not a member of the HDZ but under beatings, I confessed that I was. And then they really started beating me. During one hour, I was beaten five times. They took turns in beating us the entire night. They also beat us in the cells choosing us randomly. I remember that a certain MIŠO beat us with the handle of a shovel. They beat us according to this system for 15 days. They questioned us about anything: weapons, about who was who in the village. They would question and beat me three times in one night. STEVO SRDIĆ came with his friends



and beat and questioned me. D. and I had to work: wash uniforms, clean boots... All prisoners were sentenced to hard labor. I remember when they murdered the mother and father of A. from Tovarnik, a man on crutches. They beat them for a long time and then took them into a cell. One man entered the cell and murdered them with his pistol. A. and I were handcuffed together, or with M., I do not remember anymore. I remember telling A. a not to say that they were his parents or they would kill him as well. The others were lying dead in our cell the entire night. M.M., P. D., a certain T. and I, all of us from Tovarnik, put them into sacks with hoops the following morning. They took them somewhere. I asked P.D. quietly if he knew them but he shook his head. They were murders before this had happened. They had killed two older people but I had not seen them murder them. They murdered them after they had beaten them and they had no use for them anymore.

BAKRAC, a Chetnik from Tovarnik, came inside and questioned these two old people before they murdered them. They tortured us in many ways and the beatings were constant. They would come and ask us who wanted to be exchanged. Those who answered were never seen again. Some were murdered, and some were really exchanged. One time around eighty inspectors came from Belgrade and settled in the school building. They came to arrest, question, banish and rob us. I was in charge of the central heating in the school building. I was constantly under guard; later they assigned two other men to help me. I was left in charge of the heating since they saw that I was good at it, all others were taken away. I was heating until May 1992. MILENKO, a taxi driver from ŠID, and told me that he would not kill me, and that the Chetniks asked money from my sister in order not to kill me. My sister lives in Austria. They asked her for 5,000 DM, which she gave to them. They did not kill me. Once they took me to Srijemska Mitrovica, and I had to lay on the truck the whole day and night. They returned me to Tovarnik and hid me so that the International Red Cross could not register me. They hid me in the basement for three days, the first day I did not even have water. When my brother was exchanged from the prison in S. Mitrovica he told them that I was in Tovarnik. They constantly hid me so that the International Red Cross could not register me. They registered me in Beli Manastir after almost one year. Maybe they were hiding me in order to get more money from my sister. They took me to the militia in Vukovar. They tied me to a radiator. I was tied up like this for three days and three nights. They beat me four times on this occasion. They accused me of being a sniper in Vukovar. They took me to Beli Manastir from there. That was on 10 November 1992. We were twelve in the cell at the beginning, five were Chetnik war criminals. Those were Chetniks who had killed someone and were imprisoned. They were sleeping on the lower beds. I could not climb up to the upper bed so I slept on the floor. This was cell number 3. I was in this cell for a month. They did not beat me during this but abused me psychologically. They only slapped me once. The commander would come and ask if somebody would like to work. I could not; when I transferred to cell number 9. I volunteered to go cut wood. I went once and could not go the following day because my broken ribs were hurting. When I went to throw out the garbage, the Chetnik-prisoners poured water into my bed because I did not go to cut wood. They threatened me constantly that they would murder me as they had murdered before. Later I realized that I had to volunteer for work or otherwise the Chetnik-prisoners would abuse me. Sometimes the guard would only take me outside and return me. Then the Chetnik-prisoners would abuse me because I had the privilege to work. The Chetnik-prisoners would change all the time. D.B. was imprisoned the longest. I found him in the cell when I came and he stayed there after I had left. DUŠAN had murdered several people in Bilje and Darda, but he was not imprisoned because of that, but because he had threatened to reveal the names of the local mafia. Those Chetnik-prisoners were mostly older people. They would

call out all sorts of things to the guards, and by this, I saw that nobody could touch them. I remember when they arrested JOVA PETROVIĆ when he had murdered a Croatian boy for not responding to the mobilization call. JOVA came dressed in the uniform of the SAO Krajina. The entire village came and requested his release. They were shouting that it was a Chetnik prison and not for Ustashas; they were also threatening to blow up the prison. So JOVA was released. My impression is that warden STEVO PULIĆ, the former warden of the Osijek prison, had cunningly organized the prison in Beli Manastir so that his guilt could not be proven. He used the Chetnik-prisoners to torture the non-Serb prisoners. They would put us one at a time in groups of two into a cell with five Serb-Chetniks. The prison regime was very soft to them and they could do what they wanted; they were released very soon. There were few intelligent Serb prisoners. I remember that one of them had figured out the system and said: "When are you going to be exchanged so that we can be released as well?"

Đ.B., P.V. and I were standing in a circle lined up for work, when a lawyer (Serb) came and said: "Who has money will be released, those who do not will not." Once he had asked me for 5,000 DM and said that he would take me straight to Hungary. They asked me for my sister's address several times so that they could ask her for money. After eight months in the Beli Manastir prison, they finally set a trial date. Then I was standing before the court the entire day. After the trial was over the lawyer asked for his money, 5,000 DM, in order for me to be released. In the end, it was like this. The lawyer from Belgrade took me from Beli Manastir to Subotica to our lawyer's, G.B.'s, flat. There I waited for ten days. Two other released prisoners A.S., R. ...came. From there, we were transported to Hungary and later to Croatia. Twenty days later the remaining prisoners from Beli Manastir were exchanged, since there was nobody left from whom they could extort money.

I repeat: STEVO PULIĆ organized the prison in Beli Manastir cunningly, so that the Chetnik-prisoners tortured the non-Serb prisoners. This is hard to prove but I know of many examples where this can be seen.

I have the feeling that they wanted to extort as much money as they could out of us. This is why there are many examples. P.V. for example from Osijek gave them his car and at least 800 DM.

I am willing to testify to the above and many more details before any court. I DO NOT WANT my name mentioned in public too much since I have relatives abroad.

O.Š. confirms the authenticity of every page of this statement, that it was given under no force and that the written record corresponds to the truth and that stated.

Umag, 21 June 1994.

Statement given by: O.Š.

Statement taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

PS: The witness is a very calm person. He does not know for himself how many details of the above-mentioned periods and crimes he knows: Many names and crimes. With the right approach, he can remember data in fragments. When some of the mentioned data has to be explained, one should talk to him.

Ladislav Kotrba

**ANNEX 53:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.L.**

OFFICIAL RECORD

A.L. was born on ... (last number illegible). She resides in ....

She gives the following statement:

In the interview, A.L. states that she lived with her husband and her three under age children in Šarengrad at the aforesaid address.

During July 1991, the inter-ethnic relationships in the entire area of the Vukovar municipality worsened, so in the places where the Serbs were in a majority the barricades were set. At that time, the people began to keep watch in and around Šarengrad. Her husband B. although a Serb by nationality joined the National Guard Corps. He went on guard duty around the village and during July 1991, he dug the trenches around the village too.

She states that on 4 October 1991, the artillery attack was launched against Šarengrad from Bačka across the Danube River. During the attacks, A. her husband and children hid in J.K.'s basement. The following day on 5 October 1991, they went to her parents in Ilok and stayed there until 7 October 1991, when they left for ŠID in attempt to move away from the attacks of the so-called Yugoslav People's Army.

When they arrived in ŠID, the military police of the so-called Yugoslav People's Army arrested them and took them to the police station. Her husband was interrogated and after being held for a couple of hours, he was released. They all went to B.'s aunt. While they were in ŠID, they did not want to register themselves with the police because B. did not want to be mobilized by the Yugoslav People's Army.

They stayed in ŠID until 15 October 1991, when they came back to Šarengrad with the intention of burying I.M. who was killed in Bapska when the so-called Yugoslav Army occupied the village. I.M. was the husband of A.'s sister.

As they arrived in Šarengrad, they were stopped near the elementary school, forced out of the car, lined up, children as well, and threatened that they would be shot. They were lined up and threatened by the members of the so-called Yugoslav Army. A. did not recognize anyone of them. After a while, they were allowed to go into Šarengrad under the condition of reporting in the Territorial Defence headquarters, which was stationed at Marko Rogić's house.

She states that every person in the village had to have a white ribbon tied around their left arm. The men had to keep watch in the Local Committee without weapons. During November 1991, her husband B.L. also went on guard duty and beside him N. I., (unreadable) L., F.Š. and the others also kept watch.

She further states that every time someone wanted to go out of the village first they had to go to the Territorial Defence headquarters where one could get an permission issued. Her husband often requested a permission to go out so he would bring medicine and other stuffs to the Croatian residents for the all shops in the village were closed. At the beginning of 1992, he also tried to stop the expulsion of the remaining residents of Croatian nationality.

During the time they spent in Šarengrad, she states that her husband would take those residents of Croatian nationality, who wanted to leave to the Republic of Croatia, to Serbia. M.I., D.S., V.K., and M.K. were among the

others taken out by her husband B. N.I., D.D., M.R. were in the group expelled at the beginning of 1992. Her husband tried to stop this expulsion too.

A. says that her husband began to work in the "...” company from Ilok in April 1992. He worked in that company until December 1992.

At the beginning of June 1992, B. was mobilized by police of the so-called SAO Krajina. He spent 15 days in (unreadable) and then came back to Šarengrad.

A. states that her husband B. helped M.M., P.M., and M.M. to leave Šarengrad and come to the Republic of Croatia via Hungary.

She her husband and three under age children left Šarengrad on 2 January 1993 via Hungary, they arrived in the Republic of Croatia and settled as the refugees at the camp "Sestre Milosrdnice" near Crikvenica, where they still live.

Statement given by: A.L.

Statement taken by authorized official.

**ANNEX 54:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.C.**

L.C. (... and ...), born on ... in ..., ... Address:.... Temporary address: ...

Croat by nationality, housewife by profession. JMBG: ...

I am giving the following

**STATEMENT**

At the beginning of October 1991, the so-called JNA army and paramilitary units attacked Šarengrad. Tanks and infantry units attacked from the direction of the neighboring village of Bapska, and they were shooting at us with cannon fire across the Danube River from Bačka. They destroyed several houses and killed several people. The majority of the population managed to escape to Ilok. Those who did not stayed in Šarengrad. My husband and I stayed in Šarengrad. The army and Chetniks came to our village. They began burning houses and maltreating people.

Near our house was the school. There they took people, interrogated and tortured them. Screams could be heard constantly. Our locals experienced the greatest sufferings: J. V., B.H., and I.O. Since we were older they did not beat my husband and I, but threatened us every day.

In the beginning of March 1992, they started to threaten us more and ordered us to leave our houses and Šarengrad. We were stalling and then they set a date by which we had to leave our town. On 17 March 1993, they drove us out of our house. They did not allow us to take anything. They banished our neighbors as well. P.C., my husband's brother, had a house near ours. They drove him and his wife out of their house. D. resisted and the Serbs beat her. My husband V. tried to protect her and they beat him as well. Afterwards they chased us all to the bus in town. We had to sign a statement that we were voluntarily leaving our town and were leaving all our property to the settled Serbs. They would take jewelry and money from the people. We could not take anything along with us.

They drove us in the bus on side roads; threatened, and maltreated us on the way. They took us over ŠID to Bosnia and Herzegovina. From Bosnia and Herzegovina, we went to Bosanski Šamac to the free part of Croatia. There we continued on to Samobor where we got housing. After a few months, we were transferred to Zagreb where we live now.

In Zagreb, 27 December 1995

Statement taken by: Violeta Groznica

Statement given by: L.C.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
ILOK**





**ANNEX 55:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.D.**

F.D., son of ..., born on the ... in ... He is of Croatian nationality, occupation- retired driver, permanent address – ..., temporary residence – .... He was kept in custody in Ilok from the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1991 till the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1992. Camp – imprisoned in the Ilok police. UCRN: ...

I give the following:

STATEMENT

At the beginning of January 1992 the shooting and the tyranny started. The army then wanted the people to hand over the weapons and we negotiated. The JNA officer GRAOVAC took part in it and we reached an agreement that those who wanted to stay and those who wanted to leave should sign themselves. Graovac was the village commander and he promised that no Croatian would be hurt. However he was removed from his duty and the other ones came and they gave authority to the local Chetniks and the police of "SAO Krajina". Later Colonel BJELIĆ came as a village commander and later on commander TODORVIĆ, Captain 1<sup>st</sup> Class, and finally Lieutenant Colonel FILIPOVIĆ. All three of them, who came after Graovac, cooperated with Chetniks who beat people, robbed, stole and killed. One of the main butchers was the (Chetnik) police commander KNEŽEVIĆ who ordered everything. LAZAR BAJIĆ was a great villain together with Knežević, and Bajić was their inspector who executed Knežević's orders.

The two of them are responsible for the following crimes:

1. LONČAREVIĆ – elderly lady – they killed her by shooting her in the ears, then they burnt her and threw her in the canal, she was killed in the yard, in front of the house.
2. CINKOVSKI – young man killed in Pajzoš in the wine cellar, he was beaten to death.
3. DEMITER, a Slovak – he was killed by the military police.
4. MATO BOŠNJAK – killed on the road when he was coming back to his house in Zmaj Jovina Street.

These are the crimes that KNEŽEVIĆ and BAJIĆ committed, it all happened in the January of 1992. They issued orders to Chetniks whom they brought from Western Slavonia.

I stayed in the village, because I did not hurt anybody and I did not want to leave the village in the column so I could keep my house. I hid in the basement and the following Chetniks moved into my house: MILAN TREŠNJIĆ with three children, wife and father, and the other one MILAN LEGEN with two children and wife, he was from Daruvar and his father, MILE LEGEN (70 years old) came in a uniform and he stayed here for 2 days and then he went to Opatovac and there he moved in some house he chose. MILAN TREŠNJIĆ stole all of my things from the house and later he robbed other houses. He would transport the stolen things in stolen cars. He lived in my house for more than 2 months and he left when he had stolen everything he wanted and he went to Baranija where he picked a house. They had files on all the Croatians and we were under supervision and when needed we would do some work.

I had problems with my stomach before so I asked the doctor to send me to the hospital in Sremska Mitrovica because I was treated there before. I told him that my gastric ulcer had broken. The doctor gave me a reference and on the basis of it I got a pass from the authorities for the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 1991 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. so I could leave Ilok and come back the same day. I took advantage of it and I escaped to Croatia.

Signing this statement the witness guarantees its authenticity as well as the fact that it was not forcibly given and the recording secretary guarantees that the written text corresponds to the statement.

In Zagreb, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 1993.  
Statement was given by: F.D.

**ANNEX 56:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.T.**

D.T., son of ..., ... years old, born in ... – ..., occupation:  
a worker, residence in ...,

gives the following:

**TESTIMONY**

My family lived in Ilok for years. I lived in a household together with my mother, my father and my brother.

I remember that sometime in 1992 Mirko Kozlina chased D.Č. away from her house and that he moved into her house. My family gave D.Č. shelter.

Sometime in September of 1992, when it was the grape harvesting time, a problem came up – who was going to gather grapes in the vineyard of D.Č. I know for a fact that D. consulted a solicitor and that he told her that she could gather those grapes. My family together with D. were gathering grapes when Mirko Kozlina came to the vineyard accompanied with 3 armed men and he threatened to toss a grenade at us. When we were still going towards the vineyard, he intercepted us together with those armed men and he told us that they would take a tractor and a trailer away from us. While he was maltreating us in the vineyard, there was another man who we didn't see. That man fired above our heads just to frighten us. Because of threats from Kozlina we finished with the grape gathering and we returned to our home. Mirko Kozlina and those three who were with him weren't wearing uniforms.

The next day we gathered grapes in our vineyard. When we returned it was pretty late and we lay down. At around 9,30 pm I heard something explode in our yard. After the explosion I went out to the yard to see if something was damaged. I concluded that someone had tossed a grenade in the yard and so our tractor and a big sprayer that we used for the vineyard were damaged. I concluded that Kozlina was the one who did it, because he threatened us the day before. He also said that he would kill my brother and me. My brother K., who is a Croatian Home Guardsman in Jarmina near Vinkovci, can bear out all of that.

We continued living in Ilok in spite of all those threats.

Sometime in October of 1993, my father, my mother and my brother went to the birthday party of our neighbour. The accused, together with those three men that maltreated us in the

vineyard and a friend L., were sitting in front of a shop. Since that shop is about 20 meters from my house, I heard Kozlina saying: "We shall slaughter and chase you Croats out of your houses." My mother said something to Kozina and they went to that house.

Sometime in October 1993 at around 9,30 pm, when my parents came back from that birthday, I heard something strike against the blinds of our house. Since I was already laying down, I got up to see what that was. Then there was an explosion. That explosive device exploded under the window and it damaged a facade of our house. Since our family was constantly being threatened, I presumed that Kozlina was the one who did that.

Afterwards it was rumoured that the son of that Ljubiško tossed a grenade at our house.

I left Ilok on May 15<sup>th</sup> 1994 because I couldn't stand that any more – bombs started falling on our house and they threatened to kill me.

I had to leave the third grade of the high school. My parents are still in Ilok and my brother left Ilok in February of 1995.

To my knowledge D.Č. had, besides a house, a lot of the agricultural tools. The son of D.Č. owned a shop in Ilok. He took everything from the shop and brought it to the house of D.Č. that was taken by force.

After the fall of Ilok in October of 1991, I went to Hungary in a convoy. I came back to Ilok in a month.

I saw that then they had started colonizing Ilok with Serbs.

I don't know everything about the activities of Kozlina Mirko because everything that happened went on during the night.

I know that Kozlina gathered a gang and that they were maltreating people and stealing belongings during the night.

I don't know the names of the three that were with Kozlina when they threatened us in the vineyard.

I don't have anything else to state."

Warned about the regulation of the article no.77 of the Proceedings of the Criminal Law.

The record has not been read.

Finished at 11,10 AM.

The investigative judge: VALENTIN IVANETIĆ

The recording secretary: DIANA MATIJAŠEVIĆ

The witness: D.T.

**ANNEX 57:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.K.**

B.K., born on the ..., ..., ..., father ...  
and mother ..., a pensioner

Former address:...

Present address: ...  
 Passport number: ...  
 Questionnaire number: 11007

I give the following:

#### STATEMENT

My wife and children went from Ilok to the free Croatian territory in a convoy on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1991. I stayed in my house in Ilok. Soon afterwards the Serbs from Western Slavonia started to immigrate. They moved into the Croatian houses. I was lucky as they did not force me out of the house. However I started soon to have problems.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 1992 I was spraying the vineyard. I returned home around noon. I was resting and watching TV. About 12:30 p.m. somebody started banging on the door. I heard "Open up, you, Ustasha mother". Before I got up the doors fell. Two armed masked civilians came in. One grabbed my hair and the other twisted my hands behind my back and he handcuffed me. The one who held me by hair had a knife in his hand. He cut my lower lip and chin with it. Then he cut out the cross with four Serbian C signs on my forehead. The blood was flowing down my face. After that he put the knife under my throat and he told me that he would butcher me. I did not know if he put the blunt or the sharp side of the knife under my throat. I was bleeding all over my face and clothes and I did not know if he cut my throat or not. Only later I saw that he turned the knife on its blunt side. Then he hit me with his boot on both of my legs. They took off the handcuffs and then they went.

I stayed in the house. I was not allowed to go out or to ask for any medical help. When the dark fell I took the blanket and I went to the basement because I could not sleep in the house. I could not sleep because of the pain. After midnight I heard that they came to my house again. They were looking for me. They could not find me. I heard them turning the house upside down. They left the house around 3 a.m.

In the morning I came into the house. I called V.Č., a Croatian who stayed in Ilok the same as I did. Mr Č. called the police. Two policemen came. They asked what had happened but they did not do a thing to find those criminals. They did one good thing though. They took me to the doctor who worked in Ilok previously. It was doctor BOŠKO KOVAČ. The doctor took me in nicely and he offered me medical help. He said, "What are these people doing?" Then I went back home.

During one period they did not touch me. Just before the Easter of 1993 two Serbian women came and told me to come out of the house because they were going to move into my house. I did not want to get out. One of these women was from Vukovar and the other one from Borovo. Later on two Serbian immigrants came and threatened me so I would come out of the house. SAVO BOŠNJAK and the father of ĐORĐE RONČEVIĆ were forcing me. They threatened to throw a bomb in my house while I was in it. Then BORO VUKAS came and he drove me away. He was the one who moved into my house. I left Ilok and I arrived on free Croatian territory through Hungary. I arrived in Croatia on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1993. My family was accommodated in the "... " hotel in ... so I came there to them and I am still there now.

In Opatija, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1993.  
 Statement given by: B.K.  
 Statement taken by: Anica Žeravica

**ANNEX 58:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.V.**

P.V. (... and ...), born on the ... in Ilok. Permanent address –..., temporary residence: ..., he is of Croatian nationality, occupation – pensioner, married, two children. Passport number: .... UCRN: ...

I give the following

**STATEMENT**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of September I left Ilok together with my wife. We were forced for days to get out of the house. In the end four men entered my house, threatened me with a knife and we had to get out. We lived in great fear. They used to come at night, bang on our doors, they threatened and provoked us.

They shot 17 bullets at my house and they broke my windows. I could not move around much because I was afraid and I spent most of the time in the house. When I went in town I took the secondary streets, I never went to the centre. They took all the Croatian men and we had to perform working duties or military duties. People would work for days without any food or any compensation. The Serbs would humiliate us all the time. For example they would urinate in our drink portions and then they offered us to drink that. Our people had to clean the streets not because of the cleanliness but because of the humiliation. We were not allowed to gather publicly. When we walked on the streets for example the Serbs would spit on us from the church, they would hit us with rocks and insult us.

We were not allowed to go into the field, they took our mechanical devices so everything we had on those fields was deteriorating. We had absolutely no rights. We could not get a job, they disconnected the phones to the Croatians. We had nobody's protection, not even the protection of the so-called police, nor the protection of the UNPROFOR.

One day the Serbs barged into my house and they took the cross, the rosary and the Catholic calendar off the wall and they destroyed it all. We could not complain to anybody. They turned my house upside down, they pointed a knife at my back.

I just want to say that when the Serbs took us to work they did not tolerate any illness and they took both ill and healthy people. I can just say that the situation was terrible for us, the Croatians. We were totally deprived of any rights, we were simply nobody and nothing.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

In Njivice, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 1995.

Statement given by: P.V.

Statement taken by: Tanja Strahinić

**ANNEX 59:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.V.**

M.V. (...), born on the ... in .... Permanent address  
..., temporary residence .... She is of Croatian nationality, occupation – housewife,  
married. ID card number: personal file number .... UCRN: .... Questionnaire number:  
10284.

STATEMENT

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of September my husband and I were exiled from Ilok. For four years we had suffered the tortures in Ilok. Right from the beginning the Serbs moved into our house. They occupied one floor. They were terribly rude to us. They insulted us, swore at our Ustasha mother. We had to lock ourselves in. We lived in a constant fear of them. They tyrannized us and we could not do a thing. That Serb was ĐURO ĐURIĆ from the village of Kometnik. He was a member of some kind of Serbian military formation, so-called berets. He even took the land we owned.

When Knin fell in action the situation got worse for us, the Croatians. Another Serbian family moved into my house and they forced us out. We had to run away.

Life in Ilok was very hard for us. When we went from the church the Serbs would threaten us saying: “Ustashes, when will the night come so we could butcher you”. They would trip us up and pushed us. They did not leave us alone even during the night. They would come and threaten us.

There were no men in Ilok. They took all the Croatian men to work. We almost did not move around Ilok. I used to go to the church during one period but later we could not go there anymore because sometimes the Serbs were shooting at the church. Besides that they knocked the church doors down with an explosive so that hole had to be walled in.

The Croatians in Ilok did not get any help so we lived in a very difficult way.

When people walked around the town they walked with their heads bent. We were constantly humiliated as if we were not humans.

At the end I had to escape because the Serb was saying that it was his house.

I left all my property in Ilok because I was not allowed to take anything.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

In Opatija, on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 1995.

Statement was given by: M.V.

**ANNEX 60:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.M.**

D.M. (... and ...), born on the ... in ...

Permanent address ..., temporary residence .... She is of Croatian nationality, occupation – worker, widow, two children. ID card number:.... UCRN: .... Questionnaire number: 10279.

I give the following

**STATEMENT**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of August I got out of Ilok. I could not take that terrible situation any more. For the whole four years while Ilok was occupied we lived in great fear. We would go to bed late at night and we would get up early so we could be awake as much as possible and ready to escape if necessary. They would disconnect the phones of the Croatians very often, that is almost always.

I did not have any kind of salary. I was locked up in the house all the time. They took the land I owned. I did not go anywhere outside the house. I even took the bread for 15 days in advance, I would put it in the freezer so that I should not have to get out of the house. The same day my husband died, Serbian refugees came and they tried to move into my house. We drove them away that time.

Every day I was subjected to and I had to listen to insults like: “Ustasha women, get out”. I was very afraid especially when they threw two bombs at my cousin’s house. When Western Slavonia was liberated the situation got even worse. When Serbian refugees arrived the Croatians in Ilok did not have any rights. We could not get a job anywhere. The men had to perform working and military duties so they were never at home. The women worked on the fields all by themselves although all the tractors and the rest of the equipment were mobilized. A few days before I left Ilok a group of Croatians was taken from Ilok and imprisoned in Principovac. You could see many different uniforms in Ilok. Even the persons dressed in black completely with black caps and blackened faces would walk around the town.

I could not bear that psychological pressure and I decided to go, especially after the Serbian refugees who wanted to move into my house again arrived. I left all of my property, I took some clothes and I ran away. Now the Serbian refugees live in my house.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

In Volosko, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September 1995.

Statement given by: D.M.

Statement taken by: Tanja Strahinić





**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
TOMPOJEVCI**



**ANNEX 61:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.M.**

L.M. (father's name is ...) was born on ... in R..., county district of ..., Bosnia and Herzegovina. His permanent address is: .... His residence is in .... He is an agriculturist. He is married. He has citizenship of the Republic of Croatia. He is a Croat.

I give the following

STATEMENT

Shelling took place on 1 October 1991. On the second day shells hit the church, and on the third day shells were falling near the fire station and the store. A shell hit the middle of the church and demolished the church-tower. Later on I used to enter the church. I couldn't possibly imagine that something like that could happen.

They were shelling the brickyard and the other parts of the village. Later on the JNA (Yugoslav People's Army) came in. Their police went round houses. Later they moved into some houses from which people escaped. They used to stay there for a few days. They took whatever they needed from these houses. Afterwards these houses were unrecognizable. The doors and the windows were broken. They even threw pigs into the rooms.

Wherever there were some pigs left in the village they killed them. I know people who did that. It was their military police.

They came with stars on their caps, but later on they put four "S". There were some good people among them.

While they were searching for arms, they put me and my son-in-law against the wall and searched us. My children were watching that. Then they told us to come to the command in the morning, around 7:30 am.

When we came there in the morning they asked us why we had come. We said that we were ordered to come by the military police. They asked us if we had arms. Then they told us to come around noon. Later on when we came, they asked us again if we had arms. I said I didn't have arms. After that they said to us: "Go home!"

Among local people who molested us were: Đuro Kljajić, Dane Dukić, Perica Dukić, Jovo Radeka. They didn't molest me, but they molested my son-in-law.

They asked me to come there again when my son-in-law went to ŠID with the licence. From there he went to Zagreb .

I lived under the occupation for six months. During these six months I was once at the end of the village. You couldn't go anywhere without their permit. While I was here there wasn't any killing. As soon as someone left the house they robbed it. They picked locks and took away everything, even beds. I didn't see our local people stealing, but I saw these others. They came from the direction of ŠID. Their wives and their families used to come with them. They took away everything!

I didn't have any rights there. As soon as someone would step on the street they would say: "Get in!". If I had to go to the field, to take some corn, I needed a permit. Sometimes when

I was late for five minutes they didn't let me go back to the village. I was afraid every single night because there was shooting beneath my window.

My elder grandson was summoned to join the Army in Bitolj on 17 January 1922. He said he wouldn't go. He went to ŠID, from where they drove him away to Belgrade. When he came to Belgrade he saw a Bosnian bus. He got on that bus and fled to Zagreb.

When my son-in-law escaped, that man, Đuro Kljajić, said: "We won't let him come here again." He was writing and crossing out something. Later on he asked me: "Do you have any idea what I'm doing?" I said: "I don't know! You are crossing out something." Then he said: "There's no way back for Marko, nor for Ljubica, nor for Igor. You will also be gone in a month."

I left the village on 17 March 1992. 145 Croats left the village on that same day.

While I was feeding pigs one of them came in and asked: "Who is here? How many of you are there?" I said: "It's only me." Then he said: "I want to see you outside in four minutes!" That's Z. M.'s old man. M. was wounded in Vukovar.

When I was leaving the village I had to write down that I voluntarily left everything to their SAO (Serbian Autonomous Region) Krajina. I told them: "There's nothing to be signed!" One of the soldiers put "scorpion" to the one side, and the other to the other side. That was the police from the other villages. None of our local people was there.

When I went to the field, 2.5 acres of my corn were picked up. I asked: "Đuro who has finished threshing?" He said: "I don't know! We'll see who did it." There, I saw them listing the names of people who were to be forced out of the village and of those who were permitted to stay.

After I had gone, 15 people stayed living in my street. These people who stayed were either young or old. They probably had a different opinion of them.

Nedo Vulić from Tompojevci had disappeared. His wife went to Ploče, and he stayed. There were children there. They squeezed them into the buses, and took them on a trip.

They had to pay me for everything. They didn't give me as much as I wanted. But since I had some brandy, wine and pigs, I sold it to them. When I said my price, they said: "If you won't sell it for that price, I'll take for free." So I had to sell cheaper. When I gave them wine that man said: "Give us that wine or the gun will see if there is or isn't any wine."

They drove us to ŠID and said: "Those who have gold, watches, money, deutsche marks, dollars, . . . , put everything down." One of our boys collected these things and put it into one bag. One woman called Teruška gave them 12 ducats. He said: "If I find a single dinar with anyone of you stepping outside I will kill his/her entire family!"

People that conducted us said these things. They were people from Negoslavci, Berak, Vukovar. . . I don't know those people. I only knew Z. M.'s old man. He followed me around with "scorpion" all the time. He used to drink all the time at the "White dove" inn. I don't know his name.

Đuro Kljajić said: "When M. comes back, inform me in two minutes. I will kill him personally!"

My son-in-law said that Đuro said to Dane: "Go and kill M. in the back of the garden." Đuro used to work at "Borovo". Marko and he used to live opposite one another.

When war started Đuro went to Belgrade. Around New Year's time he came back to Tompojevci. After his arrival the real trouble began. He became a sort of a director of the local committee. Before, Tomić was director, Zdravko Galović was secretary. Before, everything went well but later on Đuro disbanded everything.

Crikvenica, 23 April 1994

Statement was given by: L.M.

Statement was taken by: Miljenko Buljan

**ANNEX 62:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.V.**

7<sup>TH</sup> POLICE STATION

Number: 511-19-46/3-1606/95

Zagreb, the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 1995

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 1995 in the offices of the 7<sup>th</sup> Police station, as a consequence of the conducted informative conversation with:

V.V., son of ... and ... (born ...), born on the ... in...

, Tompojevci, the Republic of Croatia, the citizen of the Republic of Croatia, of Croatian nationality, occupation – ..., unemployed, registered permanent address ..., residence ...

And M.V., born ..., the daughter of ... and ... (maiden name illegible), born on the ... in ..., Šestanovac, the Republic of Croatia, citizen of the Republic of Croatia, pensioner, permanent address ..., temporary residence ....

The informative conversation with V. and M. was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1995 in the offices of this Police station and it was connected with the circumstances of their stay on the occupied territory in Tompojevci and with the circumstances of their departure to Zagreb and so they stated the following:

- that they lived all together in Tompojevci, that is Vice lived with his family and his mother till the beginning of September of 1991 when M.V. and underage S., that is the wife and the son of V.V., left with the rest of the refugees the place where they used to live, to be more precise, they left the village because of the former JNA and the Chetnik aggression that was directed on that area and then they settled in Delnice, but V.V. and his mother M. stayed and lived each in their own house in Tompojevci.

They state that during his stay on the occupied territory they did some agricultural work out of which they lived very poorly and during that period they were harassed and molested by the occupying authorities in that area.

They also state that on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 1995 the Serbs from Pakrac came into their village and those were Nedo Romić and Zlata Dušan who they state was from Vrginmost, more precisely from the village of Preko and those two literally threw them out of their houses and took them by force to the Court in Vukovar. On that occasion these Serbs made some kind of fictitious agreement about the real estate exchange and it was obvious that Zlata Dušan from Vrginmost, ... Street gave them his house and 14 acres of land in exchange for their real estate.

They also explained that after the mentioned agreement was signed those Serbs from Vukovar brought them back to Tompojevci where they allowed them to take only the part of the necessary things and they, together with the police, drove them again to Vukovar and from there they transported them via Ilok and Bačka Palanka all the way to Furtog. The Serbs left them there and they continued to travel further on in a bus to Novi Sad, via Subotica and the Tompa border crossing to Baja where they went over to another bus in which they passed Hungary and over the Terezino Polje border crossing they entered the Republic of Croatia.

On the Terezino Polje border crossing, after the border police check up they were allowed to enter the Republic of Croatia and on that occasion they got the border pass numbers 8015260 and 8015261.

In the conversation they also state that during the whole period of occupation they were in Tompojevci, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September when the population was evacuated and the Croatian army stayed in Tompojevci till the 10<sup>th</sup> of September when the Croatian army withdrew towards Ilok, Svinjarevci and Đeletovac because of the Chetnik impact. After that on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September the former JNA and the locals Serbs with the Chetniks from Serbia entered the village. They state that those Chetniks from Serbia were from Mitrovica and Valjevo and from the inside of Serbia and the members of the former JNA were from the composition of the so-called Novi Sad corpus.

In the further conversation he also states that during all those years in Tompojevci they did not have freedom of movement, instead they had to ask for a pass from the authorities of that period for every time they wanted to go out of the yard, to go the field, for example.

He also states that they were molested and abused by the Serbian volunteers and they remember that in 1991 a certain Milan Petrović, native of Klerik, near Šabac molested the local Croatian population that stayed in the village and he also robbed the property of the Croatians that left the village earlier.

V.V. states further on that he remembers that a certain Dragan, whose last name he cannot remember, who is the native of the village of Gozdje near Donji Miholjac, butchered a woman named R.H. with a knife, and he states that that happened in August of 1983. After that incident Dragan was in prison for a short time and he came back from the prison now and few days before he molested M.V. and pulled out a gun and he wanted to kill her.

They state that the local Serbs were the minority till 1991 and they state that they also acted in an impertinent and rude way and that a certain Đuro Kljaić, from Maršal Tito Street, was the commander of the civil defence in the village and he directed the Chetnik gangs to the Croatian houses where the Croatians still lived and the Chetniks then stole their property.

They state that the aforementioned Đuro Kljaić was the son of Milan and that he lives in the Maršal Street, but he does not know what number and that Đuro Kljaić has a son, Milan, and a wife, Lenka, he is about 45, 46 years old and he likes to drink.

In the further conversation they state that they heard that this same Đuro Kljaić together with his followers on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March 1992 took Nedjeljko Vulić, a Croatian, out of his house and after that there were no information about Nedjeljko Vulić so they suppose that he was killed and on that occasion those same Chetniks stole the property out of his house.

Besides the above-mentioned Kljaić Đuro, Dalibor Pencovanski who they state also robbed and stole the property of Croatians and his father Stefan Pencovanski were also members of the territorial defence.

Dane Đukić and Perica Đukić were the couriers at the Territorial defence quarters and they do not know if these couriers participated in the robberies and other crimes.

During their stay certain Jovo Radeka was the president of the "Tompojevci" local committee and he, together with Đuro Kljajić took care about the accommodation of the Serbian army while it was in the village.

They also state that a certain Joco Tomić used to keep watch in the village armed with a gun and the Martić police did not come in their village, that is it did not stay long, instead only a patrol would pass through their village.

When they were asked which of the local villagers were members of the Serbian army so-called "Serbian Autonomous Region Krajina" they answered that those were Boško Tomić and Goran Ignjatović who were mobilized, Danilo Đukić and Zdravko Krupa who they state was of Croatian nationality and that he also volunteered to be mobilized while a certain Tošo Đurović was a volunteer in the Serbian army, so-called SAO Krajina army and according to what they know all the militarily capable Serbs were mobilized and all of them followed the mobilization call.

In the further conversation they state that even while they were in Tompojevci they did not have freedom of movement so they did not go to Vukovar and they did some agricultural work and they would sell grain for the compulsory crop purchase system in the community in Tompojevci.

They also state that according to their knowledge a certain Serb, a native of Trpinja was the president of the Vukovar municipality but they do not have any more information about him.

After they were asked what Antun Lajkop did and in what did he engage in Tompojevci they said that he did not volunteer for the Serbian military formations, he had a working obligation in the Territorial defence quarters and he worked in the community in Tompojevci with his combine harvester with which he harvested grain together with the rest of the villagers. They also state that they never saw him wearing any military uniform and V.V. makes clear the fact that Antun Lajkop was directed into the working squad together with him by the Serbian territorial defence quarters and the civil defence quarters. Antun Lajkop and he were usually sent to work in the season of harvesting and they used to do different kinds of work like haymaking, digging the ditches and cleaning the blockhouses. The president, that is the commander of the Territorial and the civil defence, Đuro Kljajić would order them what to do and he also sent the working duty notifications.

During the work they state that Joco Tomić guarded them with a gun in his hand and he was mentioned before as well as the Serbian soldiers who they do not know where were they were from and who they were.

When asked what the situation was now in the Tompojevci area they say that after the performed actions of the Croatian army, "Bljesak" (flash) and "Oluja" (storm), all the new comers from Western Slavonia were mobilized and they are in the Serbian army on different positions set towards Vinkovci and Osijek and towards other parts of Croatia.

After they were asked if they happened to know if the Serbs from their village went to other battlefields in the Republic of Croatia or the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina they say that they do not have that kind of information and they repeat that they were not allowed to move around the village and that they were not allowed to leave the village so they do not have more detailed information connected with the activity of the Serbian army.

After he was asked if he was, as a militarily capable person, mobilized in the formations of the Serbian army V.V. states that he was not mobilized, instead he was directed into the working squad by the Tompojevci civil defence quarters and the Tompojevci territorial defence quarters and he was called on working duty several times and Đuro Kljajić and Vladimir Pavličić would send him the notification for the working duty. He states that Vladimir Pavličić left Tompojevci in 1993 in an unknown direction and he supposedly emigrated to Australia.

Statement was taken by Authorized official: Stjepan Osojnički

Statement was given by: V.V.

**ANNEX 63:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.L.**

VINKOVCI POLICE ADMINISTRATION

Department for the operational activities

Vinkovci, 29 January 1993

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made at the Vinkovci police station in relation to the conducted informative conversation with S.L. from Tompojevci, SO Vukovar, regarding the action called "Povratak".

S.L., the son of ... and ... (born ...) was born on .....  
in Tompojevci, SO Vukovar. He is a Croat. He is retired. He is married to S.  
P. from Tompojevci. They have a son I.L., who is married to M.  
V. from Vinkovci.

In the informative conversation S. states that he is now, as a refugee, staying in Vinkovci, ..., at his daughter-in-law's father's (V.V.) place.

Lately he has a lot of problems with V.V. because he is attacking and insulting him. Also he says to him that he would never return to his village of Tompojevci.

Later on in the conversation, L. states that on 13 January 1992 his friend's son B. V. came to his house in Tompojevci together with two of his friends. One of them was Bačić from Vinkovci, and the other was also from Vinkovci, but he doesn't know his name and surname. On that occasion B.V. and his friends were dressed in the military uniforms of the enemy army. Also they were armed with wide-range weapons. Further on S. states that on that occasion B. said that since the August of 1990 he had stayed in Sremske Laze, and that he would expel all the Croats from the SAO Krajina. He also said that Croatia wouldn't be recognized as an independent state. The same person also states that Slobodan Bačić is now a commander of the village of Tompojevci and is located in the house of IVAN ŠAMEK -address: ...

When it comes to Vojo Vranješ, S. states that Vojo goes somewhere every day, and sometimes he is absent for the whole day. Vojo is also idolizing the criminal, Slobodan Milošević and he doesn't respect the new Croatian authorities at all.

S.L. didn't have anything more to state.

Statement was taken by Authorized official: Antun Blažević

Statement was given by: S.L.



**ANNEX 64:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.B.**

RECORD ON WITNESS HEARING

I.B. (father's name-...) was born in Zadar. He is ... years old. His residence address is:.... He is a ... He is not related to the accused, Đuro Kljajić. Record was drawn up on 20 December 1993 in the District Court in Osijek. The investigative judge was Vladimir Zobundžija. Marijana Prigl was the recording secretary. Charges against Kljajić Đuro are brought because of criminal offence under article 142 OKZRH of KZ.

Before the war I used to work at the firm Osijek – Koteks. During the weekends I used to come home to Tompojevci, but for the rest of the time I was in Osijek or working in the field. During the occupation I was in the village because I didn't manage to get out of it. First the ex -Yugoslav Army came into the village. They were searching the houses and looking for arms. They didn't touch people. A few days after the Army entered the village Chetniks and a kind of volunteers came. Chetniks were calling themselves members of the territorial defence. Their leader was the first – accused Đuro Kljajić. Their headquarters were in Branko Romić's hunter's inn. They met there. Not only that I know the accused Đuro Kljajić but I also know the majority of the other accused. I know Dane Dukić. I know the notorious Perica Dukić called "Black" who was my neighbour, but who, during the occupation, showed up to be my worst enemy. Members of their group were also Stefan Pencarski and Andrija Antolović, who is a Croat, but because his wife is a Serb woman he deserted Croats and joined the Chetniks. His son studied medicine in Zagreb, but when the war began he joined the Chetniks. I also know Jovo Radeka whose wife Eva Radeka (Croatian woman), according to what people said, listed those villagers who were afterwards evicted. I also know Sreten Katić, Tihomir Pavković and Momir Anđelić. I also know Đuro KROŠNJAR who is from Berak, but used to come to Tompojevci and belonged to Đuro Kljajić's group. I'm not acquainted with Željko Grublješić. I know Branko Grublješić with whom I used to work, many years back, for the "Gradnja" company in Osijek. He is from Berak, but he used to come, together with other people from Berak, to our village and he belonged to the first – accused Đuro Kljajić's group. I also know Ranko Mirilović from Berak who also belonged to Đuro Kljajić's group. I'm not acquainted with Milan KOVAČEVIĆ. I know Nenad Macura whose father was a postman. He took a part in the eviction of our villagers on 17 March 1992.

After Đuro Kljajić's group came into the village we practically couldn't leave our houses. We stayed in our houses and if they needed somebody they would take them to Čakovci where they battered them... Đuro Kljajić as a leader of that group came on several occasions to my house because of my older son R.. R. managed to get out of the village in time. Kljajić wanted to know where he was. During these visits he was always very uncivil. He threatened me and asked where my son was, and I always answered that I didn't know. Shortly afterwards Đuro Kljajić brought into the village some mercenaries from ŠID, who were dressed in Chetnik uniforms with cockades on their caps. These mercenaries beat people. For a litre of brandy they would beat up anyone that Kljajić ordered them to. By Đuro Kljajić's order they beat up my brother Mate who is now staying at the hotel Gradac near Makarska.

I didn't practically leave my house for 7 months. My wife and my younger son D. were with me in the house. Our church wasn't open. Croats couldn't take part in any kind of village governing and also weren't invited to any kind of meeting. We lived as prisoners in our own houses. They were constantly taking villagers to Čakovci where they beat them. I know that on several occasions they took and beat A. B. and his brother whose

name I don't know. They beat our man from the village whose surname is Krupa. They beat J. I. and his son I.. I don't know why they beat them. Allegedly Đuro Kljajić chose some young men to work in the Kooperacija plant. They would work for 10 days and then he would call them to give them their wages. They called it payment. But there wasn't any payment. They would call them and instead of giving them money they would beat them. In that way they beat A. B. and his brother who is from our village and whose surname is K.. They used to beat I. S. all the time and finally they forced him out of his house. In that way they beat A. K.. They molested and beat N. V. whom they took away from his house on 16 March. They said to his wife that they would bring him back in the morning, but he never came back and we suspect that he was killed. We lived in our village as in a camp, without any rights. As if we weren't humans. Đuro Kljajić and his group were our absolute masters and masters of our life and death. I mentioned before that E. R. listed us Croats who were supposed to be forced out of our houses. In the morning of March, 17<sup>th</sup> 1992 five members of Đuro Kljajić's group entered the houses of our villagers. They brought with them 5 pieces of paper. I don't know what was written on those papers because they didn't let me read them. Six young members of the territorial defence came into my house. They were young people from Berak whose names I don't know. One of them pointed his gun at me and ordered me to sign these papers. I didn't want to sign them so they threatened to kill me. My wife became frightened, so she signed these papers instead of me. Immediately after that they forced us out of the house. I took with me only one nylon bag which contained some underwear I managed to grab. They took us away to their headquarters where there was a bus; precisely two buses. They forced us to get on the bus and drove us towards ŠID and further away to Bosnia and then to Croatia where they let us go at Slavonski Šamac. That day 120 souls were forced out of Tompojevci. Some other groups went round other houses in Tompojevci and forced people to sign those papers. They had left me one of those papers and I read it. It said that I agreed to be voluntarily removed from the village of Tompojevci and that I voluntarily left my belongings to their authorities. I remember that there wasn't any seal on that paper. The same thing happened to the other villagers of Tompojevci.

Immediately after we came to Croatia J. B. and his wife told me that on that same night Đuro Kljajić, Dane Dukić, Štefan Pencarski, Perica Dukić and some others who I don't remember came in and molested and beat him. I could tell from the way he looked that he was beaten up badly. They also told me that they attacked his daughter who was sleeping in her bed. They threw away her quilt and watched her lying in bed.

I.Š. lived five houses away from me. Approximately two months before they forced us out Đuro KROŠNJAR and Ranko Grublješić came from Berak by bus around noon. They entered his house, beat him and took away his car. They took away cars from all Croats in the village.

I know that members of Đuro Kljajić's group from Čakovci came to A. K.'s house and beat him. He lives in another street. Andrija Kampić personally told me that.

In Tompojevici there are some Croats left, some 6 or 7 houses, all the others are forced out. We have heard that these people cooperate with them and that they stayed there only because of that.

The witness doesn't have anything else to state.

He requests to be given 30.000 kunas for travelling expenses, which he is going to receive, and that money will be paid out of the Court's budgetary funds.

Warned according to the article 77 of ZKP. He declares that he doesn't want to read the record because he has heard the dictation.

Finished at 10,10 AM.

Statement taken by: Court council

Statement given by: I.B.

**ANNEX 65:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.L.**

**RECORD ON WITNESS HEARING**

M.L. (father's name is ...) was born in ... She is ... years old. Her residence address is: .... She is not related to the accused. The record was drawn up on 27 February 1995 at the District Court in Osijek. The interrogative judge was Vladimir Zobundžija. The recording secretary was: Marijana Prigl. Charges against Đuro Kljajić and others were brought because of the criminal offence from the article 142 OKZHR of KZ.

Until the occupation I lived with my family in Tompojevci. We had three houses in Tompojevci. My husband worked at the "Nafta-gas" company in Novi Sad, so he visited home from time to time. We have two sons. The older one is Z., born in ..., and the younger one is Ž., born in ... Zdenko is married and he has a child who was born on...

. Z. worked at the "Vupik" company on a farm in Ovčara. The younger son worked in Osijek at the "OOLT" company.

My daughter-in-law, her newly born child (born on ...) and I fled to Zagreb.

My husband stayed in Novi Sad, and my sons stayed in Tompojevci. I stayed in Zagreb for a month and then my husband and I agreed that I would come back to Tompojevci. My husband was supposed to work until January 1<sup>st</sup> 1991 when he was to receive his pension and that's the reason I decided to go back to Tompojevci. I came to Novi Sad passing through Austria and returned together with my husband to Tompojevci on 15 November 1991. Immediately after we came we had to report to the local school where the ex-Army's command was. All of them there wore the uniforms of the ex-"JNA". Then we came to V. Nazor Street, number 32.

The situation in the village was really terrible. The church was shelled. Its interior was completely devastated. Holy pictures lay around as well as everything else. The army made a public toilet out of the church. There was neither electricity nor water. The army brought water in cisterns, which they distributed among us. Whenever I had to go to the other part of the village I had to have a special permit. After 5 pm no one was allowed to leave the house. Lights from the houses weren't supposed to be seen. The parish office was robbed and the army was there. I don't know the names of those ex-Army's soldiers who were in the village, but they didn't do us any harm.

Local Serbs seized power somewhere around January 1992. Their leader was Đuro Kljajić whom I knew from before. My husband and my sons were hunters as well as the first – accused Đuro Kljajić. Đuro Kljajić used to come to our house and he felt there as if in his own home. But as he had become a man of power in the village he changed completely. He took people for hearings, especially at night. He came to my house at night and asked me to give him family albums. He took the photo of my son Ž.'s First Communion. On that same night he came once again around 10 pm with two armed men whom I don't know. On

that occasion he said that Ustashas destroyed Vukovar and that I ran away because my friend I.O., his two sons and uncle M.B. were killed in Berak. He went away and then came again around 2 am and took me for a hearing in their Territorial Defence which was placed at Hunter's inn. He questioned me about the arms and wanted to know where my sons and my husband were. I said that the army took the arms. He was yelling at me saying that Latin letters won't be written in this village anymore and that people won't go to church. I said I knew the Cyrillic alphabet and he was yelling at me and scolding me and after an hour and a half they took me home.

At that time my husband came home from Novi Sad so they took him for a hearing and beat him.

We lived in constant fear. We were afraid when someone would pass by the house or when we would hear vehicle driving by. That fear was terrible and constant.

On the morning of March, 16<sup>th</sup> 1992 members of Territorial Defence burst into my house. They were dressed in their uniforms; they had caps and hats on their hats. They were drunk and they behaved if they were crazy. They told us that we have to leave our houses in five minutes and get on the bus, but before we left they forced us to sign a paper which said that we voluntarily left all of our belongings to the "Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina". (a part of the paragraph illegible)

The little girl's mother's name is V. S. and the M. are her grandfather and grandmother. They live in Germany as well as the girl's father Z. S.. They found 5000 dinars with V. K., so they beat him with fists and feet. We stood by the bridge for the whole day and then they let us go across the bridge and ordered us not to move. On the other side of the bridge people from the Red Cross were waiting for us and so we came to Zagreb.

I didn't see when they attacked ... and his daughter... but villagers talked about it. Every morning we were listening to the news of what was going on in the village during the night. The news was spreading from door to door so that I had some knowledge about that night. I heard that Dane Dukić had beaten ... and I also heard that he had undressed his daughter.... I heard that they had robbed I. Š.; in other words they beat him. Allegedly Đuro KROŠNJAR and the others accused from Berak, whom I don't know, beat him. They knocked down I. Š.'s two houses and he was expelled together with me. They knocked down our house, which was placed in ... and the one in ... Street, number ....

I heard that they frequently took A. K. to Čakovci for a hearing and that they beat him there. I don't know the details.

I can state this about the accused:

I have already said that Đuro Kljajić was their highest official in their local government.

Dane Dukić himself maltreated and beat people. He took people for hearings.

Perica Dukić, the son of Petar, who is approximately 60 years old, now took me to a hearing. He was very uncivil and was scolding me. At the bus station he undressed one Croat and left him naked in the cold.

I know that villagers complained that Štefan Pencarski beat them and I know that he took people for a hearing.

Before the occupation A.A. was our friend and we got along really well. My husband was the founder of HSS (Croatian Peasant's Party), but A.A. put his

name on the list where were the names of those whom they were planning to kill. I think that was the reason they beat my husband and took him to hearings.

I know Jovo Radeka but I haven't heard anything of him.

I know that Eva Radeka is Croatian and that her son died on 20 July 1991. He worked for the "Vupik" and he was in one of the vans when Chetniks from Berak fired at them. Her son was killed on that occasion. Later she lied that Chetniks had killed her son. Eva Radeka listed those villagers who they wanted to evict. She was in their power.

I'm not acquainted with Sreten Katić. I know that he is from Čakovci, that he was a member of their police and that he was among those who beat my husband.

Tihomir Pavković is from Čakovci and he was a member of their police.

Momir Andelić is from Čakovci and he was a member of their police. I don't know any details.

I know that Đuro Krošnjar is from Berak. I heard that he beat people (he beat Ivan Šakić). I also know that he robbed houses in the village. He robbed Ivan Šakić's house. He comes from Tompjevci and he is married.

Accused Željko Grublješić I don't know.

I also don't know Ranko Grublješić.

I don't know Milan KOVAČEVIĆ. (part of the paragraph is illegible)

The first – accused Đuro Kljajić was in front of the bus. I approached him and I wanted to shake his hand and I told him that I was leaving but that I would come back one day and that we would settle things out. He just bowed his head down and didn't say a thing.

I would like to point out that Antun Lajko is not mentioned here. He is a Hungarian from Tompojevci and his wife is Croatian from Bokšić. He has a son Ivica who was born on 1967 and at the beginning of March, 1991 he fled to Zagreb. Antun Vljako began cooperating with the ex-Army as soon as they occupied the village. He threshed the corn, which villagers had sown. He sold that corn and took the money for himself. His son Ivica joined the Croatian Army and my son Ž., who was also in the Croatian Army, was his commanding officer in Umag. Ivica Lajko asked for demobilization because his father informed him that because he was in the Croatian Army he had troubles. Ivica met his father in Hungary every few months. His father bought him a truck. So he works with that truck in Hungary. I am surprised that Antun Lajko is not on the list of the accused since he was stealing other people's corn.

I state I have nothing more to add.

She requests 50,00 kunas for the travelling expenses, which she is going to receive. That money will be paid out of the Court's budgetary funds

Warned according to the article 77 of ZKP. She states that she doesn't want to read the record because she has heard the dictation.

Finished at 9:15 am.

Statement given by: M.L.

Statement taken by: Court council



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
BAPSKA**





**ANNEX 66:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF K.B.**

K.B. (daughter of ...), born on ... in ... Residence:....  
Temporary residence: .... I am a Croat by nationality, and a housewife by occupation. I am a widow and mother of a daughter. Identity card number: .... UCRN: .... Questionnaire number: 10264.

I am giving the following:

STATEMENT

On 18 August 1994, I was banished from the occupied village of Bapska. As all other Croats living in the occupied territory, I had numerous problems. We had to listen to daily threats, like: "Ustasha! We will kill you all". Since I was afraid to sleep alone in my house, I would go to the village to the other Croats. I was mostly afraid of being raped, since several Croatian women had been raped. They would come at night and knock on my door trying to force their way in. I was locked inside.

Since I was not sleeping in my house, they stole everything of any value in it. They stole food supplies (sugar, flour etc.), cutlery, clothes, shoes, furniture, all tools, the tools for pig slaughter, ovens.... They stole everything. All these crimes were done by the Serbs who had settled in Bapska after it had been occupied. They were mainly from the area around Pakrac. I reported all of these crimes to the so-called police, but they never did anything about it.

We were not allowed to complain, since we were living in fear. They would question us daily. They would always ask me if I had any Ustashes in Croatia. We Croats had to hang white ribbons on our front doors so that everybody knew that these were Croatian houses. The women had to report to the Local Committee Office weekly, and the men daily.

I had no income and we Croats would get almost nothing from the so-called Red Cross.

I could not continue living in my house since they had even stolen the windows and the front door. The house was left completely empty after numerous robberies.

I could not stand this torture anymore. There was no food anymore, and they stole the little I had earned working for others in the fields.

One night I decided to flee to the free part of Croatia. I had to flee secretly, so that I only managed to take one bag of clothes with me.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

Njivice, 18.08.1995.

Statement given by: K.B.

Statement taken by: Tanja Strahinić

**ANNEX 67:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.K.**

POLICE ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE VUKOVAR – SRIJEM DISTRICT  
Criminal Police Department  
Division for war crimes and the terrorist criminal offences  
Vinkovci, the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 1995

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 1995 in the offices of the Police Administration of the Vukovar – Srijem region on the occasion of the conducted informative conversation with A. K., daughter of ..., ... in Bapska, where she lives in ..., on the occasion of the stay of the stated person on the temporarily occupied territory of the Republic of Croatia as well as on the occasion of her knowledge about the enemy activities of the persons who were members of the various paramilitary formations of the so-called “Serbian Autonomous Region Krajina”.

“Since the occupation of the village of Bapska began in the October of 1991 till the exile on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1995 I lived in my family house and I socialized with other Croatian families that remained to live on the occupied territory.

After the occupation the condition on the occupied territory was very hard and my children whom I saw in Hungary gave me the things necessary for existence and also I lived from cultivation of the one acre of land that I owned.

After the Croatian Army liberated Western Slavonia and after the Serbs who immigrated from that part of Croatia came and moved into Bapska in 1991 and threatening and physically abusing the Croatians forced them to leave their homes, conditions of life for the Croatians began to be very hard. There were a couple of examples of the abuse, such as the robbery of 77 year old M. K. when the unknown persons, masked with stockings over their heads threatened her with a knife to slaughter her and they stole all of her valuable things. After that incident, frightened Marija Knežević told me that it was my turn to be robbed and that was what happened the next night when I slept at my sister’s, M. Đ., place for my own safety and when I came to my family house in the morning I saw that everything was stolen and they took even my clothes. After all that happened I complained to the policeman of the so-called SAO KRAJINA, Zlatan Kulić who used to say about himself that he was “the be and the end all” in the village and after I complained he said that it was all normal and that it would be best if all the Croatians moved out because they would all be butchered in 3 days time.

I can also say that in the period of the last two weeks it took real courage if you were Croatian to move around the village because even the Serbian children used to molest us often by crashing the windows.

At this moment in Bapska phones are disconnected to all the Croatians while the Serbs can normally communicate by phone.

Among the persons who were in various Serbian paramilitary armed formations I only know by name and surname the already mentioned Zlatan KULIĆ and about the others I only know that most of them are immigrants from Western Slavonia.

Because of all the things that happened there is nothing for me to do but to leave the temporarily occupied territory of the village of Bapska for my own safety and to go to my son's, V.K.'s, place and he is now in the village of ....

Statement taken by Authorized official: Darinko Papak  
Statement given by: A.K.

**ANNEX 68:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.Š.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT VUKOVAR  
No. 511-15-10/3

22 December 1992

OFFICIAL RECORD

A.Š., born on ....., with residence in ...made the following statement:

In the interview, A. said that during the Croatian Homeland War he lived at the aforesaid address and that he was assigned to guard duties around the village during August and September 1991.

In the beginning of October 1991, on 3 and 4 Oct. 1991, he kept watch, and the day before, 3 Oct. 1991, around 3.00 p.m., Boro Tomić came from ŠID and brought a sheet of paper (ultimatum), on which was written that all armed persons had to surrender their weapons to the units of the so-called JNA, which were stationed between the villages of Bapska and ŠID. The demands of the ultimatum had to be realized the same day by 6.00 p.m. In the ultimatum, the example of the village of Tovarnik was mentioned, which had been attacked 10 days earlier by the so-called JNA and leveled to the ground. The ultimatum was signed by a certain Major Slobodan Barjaktarević, who with his tank unit was stationed in the above mentioned area.

Because the ultimatum on surrendering weapons had not been accepted, on 4 Oct. 1991 around 12.15 p.m., an artillery attack from all directions on the village of Bapska started. The attack lasted until 7.00 p.m. During the attack, around 400 missiles of different calibers hit targets in the village. Many family houses and outbuildings were damaged. Among the damaged houses in the Vladimira Nazora Street were the houses of Ivica Tkalec, (both new and old), Slavko Čolak, Ivan Burilo, Franjo Janić, Josip Žeravica and others. In the Šidska Street, the houses of Mato Tatarević, Ivan Kuveždić, Željko Horvatović, Nikola and Stjepan Majačić and others were damaged. In the Palih Boraca Street, the house of Ivica Brandiburg was damaged, and in the other parts of the village, another 40 houses were damaged.

Further he reports that the night between 4 and 5 October was peaceful and that the inhabitants, who had fled to the Kordoš woods outside the village, returned to the village. On 5 Oct. 1991, in the morning hours, another artillery attack started. Around 300 missiles of different calibers hit the village. The attack lasted until 12.30 p.m., after which tanks of the so-called JNA enter the village and start firing at the houses in Šidska Street, B. Radić Street, and S. Radić Street. Numerous buildings were damaged and burned during the

attack, such as the family houses of Ivan Kuveždić, Željko Horvatić, Nikola and Stjepan Majačić, Pavo Bošnjaković and others. The building of the local committee was also damaged, as well as the catholic parish church "St. Juraj", the tower of which was hit by a tank missile.

The period between 6 and 14 October 1991 was relatively peaceful, a state between war and peace. In this period, most inhabitants went to Ilok, where negotiations with officers of the so-called JNA were taking place about the question of the exodus of the Croats from the whole area.

A. also mentions that on 13 Oct. 1991, together with a group of the remaining inhabitants, he took off with his car in the direction of ŠID, because he had heard that there was no army or police control on that road. The purpose of his leaving was to go to his wife and children, who were in the village of Gibarac, Republic of Serbia, paying visit to some relatives who were there since the end of September 1991. When he arrived at the first houses in ŠID, he saw several private cars and inhabitants of Bapska, who had been stopped by the police of the Republic of Serbia. When he arrived there, the policemen ordered him to step out of the car and took all his personal documents away. Not much later, they took them to ŠID and put them in the gymnasium "Partizan". There he saw a lot of familiar people, who had left Bapska the same day or a few days earlier. Among them were, besides A. and his father, A., D. and V. P., M. K., S.

B., S. N. and others. In the period he spent in the gym, which was until 22 Oct. 1991, he saw several Serbian inhabitants of Bapska, who had left the village in June and July 1991. He says that they were wearing uniforms and that they often came into the gym and took out people to be questioned. He recognized Dragoljub Savičin, Jovica Jarić, Gojko Erdevički and Vukosava Erdevički. Questioned by the officers of the so-called JNA were Mato Tatarević, Marko Kovač, Valentin Prokopec and other persons, but he cannot remember who.

On 14 October 1991, Captain Krtinić came into the gym and selected 5 persons from a list, among whom were J. Š., S. B., Đ. B. and others. That day they walked as a human barrier in front of soldiers, who were entering the village, which was almost completely abandoned by the inhabitants who were hiding in Ilok. After those events, they stayed at the gym until 18 Oct. 1991, when they were said that they had to report to the headquarters of the Territorial Defence (TO) in ŠID.

Later in the interview, A. reports that, after the units of the so-called JNA seized Bapska, the authority of the Serbian Autonomous Region (SAO) of Krajina was established. Dragoljub Savičin was elected President of the Local Committee, and in his Board were his wife Ružica, Ilija Beljanski, Stjepan Prokopec and Ivica Ivezić, who was the treasurer. The Board, together with the command of the village and the military police, started taking in and abusing the remaining Croats, who every morning, with special passes, had to report to the Local Committee to Dragan Pejić from Adaševac, who had taken over the administration in the Local Office. Dragoljub Savičin and Ivica Ivezić were often present at the hearings, and it was them who assigned the people to their work. On 23 Oct. 1991, during a hearing, Dragoljub Savičin singled out the inhabitants I. O., A.

M., A. H. and M. F. They were handed over to the military police and then taken to ŠID. Later, he heard that the named persons were taken to the working camp in the village of Begejci and that on 10 Dec. 1991 they were exchanged and sent to the free parts of the Republic of Croatia.

The Commander of the TO was a certain Major Vasić, and his deputy was the already mentioned Captain Nikola Krtinić. The Commander of the Military Police was Captain

Barač, who, as well as the aforesaid, occupied the post until November 1991 in Bapska. Then, their units were reassigned to another area. During its stay in Bapska, the Military Police, under the command of Captain Barač, plundered things of value from the abandoned houses of the Croatian inhabitants. They took the plundered things to ŠID. During November, A. saw the Military Police taking away from Marica Rukovanjski's house 2 video recorders and a color TV. Many other family houses were plundered; every day he saw uniformed persons taking away things with private cars and taking them to the Republic of Serbia.

At the end of October 1991, while he was still in Bapska, together with a few other Croatian inhabitants and after the regular morning report, with the pass issued by the TO and signed by Dragan Pejić, A. was assigned to load cattle. Captain Dušan Medić supervised the loading. The cattle were loaded at Croatian houses. Marko Knežević, a private trucker from ŠID, transported the cattle with his truck to ŠID, where it was sold. A. also says that Marko Knežević took fuel from the Croatian houses, as well as valuable objects, and he remembers that one day, while they were loading cattle at the house of Franjo Božinović, the aforesaid took away tools and other things, and put them in his truck.

A. says that Dragoljub Savičin was the initiator of all operations in the village and that it was he who decided which houses were to be plundered, and he saw him taking out objects from the houses of Đuka Majačić and Viktor Rukavina.

During November and December 1991, houses and outbuildings of wealthier people were burned and pulled down. A. says that it was done according to the order of the Local Committee under the command of the aforesaid Savičin, and in that time, family houses of the following persons were burned: Željko Božinović, Nikola Tkalec, Josip Božinović, Slavko Babić, Ivica Šojat, Alojzije Asić, Aco Suknović, Ivica Kolak, Franjo Žeravica, Stjepan Božinović, Zvonko Plazonić, Vlatko Majačić, Ivica Janić and others. All together, 50 houses were burned.

On an undetermined day at the beginning of November, in the morning hours, during the regular report, all male inhabitants gathered in front of the building of the Local Committee, who were ordered to come with tractors and corn harvesters in order to pick corn. They were told to pick corn beside the road leading from Bapska to ŠID, where mines were placed. Among the people gathered in front of the Local Committee was Antun Legler. Nikola Krtinić approached him and said to mount the tractor for picking corn. When he mounted the tractor, which he could not drive, Nikola came to him and while cursing, hit him a few times with the metal part of his machine rifle on his head, so that Antun fell to the ground. Nikola kept beating him with his feet and the gun over his whole body. A. reports that it lasted for 5 minutes, after which they went to the field and Nikola kept beating Antun, who already was unconscious. Later he heard that the next morning Antun's wife had found him hung in their house.

After the seizure of the village, "Arkan's units" were stationed on the farm "Dunavka" near Bapska. From time to time, they came to the village, beat, and maltreated the Croatian inhabitants. On 24 Nov. 1991, in the morning hours, they took people from the village, according to a list, which was supposed to have been made at the Local Committee. They gathered the people in the house of Franjo Bakula, where they started to beat and abuse them. Among those who underwent the torture was Milan Čengić, who was drowned in a bath tub filled with water and hit with hands on his head. They beat F. J. with a wooden stick over his whole body, after which they shot him with an automatic rifle in his upper leg. Tomislav and Dula Franić, Alojzije Majačić, Stjepan and Josip Jurina, Stanko

Safari, Josip Bohnička, Mato and Ivan Duvnjak and others were also beaten and abused. A. says that he does not know the persons who beat the gathered people, but he knows that all the time with them was one inhabitant of Bapska, Vlado Grličić, called "Šerif", for whom he supposes that he took part in determining the persons who were to be tortured.

The aforesaid also reports that during the stay of the units of Major Vasić and Nikola Krtinić in the village of Bapska, the following persons were killed: Zdarvko Tustonjić was killed on 20 Oct. 1991 around 9.00 p.m.; Josip Radanović was killed on 18 or 19 Nov. 1991 in the morning hours; he was shot in his chest and died of the wound a few days later.

At the end of November, A. reports to have heard on Radio ŠID Dragoljub Savičin inviting the Serbs from western Slavonia to settle in Bapska promising them the houses and the land of the exiled Croats. A few days later, the first families came, and Savičin gave them the houses, while Stjepan Prokopec showed them the land. When the first settlers came, a new authority in the village was established. Dragoljub Savičin and Stjepan Prokopec, joined by a few settlers, stayed in the Local Committee. The police of the so-called SAO Krajina was also established, with Milan Mandić and Veselko Galić, former members of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior from Daruvar, as commanders of the same. At that time, they started to take in and abuse the Croats. After a while, Vlado Grličić and president Savičin joined them. A. says that many people underwent the torturing at the police station, and so did he. In February 1992, he was taken to the police station, which was near the house by the Catholic Church, where the priests lived. Veselko Galić beat A. When they were entering the room, Veselko hit him on his head, beat him with a stick all over the body, and then hit him with his leg in the stomach, after which A. fell. Veselko continued beating him with his leg on his head and all over his body. He also says that, while he was lying on the ground, Veselko stepped with his boot on his neck in order to break it. After that, the earlier captured Stjepan Bakić was brought from the basement to the room. When Stjepan came, Veselko ordered them to beat each other on their heads. They refused, so that Veselko beat them both with a stick, first in their heads, and later all over their bodies. Commander Milan Mandić was present all the time. He even cheered Veselko on.

During March 1991, due to a special list made by Dragoljub Savičin, Slavko Šljubura, Milan Mandić, Veselko Galić, Željko Aleksijević, who was Commander of the Territorial Defence, Branko Čatlaić and Ljubiško Janić, the remaining Croats were brought to the police station, where Milan Mandić and Veselko Galić beat them. After the torture, the Croats had to sign a paper saying that they gave up their possessions to the so-called SAO Krajina. After that, in the beginning of April, they were exiled to the free territory of the Republic of Croatia. Among the exiles were Stjepan Sota, Tomislav Suknović, Mato Duvnjak, and others. A. says that Stjepan Šomoljanski had to confess to the assembly in the Local Committee to have given to Dragoljub Savičin 2,000 German marks, so that he does not put him on the list for exile to the Republic of Croatia. After that, Savičin was relieved of his office as the President of the Local Committee. Slavko Šljubura was elected new president, who, according to the same scenario made the list of the remaining Croats. They, too, after having been tortured, had to sign that they gave up all their possessions and were exiled to the Republic of Croatia by the end of April 1992. Among the exiles were Stjepan Jurina with his wife and children, Pero Tomašić with his wife Magda, Marija Kološnjak, Franjo and Anica Janić and others. The aforesaid president Šljubura, under pressure from UNPROFOR, was relieved of his duty after this group had been exiled. The new president becomes Pero Bosanac, who exiled from their house Živan Kovačić and his family, settled in their house, and took possession of their properties.

A. says that in mid April 1992, Veselko Galić ordered Ivan Duvnjak, Josip Bohnička and Stjepan Šomoljanski to destroy all the crosses in the village and around it with a pick, while Milan Mijatović, normally responsible for utility services in the village, tore them down with a tractor. On that occasion, all crosses in the village were destroyed which stood at the following locations: crossing of the B Radić and the S. Radić Streets, crossing of the V. Nazor Street and the M. Gubec Street, crossing of the Palih Boraca Street and the Šidska Street, at the end of the Šidska Street beside the road leading to ŠID, at the extension of the Palih Boraca Street, at the extension of the Poljski put, at the extension of the M. Gubec Street on the road of Poljski put, near the road at the extension of the S. Radić Street leading to Šarengrad, as well as the chapel of "St. Anne", which is located on the road Bapska-Šarengrad at the crossing of the road which leads to the farm "Dunavka".

A. reports the following about individual persons:

Milenko Mikšić from Molovin, district of ŠID, came to the village of Bapska in a military uniform together with Novo Malivuk, who is from the same village. They both knew Bapska well, so they went through the houses and searched for the weapons of the remaining Croats, beating and torturing them. They beat many persons, among who were Milivoj Čelebić and Andrija Bošnjaković. The latter died of the injuries a few hours later. This happened on 29 Oct. 1991. In November 1991, Novo Malivuk took from Andrija Kovačić his personal car and drove it until he destroyed it completely. He also knows that Milenko and Novo actively plundered houses, and together with Dragoljub Savičin determined which houses had to be burned and torn down. According to his knowledge, Major Vasić, together with Dragoljub Savičin, organized the plundering of the houses and the farming machinery and tractors, which later were brought to the Republic of Serbia for sale. All together, around 150 tractors were taken. At the beginning of November 1991, the aforesaid ordered Domagoj Tomašić to take the tractor and corn harvester of Slavko Babić to ŠID. Those could not be found in the village anymore.

There was also Ivica Vitek, for whom he knows that he was a volunteer in the units, which had fought against the Republic of Croatia on different battlefields during January and February 1992. He saw him in Bapska in uniform and carrying a gun.

Valentin Prokopec and Đuro Radić were, at the end of May and in the beginning of June 1992, members of the units of the Border Police of the so-called SAO Krajina, which was situated in the village of Đeletovci.

A. claims to have seen many settlers from Western Slavonia whom he knows, but is not familiar with their personal data. He also claims to be able to recognize them if he saw them again.

Statement was taken by: Miroslav Janić

Statement was given by: A. Š.

**ANNEX 69:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.K.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT VUKOVAR  
No. 511-15-10-03-Ku  
28 Jan. 1993

OFFICIAL NOTE

J.K., born ., with residence in . . ., made the following statement.

In the interview given, J. reported that at the beginning of January 1991 because of the danger of impending war he performed duties guarding the area around the village of Bapska. On 3 October 1991, in the afternoon, Boro Tomić brought the ultimatum made by the units of the JNA, which were stationed around Bapska. Major Slobodan Barjaktarević signed the ultimatum, and it demanded that all armed persons surrender their weapons or otherwise the mentioned units would level the village with the ground.

Further on, J. reports that the inhabitants of the village refused to accept the ultimatum on surrendering the weapons, and on 4 October 1991, the JNA started an artillery attack on the village. With short interruptions, the attack lasted until 14 October 1991, when tanks of the JNA came to the village. During the attacks, more than 1,000 missiles of different calibres hit targets in the village, whereby numerous houses, outbuildings and other buildings were damaged.

J. also reports that, while the units of the so-called JNA were entering the village, family houses were burned down and hit by grenade launchers. Among the houses burned were the houses of Stana Radić, Antun Kovač and others, and the houses of Ivica Brandibur and Stjepan Ožanić were hit by grenade launchers. Among the buildings damaged in the first period of the attacks were: the building of the local committee, where the post office, the bank, library and the offices of the local committee were situated, further, the catering establishment "Grozđ", the fire station, the houses of Nikola Tkalec, Ivan Kuvezdić, Stjepan Majačić, Željko Horvatović and others. The named heinous crimes were committed by the units of the so-called JNA under the command of Major Vasić, Captain Nikola Krtinić, Captain Barač and Major Slobodan Barjaktarević. When the units of the so-called JNA under the command of Captain Nikola Krtinić were entering the village, 4 persons were killed from firearms: Mato Rumberger from Bapska, two men from Šarengard, and one woman from Ilok. Further, J. reports that after the village had been seized, the authority of the so-called Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina (SAO) was established. Appointed to the presidency was Dragoljub Savićin, and his closest associates in the Board of the local committee were Stjepan Prokopec, Ivica Ivezić, Petar Foro and Miroslav Jarić. In the work of the local committee were also included non-Serbian inhabitants of Bapska, who were used as a screen for the work of the above mentioned. In that time, the army searched and plundered the houses of the exiled non-Serbian inhabitants. Commanders of the military units were the aforesaid Major Vasić, Captain Barač and Captain Krtinić. When the authority of the so-called SAO Krajina had been established, all inhabitants were given passes for movement in the village, and every morning they had to report to the local committee to a certain Dragan Pejić. When they came to report themselves, there also often were present Ivica Ivezić, Jovica Jarić and Petar Foro, who assigned the people to hard labor in the village. While he was moving in the village, J. saw inhabitants of Bapska wearing uniforms and carrying weapons. Among them he recognized Miroslav Jarić, Jovica



Jarić, Zoran Jarić and Ivica Vitek. In the time the earlier mentioned commanders were in charge of the units, several inhabitants of Bapska were killed. Zdravko Tustonjić was killed at the end of October 1991, while at the beginning of November 1991 Jozo Kolak and Josip Radovanović were wounded. Josip Radovanović died of his injuries a few days later.

J. also mentions that the members of the army had taken in and abused many non-Serbian inhabitants of Bapska. Andrija Bošnjaković and Antun Legler were beaten. The first one died of the wounds, the second one hung himself in his house after he had been beaten and abused. At the end of October 1991, J. was assigned by Ivica Ivezić and Petar Foro to load the cattle from the houses of the exiled non-Serbian inhabitants. The cattle were taken to ŠID for sale. The money they got for the cattle was at the disposal of Miroslav Jarić and Ivica Ivezić. The transport of the cattle was undertaken by Marko Knežević with his truck. While they were taking away the cattle, he plundered the houses. J. says that he loaded the cattle from the houses of Franjo Božinović, Pero Božinović, Šimun Kovač and others.

J. reports that on 22 November 1991, Captain Barač, together with a group of soldiers, took him in to the Police Station of the so-called SAO Krajina in Ilok, where he saw several inhabitants of Bapska, who had also been taken in. Those were: Marijan Žeravica, Franjo Janić and Ivica Durković. They were beaten and abused in the Police Station by the policemen, and they also had to beat each other with nightsticks. At that time, he also saw the following inhabitants of Bapska in the Police Station: Vlado Grlčić and Ivica Vitek. However, they were not beaten or abused and could normally leave the Station.

Further on, J. reports that he is familiar with the fact that several inhabitants of Bapska were exiled from the village at the beginning of April 1992 after they had signed a paper saying that they give up their possessions to the benefit of the so-called SAO of Krajina. Dragoljub Savičin, the President of the local committee, and his associates, made the exile lists. He also knows that the commander of the police in Bapska was Milan Mandić, and his deputy was Veselko Galić. They took in the rest of the non-Serbian inhabitants to the Police Station, where they beat and abused them. He also knows that in the middle of April 1992, Milan Mandić tore down crosses in Bapska with a tractor. He tore down all crosses and chapels in the village.

J. further says that Dragoljub Savičin was by the middle of December 1991, when the settlers from Western Slavonia had arrived, head of the school. After he had been removed from office in the middle of April 1992, Dragoljub went to the village of Nijemci, where he became a member of the Border police of the so-called SAO of Krajina. According to J., the head of the Cooperative Society of the village was Boro Tomić, and that it was him who made the lists of the houses from which the cattle, that were brought to ŠID, were taken away.

J. says that he fled from Bapska with other inhabitants because of the mobilization issued by the so-called SAO of Krajina.

He also says that the Serbian settlers from western Slavonia committed many heinous crimes in the village. He claims to know some of their names and nicknames and to be able to recognize them, so if he saw them, he could tell which crimes they committed.

Statement was taken by authorized official: Miroslav Janić

Statement was given by: J.K.

**ANNEX 70:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.F.**

LAST NAME: F.  
 NAME, NAME OF THE FATHER: I., ...  
 YEAR OF BIRTH: ...  
 PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., ...  
 PERMANENT ADDRESS: ...  
 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
 PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: highly qualified  
 OCCUPATION: ...  
 EMPLOYMENT:  
 MARRIAGE STATUS: married  
 CITIZENSHIP: the Republic of Croatia  
 NATIONALITY: Hungarian

I give the following

STATEMENT

Ten days after the inhabitants of Šid entered Bapska, a man came by during the police curfew, not knowing that a police curfew was imposed, so they said – STOP! He did not pay any attention, because he did not know what was going on. They shot him. The inhabitants of Šid entered Bapska on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 1991. They were going from house to house. They turned things upside down, they threw things out, they were looking for money and gold. They were wearing JNA uniforms with five-pointed red stars, later the Chetniks with cockades came. The people in JNA uniforms were the reservists. They did not enter the houses at all.

When they entered my mother-in-law's house, where my son lived too, they found his uniform. He worked in the police. After that they told me to come to the quarters. They did not tell me why they called me. Then they beat me and knocked my teeth out. I fainted away. Captain Farkaš came and he asked me who had beaten me. I knew who had beaten me but I was not allowed to say. He would come during the night and kill me. Those were the people from Šid. There were no Serbs at Bapska. The Serbs that lived in Bapska came from mixed marriages. I knew them by sight, but I did not know their names.

The army moved into my mother-in-law's house. Four or five days later they forced me out of my house. It was evening. I came back home the next day. The house was on fire then. They set everything on fire because my son was in the Police.

A month later the Arkan people came. They were situated on Pajzoš, in the field. A lot of wine and cognac were there so when they got drunk they would shoot and jump over the gates, because we had to close our gates at 5 p.m. I was alone. They slapped me and forced me out of the house. They searched my house. They slapped me again and told me I could go back to sleep. I was beaten all the time, if not during the lunch period then during dinner or at night.

They put 50 men in a trailer and they drove us to some house and they beat us there. One neighbor, from Bapska had a son-in-law, a Serb from Šid. They let him go. Then they asked who was F., because my son was a policeman and he used to keep watch, and I was also keeping watch. When I heard that they were looking for me I said – Here I am. They hit me with a split log. I fell, because I thought that if I did not fall they would hit me even harder. When I fell he stepped on my stomach, hit me on my back, pushed me and hit me

on the head. Even today I still have bumps on my head. They chased people away so I could stand at the stairs so he could shoot me. They did not shoot. They loaded us on the tractor-trailer and told us they were taking us to the Danube where they would shoot us. Those were the Arkan people. I do not know their names. They drove us along a downhill street. I told everyone in a trailer to watch out, at least those around me, in case a driver suddenly stopped, because then the trailer would turn over. This is what happened. When we came to the turn the driver hit the brakes and the trailer turned over. We were turning over for 10 meters. Four or five people turned over me so I could not straighten my hands that were beneath me so I hurt my shoulders and head. Somebody broke an arm, somebody a leg. Many people were wailing because they were severely injured. Then a driver came and he told us to get back in the trailer and to go home, and that he would repeat all this tomorrow. Nobody got killed then, but many people were severely injured.

They did not come tomorrow. The army did not beat us but they saw what they were doing to us and they did not do a thing. When the army, that is the officers, would leave for Šid at 2 p.m., they would come and make chaos. They took people into the basement and the people would sit there for 2 hours and they would beat them and then let them go home. They pushed Milan Čengić in the bathtub under the water and they beat him until he fainted away. When he got conscious they would push his head under the water and beat him again. They ordered us to count to 2 and then we had to jump in the trailer and if somebody did not do that they would beat him. We got beaten there. One of them mounted one of our men and after that he put reins into his mouth. He said that he was doing that so the others could see a Chetnik riding Ustasha. They gave him grits and hay to eat.

We left for Bijeljina. The Red Cross waited for us there. We spent the night there. Next morning at 8 a.m. a bus came and it took us further.

Joco Radovanović got killed. Milan Čengić did not die of the consequences of that terrible torture and beating. One man was beaten so hard that he hung himself afterwards. Jozo Kolak was shot in the arm. He told me that he would kill the person who shot at him and he asked me if I had any weapon. I did not have any weapon.

Dine, the baker's son, set many houses on fire in Šid. The church tower in Bapska was shelled, and they demolished everything inside the church, and the Way of the Cross was either bombed or destroyed with an automatic gun. A Serb, Dragoljub Savićin, Bapska local committee president, ordered what was to be destroyed, and he ordered that the pigs and other goods were to be sold and that the money from the sale should be collected.

I did not mention that there was a graffito in front of the church: THERE ARE SOME CROATS LEFT. They ruined this graffito too.

They forced one Croat to drive a tractor, and he told them that he did not know how to do that. Therefore they tortured him and he hung himself. One woman and two persons from Šarengrad were running away to Šid and they got killed by the shells.

The people from Šid, reservists stole 160 tractors, TV-sets, video-recorders, washing machines. The sister of the individual from Šid who took part in it all, is still in Bapska. She is married to Bamsan from Junačka Street.

The police officers were from Šid, also Serbians.

In Zagreb, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1993.

Statement was given by: I.F.

**ANNEX 71:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.L.**

I.L., Croat, born in .... in Bapska, finished primary school, work as an agriculturist. During the war I was a civilian in Bapska where I stayed under the occupation till April 8, 1992 when I was expelled. I was being forced to sign that I leave all my properties to the so-called SAO Krajina, which I refused. I was questioned and beaten four times. I was a victim of torture. Now I am in Opatija in hotel "Palme". I give the following testimony. I am married and have three children.

**TESTIMONY**

I was tortured on October 16, 1991 (Wednesday). Ten of them came (JNA soldiers), searched the house. They were looking for weapons. They found a fire-helmet and accused me of being a policeman. Then nine of them beat me with their hands and legs – mostly legs – they stamped me on concrete under their feet, with boots and one soldier was giving the orders. Then they took me to captain Sava, which was at the crossing of "S. Radić" and the Palih Boraca Street where Captain Sava was, with a van and a few soldiers. I told him what happened and he ordered them to bring me back home and leave me alone. The next morning I was ill and I put some compresses on.

On December 12, 1991 I was tortured in my house. It was a torture of 100 minutes. They were looking for weapons again, weapons that I didn't have. They started to search the house; they thought that I had buried the weapons in my courtyard. They asked me to start the tractor and to plough up my courtyard. They made me lie down in a shell hole and drove the tractor on me. With the right wheel they pressed my abdomen. My two ribs broke. Then they made me throw firewood and bricks. Then one of the soldiers (they were in the JNA uniforms) pulled out a knife from his boot and stabbed me in my left arm. That wound I sewed later, with thread from a linen bag, and powdered it with powder that we used for powdering wounds after castration of pigs. That wound healed up well, only a scar was left. Then another JNA soldier wounded me with an axe. He hit me with the cutting edge on my buttocks. That was a deep and wide wound. I couldn't and I wouldn't go to see a doctor because I was afraid to leave my house, I think that they would kill me. After being stabbed with a knife and hit with the axe they told me to climb a haystack and that they would set me on fire. They talked between themselves and they said on code "33", then they "fed" submachine guns (reloaded) and shot around me. Then they ordered me to climb down and they put a bomb in my clothes on my chest. They told me they would blow me up. Then they changed their mind, took off the bomb, and ordered me to go to the attic. I had to overturn hay and step over it. They threatened me that I would end like one man that was beaten to death. The JNA soldiers were saying that they were doing all of that under the command of Captain Stipe (he was supposedly from Đakovo). It was terrible for me also because all that torture was happening in front of my old mother who was screaming all the time: "Don't kill my child." They stopped the search and left me alive.

On December 13, 1991 they questioned me and beat me again. They beat me with everything: arms, legs, and butt-ends. I urinated blood later. There were men in JNA uniforms, without ranks, they were drunk. I was blue all over.

On April 8, 1992 they marched into my house, they beat me at once, over my scrotum and abdomen. They grabbed me and put me into a van where there already were two men and two women. An hour before, they had brought two men and three women. They expelled ten of us all together. In Lipovica near ŠID another woman from Overnice joined us. They took us to Raca and then to Bjeljina by rail car. Form Bjeljina they took us back to ŠID.

After lots of trouble we managed to come to the free part of Croatia across Hungary, it was on May 8, 1992.

During the stay in Bapska, under occupation, they were forcing me all the time to sign that I was leaving all my properties to them, and they asked to give them my identity card to copy my number, which I refused and never signed.

With his signature, the donor of this testimony confirms authenticity of testimony, that it was given without coercion, and that what was written corresponds to what was said.

Optima, March 17, 1993

Statement was given by: I.L.

**ANNEX 72:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.M.\***

P.M. (daughter of ....), born ... in Bapska. Residence: .... Temporary residence: .... I am of Croatian nationality, by occupation a retiree. I am a widow and have three children. My identification card number: personal chart no. ... Unique Citizens' Registry Number (UCRN)....Number of questionnaire: 10252.

I am giving the following:

**STATEMENT**

I was living in the occupied village of Bapska, the Municipality of Vukovar, until 17 May 1995. I was robbed on 28 September 1993 for the first time. My tractor, tools, motor mixers and the toilet with the water tank were stolen. They tore down the power and water lines on my pig farm after which the entire estate was flooded.

NENAD KRAJNOVIĆ, ZORAN MARIĆ and other settlers of Serb nationality were the robbers. We reported the robbery to the so-called militia that found the listed things with these people who confessed to the robbery. Before they were caught they had fired their guns into our yard and had riddled the tractor and other objects which they had not managed to steal, in the yard with bullets.

On 19 December 1993 the same people (NENAD KRAJNOVIĆ and ZORAN MARIĆ together with a military unit) again robbed my property. They stole 2,000 liters of fuel, my entire tools, a freezer with 60 kilograms of meat and 20 liters of brandy.

I was watching all of this but I stayed locked inside the house because of fear.

After that, on 15 January 1994 the same group, knowing that there were only women in the house and that none would do anything to them, repeated the robbery.

This time they stole three pigs, four farm wagons, two carts and a 50-meter length of cable wire. I noticed them, opened the door and said: "Guys, do not rob me. I will give you anything you want." But they just started firing at me, at which I locked the door and hid in the attic. I started to call for help, but they threatened to kill me if I did not keep quiet.

They broke through my door and threw a bag into the hall.

The so-called militia later during the investigation established that it was some kind of poison; I do not know which kind.

They also killed two of my dogs during the first robbery.

I believe that ZLATAN KULJIŠ, a local policeman protected them, because he came to list the damage every time, but it remained at that and the robbers walk free unpunished.

On 13 January 1994 the same group robbed us again. They burst into the yard, killed my guard dog, crashed a window and through it entered the house. They asked me for the key to the front door and I had to give it to them because they were armed. Since they were armed they stole everything they wanted. They stole eight hams and a large number of other dry meat products. They stole meat from the refrigerator; they sprayed the remaining meat with something so that it could not be eaten anymore. They stole bedclothes, clothes and shoes. They also stole all other food supplies (sugar, salt, flour ...). They stole the television, two sewing machines, vacuum cleaners.

This lasted from 21:30 in the evening to 4:00 the following morning and they stole everything they could get their hands on. When they were done, one of them took me to one room. There he raped me. I tried to defend myself at which he hit me on the back with a rifle and slapped me once. That way he managed to rape me.

The other robber had a stocking on his head and went into the room of my eighty-one year old mother K.I.\*. He hit her on the head with his hand, after which she fell to the floor and he raped her then. After this he asked her for money, since she had none he searched her and tore her naval with his bare hands. They left after this. They threatened that we do not report them to the so-called militia since they were cooperating with them.

My daughter, ..., went to report the robbery and rape. The stolen things were found after the investigation with NENAD KRAJNOVIĆ and ZORAN MARIĆ who at an interview confessed the robbery and rape.

From the stolen things only several meaningless trifles were returned.

The accused were taken to prison, but they were released after a short period. In April 1995 a new group of Serb citizens passed through the village by night, they fired at and damaged the houses of the Croatian citizens. On 17 May 1995 Serbs, the family Šarić from Okučani, came to my house and told me to leave it since it no longer belonged to me.

My daughter, ..., my mother, K.I., and I were taken to ŠID on a cart wagon from where we joined a group of other citizens of Bapska and went to Morović. We stayed in Morović for eight days where we were placed in groups in different gymnasiums. From Morović we were taken to Belgrade where they placed us in Avala, at the hotel "1,000 ruža (Thousand Roses)". We stayed there for five weeks during which time we were not abused. From Belgrade we were transported through Hungary to Croatia.

I verify the authenticity of this document with my signature.

Opatija, 11 July 1995

Statement taken by: Tanja Strahinić

Statement given by: P.M.

**ANNEX 73:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.T.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
VUKOVAR POLICE ADMINISTRATION

Department for the operational activities (organizational unit of the Ministry)  
Number: 511-15-10-03-KU-/93

Date: the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 1993

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Citizen – S.T., occupation – ... technician, born on the ...  
..., residence – permanent address ...on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 1993 in the railroad  
settlement in Vukovar (place where information was given) gave to the authorized person  
of the Vukovar Police Administration (name of the unit of the Interior) the following  
information:

In the conducted informative conversation S. stated that when the village of Bapska  
was occupied by the JNA she stayed in her house together with her husband and children.

S. also stated that when the village was occupied the military administration was  
formed and the commanders were Major Vasić, Captain Nikola Krtinić and Captain Barač.  
At that time the local committee was formed and its president was Dragoljub Savičin and  
his closest associates were Miroslav Jarić, Stjepan Prokopec, Ivica Ivezić, Zoran Jarić and  
Petar Foro.

She also states that mass robberies of the houses of the exiled Croatians were executed at  
that time. The soldiers under the command of the above mentioned officers did most of the  
robbing and the stolen goods were taken towards Šid. Also in the cooperation between the  
military command and the responsible people from the local committee the agricultural  
mechanic devices as well as the tractors were listed and all this was taken towards Šid for  
sale. Further on S. states that during the first days of the occupation mass burning  
and demolition of the family houses of the leading people in the village was executed.  
About 50 family houses were burnt or knocked down in the various parts of the village  
then.

At the end of the October 1991 Captain Nikola Krtinić destroyed houses around the village  
with rocket launchers. S. saw him shooting with rocket launchers at the family  
houses of Nikola Tkalec and Đuro Rukavina.

Further on S. states that the cattle was listed in the village at that time and Milan  
Lisica and Marko Knežević took the cattle in trucks towards Šid and further on to the  
Republic of Serbia for sale.

At the end of October and at the beginning of November of 1991 Major Vasić led the group  
of soldiers that inspected the house of the Croatians that remained here and they insulted us  
and provoked us and S. recognized Miroslav Jarić and Milenko Askić among these  
soldiers.

At the beginning of 1992 the immigrant from Western Slavonia, Marko Tatomirović,  
together with his two sons, forced Alojzije Majačić out of his family house and then he  
moved into it and S. saw him and his sons taking out the belongings from the family  
house owned by Marija Kovačić.

In the middle of April 1992 S. saw Milan Mijatović knocking the crosses down around the village. On that occasion all the crosses in Bapska were knocked down.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1992 a policeman of the SAO of Krajina, Veselko Galić, came to S.'s house and started mistreating her and threatening her to hang her in the village center and he took her younger daughter M., 5 years old, in the other room and he threatened her with knife to butcher her and he asked the child to say if the members of the National Guard came to their house. While he was in her house, the named Galić threw all the religious objects (crosses and holy pictures) around the house and he broke them and all this took place in front of S. and her underage children.

Statement was taken by authorized official: Miroslav Janić

Statement was given by: S.T.

**ANNEX 74:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.K.\***

F.K.- male, born on ... in ... Residence in ....

I give the following:

**STATEMENT**

I helped preparing the defence and defending the village as a member of the ZNG (Croatia army). We refused to give our weapons to the aggressor – the JNA, without an agreement with other villages and Ilok. Then the JNA did what they threatened us with and attacked the village on October 4, 1991. At noon sharp, they bombed the village with at least 700 shells from different weapons. That day, about 40 objects in the village were destroyed. On that day the late Josip Vuletić, the veterinarian from Ilok, the head of the HDZ of Ilok and the commander of defence was wounded too. He died, in not very clear circumstances, from wounds he received, in the hospital in Novi Sad.

I have to say that during that time we controlled the village, no one was hurt, there was no robbery, and it made no difference whether someone was a Croat or a Serb. We only defended ourselves from Serb aggression. In Bapska there are 99% of Croats, and Bapska was always Croatian.

On October 4, 1991, during the attack of the village one active member of the Croatian Army from Čakovec was wounded. Later we were in camp together. During the retreat, two members of the Croatian Army died, they were riddled with shots from the "PAM" over the river Dunav, in Šarengrad, while they were in one's man car, and they were buried in Ilok's grave-yard, they were somewhere from Dalmatia.

During that attack three civilians were wounded too: Stjepan Rukavina, Katica Šojat and Stanislav Bažiković – they suffered minor wounds from shellfire.

The next day, on October 5, 1991, after all active members of the Croatian Army left Bapska, and the Yugoslav People's Army undertook a mortar and infantry attack from Molovina. The infantry attack was undertaken by the Chetniks, some of them "Arkanovci." We fired back, and they retreated. We saw that at least two of them died. We didn't have any wounded.



The next day, on October 6, 1991, they marched into the village with six tanks and one armoured transporter, they knew that we didn't have any weapons against armoured vehicles. They destroyed the main street. They sniped at the church, and were destroying it with tank shells. The houses were burning. They destroyed the church's tower – I saw that with my own eyes. They screamed with joy when they hit the tower.

The people partly evacuated to Ilok, and partly to a forest called Kordoš – they waited for the attack to end. Since they were afraid to enter with infantry, tanks went back where they came from to ŠID. Majority of people went to Ilok, and Chetniks fired a few shells on the village every day, so as to frighten us and discourage the people from returning into the village.

Sometime about 7 a.m. on October 10, 1991, Borislav Sabo was killed, he was the member of the guard, and Chetniks – a diversionary attack on the line of defence, killed him.

During the day around October 15, Chetniks invaded the village several times, they went street by street to ŠID. That time three Chetniks were killed. Also some people from Bapska were killed, Mato Rumberger – Chetniks killed him in the street, and a group of people that entered the village from the direction of Šarengrad by car: three men from Šarengrad and one Serbian woman from Ilok were riddled with shots by Chetniks on the street. Later they were buried in the presence of the European Community observers or the International Red Cross.

On October 15, 1991, I left for Ilok. The situation in Ilok was dramatic; there were no conditions for a successful defence. I pleaded for making a breach into occupied Vukovar where my two brothers were acting as defenders. One of them,..., disappeared when Vukovar fell, and the other, ..., ended up as an invalid and wounded man. The local government of Ilok decided, after negotiating with the Yugoslav People's Army and holding the referendum, to try to save the people by getting out of that circle and going to the free part of Croatia. That leaving in the convoy was securing by military police of the Yugoslav Army and the police of the Republic of Croatia. There were also the European Community observers. We wanted to go with arms but the Serbs didn't allow it, so we had to leave our arms with them. Only our police had their long and short arms. The agreement was that they wouldn't arrest or hurt anyone. They guaranteed security for those who were leaving as well for those who were staying. But it wasn't like that at all.

In spite of all this they took out from the convoy 21 men and took them to camp. I was among those 21 men too. They took us out from the convoy in spite of our MUP and EC observers.

In one hidden tent was a man from Ilok, informer, who pointed out men. I already passed the control when one of the Yugoslav People's Army soldiers approached me and directed a gun to my chest, and took me away from the convoy. They took us into a small bus with 18 seats that was parked under the bridge. I was put in the middle of the bus. When it was full they took us to Novi Sad and over the bridge into the mountains of Fruška Gora, into the barracks of the special military police in Paragovo. An armoured transporter followed us. I remember that in the bus were Blago Čuljak, Krunoslav Farkaš, Ante Kolak, Dubravko Kačak, Stjepan Vrdoljak, Marijanović and Dragičević, both from Tovarnik, Ante Kardum from Čakovec, and some others, there were also two members of the Croatian Army from Zagreb.

In Paragovo, they imprisoned us in a vine cellar transformed into a prison. There they questioned us for two days and two nights. They beat us all the time. We didn't get anything to eat or drink during that two days, or we were allowed to sleep. They beat us

with sticks, legs and fists. They beat us even when we lay on the floor, on planks. I was taken for questioning and beating three times. They beat me with sticks, legs, and fists. Four military policemen beat me. Usually four men beat one. They were beating my genitals, kidneys, everywhere. Especially they beat the genitals. They knew that I had three children and that my wife was pregnant. They were saying that as they were beating me. Once they beat my genitals about 30 times and they were saying: "Fuck your Ustasha's mother ..., You won't make any more little Croats." Their goal was ethnic cleansing, and that us, Croats, would be as few as possible. They questioned us about the arms, who were the members of the HDZ, they were saying that all of those people were Ustashas, who were in the MUP, who were involved in defence. They knew everything. They had a big file on me. They were saying that all of that was Serbia, that Croatia would never be a republic, and that us, Croats, were cowardly people.

From there they transferred us to camp in Begejci, they were driving us in two trucks with our hands on our heads. We were sitting cross-legged on the floor of the trucks, we had to sing Chetnik's songs all the time, and we didn't know them. The ride lasted for two hours and all that time they would beat us. They kicked us with legs and sticks. They beat us all. I was beaten with sticks and legs. The way we were sitting was unbearable, I was all-stiff. They beat us all the time, and we had to sing songs we didn't know or even want to sing.

When we arrived to camp Begejci, two rows of the military policemen met us. They took us out of the truck one by one and beat us. They beat us with sticks, legs, fists and bats. I was beaten the most in those two rows, because I couldn't get up after I was thrown out of the truck. I fell on one brick, and I couldn't get up. Those who could run through two rows were lucky. In Begejci we went through the same procedure – questioning and beating, just as those first two days in Paragovo.

In Begejci we were in one stable, with a concrete floor, some straw and one tent-half. It was very cold, 16 – 17 degrees centigrade under zero. The door was open all the time. We slept one beside another. There was about 570 people until they separated women. There were about 35 women. They took out younger women and I have solid proof that they raped them. They took them into the headquarters at night and brought them back in the morning. Not until later those women told their friends all about it, but they were afraid to say anything publicly.

They tortured us in the stable, took us one by one in the middle of the stable and beat us, made us to sing Chetnik's hymn, and Chetnik's songs. We had to beat one another on their command. During the day they took us to work, they formed working groups, more to beat us with clubs more easily than to make us work. We had to jump one on another. They brought police dogs to sniff us and jump over us.

Once, over lunch, they were holding up civilians that were passing by, and allowed them to beat us. After that civilians were giving them cigarettes. I saw that with my own eyes, but I wasn't beaten that because I was hidden in some turnips.

What they gave us to eat was water that smelled of beans or cabbage and one tiny slice of bread. We received no medicine or any kind of health protection: only people who went almost mad from beating sometimes received sedatives.

We had to fill in some questionnaire with questions about our families. The questions were like if someone from our family was Ustasha, if someone was capable to rape other man's wife, kill children and so on. That questionnaire was performed by some institute from Belgrade. Some people were so beaten that they were made to say publicly on Belgrade's television that they committed crimes they never did because they have never been soldiers

just ordinary civilians. This was done by the Croats: Josip Miljković from Sotin near Vukovar and Ivan Dumenčić from Vajska (the Republic of Serbia), the Muslims, the Albanians and others who were caught on a journey through Serbia, but who had a residence in Croatia.

Sometimes, people from the International Red Cross came to write down our names, and some men from the camp had to be hidden so that people from the IRC couldn't write their names down. Some of those people were found and listed later, but some of them were never found. I don't know their names.

I heard that four bodies were found later, after they destroyed Begejci and levelled everything to the ground to destroy the evidence. Those bodies were probably bodies of those men who were buried and disappeared.

There were also four Romanians, citizens of the Republic of Romania, who worked as seasonal workers in Dubrovnik. They were caught there and accused of being Tuđman's mercenaries. They were from the village Klokočić, Rešica district, Romania. Those were Nikola Beća and his brother and two other brothers. Everything they had was taken away from them. They were beaten and tortured like all of us. Tortures broke the arm one of them. When they found out that those Romanians were Catholics and Croat by origin, they tortured them even more. There were two black men from Sri Lanka, from Colombo. They were caught on Skopje's airport under the accusation of being Tuđman's mercenaries. The Romanians were out in the first exchange on December 10, 1991, but the black men stayed in the camp after us.

There were people who received special treatment, Borislav Vukojević, Franjo Kračak and some others who stayed in different kinds of prisons long after us.

I was exchanged on December 10, 1991. That time 360 men were exchanged. I have been in the free part of Croatia since then. Shortly after I was exchanged I went voluntarily to the battlefield, but since I was a war invalid, I was released from that service.

My brother, ..., was fighting in Vukovar from the beginning till it fell. He was wounded three times, and as not badly wounded he was in Vukovar's hospital where he worked on providing the security. He was in that hospital when Vukovar fell, and the last trail of him is lost in Ovčara together with others, and together with 360 wounded people. He is officially lost. He is a father of two children who are in Zagreb with their mother, .... He was born on ... in ..., and since 1962 has been living in the community of Vukovar. He finished secondary school of agriculture in .... He worked in the Vupik in Ovčara as a main warehouseman. He took a part in the defence of Croatia from the very beginning of the war. He was fighting from the beginning to the end. He is 174 centimetres tall, has dark brown hair and green eyes, he had no broken bones. He had all his teeth – I am not sure, but he had all his front teeth. I don't think that he visited the dentist. We have good teeth in our family.

With my signature on every page of this testimony it's donor confirms the authenticity of the testimony, that it was given without any force, and that what is written corresponds to what was said.

In Opatija, May 22, 1993

#### ADDITION TO THE TESTIMONY:

I found out from different sources, I heard:

One article with a picture was published in the newspapers "Večernji list" on which my brother's father in law, shows one spot in Ovčara where the Croats were buried, it was about one year ago, and after that he was badly beaten by the Serbs. That man with his wife is still in Ovčara.

Their son, Boris Banožić, who was wounded like my brother, was most probably killed and buried in a mass grave in Ovčara.

I heard that CVIJETIN JOVIĆ ( "CVETO" ) buried bodies in mass grave in Ovčara with a dredger.

CVIJETIN JOVIĆ was born sometime around 1950. He worked as a warehouseman assistant to my brother in Ovčara. He was a heavy machine driver.

Drago Banožić was born about 1944. He was a tractor driver in Ovčara. They have an apartment from the PIK there. We heard that he was dying from beating, after that article in "Večernji list" I mentioned before.

The details about everything I said Pero Čobanković knows, member of commission for contacts with UNPFOFOR, he is in Vinkovci now.

In Ičići, November 26, 1993

Statement given by: F.K.

Statement taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
TOVARNIK**



**ANNEX 75:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.I.**

TESTIMONY – TOVARNIK

SURNAME: I.

NAME, FATHER'S NAME: J., ...

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., ..., Bosnia and Herzegovina

RESIDENCE: Tovarnik, Croatia

TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: Zagreb, Croatia

EDUCATION:

OCCUPATION:

EMPLOYMENT: retired

MARITAL STATUS: married

CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia

NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

STATEMENT

We were in our neighbor's basement. Our neighbor's name is F.K. We spent the night in this basement. Mrs J.J. who is our neighbor and her daughter L.J. were with me. On the second night the soldiers found us and took us to a Serbian house. It was the house of Milenko Svitlica. Six of us among the imprisoned persons were adults.

We sat until midnight. Then they the soldiers came and ordered us to go to sleep. We spent the night there. In the morning we got up and took our bags. We were told to leave the bags because we would not need them. They took us to a building. There were six of us: F. K., M.K. his wife, J.J., M.Š., another woman and I. They lined us up in the yard near that old building. We sat down when we saw what was going to happen to us, only two people among us stood still. They began to kill us one by one. When it was my turn, he did not kill me. He stabbed me in my arm, and when I shrieked, he stabbed me again. I fainted. When I regained consciousness, I did not know where to go. Everybody around me was dead. This happened in Tovarnik. I saw that the clover in the garden was tall, so I hid there. A cornfield was a little further away. I hid there for two days and a night. The flies were pestering me. I was hungry and thirsty. It rained. It was a real downpour. I decided to return home, at all costs, and so I did. I drank some water. A soldier came and helped me. They transferred me to Šid in an ambulance. In Šid they dressed my wounds, and then they transferred me to Sremska Mitrovica. I spent two months in the local hospital. They did not know what to do with me, so they arrested me with the others. The place where they took us was near the hospital. The doctors came to dress my wounds. I was there for a month. Then there was an exchange. There were many of us women who stuck, regardless of our age.

L.J. is now at her father's place in Zagreb. She was with us. She went to my house to get some clothes. When she returned, she did not find us. Later, they took her to Šid, because they saw she was alone.

In Zagreb, April 6, 1993

Statement given by: J.I.

Statement taken by: Andrija Pavičić

**ANNEX 76:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.V.**

TESTIMONY – TOVARNIK

J.V., born on ... in ..., Slunj, address: Tovarnik, ... My nationality is Croat. I have not finished any school, I am illiterate, a housewife. During the war I was a civilian in Tovarnik until 25<sup>th</sup> December 1992, when I was exiled from Tovarnik for being a Croat. I now live at the hotel "Esplanade" in Opatija as a refugee.

I give the following

STATEMENT

When Tovarnik was attacked on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1991, I was in my house in Tovarnik. The first army that stopped at my house – the reserve of the JNA – captured my husband and took him to the camp in Begejci, although he was a civilian. He did not participate in anything, nor did he have any weapons. The first soldier that entered my house asked me my nationality, and when I said "A Croat" they started shouting at me telling me that Milošević told them before they went off to war that they were going to the front line and that their task was to kill and destroy everything Croatian, and that they would push us Croats into the Adriatic sea. They told me that it would be better for me if I was a Serb, which I refused because there were no Serbs in my family, I told them that I was a Croat and that I would remain thus.

They ordered us to wear white bands around our arm and we had to fasten a white cloth at our gate. Movement around the village was forbidden. I know that they killed and robbed, but I could not see that because I was in my house most of the time. A month later my husband, I.V., returned from the camp in Begejci. We spent another month in the village. On Christmas day, 25<sup>th</sup> December 1991, the local people burst into our house: registrar Zdravko Opačić and officer at the military department in Vukovar Milan Ječimović, Milan Bakrač and Trivun's son (from Tovarnik), his father had a shop in the village. They started interrogating and beating us. They told us that we had to move out, and to give our house keys at once. They made my husband go to the police and sign that he was leaving all his property to the (authorities) of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina. I asked them where we were going, and they said that we were going at Tudman's. I answered them: "And why not to Milošević's, he is closer". They answered that we, the Croats, did not belong to Milošević. We spent that night in the corridor of our house, we were not allowed to sleep in our house. The next day they told us that Croats would not be here any more, that it was Serbia, and that "in Great Serbia there is no place for the Croats", that they would chase us to the Adriatic, and that we would have to jump into the sea by ourselves. That was how we were exiled from our house. Then through Šid and Bosnia and



Herzegovina we went to Zagreb, and then we came to Opatija. As far as I know, during the occupation, nobody came to visit us or tried to protect us. I did not see any monitors of the EU nor the International Red Cross. I later heard that my house was sold for 5,000 DM.

With my signature I confirm the authenticity of the statement and that the written matches the statement.

Opatija 26<sup>th</sup> January 1993

The statement was given by: J.V.

The statement was taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

**ANNEX 77:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.S.**

**TESTIMONY – TOVARNIK**

L.S. (... and ...), born on ... in ..., ... Address:  
Tovarnik, Vukovar. Temporary address: Zagreb, ... She is Croat by nationality and housewife by occupation.

I am making the following

**STATEMENT**

At the end of September 1991, Tovarnik was attacked by members of the so-called JNA and by Chetniks. The Serbs from Tovarnik also joined them, and it was they who did the greatest harm to the Croats in Tovarnik. One part of the population of Tovarnik managed to flee to Ilok. Many of us could not flee. My husband I. and I also stayed in Tovarnik. When the soldiers and Chetniks entered Tovarnik, they started killing people and burning down houses. People were hiding in groups in the basements. The Serbs tossed bombs into the basements and fired at the people. The most active were the local serbs. The day the army entered Tovarnik, 22 Croats were killed.

They locked my husband, who is over 80 years of age, in the chicken barn and kept him there for 10 days. Our neighbor, the Croat S.M., had to bury the killed Croats. When he buried them, they killed him, too. They also killed the priest IVAN BURIK.

My brother I.J. worked in Germany for a long time. There he earned his retirement. Local Serbs captured him and his wife R. I am an old woman and I do not know their names, but I know that they were camouflaged. They robbed them. They beat and tortured I. They broke R.'s fingers. Eventually, they killed them. They ordered the Croat, whose second name was ŠIŠIĆ, to bury them. He said that he could not do it, so they killed him, too.

My husband and I stayed in Tovarnik until March 1992. In March, camouflaged persons came. They forced us out of the house. Together with other Croats, they forced us into the bus. They brought us to Lipovac. There we crossed the border to the Croatian territory. From there we were brought to Zagreb, and later to Ploče. In April, my husband died. As my children lived in Zagreb, I went to Zagreb.

In Zagreb 26 December 1995

Statement was given by: L.S.

**ANNEX 78:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.M.**

D.M., ..., born on ... in Tovarnik, Croatia; address ...; temporary address in ...; profession is ..., married, Croat by nationality.

I make the following

STATEMENT

I saw a corpse in a curve between Tovarnik and Ilača, near the local grave. It was on 2 September 1991. I saw by his hands that it was a young man, and I saw that he was tall. He had black boots on, jeans and a blouse over his shirt. The corpse was not yet decomposing. His head had a black color. There were no injuries on his body, so he probably was hit by shell shrapnel to his head.

We had to do everything the others refused to do. We had to take out the turnips. They told us that there were no mines. We, the Croats, had to go first. They had their weapons while we were working. We had nothing. They paid us. We got 15-16 millions, and later 10 millions. We received our first payment on 10 September 1991. It was a very bad payment, and later it was even worse.

Among the Serbs, I recognized Branislav Janković. He had a cockade and a great fur cap on. The worst among them was Stanimirović, Radoslav's brother. He had a black hat and a cockade on it. He killed Ante Markanović. He beat the people in the prison. Srdić was also with them. He had a camouflage uniform on, and no cap on his head.

When we came to Tovarnik, the first 15 days we had to report to the police in front of the Local Committee every day. Then we were assigned work. We reported every morning at 8.00. Then we went with one Chetnik to work. He stood there, while we were working. I went to the bakery, where the Macedonian had previously been. I did cleaning work there. My brother, M.H., the old S. (he is in Malinska) and B.H. were with me. B.H. was assigned to bake bread when the cleaning work was finished. We cleaned the bakery all together. One day, Burik came. He was killed around 9 October 1991. We did not see him for the next few days-that means that it was around 7 October 1991. He shook hands with us and chatted for a while, and then he went to the Chetniks to their office. Everybody was on good terms with him. The office of the Military Command was in the Local Committee. I saw him when he entered and when he came out. His car was in front of his house. I did not see him after that. People were saying that he was killed. I passed by his house, by the church, and I saw that his car was still there, but I did not see him anymore. People were saying that master Miša and Tuna Marić had buried him. They took him out of the basement and buried him. We found out that the Chetniks from Dušan Silni's unit, which was situated in Ivan Drmić's house, had killed him. Drmić's house was third in the row; first was Mile's house, the second was Zvonko's house. On Drmić's house there was an inscription in Cyrillic letters. Those Chetniks were there all the time; others were constantly arriving. They kept watch all the time. I walked the street near the house.

In February, we harvested corn near the chapel and the churchyard. The chapel was still intact. Beside the church, on the side, in the direction of Ilača, under freshly dug ground, a piece of foil could be seen. Behind the churchyard, behind the chapel, two corpses were buried. I only saw that, but what was around it, I could not see.

Mile Ergić, Trifun and Trifun's son were responsible for burning. I saw smoke when the house were burned down, as for instance, Žuti's house, Stipe Mijoković's house. Marko Matijašević's house was also burned down (it is the house next to Stipe's house). It was

burned from the inside, only the roof was still intact. Porola's house was also set on fire, but it was only slightly damaged. We also found out that Jozo Rajić's house was set on fire. When we were taking out the turnips we saw smoke coming up from above the houses on the other side of the railroad line.

We took out the turnips in November 1991.

The Supreme Commander for the defence of the village was Ranko Miličević until March 1992, the time I was there. He wore a camouflage uniform, but I did not see whether he had a sign on his cap. Kika and Zoran Sraja picked us up. They came with two cars and told us that we had to leave. They took us to ŠID with two cars. They took my wife, my brother, my mother and me. He stayed there. He said: "If this is to be Serbia, no Croat will live here."

Aca Trifunović was the first president of the Local Committee. Later, it was Sreto Pokrajac. He is of the same age as me (born in 1957). He worked in the "PIK". Aca was president for a longer period, Sreto only for 2 months. He was replaced by Jovica Medić, because Sreto decided to banish all Croats from the village. Then Jovica assumed the office, because Sreto had resigned. Jovica realized the decision made by Sreto.

Miroslav Pekić (son of Đoko) was killed in Vukovar. He was buried in Tovarnik. Also killed were: Mira Bačić, Vladimir Hardi, Vija Maljković... When all was over, everybody was boasting that they had fought, but nobody knows whether they really took part in the battles. In ŠID, the main celebration took part. It was a true firework.

Bogdan S... (born in 1947) was also killed or died when they were going to Tovarnik. His house was completely smashed. They said that Šinko junior was killed in an accident and that he was buried in Vukovar.

In Njivice, 28 August 1993

Statement was given by: Đ.M.

**ANNEX 79:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.P.**

M.P., son of ..., 19 years old, born in ... – ..., occupation: a worker, residence in ...; gives the following:

TESTIMONY

“ In June of 1991, I was instructed to serve military service in the then Yugoslav People’s Army. When I was called up to serve the army in June, I was instructed to Kraljevo (ILLEGIBLE WORD) 8977 – it was the branch of the mechanised infantry. I attended military training for about 2 months and during that time we were on the ground towards the Hungarian frontier. As I heard, we were about 15 km distance from the Hungarian frontier. My commander was a deputy-lieutenant Slavko Stipanović . It was ordered, from that artillery range, that the army had to embark a train. It was rumoured that we were going towards Belgrade, in other words towards ŠID. I remember well that we travelled all day (ILLEGIBLE WORD). When we arrived, I undoubtedly recognised the town ŠID, because I used to come to ŠID. We were instructed to go from ŠID to Šidski Banovac where we stayed maybe for two hours. Then it was again ordered that the army had to embark. I know that movement was ordered.

At that point I didn’t know where exactly we were going, but I know that there were armoured personnel carriers, tanks and trucks in the convoy. I was in one armoured personnel carrier and, from where I was sitting, I didn’t have a good view of what was going on outside. I knew that we were standing in one place and while we were standing there, an order was given and then the shooting from howitzers and tanks began. After that, we had to set off by personnel carriers. After that, I know that we came to the town Tovarnik.

I saw that name on a table and by that I knew where I was. In the town Tovarnik we stopped in the centre of the town. I know that there was a building of the Municipality, I know that there was a Catholic church and some buildings. According to my judgement, the artillery fire lasted for four hours. After that dusk fell, so we had to lie down in ditches beside a road. We spent the night there. The next morning, they chased us out from armoured personnel carriers and we, as the infantry, had to walk in front of personnel carriers. And so we entered the town Tovarnik. We walked through that town using different streets and it was shooting on that occasion, but I didn’t see anybody (ILLEGIBLE WORDS). There were a lot of soldiers, reservists, there and there were also (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) people wearing Chetnik uniforms. (ILLEGIBLE WORD) Bajat was in command of my unit – it was the Kraljevačka Brigade. He was together with Major Brahma. Those two majors were chiefs and they issued every order that had to be issued. I remember well that Major Brahma would line up the army and he took names and surnames of soldiers, because there were a lot of Muslims and Croats in the army. I know that groups of reservists from Kraljevo were separately formed. Those reservists would sometimes threaten that Muslims and Croats had to be killed.

Officers didn’t directly threaten us (ILLEGIBLE WORDS).

I was in Tovarnik for three days and a lot of horrible events were imprinted on my memory, although I try to forget them. I also remember isolated individuals who particularly stood out in the killings of civilians – I know that they laughed and ridiculed people and they killed them. I remember a reservist, whose surname was Uskoković, and his group that particularly stood out in the killing of people – they massacred civilians using knives. I also remember a man by the name of Vlado. He had distinctively long hair. He was also a

reservist and he carried a big knife. I remembered them because I saw them, with my own eyes, pulling through Tovarnik, maltreating and battering one man wearing a police uniform. I saw them battering him with rifles. I witnessed when they set his car and his house on fire. They killed that man on that day in front of a church. He was killed when he was stabbed with a knife in the chest. I don't know the man who did that, but he was in the group around Vlado and the deputy-lieutenant Korač. I remember that they also killed two brothers in that place. I also noticed a captain by the name of Žika. I remembered him by a rape of two 15 years old girls. I saw him killing both of them, together with their grandmother, in the yard of a house. I know that he was a reservist and that he was a captain by rank.

I also remember well Major Bajat and Major Brahma, because Major Bajat gave all orders regarding activities and Major Brahma transmitted all of them. He transmitted orders to deputy-lieutenants Aleksić and Korač and to Captain Žika.

I remember well the order of Major Bajat that every civilian had to be killed and that nobody should bring anybody to him. I saw when 10 people were executed by a firing squad in front of the building of the Municipality. A group of reservists killed them, but I don't know any specific information about them. I know that they were members of Vlado's group. I witnessed all of those events that occurred in the town of Tovarnik. I also noticed one man by the name of Dule. I know that he was wearing a Chetnik uniform and I recognised that he was a local man because he pointed out which houses should and which houses shouldn't, be set on fire or demolished. I also saw reservists robbing and taking out things from those houses that they demolished afterwards. They loaded those things onto trucks.

There were different items from the household there.

During those days, I also saw situations when reservists threw bombs in shelters, that is in the basements of particular houses, and then, they would fire automatic weapons.

There were, in Tovarnik, corpses lying on a road and in yards. The burial of the dead wasn't allowed. I'll never forget the number of dead people – 48. I counted so many dead women, children and older men. I saw that killing with my own eyes.

From stories of other soldiers I could conclude that about 80 people were killed there. I managed to see my deputy-lieutenant Slavko Stipanović and I saw that it was hard for him, that he was sad. Neither could he explain to me what was going on and what we were doing.

After those three days in Tovarnik, we were ordered to move. We embarked on personnel carriers and we headed to the town of Petrovci. I remember that near the town of Petrovci there was some kind of a combat that lasted about 2 hours. Then one detail regarding a separation of people imprinted on my memory. I know that someone said that those people were Ruthenians. I remember well that Major Bajat ordered the separation of those people. I don't know what happened to those people. I didn't see if there was any civilian killed in Petrovci. I remember when we passed through the town of Ilok. On passing through, I noticed several dead bodies on the road and around the road. We didn't stay long in Ilok. We set off from Petrovci to Nuštar, but I didn't get to Nuštar because I was wounded somewhere (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) close to Mirkovci. I regained my consciousness and I found out that I was in Sremska Mitrovica. Some doctors were saying to me that my bandages were renewed in Osijek, but I don't remember that.

During the stay in Sremska Mitrovica, my deputy-lieutenant Slavko Stipanović paid me a visit. Then we made a final decision to run away from the army. He organised a watch and 10 of us went on sentry duty. On October 24<sup>th</sup> 1991, we left Sremska Mitrovica and we went towards Bjeljina by tractor. Trucks that headed towards Bjeljina transported, in fact, those tractors. On the bridge in Bjeljina, fire was opened at us and, on that occasion, 3 young men died. I managed to go into the town of Bjeljina and I found there one acquaintance. Then I managed to find transportation to my house. I came to my house on October 26<sup>th</sup> 1991. My neighbours and my friends hid me for some time. After that, I managed to get across to Slovenia.

I came round from Slovenia to Zagreb later on. My brother was there. Now I am situated on the territory of Rijeka and I work there.

Those events, in the very town of Tovarnik, powerfully imprinted on my memory. I remember exactly those details that I have mentioned. I also recall to my mind one event when one older woman was killed. Reservists demanded of that woman to make them coffee and, when they drank it, one from that group of reservists simply cut her up with a machine-gun burst.

I know that those were men around deputy-lieutenant Korač and Aleksić, Vlado Uskoković and a man by the name of Drago who stood out and who headed those reservists. I heard that deputy-lieutenant Korač told that old woman to make coffee and that he is the one (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) who killed with a machine-gun burst later on. He was laughing and he said that coffee was (ILLEGIBLE WORDS).

I remember well that captain Žika who raped those two little girls and who killed them together with one old woman later on. I learned later that she was their grandmother.

All of that took place in their house. He killed them in the yard in front of the house.

I am sure that he was a captain by rank.

I also witnessed the execution of 10 civilians by a firing squad in front of that building in the centre of Tovarnik.

The Catholic church was demolished by order of Major Bajat. I know that that Đule said that machine-gunners and sniper-shooters were there, but at that time nobody shot at us. They demolished the tower and the church firing tank guns. They also shelled the church.

I remember one detail – before our departure towards ŠID, we received injections. I received 3 injections. Later on, we got cigarettes to smoke. I have never smoked them and I didn't see them. I had a feeling that those cigarettes asked to be smoked again and again. For three days in the town of Tovarnik the army, reservists and people with Chetnik emblems robbed houses and then they demolished them and set them on fire. I saw when some members of those reservists killed people not with firearms but they slaughtered them. There were also women, children and older men. Nobody was spared. I am positive about those 48 people because I counted those dead people and I saw those scenes when they were killed.

I stated all of those names with a great amount of certainty, because those officers were officers in Kraljevo. I remembered those persons that led reservists because they were always leading those groups and I also heard when they called each other by their names. I remembered those names very well. The commander of a unit was Major Bajat. Major Brahma transmitted his orders. Deputy-lieutenants were Korač and Aleksić and there was also my deputy-lieutenant Slavko Stipanović. As to a man whose surname is Uskoković, I

don't know whether he had a rank or not. I also don't remember if that Vlado and Drago had a rank. I am sure that Žika was a captain by rank.

As for that detail of the event that took place in the town of Petrovci (ILLEGIBLE WORDS). I cannot estimate how many (ILLEGIBLE WORDS), but I know that major (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) and that there it came to the separation of some people and that they said that people in that group were Ruthenians.

I saw that incident that took place near a football field. We, soldiers, had to stand beside our armoured personnel carriers.

Zoran Bulatović and Saša Marković are reservists. I remembered their names because they were in the company of (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) and Vlado. I remembered their names and surnames.

I didn't see if those two were participating in the liquidation of civilians. I know that they organised the army on positions when it was necessary.

I remember well the man by the name of Dule. It was the second day of our stay in Tovarnik and I know that he (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) Serbian and Croatian houses. I know that he also pointed out (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) were hiding. He was present during the killing (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) I noticed him by Chetnik emblems. He had (ILLEGIBLE WORDS), but I know that he was about 40 years old, (ILLEGIBLE WORDS). I know that he had the Serb military cap with a cockade on it and he was (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) uniform.

I really can not say that those two majors (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) liquidate someone, but all orders (ILLEGIBLE WORDS) Major Bajat and his orders were further transmitted (ILLEGIBLE WORDS):

I don't have anything else to state. “

(ILLEGIBLE SENTENCE)

Finished at 1 p.m.

Statement was given by: M.P.

**ANNEX 80:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.G.**

Name, father's name: M., ...

Surname: G.

Address: ...

Born: ., in Tovarnik

Nationality: Croat

Citizenship: Croatian

Profession: housewife

Marital Status: married

Education:

I am giving the following:

STATEMENT

Someone knocked against the window. Danica was in the basement. She asked who it was. One of them said: "Aunt, open the door quickly, there are a lot of us here"! There was one Serb, a certain Steva, and Pekić whose son was killed as a Chetnik in Vukovar. They stayed in the basement only shortly and then left. They did not have any weapons and they were hiding. We looked terrible for we could not take a bath nor did we eat properly. It was Sunday (22 September 1991) when they came to us. On Monday it was very calm in the village. We were driven out on Thursday on 24 September 1991. I said that we would go home as well. We went along the same street. Marija Letičev's house was on fire, the "PIK" was on fire, and it was very quiet. Grandpa T. P. did not want to go, B.

S.went home. J.M., S. M., S. D., and I ran over. I

went first and they followed me one by one so we did not have to go all together. We were told to go two by two. We got into Jagoda's garden. Đuka was lying there, and when he saw us he jumped and said: "O, you are still alive". Then, he began to cry and said: "M., you see, we have nothing left, they have destroyed everything, they destroyed my tractor. They tossed a bomb into the room. Everything burned down and what did not burn they demolished": We heard someone coming. They searched the houses looking for the people while we were in the basement. Later, we went home to see what was happening there. As soon as we came out they opened fire on us. We immediately returned to the basement. Martin Guljačević stayed out; he refused to go back into the basement. When we wanted to rest a little bit, Pavka and Tuna Popović came because they were afraid to be alone. It was not even half an hour later when we heard firing near Zlatko's house. Three of them went from house to house asking: "Is there someone?" I said: "Yes, Yes, grandma and Grandpa are here". He said: "Get out"! I pretended to be cheerful while I was in fact very scared. He shouted again "Get out, two by two, get out". They lined us up in front of Zlatko's house and asked us what we were, if we were Croats. Dankić was with us. They asked where were our sons. When we said that we did not have one they yelled at us how so. Afterward, they asked if we knew that all Croats should be killed and everything Croatian destroyed. They asked for whom we voted, that Tuđman...So they kept yelling and saying a lot of things. Three tanks were moving along the street and set the houses on fire that had not been leveled with the ground. We went two by two and got to our house. One of them asked, "Who does this house belong to?" I said: "It is mine". J. said, "The house over there is mine". And then he asked me: "And this one?" I said, "It is my neighbor Zlatko's house". When we reached Guljačević's house they lined us up and we thought they were going to shoot us, but they shot at the dog. They kept torturing us; they ordered us to lie down and they shot over our heads. J. started crying and asked why they were



doing that to us. They said that we ought to know what our sons did to them. Then, they lined us one by one and took us across the street to the "PIK". The "PIK" was on fire. When we got on the bridge near "Zec" (near the "PIK"), they ordered us to stop. They ordered us to lie down. We could hear only cursing and firing. One who tortured us the most began to yell and curse at the other one who was firing at that moment to stop. That other one fired a shot and cut his arm off. He started screaming "My arm, my arm"! I lifted my head a little bit to see what was happening and one of them said: "Lay down". I was too scared to do anything else. We were laying down and heard they were bandaging the one who lost his arm. Later, they took him somewhere and when they came back they lit cigarettes. They told us that we could sit down. After that, they did not speak with us. They were worried about the one without the arm. The bearded men came carrying knives in their hands. I said to J. quietly so mother could not hear: "They are going to slaughter us now". She said, "I see that". Later my mother told me: "I heard you saying that". They asked, "Why are they laying down"? They approached us and asked, "Why are you laying here". We answered nothing and he repeated, "Why are you laying here"? Then, J. said, "What can I say when they are going to slaughter us", but she said any way, "You see, the army is taking us for execution". They told her, "What execution, get up and go home. Go home and hide in the basements." Since we thought they were joking with us we stood up and did not move. When he saw that he said, "What did I tell you, go home". We did but first we helped grandma P. to stand up. I told them, "You see, just lower your head and you will see the tank over there, it will kill us now. If we manage to pass and hide in the basement, do not turn" They said, "All right". From Lijašev's house we saw three soldiers walking cheerfully and shooting in the air. When we got into the garden, they started shooting and yelling, "You Ustashas, where are you going. Get out". They lined us up again and asked us to tell them where were our sons or they would kill us. They told Đankić, "Go in there, you old one". His wife started crying after him. They opened the door and took him into Zlatko's house. One stayed outside watching us. That man came close to us and said, "Do not worry, we will do you no harm". Then we realized they were scaring us. I told him, "Why do not you tell that to the angry one". At that moment those men stepped out of the house. The angry one came to us and started interrogating us. I asked him, "Where are you from, young man"? He answered, "I am from Požarevac". I asked him again, "Do you have parents in Požarevac"?, "Yes, I have". I asked again, "How would your parents feel if someone maltreated them the way you do us? Why are you maltreating us? We said nothing and we did no harm to anyone. Is that only because we are Croats"? And he said, "We were ordered to kill you all." I said, "To kill someone is not just like that." Later, he told me, "We will take you with us and let the people judge you". I said, "What people? Bring here our Serbs so let them tell you in front of us, let them tell you whether we are guilty or not". I do not know what J. told him, but when he came back he said, "Do not be scared, we will do you no harm. Pack your things and I will come to get you. You will go to Šid any way, so the people can judge you". I told him, "What people"? He said, "Get ready before I come back.. If you do not respond I will toss a bomb into the basement." When he left we went into the basement. J. told me that she was going to feed her pigs and cow. I told her, "OK, I am going to see if my husband is still alive". "What, you think they have killed him"? I did not know how to get there for they were shooting around Cokan's garden. I managed any way to get there to see if he was alive and to tell him that we were going to Šid. It was before dark, they took us the following morning. Grandpa T. and Grandma P.P. said that they were going to Garina T.'s place. I went to the garden and could not find them there. I just said, "Hey", for I could not call them by their names. Near Marin's house I saw something moving in the weeds. As I approached then they said: "You are still alive. We heard them shouting, we

thought they had killed you.” I told them: “Come out, we will all go together to Šid”. I told them to pack some things but my husband refused saying that they would kill him any way. They told me: “If you see our Zatica and Zlatko give them our love. I did not know our Zlatko was such a hero. No one would do the things he did. They came to the village while the Chetniks were still there”. Later, my mother came and said: “Go and take something I will take for myself”. When we entered the house everything was upside down, they shot at everything. I could not find anything undamaged so I took only a towel. When I turned around I saw a chocolate. I took it and also two photographs of my grandchildren. We had a window facing Marin’s room and through that window I saw Đuka standing by the window. She said: “Goodbye M., give my love to all my folks, they will kill me.” I went to the basement so they would not toss a bomb as they threatened. My mother, D., his wife, and I went back there. J. was not there. They were firing all the night. They probably wanted to burn Guljačev’s house but they burned Bursač’s house. We were afraid to go out of the basement. We lit a candle only when we needed something. We heard them walking around our houses and firing. Because it was raining heavily, Đuka and Martin were completely soaked when they came to the basement. It was Tuesday (24 September 1991) when they removed the tank from the village so it was quiet for a while. Later, Đankić, his wife, my mother, Martin, and I set to talk things over. Marin suggested that we should escape. I begged him: “Please, do not say that, they will kill us if they hear about it.” They knew how many of us were in the basement. I said afterward: “I am going to prepare peppers we have to eat something, who knows where they are taking us and what they will do to us. Eat something.” When we had to water the cattle I had to give soup to the cow and milk to the pigs. We could not take water from Zlatko’s house, and our water stock was depleted long ago. When we came into the shed we saw a gun. We swore to the Serbs that we did not have one, and if they had seen this one they would have killed us all. I wondered how they missed seeing it. He suggested that we throw it in the hay, but I said: “Please, not in the hay, throw it into the well.” I put it under my apron, went to the well, and threw it inside. I had to hide it under my apron for they were walking around. As soon as we ate the meal we heard someone coming. Đankić said to me: “Go, quickly, they will toss a bomb.” I went and Đuka sat in one corner. He had a wallet with the Croatian national arms so he cut it off. I told him: “What will you do with that? They will see that you have cut something off. Throw it away and put the money into a pocket.” He said: “Take this money, they will kill me any way.” I could not take it, so I told him: “No, You still might need it”. He said: “I won’t need it for they will kill me.” He kept saying that. Later, we could hear the sound of footsteps again. A voice asked: “Is there someone?” I answered: “Yes, yes.” I said that gently as we had liked them. He said: “Who are you, get out?” I said: “I am the owner of my house.” Later, around 20 of them came and entered my house. They surrounded the basement and took us out one by one. I heard a tractor; it was Marin Malačević coming. Đura and Mika Matovina were already on the tractor. They transported those who could not walk. J., Stana, Ivanka Tunina, were standing in the line near J.’s house. They told us: “Turn around with your hands up”. We were all searched and I thought it was the end. Mika Matanović came and said: “Do not shoot”, and he said: “Go out, one by one!” They lined us up again near Đankić’s house. They were looking for the weapons for they said if they found any they would kill us. Then, Đuro asked him: “Mika, can M. go back to take her bag?” He said: “Yes, she can”. I saw Milutin Stanimirović’s son and asked him: “Can I go into my house to take my bag?” I took the fleece-lined coat, and ran out. One of the Chetniks asked: “Where is your bag?” I said: “O, I forgot it, I have left it in the basement.” I ran to the basement, and two of them had turned everything upside down “Here it is, take it” and threw me the bag. Then, they put us on the trailer and opened fire on Zlatko’s house. They shot at windows, basement...I started crying and

thinking: "Poor, Zlatko, if you could only see what they are doing to your house." Đukica Dominković, his brother, Pavo Hapčak, Tomislav Parlaga wore a white ribbon. As we were traveling we saw destroyed houses, dead cattle... Later, one man stopped the tractor and said: "We have some dead here, shall we put them on the trailer?" I was thinking where would they put them when there were already so many of us. Another one came afterward and said: "They have collected the bodies." When we came to Jokić's house (owned by Aca Trifunović) we turned toward Šid. When we reached the bridge I thought they would hand us over to them now. Later, one man came out from Ljubica Stanimirović's house, and his eyes were glowing. He had a knife in his hand. He said: "You have come you Ustashas, I will suck your blood with this. I will slaughter you with this knife." Later, they took Ljuba Budim out of her house. She was beaten. After her they took out Milo Cvetić, a Serb. When he brought them, he said: "Go, the Serbs in front, and the Croats from behind". When she sat on one side and Đankić sat by her side, Đankić was beaten for that. Afterward, Đankić was ordered to sing Serbian songs. Our driver was Marin Lovrić. They forced Stipo Tomas out, and he was heavily beaten too. Then he ordered Pavle Hapičak, Đukica, Tunica Dominković, and Tomislav Parlaga to step down. He said to Marin: "You as well, step down". As they stepped down, they began slapping their faces. Duja (Telet's son-in-law) was hanging around. When they slapped Marin's face, they began beating him with their legs. Later, one of them took a knife and beat him with the handle. When he came to the trailer, he beat the people inside. He cursed at us: "Fuck your Ustashas' mothers. Who did you vote for? Where is your Tuđman now to help you? I will suck your blood now". And then he said: "Get into the car!" He and another one went with us to Šid. When Martin had to turn the car one of them said: "Easy, we will tumble down", another one answered: "Let them, it is Croatian scum any way". The traffic was very busy, so Marin turned from the street. As he did it, one of them said: "What are you doing, go back", which Marin did so we continued toward Šid. When we came to Vrbara, he signaled Marin to turn and pull down. We stopped, he came out and said: "See this knife. I will slaughter your now three by three." He brought a flag, spread it and said: "Now, three by three come here, kiss this flag, and then I will slaughter you." We did not move and then he said: "Do you hear me?" Then he dropped the flag. We saw the army beating some people far from us. Another one came and said: "You know what, do not kill them here. When we come closer to Šid, then you can do it". He just said: "OK, then, get in." He beat the people, and as he hit Đuka, he said: "Why did you raise your three fingers?" When Đuka said: "I did not", he slapped him so hard he bled. He pulled Tomas's ears. Poor Tomas just said: "I am innocent". He pulled him so hard that blood came out of his mouth. He again started to beat us one by one. We stopped the third time. When he came out he said: "Come on, you are the first one". Marin Lovrić stepped down, and after him Hapčak and the rest. He said: "You two, go to the field." He took them there and killed them. I heard firing and when I turned I saw one of them falling down. When he came back, he approached us and said: "I will slaughter you with this knife. Two of you will stay to collect the scum so it does not make a stench." The two were Đukica and Tunica Dominković. Then, the other one said: "You do not have to do that, send them away, and when they go, I will toss a bomb". They looked for a person who would drive the tractor, because they had killed Marin. Since, no one responded they decided that it would be Tunica. Tunica drove us to Šid. When we came to Šid, we got to the market place. There, we saw the tanks, army, and inhabitants of Tovarnik and Šid. They waited for every car cursing, especially Anka from Cigana. I saw Ranko Zulibar there. J. told him: "Dear Ranko, can't you tell one good word for us. You always came to our houses. Đuka was always your good friend". He said to her: "I went to say a word for you, and I will go again". Ranko had a son, and the house near Beličev's house. Those who surrounded us cursed and spit at us. They kept saying: "Call for your Tuđman..." Later,

they took us to the police station and beat people. The one with the knife if he took a little bit of plum-brandy he beat stronger. Later, the women of Tovarnik and Šid came. Two of them approached me and said: "This one has to be killed, she is the leader of Ustashas." They threw rocks at us as we were passing by. When J. turned one of them told her: "O, how badly I would like to kill those with their hands up only if they are not in the center." J. M. responded: "What are you waiting for, shoot". J. was taken to Mitrovica so we did not know what happened to her for ten days. L.B. and another woman were also taken. As they approached me, they said: "Let us see if you have a bomb in your bag". Since, the ground was filthy I asked him not to drop it down for the photographs of my grandchildren were in the bag. He said: "What grandchildren, you do not need anything. You will be killed now". Later, they brought some female Serbs and asked: "Do you know this woman?" They said: "We have never seen her". One of them said: "Pack your things" and they took us to the Red Cross. D.P. approached Ivanka and she kissed her, and later my mother and me. A woman from the Red Cross asked her: "What are you doing, kissing the Ustashas. What are you?" She said: "I am a Serb". "What are they" "They are Croats". She said: "Do not kiss with the Ustashas." D. said: "They are my good neighbors. They are very good. They saved me, they gave me a shelter when there was firing." Then, the woman from the Red Cross said: "Then, go inside and tell them that." Đ. went in there and told them so. When we came in, they listed our names and said: "Since it is night falling, we cannot let you go out. You might get hurt." It was Tuesday and they said that they would let us go the following morning. They kept us the whole following day and let us go on the Wednesday night. They told us that they would give us lodgings for the night with food and that we had to make lists of where each of us would go. They wrote: Gibarac, Vašica, Šid... When I wrote down where I wanted to go, they said: "Why would you go there?" I said that I had a daughter there. When we were going out, we saw our people beaten and put in front of a wall. Pejo died. When we got off the vehicle we told them that he could not take anymore. They said: "How come he can't?" They took him down from the vehicle and let him fall to the ground. When they took him up, he was almost dead. We were standing there when 11 people from Mirkovci arrived. They told them to sing the Croatian folk song "Vezak vezla" and to squat, with their hands above their heads. When he let them alone, he came to us and said: "You are lucky that you went to Šid. If they had taken you to Mirkovci, and I am from Mirkovci, they would have cut you into pieces." He told it to all of us. J.M. stood on the other side, J.'s mother next to me. Tomislav Parlaga stood on the other side. Čika Đuka did not betray Ružica Glavašić. J. told me later: "Mama, what did you write on the list?" When I told her: "We will go to Gibarac", she said to me: "Fine, I will go to Gibarac, too". One guardsman said: "Shut up!" She simply said to him: "I do not want to shut up, I have to talk to my mother". He took a nightstick. Stana said: "Please don't beat her, she is gabby. Let her go!" J. told her: "Why should I shut up?" Stana told her to stop talking. When we all gathered, J. told me: "Mama, give me the sheepskin coat, I'm cold". When I thought that everything was over, they called: "Marica Grgić, come in for questioning!" I thought, why the questioning now. I took my mother with me, and also the old Stana Mijokova, in order not to lose them. Later, they took us to the railway station in Šid, where a sports center was situated. There they asked me about my children.

In Zagreb, 1 June 1993

Statement was given by: M.G.

**ANNEX 81:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.H.\***

B.H.

I was born in ... I am married and I have .... My wife and two sons are in Tovarnik. I have a third child with my second wife. I am a soldier. Till 1989 I was an active Lieutenant in the JNA and I have been a member of the Croatian Army since its beginning. I am a Captain in "The tenth Homeland Regiment".

During the war I was in Tovarnik where I was one of the organizers of the defence. When Tovarnik was occupied I was taken to the camp Begejci where I stayed for 103 days, until December 28, 1991. After that I joined "124 Brigade" as a deputy of the Commander of "II Battalion". When "the tenth Homeland Regiment" was established, lots of soldiers from "124 Brigade" transferred to "the tenth Homeland Regiment".

I was a victim and a witness of war crimes against civilians and soldiers in Tovarnik, the camp Begejci and some other places. I have already given data about those events in some other places: MUP (Ministry of Interior), MORH (Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia) and to Mr. Davor Runtić who collects information about the war in Croatia and writes books.

I will not talk again about what I have already said there, but I will talk about the following:

1. Chronology of the events in Tovarnik
2. War crimes in Tovarnik:
  - a. mass killing of civilians and soldiers
  - b. torturing
  - c. robbing and so on
    - and I will specially talk about the sexual torturing of men:
    - group castrations
3. The camp in Begejci.

I lived in Tovarnik, now I live in Begejci. I give the following:

**TESTIMONY**

**1. CHRONOLOGY OF THE EVENTS IN TOVARNIK**

Preparations for the defence of the village started after the events in Borovo Selo. On May 2, 1991 when Marinko Petrušić from our village had been killed and Stjepan Jurić who works now in MUP had been wounded.

We had points on all exits from the village, on all four sides. I was on the point towards ŠID. At harvest time, tractors carrying grain were passing from Croatia to ŠID. The Serbs were taking grain to Serbia. Military personal carriers of the JNA were escorting them and there were also the personal cars of Serbs who were taking their families to Serbia. Most of the Serbs who were coming from Croatia to Serbia had pistols. They could pass, but the MUP controlled them. The railway on the boarder with Serbia was mined, because we were afraid that they could send a wagon with explosives to the village and activate it there. The first shell fell on September 20, 1991 in the morning, at 8 a. m. And we activated the mines. Until September 10, 1991 we allowed JNA tanks to pass through the village, that was the order we had from Vinkovci.

Between September 10 and 20, 1991 a major of the JNA came to the village four times to negotiate and every time he was escorted by four soldiers. He negotiated with the Commander of the police, Vlado Blažević who still works in MUP. When the village was attacked, the Major surrendered, together with four soldiers, tank and military personal carrier. That tank was given to the defence of Ilok later and Croatian soldiers took the major and the soldiers to Vinkovci.

On September 19 or 20, 1991, we received the command of Minister Marijan Zovko to attack a tank convoy and that we would get reinforcements.

On September 20, 1991, at 7 a. m., the largest convoy of tanks that had ever set off to Croatia from Serbia arrived at our village (we have information that there were at least 200 tanks). One major came out of the first tank and he was killed by members of the Defence of Tovarnik. Then the attack on the village started.

They attacked the north part of Tovarnik as you look from ŠID, an old brick factory and they wanted to attack Zagrebačka street.

Four tanks came to about 80 paces from our trenches, but we did not attack them, so they left. After 5 minutes, the infantry of the JNA, in bullet-proof uniforms and helmets started towards us, they were completely prepared for war activity. We let them near and started to fire. I found out later (through a reporter of CNN and documentation from Zagreb) that about 250 of them were killed. We retreated through trenches to our reserve positions. The JNA attacked our first trench and destroyed it, it was like hell, but not one of our men was even hurt. About 60 men were defending that position. 30 of them were inhabitants of the village, and 30 had come from Đeletovci, those were Croatian soldiers who were in charge of the security of the oil resources there. Their Commander was Meho from Međugorje. I was the Commander of the position.

I was expecting an attack on the other position, from the direction of the Serbian village Ilinci, so I transferred one part of my men there. Later, after about 5 hours (at 1 p. m.) the attack started. They destroyed the railway station and almost all the buildings around it. They bombed the mechanical workshop pf "Vupik" and the rocket station of Defence and the main building of Vupik was hit, it burned down completely.

One armed personnel carrier of the JNA from that convoy escaped to Belgrade, directly in front of the Assembly of the SFRY. The soldiers panicked during the attack on Tovarnik.

The occupation of Tovarnik was in two phases:

1. The first phase was on September 22 and 23, 1991 when the aggressor occupied so called Upper Tovarnik where most inhabitants were Serbs. That part is from the centre towards ŠID.

Then they stopped for 5-6 days, probably because they were scared, only reconnoitres and saboteurs would come to Lower Tovarnik (towards Vinkovci). During that time (the first phase) the inhabitants were evacuated to Ilača, Vinkovci, Lovas and Ilok, so there was almost no one left in Lower Tovarnik.

2. The second phase was at night from September 27 to 28, 1991, or one day before, I am not sure when exactly they occupied the village. There was no organized resistance.

Since the beginning of the attack on the village the aggressor had been taking civilians to ŠID. Those were mostly older people, women and children. In ŠID were commissions of local Serbs-extremists that were deciding who would be taken back to the village. Some people were killed at the same spot where the commissions were working. Three men were killed like that: Marin Lovrić Dinda, Matija Hapčak and Krešimir Puljić. They killed Krešimir Puljić only because he was from Hercegovina.

Marin Lovrić was called to go to urinate and Matija Hapčak told them that he knew when he had to go to urinate and asked them why they pressed him to go, so they killed him too. Marin Lovrić was wounded then, he was taken to the hospital in Sremska Mitrovica where he stayed for four months and after that no one knows what happened to him. It turned out that those people who were taken to the Begejci camp were luckier, because all of those who were returned to the village from the collecting centre in ŠID and one small village by Ruma were mostly killed (99%). My neighbour T.S. went to the little village and made a list of people who had to go back to the village and they were met there well at first, but after a few hours they were killed. Those people were:

1. ILIJA ĐAMBO
2. KARLO GRABEŠIĆ
3. TOMO GLIBO
4. FELKA GLIBO
5. IVICA MALOŠEVIĆ
6. ĐURO GRGIĆ-BAJA
7. ĐURO GRGIĆ-ZLATKO
8. TOMISLAV IVKOVIĆ-SUBAŠA
9. FRANJO KUZMIĆ
10. MIRA KUZMIĆ
11. IVAN ĐANKIĆ

All of them were from Tovarnik. Lots of other people were killed those days.

## 2. WAR CRIMES I WITNESSED AND EXPERIENCED

On October 3, 1991 I was taken to the so-called prison into the house of deceased doctor ĐORĐE CVEJIĆ. There was hell. About 10 prisoners were there.

ANTE Markanović was so badly beaten that he died. Three days he was in the room-dead. It smelled more horrible than anything. We couldn't eat, drink or sleep. After three days, the Commander of the police, ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ from Lovas, ordered four of us to bury Anto: Danijel-Danika Marinković, Marko Bošnjak, Mato Curić and I: I am the only one who is still alive, they were all killed. We put the body of Anto on a tractor in front of the police station. We had to get on too and kneel down with our hands on our backs and faces toward the floor. There were four soldiers in the tractor and they had Chetnick marks and weapons. Those soldiers were:

1. BOŠKO MILJKOVIĆ
2. PAVO OPAČAK
3. MILOŠ STANIMIROVIĆ
4. MILE STANIMIROVIĆ

Other four Chetniks were following us in a car:

1. MILORAD VORKAPIĆ from Lovas
2. VESO ARSIĆ from Borovo Selo
3. ZORAN TEPAVAC from Lovas
4. DUŠAN STUPAR from Tovarnik

STEVAN SRDIĆ, son of TRIVUN from Tovarnik was driving the tractor. They took us to a grave-yard and ordered us to dig a grave and a little bigger one. There was a longer trench where our men had been buried, about 15-20 of them. On their graves there were crosses with their names in Latin letters.

When we were getting out of the tractor, I helped wounded Marko Bošnjak to get down and I saw that while we had been driving to the grave yard one Chetnik pulled his left eye out.

All the time when we were digging the grave I was thinking of the way I could run away. All the time I could hear in my head their words that no one had ever come back alive from the grave-yard, because there were "our snipers" who were shooting men down. I knew what that meant.

When we were passing by a corn field I knew that it was my chance. The Chetniks were shooting at crosses and drinking brandy. I jumped and started to run as fast as I could, through the corn field. They shot at me. I felt as if a whole Corps was shooting at me. I ran for about 50 steps and fell. I didn't know if I was wounded. I was vomiting. They continued to shoot for a while and then they stopped. After some time I heard shooting, but not towards the corn field and it was obvious that there were lots of weapons.

I stayed in the field for some time and then I went back and I found the grave with Anto's body in it and Danijel Marinković, Marko Bošnjak and Mato Čurić were laying there dead.

I went to the house of my friend A.G. -T., in the village, where I stayed two days and then another group of Chetniks caught me, took me to a prison and the next day to the camp Begejci. I still owe him two corncocks that I ate during those two days.

Between September 28, 1991 and October 1, 1991 I witnessed in Tovarnik the castrations of:

1. PETAR DABELIĆ\*
2. BERISLAV KUNC\*
3. MLADEN BELOŠEVIĆ\*

They were castrated by Dragica Gorišačanin from Tovarnik. There were the following Chetniks: BOŠKO MILJKOVIĆ, MILOŠ STANIMIROVIĆ and other 5-6 Chetniks I didn't know. Pavao Mijoković and I witnessed it, Pavao Mijoković is in Vinkovci now, as a displaced person in private accommodation.

Petar Dabelić had been returning to the village from the direction of Lovas, he had been caught and imprisoned in the prison I mentioned. M.B. and M.M. were brought for questioning and they confessed they hid the weapons into a well. M. had to climb down into the well and take the weapons out. They imprisoned him only because of that, castrated and killed. He hadn't been included in the defence of the village. His wife and children are in Tovarnik now. M.M. is in Tovarnik. Berislav Kunc had been in prison from before.

On that day they came for all of us that I mentioned as victims and witnesses and took us to a transmitter. They said nothing. It was in the evening, it was still light and good weather. They said nothing.

First they grabbed Petar and pushed him down by the road. He was the weakest. They were all beaten. Four men pushed him down and took his trousers off. She castrated him. We had to watch. I was watching, but I was so scared that I didn't see much. I don't know if she cut off everything or just scrotums. Petar was screaming. The Chetniks were laughing and yelling in pleasure. DRAGICA was laughing too, she was happy with what she was doing. I



felt as if her laughter could be heard in Zagreb too. One of the Chetniks had a wooden stick and he hit Petar a few times across his neck. Petar showed no signs of life any more. Then three Chetniks shot at Petar. The fourth Chetnik took a pistol and shot him in the head.

Then they did the same with other two victims, but I was in shock so I don't remember who was the first. The procedure was the same: they pushed the victims down, took the trousers, castration, screaming, laughing, hitting with wooden stick, shooting with rifle and shot from the pistol in the end. I was standing there with Pavao Mijoković and I thought that they would do the same to me.

After she did the job, DRAGICA turned to the car she had come in and got in and her hands were covered with blood. In the car was the captain in a JNA uniform. The Chetniks were in JNA uniforms with Chetnik marks. The captain had a cap on his head, he was between 45-50 years old. I hadn't seen him before or since. He had brought DRAGICA and took her away. Only two of them were in the car, a red Golf. I am not sure, but I think it was BAJA's car, Baja was a Serb from the village, his mother participated in mass killing and massacring of the Croats in the village, during the second world war.

The Captain could see from the car everything that was going on, he was 15 meters away, or even less. I could see him too, including the marks he had. He got out of the car and opened the door for DRAGICA when she approached him and then he got into the car again. Then we started to load the dead and we put them on the tractor we had come by. One Chetnik helped us: he had no beard, he was about 30-33 years old and he looked the less horrible of all of them.

We took the bodies to the graveyard and we unloaded them by the entrance. We didn't bury them, someone else did it. They took us back to the prison. Pavao Mijoković was in the prison during the day and he slept in his house. Later, when I was in camp, his brother was killed in the village.

On October 3 or 4, 1991 I buried Ivica Adamović, he had worked in the forestry office. He had been killed in front of the bank in Tovarnik. I don't know when he was killed. We buried him in the mass grave in the graveyard. Marin Mijoković and Martin Hapčak and I buried him.

We buried "Seka" Lipavac (Kalajeva) who hadn't been killed, she died from natural causes. Tunica Marić, Marin Hapčak, Ivo Maranović and I buried her. Ivo Maranović was at that time in private accommodation.

The castrated and killed looked horrible: they were covered with blood. As far as I know, DRAGICA GORIJAŠČANIN stayed in Tovarnik. Her name is on the list of war criminals.

### 3. CAMPS

On October 7, 1991 I was captured and imprisoned in the house of doctor CVEJIĆ.

On October 7, 1991 I went to talk to the commander of the police ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ from Lovas. He wanted me to give him data on men who were digging trenches and about the defence. He even made me the offer to join them, which I refused and I didn't give him any data.

On October 8, 1991 I was beaten by a policeman-volunteer from Novi Pazar. I don't know his name, he was blond, about 35 years old, about the same height as me.

On October 8, 1991 ŽELJKO asked me to sign a document written on a type-writer, which I refused. It was at about 10 a. m.

On October 8, 1991 about noon, four military policemen, with marks of JNA took me to ŠID. All the way I was tied, my hands and legs were tied. They were reading the document I had refused to sign. I found out that I was accused of being a sniper.

They didn't beat me during that time. I was brought to the gym of "partizan" in ŠID. There were 40-50 prisoners. I spent less than an hour there and then I was brought to the driving school, by the other group of military police.

When I was getting out of Pinc Gauer they were stabbing me with batons and calling me Ustasha. I was questioned there about 40 minutes by inspector SAVA. He knew Tovarnik very well, he knew all my neighbours. He wanted me to tell him what I had been doing from the election in Croatia to that day. He said that he would ask my neighbours to see if I was telling him the truth. I asked him if I could come with him. He said that I had to stay there. He was gone for about 40 minutes and during that time the military police gave me some brandy and cigarettes. We were talking about many things.

When he came back he said that I had told him the truth and that I could leave if I had a place to stay in ŠID. I said that I had a friend veterinarian. SAVA told me not to go to him because he was a Chetnik. He said that I could sleep in the gym and go to Tovarnik next day.

The same evening, about 9-9.30 p.m., the military police from Begejci called me together with other 10 men. They started to beat us at once. I was telling them that I could go home, that I could already have gone. They were beating and saying: "What house, now you will see the house." They put us in a van, with hands on our backs and head down. They beat us all the way. They were taking us to Sremska Mitrovica, by highway.

We spent three times in Sremska Mitrovica, in mini-bars. Then they put us to a dining room where we stayed one hour.

They then took us to a village between Mitrovica and Ruma. They put us in a hangar. I got the feeling that there were other prisoners, in the hangar below. It was night. We spent a few hours there and then we were taken to Bubanj Potok.

In Bubanj Potok they took only me out of the bus, and the others were taken to the camp Begejci as I found out later.

I was questioned by SAFET BEŠLIJA, sergeant of the military police of the JNA, from Banja Luka. I heard that he is with the "Green berets" now.

They had some information and accused me of making mine fields around Tovarnik and torturing and killing innocent Serbian people. They had lots of information, and photos of members of the defence of Tovarnik. They wanted me to show them the photo of every man whose name they said to me. They beat me a lot for STJEPAN because I didn't know his name, only nick name. The questioning was three times, for about two hours, all together about 6 hours.

Bubanj Potok was the teaching centre of the military police of the JNA. They locked me in a cell there, a solitary cell with floor covered with running cold water, up to the knees. I lay down on a plank, all beaten and tired, but it suddenly fell down and I found myself in the water, completely wet. I got up, and I was standing. My legs were icy cold. Then we were all taken to a room for questioning. SAFET BEŠLIJA questioned me all the time. They tied me on the chair and forced me to eat 4-5 spoons of salt and pepper. I was tied two hours after that. I thought that I didn't have that part of my stomach any more. After that I went to the questioning room again. I was tied and questioned again, and they had lots of different

drinks on the table. SAFET was spilling drinks in front of me and I was thinking what would I do if I was free, run away or take the drink away from him.

On October 10, 1991, in the morning, they gave me us another chance to confess, but I had nothing to confess. They asked me for M.T. I said that we had been friends, but we argued once, not because of the politics. I think that they had someone from Tovarnik there, who gave them the information. I had nothing to confess. I stood by my first testimony. They gave me one slice of bread in the morning and in the evening, and I was transferred to Begejci, about 4 p.m.

There I met men with who I had left at ŠID, and I found out that I had been the only man who stayed in Bubanj Potok, and they had been brought to Begejci on that same night. Those men were:

1. Ž.M. from Nuštar, real soldier, wounded in Vakuf, the member of the 5<sup>th</sup> Guard, now in Vinkovci
2. M.B. from Đeletovci, a professor, works in the Tehnical school in Vinkovci
3. M.K. from Bapska, now a member of the special Military police in Zagreb
4. D.A. from Bapska, ten days before the exchange he arrived and was taken to Bapska where he is now
5. M., I think his name was V., from Bapska where he is now
6. A. from Slakovci, exchanged in Šamac, I have the information that she gave birth, she stayed pregnant in the camp
7. Four men from Petrovci: Z.L. and his two nieces and his brother, they returned to Petrovci where they were killed two days after arrival.

That's the group that had left ŠID with me. There was a group of young men (up to 20 years of age) that were in a privileged position in the camp: they had to clean rooms, make beds, keep the fire going, they would get cigarettes from the guards. Those men were:

1. N.D. from Sinj
2. D.A. from Bapska, arrested near Berak (Cerić)
3. Z.C. from the Vinkovci, Novo selo, arrested in Cerić
4. Ž., arrested in Cerić
5. S.K. from the Vinkovci Novo selo, arrested in Cerić

Mother of Z.C. died because she was told that her son had been killed, which wasn't true.

They were beating us all the time, and tortured us. They even got electrical batons. We all had to write down statements. It was essential to stick to the first statement. If someone said something new in the following statement, he would be questioned all the time. The things that were taken away from us would be given back. Our guards were reservists and active soldiers of the JNA. I remember:

1. The commander of the camp, lieutenant-colonel ĐURO ŽIVANOVIĆ, who was the kindest to us

2. his deputy, captain ĐUKANOVIĆ, we saw very little of him
3. the commander of the military police, sergeant SAFET BEŠLIJA
4. DRAGAN MATIĆ "GROM"- policeman
5. VOJISLAV SRŽIĆ "VOJO", the worst criminal I have ever seen, from Kruševac, little taller than me, brown, little stoop-shouldered, about 30 years old
6. MIRO KALEM from Belgrade
7. BORKO from Belgrade
8. ŽARE from Zadar, Crvene kuce 122
9. "GOSTIVARAC"
10. "MANE", he had been working in the Ministry of the Interior of Croatia

Guards 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 tortured us and maltreated us every day, all prisoners. I found out about the address of ŽARE in Zadar from V.P. from Zadar who was in the barracks in Zadar when it was conquered, he was evacuated to Belgrade and he said there that he was a captain of the JNA, but he was discovered and captured in Begejci. V. is in Croatia now. His brother is in Bjelovar.

They tortured us in every way. The propaganda was very strong. They were telling us that Tuđman didn't need us because we confessed everything, that they would send us all to the first line of fire to get killed, if we would be exchanged. When the weather was good, they didn't let us, but when it was raining we had to go out. We had to sing hymns and different Chetnik songs. Some people were not beaten, but if they had been in the village, they would probably be killed.

When Vukovar was occupied, they concentrated on people from Vukovar who were brought, because they were very angry. It was a little easier for us after that. GOSTIVAREC's brother was killed in Vukovar, and he tortured the prisoners without any mercy. He used to put prisoners with their head in a barbed wire fence and beat them.

Around the camp were two fences of barbed wire, dogs, mined field and guards.

I remember A.P. and K.F. because they were tortured horribly. There were lots of wounded men, like C.T., A.K. from Čakovci who was wounded between Čakovci and Sotin. They were tortured too. And so was A.M. from Tovarnik. Also B.C. from Cakovec was tortured, and he was wounded too. His father was there too. There were also other men, but I didn't talk to them.

There were women too. We didn't see them being raped, but it is possible that they were raped. I remember when they brought:

1. L. from Opatovac
2. S.A.\* from Sotin, her family is from Jakobovac, her parents disappeared in Jakobovac, they were taken to Negoslavci and no further trail was found, she was captured somewhere in Bačka
3. S.M. from Opatovac
4. F.K. from Sotin

5. Ž.K. from Sotin, captured in Bačka, now a member of the 10<sup>th</sup> Homeland-defending regiment

6. B.V. from Sotin, captured in Bačka

7. Ž.M. from Sotin, captured in Bačka

L. worked as a food-server and she was stealing food and gave it to M. The guards found that out and beat her and M. Later they took D. from Vukovar to work as a food-server. She prepared coffee and washed dishes. Not many young and good-looking women were there. L. and D. were pretty good looking. D.'s husband was in the camp too, we were exchanged together. Not many people from Vukovar were exchanged so quickly.

I was in Begejci 10-12 days when they brought two boys from Markušica, they were in bruises. The next day the International Red Cross came. They asked if anyone spoke English. Ž.M. said that he did, and he was translating for them. The International Red Cross checked all of them, and recorded their names, and the prisoners had to take their clothes off, and were examined without the presence of the guards. After the International Red Cross left, the two boys from Markuševci were taken somewhere and no one has seen them since.

When the International Red Cross came again, they wanted to see the two boys, but they were not there, and there wasn't Ž.M. either because the guards had taken him away. He is in Vinkovci now; he has a wife and two children.

Then we saw that there were spies among the prisoners. I remember D.P. "P.", he acted as a professional spy, and he spoke a few languages. He told us that he had been captured in the uniform of the Croatian Army when he had been leaving Ilok on the way to Novi Sad where his mother has been. He wasn't intrusive, he questioned us directly. He was well treated in the camp. No one ever saw him being beaten, and he never complained of anything. Very often he would go somewhere and he would return with cigarettes that he would give to other prisoners.

We had a group of 6-7 men that knew each other well, and we never talked about each other. He was around us all the time. We knew what he wanted. A few days before the exchange he started to say that his mother was trying to find a way to get him out of the camp. About four days before the exchange he came to us, he was very happy and he said that he was going to be released. He said good-bye to some men and left.

Soon after he had left, the guard called my name, and M., B., M., P., K. and took us to the fence, because "P." wanted to say good-bye to us. He was clean, in leather jacket and jeans. I told him then: "You didn't achieve what you were sent for." He looked at me, turned and left. He didn't answer me. Later I heard that he was in other camps too: Aleksinac and Niš. He gave us his mother's telephone number in Novi Sad.

VLADIMIR VESELINOVIĆ from Bačka Palanka was in the camp. He told us that he had initiated a legal process against the firm he had worked for ("Sintelan") and that he joined "Arkanovci", and that he had been in Tenja for 21 days, as an "Arkanovac". Then he had returned to Bačka Palanka and was transferring our people across the river Dunav for 100 DEM. Our people had had propaganda material. He had been caught and accused of being a spy and imprisoned in the camp Begejci. His father was a Serb from Lajkovci, and his mother was from Ilok. He was beaten all the time, as a Serb who betrayed Serbian people.

Together with K., K., M., S. and M. he was transferred to VIZ (Military Investigation Prison) in Belgrade. I was told that he was sentenced for 4 years. He said that it was not good for him to go to Croatia because he would be recognized as an "Arkanovac" and if he returned to Bačka Palanka he would be accused of being a spy. When he had been captured in Bačka Palanka there had been also K.S., an Albanian from Budva. He had broken into a car of a major to sleep in it. It happened on October 1 or 2, 1991; the car was "Renault 18", red. VLADIMIR VESELINOVIĆ had transferred the man across the river Dunav.

Ž.P. from ŠID, ... He married R.F. from Tovarnik. He worked in ŠID and he was captured there. No one believed him. He was suspected of being a spy. He was imprisoned in Tovarnik, and now he is free, he lives in Tovarnik with his wife and children.

M. "B." from Lužac was in the camp. Everyone from Vukovar was so surprised when they saw him there. They were saying that he was bad. He was often called for questioning and he was never beaten.

T.Z. from Vukovar, a Croat from Janjevo. Three brothers. They gave lots of money for weapons for the Croatian Army. He was brought to the camp a night before the exchange. We were together for about 10 minutes. He told me to say hello to his brother if I would see him. One of his brothers was killed, and one is in Zagreb. He told me that one of his scrotums was taken out. He was sentenced to death later, together with M. S. He was exchanged on August 14, 1992 in Nemetin.

I was exchanged on December 10, 1991 in Bosanski Šamac. Eight buses left Begejci, and six buses joined us in Belgrade. In each bus were a driver and 2-3 guards, military policemen, but not policemen from Begejci. Those six buses were from Aleksinac and Niš. I found out from those men that D.P. was transferred there.

The guards were telling us that Croatia didn't need us, but it was just propaganda. Most of the guards were O.K. to us. They didn't beat us and we didn't have to keep our heads down and hands on backs. They took fuel in the barracks in Brčko, we were allowed to use the toilet and they gave us some food. After that they told us that our people didn't want us. It almost happened. Our people didn't come, and the Serbs had to wait only two hours and after that they were allowed to take us back.

We thought that they were telling us the truth. It lasted for about 15 minutes but it seemed to us like 15 years. I can't describe the feeling when we saw our buses coming.

They discussed about half an hour: they were going through name lists, and then the exchange started. They had 85 men, and there were 280 of us. Some men returned to Serbia: Ž.P., boys from Petrovac and two women from Vukovar who had daughters in Serbia.

People from Slavonski Šamac met us and treated us very well. We were met by the mayor in Bjelovar. When we came to Zagreb we went to Martinovka, Peščenica and Kutija šibica.

On January 18, 1992 I joined the 124th Brigade and I am still in the Croatian Army today. I am a major. I was the commander of a company and a battalion in the 124<sup>th</sup> Brigade; the commander of the unit of the 10<sup>th</sup> Homeland regiment; the commander of logistic company in the 10<sup>th</sup> Homeland. Now I am reservist which is bad for me as well as for the Croatian Army, but I could give another testimony as big as this one, only about that.

Documentation about how I was removed from my position exists, and I think that I was removed unjustly because of the will of certain commanders.

I received acknowledgement from the president of the Republic and the commander of the main headquarters of Croatian Army which I can show any time.

With my signature on every page of this testimony I confirm its authenticity, that it was given without any coercion and what was written responds to what was said.

Statement was given by: B.H.

**ANNEX 82:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.T.**

I, S.T. from Tovarnik, stayed in the village after the village had been captured, and I can testify concerning the following:

On 24 September 1991, together with B.B. I wanted to bury Janko Budim. On our way, members of the JNA searched us. After that, Dušan Stupar called Dujo, arrested me, and took me to Duško Potkrajac. In the yard where I was arrested, I saw Jovica Miljković, Đorđe Miljković-Kika, Goran Rudić, Jovan Madić, Luce (surname??), Perica Vučković and Kata Maljković. They were all wearing uniforms and were armed with rifles.

When their Commander came, he started beating me. He accused me of having slaughtered some children. During the transport to ŠID, they stopped several times and took us to executions, but each time they gave up. One time, when they stopped, they executed Marin Lovrić-Dinda and Baja Hupčak, who were both from Tovarnik.

I remember Goran Rudić and Jovan Madić saying that they would go to do some "cleansing work".

(signature of the witness)

Statement was given by: S.T.

**ANNEX 83:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.D.**

Last Name: D.  
Name, name of the father: M., ...  
Year of birth: the ...  
Place of birth: Ilok, Croatia  
Permanent address: ...  
Temporary residence: ...  
Professional qualifications: highly qualified  
Occupation: mechanic  
Employment:  
Marriage status: married  
Citizenship: of the Republic of Croatia  
Nationality: Croatian

I give the following

## STATEMENT:

In the moment of the attack we were preparing for the kirbaj (patron-saint's day). The attack surprised us all. As soon as the first bombs fell, and as soon as the first shooting began I went to the center of the village to the Crisis quarters to see what was going on. When I got there, there was no one there anymore. The bombs continued to fall and the shooting went on. When I was coming back I was with "Pelko" (he was an inn owner, his name is I. M., he is "Mutivoda's" son). Z., M. P.'s ("Matišin") son, was also with us. We were standing on the corner of my street, behind the "Šijak's" house. The shooting was in process. I told them that we should move a little further away from the corner. The bombs were falling. We came behind the "Šijak's" house. Then "Pelko" told me: "Look, they have just hit your house, buster". The big cloud of dust rose. My house was hit with two or three shells. There was no one in the house at that moment, they were all in the basement. I threw myself into the ditch, and the other two threw themselves into the garden. I ran upstairs, I told them that I was going to see if something was on fire, and if it were, I would bring the fire under control while it was still small. I ran into the house. On my way in, I took a bucket. I ran onto the first floor. When I came upstairs I saw that nothing was on fire. Mirko Labović "Fabin" was in my house. He asked me what was going on. I told him that I did not know, that the shooting started from several directions: Ilača, Šid etc.

A bomb fell in one part of my house. My youngest son was in that part of the house. Half an hour before that incident his mother woke him. If she had not woken him, he would have been killed. He immediately went to the center and he got his schedule. I think he was sent to the station. He spent two days there.

Me and my wife gathered together with our neighbors. Our people managed to keep the position on the station till Sunday. The station was burnt down (the devices in the station), and the windows were broken. I did not see it then, I saw it later. But, they said they could not hold the position any more, that they did not have the means for it. The position on the station was held by "Matišin" and my R. On Sunday afternoon Marko Ferinac Bulata and his wife told us to run away to Lovas because the attack could not be withstood any longer. We wanted to take the grandmother and the wife. I told R. to take them. The next morning the old lady "Stajka" Mijokova (Grgić) came. I do not know where she had spent the night. Her house was set on fire that day, so we were extinguishing it. They started shooting so we had to withdraw. The house was left burning, we extinguished the fire on its first part.

On Sunday, when our boys came back they told us that they had to leave Tovarnik. My son and "Matišin" were with them. In Sunday evening, when it got dark, they took their weapons and left. They saw Tovarnik on fire. The shooting was in process and nobody ever came to extinguish the fire. We hid ourselves in the basement that night. The old lady "Stajka" came to our house with another women, a Macedonian (last name Treneski).

Around noon I did not know where I was or who I was. There was a feeling of a certain suspense in the village. We decided to give up and what happens, happens. Me, the grandmother, my wife and the old lady "Stajka" went to the police and surrendered. They put white strips around our arms, they registered us and they let us go back home. I did not even reach the corner, Drmić's place (and we surrendered at Cvejić's), when a policeman (Dujša Stupar) reached me and told me that I had to come back. When I returned I saw that he was unlocking the waiting room at Cvejić's place. He told me to come in. When I entered the room I saw 16 other people sitting there. They were all villagers of Tovarnik. The following people were there:



M. Ć.;  
 the old man I. B.;  
 B. G.;  
 S. etc.

I sat next to S.. I asked him when they were brought in. I was brought in on Friday at 11 a.m., and they had been there since Thursday. He said they were taken out of the basement, and that they spent the night here.

An excavator and a tractor were in front of the Cvejić's house. They told me that I have to level the ground. The whole area around the village had to be leveled so they could have the open field. They sent a boy with a rifle to watch me over. He stood on a "kamara". I started leveling the ground from Glibo's house, and through the gardens. I remembered that the mines were there. I did not know what to do. If I do not go forward, they will kill me, and if I go forward I might not survive. It was hot. The month of September. The boy got bored so he called me.

The following persons were on duty in the police:

Božo Rudić;  
 Damjan Eror;  
 Duško or Dušan Vukadinović – a policeman – his son's name is Gojko.

When we came back that Duško asked me: "What's up fellow?" I told him that my camshaft broke. He told us to go with him (in a car) and he would take us to Ekonomija to get another camshaft. I told him that first I had to measure the camshaft and see what kind of camshaft we needed. He said: "OK, I'll be back in a moment." He came inside. When he got back he brought a 2-meter measure with him. He placed me in a car. We went to measure the camshaft, and after that to the Ekonomija. I purposely went to that part of the Ekonomija where I knew there were not any camshafts (I knew they were kept locked in one room). I told him there were no camshafts. After that we went to Mile Ergić – Strajo's new house, a storey house which was a little bit pulled in. That house is behind Aco Trifunović's house and in front of the Dr. Bojka's house. Mile Straja and Milenko Miljković from Tovarnik, were sitting in the yard and all the rest of the people were Chetniks. Mile's brother (Slavko Ercegović) was with them and he had a house at the end of the village. They called him "Strajin". The one that talks a lot. I came with this Sava Ivanović. He told Mile that we needed the warehouse key in order to get the camshaft. Mile was sitting and writing something, and Milenko was sitting behind him and looking at what the other one was writing. They both wore the uniforms with stars, and all the others had cockades. Mile turned and said to me: "Hello fellow, are you alive?" I answered him that I was alive so far, but I did not know for how long. Both of them greeted me. Both of them were my apprentices. Manda Šumanov used to cook at the Serb Tomislav Zorić – Bate's house (Bate's son is Rajko Škroba's son-in-law). I saw her wearing a white apron. She came and said: "Hello comrades!" One Chetnik told her: "There are no comrades, it's brothers so help us God." She became quiet and she looked at that Chetnik. She was surprised to see me here. They brought the key soon.

When I came back to the prison, those people were still sitting there. Ć., the old man I. B., B. G., Ž. G. etc.

Some other person came out and asked: "Where is the fellow that leveled the ground?" He told me to get back in the prison. They brought two persons more that I did not know. They took me out. They told me to go home but that I should come back to report at 8 p.m. That is what I did. They did not lock me anymore. When I came there at 8 p.m. I was told to go

home to sleep and to come back at 7 the next morning. It was Saturday and I came at 7 a.m., but they told me that it was Saturday and that they would not work on Saturdays so I could go home. I had to report there at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and in the evening I went home to sleep. I came back on Sunday. On Monday I went with Mićo Orlić, the community manager to see if there were any camshafts in the Community building, but we could not find any because everything was in ruins.

The next Monday morning (on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991) they told me to take the tractor with a trailer and the tools and they said that I would be a grave-digger. They brought more prisoners:

the old man S. S.  
M. H.  
I. P.

I do not know where they brought them from. Another two came:

Beli and  
his father – T. B. – works as a janitor.

There was another one but I can not remember who he was. As it was, the seven of us were burying that day. We took the shovels and we waited for further orders. The reverend came. He asked me to drive him in his Renault to the cemetery. I told him that I could not make decisions and that he had to ask someone else. But, I found E. H.'s son there, his name was Dragan. He told the reverend that he would take him. We were ordered to go to the cemetery. I was driving, the six of them were sitting in a trailer. We waited in the cemetery for the reverend to come. In the meantime I went to see whom we were going to bury. I counted 13 men and 3 women. Two more men were lying outside. All of them were dead. I recognized the following people:

F. K.;  
M. K.;  
F. G.;  
Đ. (in Vaculjin's house) etc.

All of them were dead for couple of days so they were all disfigured. Worms were coming out of them. It smelled horribly. The Chetniks gave us 4 or 5 masks. I looked around. The reverend came later. We waited for about half an hour, and they were discussing something with the reverend in front of the police. When they came, the reverend asked: "Who are these two?" That was the reason why I concluded that the reverend saw the rest of the bodies. I told him that he was the one from Vaculjin's house (I do not know his last name). Then he said: "Oh, it's the old man Đuka." I did not know who was the other one. The reverend, a boy from Brod and Iva tried to figure out who was it. There were 18 bodies all together. Later we went to bring 6 more bodies from the village:

1. Jelka Strolina (Anđelka's sister) – dead for a couple of days
2. Đuka Balić's father, called "Kulen" (Đuka was a carpenter, he lived near the "Duvno" inn)
3. Aco Popović, father of Martin Popović – killed in his own house, he was lying on his bed, then fell down, and he was shot in a way that half of his head was missing – one Chetnik said: "Look, he got scratched somewhere!", and in fact half of his head was gone. His house was on the main road, the one that leads to Vukovar, just opposite the "Duvno" inn.

4. old Cuker – Đuro Miklošević – he was shot, he lay covered in his house basement just as if he died a natural death.
5. Janko Budim – the one that has a lot of children; he lay on the bed in his house for couple of days. I do not know if he was murdered there. Kaja who used to feed her pigs at their place told me that he was killed there.
6. an older man – had white tennis shoes and a railroad cap. He was killed. I found him in the place between Ileta's inn and Ružica Guslin's house. We did not recognize him. I hang on to his cap so that it might help somebody to recognize who it was.

First we cut one part of the corn in the field that were sowed in the place where the new cemetery was supposed to be. Over there, near the fence, that is where the fence used to be until they pulled it down, excavators dug out two shafts. We covered the bodies with small quantities of soil. I do not know exactly where we buried the dead bodies (in which turn). In general, 24 persons were buried there. The burial was on Monday (that was the second Monday after the attack). Burik (the priest) saw the dead people. He told us to bury them. He said a prayer. After that he left. Then his commission came: a woman doctor and another one with her. She just took a look. She got sick from what she saw. She left immediately. Then 24 crosses with enlisted names were brought. We quickly put the crosses in the ground without any order.

Aco Trifunović was the president of the village. Krnjaić was in the police from the start. I did not know him. He was younger. He was the police commander. After him Ljubo took his place. I never saw that man. He was a commander at the time when I was tortured. I was tortured the same day and the same night when little “tin-smith” (Stjepan Marinković) was tortured. The two of us were abused in shifts. Nobody from Tovarnik tortured us, but they must have been giving out the orders. Three individuals were present during the torture. One was standing behind me, one on my left side, the other on the right. They were holding sticks. The police commander, Ljubo was at the other side of the room, at the table. Ljubo was thin, skinny, you could see that he was not a professional policeman. By the look of him you could say that he was a drunkard. His eyes were always bloody. I was interrogated about a lot of stupid things. They told me that I had to remember everything. I told them that I did not know what I was supposed to remember and that I would tell them everything I knew. They told me to put my hands on the table. Then they beat my hands. They made me shout: “Serbia all over to Tokyo.” Then they made me shout louder. At one moment the commander said it was enough. He asked me to turn around, so he could ask me something. Then the other one told me to turn towards him. When I turned this other one hit me on the back so I immediately fell on the floor. They started kicking me and hitting me with nightsticks. I was lying down on the floor. I doubled up, so whatever happened, it happened. That night me and the “tin-smith” were beaten in shifts. They would bring me in, and they would take him out. I was locked up in a waiting room – at Cvejić's, he was locked up in a clinic. These rooms were transitory. When he was brought in, I was taken out. And they did it in turns. Sometime after midnight, maybe around 1 a.m., I thought they came to kill us. They came in and said to both us: “Get up!”. They took us both. I thought they were going to shoot us. Deep inside myself I wished that it were so because I thought that it was better to die than to live under that kind of torture. Nevertheless, something unusual happened. They brought us into a room in Cvejić's house and they said: “Here's dinner!”. We had not eaten the whole day and they had been beating us so we were not in a condition to eat. I did not care about anything, let alone food. All I cared about was getting rid of this pathetic and miserable life. I ate a little. They locked us up again afterwards. We were locked up till the morning. In the morning we were transferred to the other prisoners

who were locked up in the back, in the shed in the yard. I was locked up there for the next five or six days. They did not let me go anywhere so that others could not see that I was beaten and covered in bruises.

When this was all gone, they started putting us in the work groups. We went to cover the houses, clean around the gasoline station, carry the wood etc. We transported the wood from the Croatian houses on the tractor for the “national kitchen”. The “national kitchen” was at first at Tomislav Zorić – Bata’s place, in the direction of Šid, near “Ošaja”. Later they did not want the kitchen to be in a private house so they placed it in a TV- room. The TV- room was hit with shells so it is there where we went first to repair the roof. The following people were working on the roof: me, Đ. “the carpenter”, B. G., I. G., V. B. etc. Most of them are from Tovarnik. When we repaired the roof, we went to gather stoves around the village.

Živan Stanimirović “the barber” (he owned a barber shop) was the kitchen chef. The old man Martin “Gazdin”’s daughter was married to him. I could see that he did not like what he was doing. He said that he was the same as before. He brought us something to eat. He even brought us something to drink. He could not bear the fact that he was ordering us something. I could see from his behavior that he accepted to be the kitchen chef just to avoid going to front.

They took me to the prison to install the generating unit that they took from the TV- tower and put in the Fire-station center. There was no electricity in the first week period. We had one small generating unit in which I poured gasoline and I maintained it. This little generating unit was for the police. I think it was Leporda’s or Stojan Mikulić’s generating unit. It was a private (not military) generating unit – Honda. It supplied enough electricity for a couple of bulbs and a TV set. Every morning I poured in the gasoline and I checked this generating unit so they could have the electricity in the evening. If it would not start they would call me. It was part of the prison duties. While I was working on that generating unit Aco Trifunović came and he said: “I have to resign.” When I asked him why he said: “They say I am too soft.” I did not dare to say anything but I thought to myself how already 40 people were dead and he said he was too soft.

I saw P. D. in prison. He was cutting somebody’s hair. He was taken as a prisoner. He was not in prison together with us, he was somewhere further. I do not know where exactly. He just rolled his eyes and said nothing. It was at about 8 or 9 a.m. I saw him that day. I saw Subaša too. He slept in the same room with us for couple of days.

When day came they came and called me, I. L. called ...(he was a conductor) and my son. They said that Ustashas had killed some people and that we had to bring them. That is what they said, that Ustashas did that. They told the three of us (me, my son and Ivo) to start the tractor and to bring them. It was on Sunday morning. It was raining. They let everybody else home, and the three of us had to bring the dead bodies. (It was on the third or fourth Sunday after the Kirbaj). Subaša was killed at the spot that you reach when you pass the well that is on the way to Vukovar. That is just some 50 meters after that bend. He was lying in the shaft on the right side of the road. Four Chetniks were with us. One of them said: “Here is one. There the other one. Do you know who he is? It’s “the barber”.” I did not recognize him. He was lying there dead. One Chetnik said: “Look, do you know this one? It’s Subaša. He is an Ustasha and a cut-throat.” I did not dare to say anything. Another dead man was on the right side, I did not know him. Then they were looking for another one, the fourth one, but they did not know where he was. Those Chetniks were looking for him, the four of them. The three of us were loading the bodies onto the tractor. We loaded Subaša first. He was the heaviest. I asked: “Who is this “barber”?” My son answered: “Dad,

it's the old man P. of I. S." I recognized him only after I took a better look. I recognized him by his clothes. It was hard to recognize him because half of his head was shot off and his tongue was stuck out, but the kid (my son) managed to recognize him. I recognized S.. I. and Z. were trying to figure out who was the other one. I do not know if they recognized him, I did not even ask them. When we were starting to go back, one of those Chetniks said: "That one ran away, son of a bitch." They did not find the fourth one. We loaded these three on the tractor and we started to go back. We took the bodies to the cemetery. We were told to leave them there and to go and collect tractors around the village.

We collected them the whole day and we drove them to Ekonomija. They said that all tractors had been stolen. The tractors had flat tires, no wheels etc.

One day we had to bury someone else. The following people went there with me: B. Č., M. Č. etc. There were 4 or 5 of us. We had to bring and bury a man, and those three people who were killed earlier. We had to dig a hole because there was no free space in the shafts. So far we had been carrying and putting soil in the holes. S.'s mother was buried there; the reverend, the old man D. and his wife (they had a house near the police station). We did not look around, we just carried the bodies and buried them, so I do not know if they died natural death or if they were killed. They were buried in the same pit. We filled one whole pit and a quarter of another one with 24 dead bodies. We continued to bury the people in that other pit, but later we had to dig holes for Subaša, Debelić and the other people because this other pit was filled too.

There were scales and weights (5 kg and 10 kg) in Cvejić's clinic. One person was killed with weights. You could see that the person was dead, that he died that night. I did not see that man. They wrapped him in a shroud and loaded him on to the trailer. Then we drove him to the cemetery. No-one of us knew that man. Maybe he was brought from somewhere.

We returned from some kind of work around noon. We came to report that we had finished the work. Suddenly we were all forced into the prison. I did not manage to get into the shed where all the others were locked, I stayed between the tractor and the trailer. I saw two Chetniks taking one bearded man. I heard one of them say: "Obrad, don't move!" It seems they were very afraid of him. They made him sit on the bench, and they had their machine guns pointed at him. He asked them if he could go to the toilet. I kept hiding between the tractor and the trailer. I saw them taking him to the toilet. He had to stand next to the wall, turn his back and put his arms in the air. They opened the toilet door and told him to come in. They left the door open. They had their machine guns pointed at him. He was pooping. He saw me where I was hiding. When he finished, he came out and he was buttoning his trousers. One of those two seemed to have got scared and he shot him. He fell down dead.

When we went to the cemetery to dig holes, I. G. told me that we had to move because he buried Rudo Rap here yesterday. We dug out a large hole for three bodies (S., "the barber" and another one – the one we brought on Sunday). We did that on Monday or Tuesday. While we were digging we saw that one man was lying in the cornfield. He was lying on his back, three steps away, dead. They were sitting in the car at the gates. They played some music. They shot from their guns at the Jesus Christ cross. There was no one from Tovarnik among them. I decided to go and see who was lying there. I took off my belt so it would look like I was going to urinate. I saw it was Toma Gliba. Did someone bring him here and then kill him or was he killed and brought here dead I do not know. People just disappeared. We did not want to touch him. They were pressing us.

We went to clean Tomo Drmić's house (that house on the corner). That house was set on fire on the fifth Sunday. I saw it from my house. I spent that night at home because there was no place at the prison. They would send the old prisoners like us home when they brought a lot of new prisoners. When I saw the flame I thought that the vicarage was on fire. The flame was high up in the sky. I told my wife: "This is not the first nor the last house they set on fire." They would set 2 or 3 houses on fire every day. When I was going to report for work I saw that Tomo Drmić's house was on fire. It was already burning down. The roof had fallen in. I saw Aco Trifunović standing there with his wife Dragica (she is Tomo Drmić's daughter) and his two sons. They were standing in the yard and watching. The people were passing by as if nothing was going on. Nobody tried to extinguish the fire. Two, three days after that they sent us convicts to clean that so they could pass through the path. Me, the old man Martin "Gazdin" and Ivo Lovrić were doing that. Everybody desperately wanted to go to work because while you were in prison they could beat you and mistreat you. While we were working some kid used to keep an eye on us. He followed us in a car. We went to unload the garbage into the "Serbian holes".

That kid was keeping an eye on us already for a month so he trusted us, he knew that we were not going to run away, so he did not follow us the whole time. We went to unload the garbage, he stayed in the village. Suddenly he came there. He never went to the holes with us, he usually stayed at the road. That day he approached us and told us not to unload the garbage anymore but to go straight to the Catholic church because the reverend had a heart attack. I saw the reverend 2 weeks earlier. He did not look good. I already knew that the reverend had a bad heart and bad pancreas. He told us to go to the vicarage, and that he would bring the sack. The following people were with me: M. Ć., P. B., M. B. called... and that little T. who is a bit mentally deranged (he lived at "Leporda"'s, his father was a railroader). In the vicarage everything was turned upside down, the books were on the floor, the things were thrown out from the drawers, in general the place was a mess. You could see that they were looking for something: either gold or money. We could not find the reverend anywhere. We went out. M. B. and Ć. went ahead with the policeman, I went behind with P. B. and that kid. Somebody thought of the fact that we did not look into the basement, so the three of us went there. We saw the reverend lying in the basement, on the ground. He had a 5 cm hole in his chest. You could see that the whole clip was shot at him. That damaged his flesh. You could see the hole and the blood underneath it. We wrapped him in a blanket and we covered the place where he lay with something so that the blood would not be seen. I said: "As far as we are concerned the reverend died of heart attack." I saw it all. P.B. and that kid were with me. They saw it all too. They went to get a sack. The policeman stood at the door, he did not even come in. From where he was standing he saw the body wrapped in a blanket. He asked what had happened. I told him that I do not know, that nothing could be seen, that it was probably a heart attack. He wrote that down. We could not say the truth. The reverend was already gone, and we had to keep our heads. He told us to drive him to the cemetery. It all happened in the late afternoon. Only that kid (who is a bit crazy) whispered to Ć.: "They killed him, he has a hole in his chest." The policeman entered in his record that he died of a heart attack. We left the body in the cemetery.

The next morning I had to drive . 's mother. They informed us that she was dead. We were looking for her body around the house but we could not find her. "G.'s" wife came then and she told us that S.'s mother was at her house. When we came in we saw that the candle was lit. She was lying down. I do not know if she was killed or she died a natural death. As it was, we found her dead. We wrapped her in a blanket and drove her away. That day we buried the priest too. The two of them were buried in that other shaft

because there was still some space in it. That was before we buried S.. I can tell where it approximately is. When the time comes I will find it. When we come back, that will be my task. I can tell exactly where to dig.

I saw Branko Salajić when they were taking him to be shot. Always the same Chetniks took people to be shot. One person called Steva; a thin one and one who had a “pony-tail”. The three of them were taking Branko Salajić to be shot. I found out by coincidence that Branko would be buried that day. That morning was my turn. Suddenly we were all forced inside. I was ordered to get the gasoline. I took a can and I went there. Usually it all lasted longer because there was no electricity so they cranked the generating unit manually. But, when I got there nobody was there. He poured me some gasoline. Miša, Sava Stojanović’s son was handing out the gasoline. When I was going towards the generating unit (in Cvejić’s house) to pour the gasoline, I saw them taking Branko Salajić, he was tied up – his hands were tied up. He looked at me but he did not recognize me. The generating unit was in the corner. I went there. I heard them ordering him: “Sit, Ustasha!” Branko looked very weak, he was barely alive. One of them pushed him. He hit the door with his head and fell. Then one shouted: “Get up!” Then one Chetnik lifted him up and sat him in the car. That one sat next to him and the other sat at front. They took him to be shot. I know what happened to Branko Salajić before. The following people were cleaning the path at Drmić’s house: me, the old man M. “G.”, I. L., one of the G., a guy called ., and I think M. Č. was there. While we were cleaning it Branko Salajić called “Latas” came there. He was asking about what we were doing. That was around 10 or 11 a.m. There were a lot of people in front of the police station. Branko said that he would also register and that he would be here. The old man M. “G.” told him quietly to go where he came from, just as long he is not here. Branko said: “What are you afraid of? It’s wartime. I came now to be here.” The old man M. told him: “B., don’t yell. The times have changed.” But, Branko kept on doing things his way. We went to take the garbage away. When we came back he was not there. We were sent home again that night because some new prisoners arrived. They sent me, Guslin, the Ranko’s fellow, Grbešić and Pero Stipanović (older man). When we were going home Pero said: “Look, Branko is not in prison. Thank God, at least somebody had luck.” I thought that Branko went to his sister Ljuba’s house since he was not in prison. His sister asked me in the morning if I had seen Branko. Then I told her what I saw the day before. She told me that they had found him dead in the field (there in the sugar-beet field) and that they had covered him with soil using an excavator.

Mišo Stanimirović was the only one who had a cockade. When they were taking me to the prison he said: “This is the one. This is an Ustasha.” I just gave him a look, because 15 days ago he and his cousin – Jerković were at my place and I was putting together a pump of some kind for them, and they were sitting and drinking brandy on my terrace. I stopped. One of them hit me and said: “What is it? What are you looking at?”

Aco Trifunović told me. “My fellow, I have to resign. They say I am too soft.” I said that probably he knew best what his duty was. He told me that Jovica Medić wanted to resign too. I thought to myself: “They want to resign, and already 40 people are dead.”

Later I heard that Sreto Pokrajac was the president of the Local Committee.

Everything was written in Cyrillic script. They changed everything to the Cyrillic script on the second or third day. The name on the Local Committee building was written in Cyrillic script. They wrote on the walls: “Serbia all over to Tokyo.” On the police station building it said: “The militia station Tovarnik”.

Milan Pekić was killed in Vukovar.

Once when we were cleaning the gas station, a couple of trucks came from the direction of Vukovar. Something was leaking out of them. When we came nearer to see it, we saw it was blood. The dead people must have been in the trucks so it was the blood that was leaking out.

Miro Bakić and Boža Jekić were wounded. I heard about Boža, but I met Miro. I asked him why he was limping. He said he was wounded in Vukovar. He added that they almost killed them. (He used to stutter.) I saw Hardi – he is a Russian, his wife is a Serb – he was walking on crutches because he was wounded.

...Later on the trucks were returning. We saw that there were many dead people.

...50 buses arrived. They were full of Chetniks. My wife and Mićo “Ćopa” were counting them. That was at the beginning of October, I do not remember the exact date. I had no sense of time.

Željko Platin did not wear a uniform, neither did his father. Nikola “Bugar” (Bulgarian), Steva “Učitelj” (the teacher) and Radovan did not wear uniforms. All others wore uniforms. The teacher that taught gymnastics, the one that was called “Kvisko”, he, the little one, was carrying a big rifle. Jožika also wore a uniform. Stevo “nastavnik” (the teacher) wore a uniform too. He asked me: “What’s going on? Do you have another job?” And I told him that the times have changed. Miša “nastavnik” did not come. His apartment was demolished. I saw that when we were looking for wood for the “national kitchen”. While the two prisoners were taking the wood out of the basement, we went to look at the apartments.

My wife always had to report from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. She was in house detention.

I spent 51 days there. After that I came out. They wrote with red pen in Cyrillic script a “note” (they put it on the Municipality building, on Ćurić’s house and everywhere) saying that all the Croats must leave Tovarnik in 72 hours. I asked if I could go. They said that they had reached a decision allowing me to go.

In Banjole, on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August, 1993

The statement was given by: M.D.

The statement was written by: Šimun Penava



**ANNEX 84:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.D.**

Zagreb, December 1994

I.D., from Tovarnik, married of Croatian nationality and with citizenship of the Republic of Croatia.

Note: a record of a videotape.

I am giving the following

STATEMENT

The refugees from Tovarnik and other eastern Slavonian villages gathered in refuge, with the help of the branch of the Central Croatian Cultural and Publishing Society on the commemorative assembly for the murdered parish priest Ivan Burik. Not only the citizens of Tovarnik but also the parish members of the Tovarnik deaconry came to pay their respect to a man who had been their spiritual leader for twenty-eight years in times when this was not the easiest task. He remained in Tovarnik even after it had been occupied. He tried to save whatever possible but he failed.

Ivan Burik was brutally murdered from behind in the parish house. Those who have survived live with the hope of returning and witnessing the greatness of his sacrifice.

The Monsignor held a memorial service for parish priest Burik and the other killed citizens of Tovarnik in the church of St. Marcus.

A new attack on the city started this morning when the enemy opened fire from multi-barreled mortars from the territory of Bačka trying at the same time to break through to the village of Mitnica with tanks and infantry.

The armored formations of the aggressor that set out yesterday from the Serbian capital stopped at Orolik.

Another part of the these enemy formations were stopped in Tovarnik, where severe fighting broke out, and the Croatian forces destroyed two tanks and one armored vehicle. A part of the line was stopped in the area of Vašica, Ilinci, Nijemci, where one tank was destroyed while the remaining new aggressor troops were stopped near Lipovac.

*Croatian Radio*

That evening cannons and grenades again destroyed houses, many houses have burnt down, and the second and third day they set houses on fire and arrested people. My husband and I were banished from our house on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. They set our house on fire and threw us out of it. They banished us to Šid. We left several buckets of water in one room and it remained like this. I was in Šid for four days. They returned me home and my husband was sent to Mitrovica. He told me: "Do not leave my mother, take care." as if he had known that he would not return.

He was in the camp in Mitrovica for ten days. He returned from the camp, they had released them, but then they arrested them again and murdered all of them. Life became dangerous later. This is how I spent the winter. They would come; and search the house three times a day.

They stole everything I had – my car, bicycles, carts, television and everything I had. They had stolen everything. Then they started beating me: "Where are your children? Where are

your sons? Where are the Ustasha?" They would slap me, they slapped me six times. I lost two teeth. I pulled one out, but I have not pulled out the other although it hurts all the time.

We all wore white ribbons. There were not many left of us, who would say: "It is not my fault, what are they going...?" They would kill those who were left behind. The inhabitants left. I could not leave because of my old mother in law, I felt sorry for her and could not leave her behind.

That night they banged on our door. I woke her. "Grandma, grandma!" She said: "What is it?" I said: "It must be the Chetniks, someone is banging on the door." I told her: "I am going outside, and tell them that you cannot move." And then they took her and another they had caught away. I started climbing over the wall and escaped to the garden. I had with me the clothes I had on me and those I had put into two bags, since I knew that they would come. And while I was putting them on my back they appeared before me.

They would not let me take anything with me. I took a pair of my shoes. They would not let me take them with me. I took my husband's watch in order to give it to one of my children. They would not let me take it with me. I wanted to put on my shoes, they took them off and told me: "Just get out and you can go on foot to Šid." Everything I left behind in the house they took out immediately, and they were stealing all the time. We had to have a white sign on the door, on the entrance. I had flour, butter, corn and everything in my house.

They did not beat me, but three men would come. Once one of them said to me – you grandma, have to come to the police station at 9:00 o'clock, they said you have to come. What now, what now, I said. He told me, that he did not know why; that they may have some questions. I went and they asked me: "Where are your sons, where is your family, are the Ustasha at your house...?" and many other questions which I do not remember.

There were five others and all they did was chase us around and stare at us without saying anything. There were many destroyed houses, burnt down; if mine had been in one piece I would have come out in a minute, but it was not, there were no walls left.

We have enough food here in Zagreb. I have had some hard times, there is no use talking about them. Who has survived six months there has survived the hardest time of his life.

I was asleep and said: "Grandpa! There is a Chetnik at the door. " He said: "Who is it?". The Chetnik came right in. He would not even let me put on my skirt. There, I had to leave the house without my skirt on. Everything was left in the house; he would not even let me take my cave with me. He asked me: "Do you have any money?" "I do not have any", I said, "money?" They even took away my son's new television.

I had packed my clothes for three months, and hid it under a blanket. I said: "Clothes." He said: "That is what we need." "Wow," he said, "this grandma has a lot of things!" I had when I was working. Now I do not have anything, I have no children anymore. My hawks are gone. I had three, now I do not have anyone.

A new group of refugees came to the municipality area from the Vukovar municipality in the clothes they had grabbed first that morning, without anything, beaten and without strength

The Yugoslav Army banished sixty-two citizens from Tovarnik and Nijemci. They were considered an excess on the Croatian land that the mindless aggressor tried to settle with Serbs.

(A female voice: You bet they are settling the area, they still walk around every day and check the numbers, the houses if there is anyone left or not. "You grandma, are alone, go to

a room!” said he. And the others went to the other rooms. I was under house arrest. One police officer was their friend, one that used to come several times. He told me: “Grandma, do not make any trouble, so that we do not have to react! Do you understand what I have told you!?” “Yes!” answered a woman.)

The Municipality Red Cross took them in, and the Monitors of the European Community talked to them. They continued their journey to Zagreb in the afternoon. The announced day of a general terrorist attack in Vukovar, the 15 August, passed with minor incidents and terrorist provocations.

Six o'clock. Three mortar grenades were fired from the terrorist positions in Gaboš-Cilj, from the railway station between Antin and Markušica. There were no victims. At the same time armed terrorists in camouflage uniforms of the SAO Krajina hold up a local train for Vinkovci and Tovarnik in Mirkovci. They abuse the passengers and search the train for weapons. Because of the incident the traffic towards Tovarnik is stopped until further.

12:50 – the village of Antin; a repeated attack on the Croatian positions, from the forest Ašad, near Gaboš, the terrorists fired a hundred bullets.

Vukovar – 13:25; the terrorists wound the guardsman Mirsad Skrelja born in 1969 with gunfire, from the barricades at the entrance into Bršadin. The Guardsman was hit while transporting food to the silos in Dergaj. 13:25 – Vinkovci zone; Military airplanes flying over Nuštar towards Ostrovo. The Army is still on the move.

Ratko told me that I would have to leave in eight days. – I asked him: “Why have I not been anywhere?” – He said: “Because you are an Ustasha, a Croat.”

In western Srijem, in Eastern Slavonia, the Serb Valjevo reserve officers especially stood out. The members of the military police and the scout platoons deserve a big commendation for their liberation of Tovarnik, Ilača, Lovas, Opatovo, Mohovo, Šarengard, Ilok, Sotin and Bogdanovci. An enforced Var...(?) tank platoon seized Radnička and Pionirska Street, Milovo Brdo and the village Boško Buha in Vukovar.

This information for the delegates of the Var...(?) assembly was presented by its chairman Slobodan Dukić referring to the data of the representative of the Valjevo brigade command. The delegates are familiar with the fact of the exceptional courage, skillfulness and resourcefulness of the Valjevo fighters during the seizure of Tovarnik and Bogdanovci, the well-known Ustasha base.

In all of these battles twenty- six soldiers of the Valjevo Brigade were killed, of whom seventeen were from Valjevo, and a hundred soldiers suffered light and serious injuries. The chairman of the Valjevo Municipality also pointed out, that in the last two months of severe fighting not one soldier from Valjevo left the front and that the majority of the reserve officers, who pointed out the negligence in the command of the army and left Šid voluntarily in September, are still fighting courageously in their units. It can be said that these data and the facts are the best way to reject all stories about the Valjevo reserve officers being cowards and deserters.

It would be a mistake to come to Slavonia and not visit Tovarnik. This plain village with many roads is founded on the eastern border of the Republic of Croatia, and is home to every cultural Croat, and the well-known Antun Gustav Matoš. One street even has his name, and many wonder if he really used to live in this street, since they claim that the contrary is true, that he was born in the extension of the street towards the railway station, in Kolodvorska Street. Still, there is an old school in Matoševa Street on which there is an inscription saying that he was born in that building. This neglected building could have a

useful purpose regardless of whether we acknowledge the fact that Antun Gustav Matoš was really born in it, and that the little Antun, called Aga, probably lived and played in it.

Matoš obligated us with his short stories, poems, critiques, polemics, travel loges, his collected works, which were printed in seventeen books before the war. Today we talk a lot about him but we do too little to bring his work closer to the young generation, since Matoš is still a modern and influential leading spirit of our culture. Tovarnik placed a bust in its suburb, but in front of the new school that is called after him. This is at least a start.

Of all our provinces, I am most indebted to Srijem. Of what Srijem has given to me, I can tell a story, or even two. The first story is about my childhood rug. I can still hear my aunt Dana, she was a real lady from Srijem who did not dress exclusively in peach color velvet, but also took care that her words come from the side pocket of this little fur coat. "There now, you can go to Putinci, Martinci, Tovarnik and Šarengard, but you will not find a rug like this. Put it on the bed so that the little boss Matan does not get a cold from the bare wall." – a voice of a woman. My rug from Srijem did not just protect me from colds, but also cured me when I had a cold.

I was born in February, and maybe this was the reason why I had to fight with my cousins during my entire childhood. There were little once who came from a short sleighing, but also those who would wait in ambush with a thread and tried to capture a titmouse inside a pumpkin. Neither hot milk with honey, nor the doctor, Dr. Koščak who forced me to show my tongue, nor my toys (a soldier and a dog) did not recover my health. My rug from Srijem recovered it.

When I would freeze all over my body and shiver, I would only look at its picture. On a gray background, running in broad threads, a chestnut branch was embroidered, in the left high part a flower, right with a well-shaped eye-like way – with a egg-like partly yellow and violet, partly red and black fruit. A kind of unstoppable fire warmed not only my eye but also it also set my entire frozen body on fire. Yes, my rug from Srijem had that kind of powers.

When I traveled to Srijem for the first time, and put my head through the cold cart window, somewhere around Tovarnik, I felt that same fire. And Srijem is still today my childhood rug against every fever. And when I swathe picture for the first time I swallowed the words, so that nobody would laugh at me, and whispered to myself – as a child I used to sleep under this picture. It used to cure me.

After my story about my rug from Srijem, which you can still see today in the fields if you look from the ruins of the Sarengard and the tower of Ilok or the vineyards in Erdut, I start my story about a great, why do not we say one of the greatest citizens of Srijem, the writer Julije Berešić.

It was a peaceful village in Slavonia, on the border with Serbia. However, three months ago the Serb inhabitants started leaving it, together with their families. First the women, children and the old left, and the later events came to their peak today, this morning, when a bus from Šid came accompanied by two military transporters and took away a larger group of Serbian citizens.

We want to know why this is happening and why the Serbs are leaving Tovarnik. – I do not have the need to leave this village. For what reason? I have been in my village since 1955. If you ask me, there was no need to evacuate the Serb civilians. They cannot prove in any way that, they were threatened by any citizen that is an inhabitant of our village.

According to the information of the television station in Novi Sad, it seems that Tovarnik is on fire, that the Serb citizens of Tovarnik are led around the village in chains etc. You can testify if this is true. A lot of things are not true today and little is, because many use this situation to their advantage. All of this that is happening is neither of any good to the nation nor of any use. The nation is used for somebody's goals. I ask you to show this on television: "I a Orthodox priest, Žarko Kunac, am telling this people to come to their senses, because I cannot understand that one nation can be this dumb and crazy, and not see that somebody is leading it into its ruin."

We are leaving Tovarnik. As you can see the village has not been burnt down yet. The people are still living together. But the people are afraid. They are afraid of the night, this, the following, since they know that after the women and children have left the men will also leave as soon as the first shelling starts. They are afraid that soon there will not be anything left of Tovarnik.

I do not know what the army fears in Ilok, to use such heavy artillery. It is obvious that these are Army weapons. There is an inscription in Cyrillic on one of the armored missiles, that it was produced in Kragujevac.

Missiles were found in the houses of Slovak owners. These people were upstanding citizens. They did not provoke any incidents in this area. During last night's drumfire from heavy artillery a wonderful modern factory was destroyed belonging to a tradesman, Ivan Zeko, and the missiles that were found in this small factory suggest that the Army is using even heavier weaponry according to its earlier threats. I have heard them personally from Lieutenant Colonel Ljubomir Tomić, that they will destroy Ilok and level it with the ground if only one shot comes from the direction of Ilok, but I state that not even one shot was fired from Ilok.

The Army is allegedly even firing salvo tanks at their own, Serb, side in order to get a reaction. Besides tanks, cannons and airplanes, they also use ships. The assumptions that the army is using riverboats to attack Ilok are correct. However, today Colonel Petar Grahovac from the Military Post 5.005 in Novi Sad again threatened.

Statement was given by: I.Đ.

**ANNEX 85:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF R.Đ.**

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

The official record was composed on 29 August 1995 at the offices of police station in Slatina after the interview with R.Đ., maiden name ..., born in ..., Slavonski Brod municipality, residence in ..., a widow, mother of two children, ... born in 1946 and ... born in 1950. Both of her sons are in ... She is a housewife, Croat by nationality. She comes from the temporarily occupied area of the Republic of Croatia, Tovarnik.

In regard to it, she states:

On 27 August 1995, crossing the international border crossings in D. Miholjac, she arrived in the Republic of Croatia in ..., to her sons I.Đ. and A. The reason of her

leaving the place of residence in the temporarily occupied territory of the Republic of Croatia, she states was the arrival of the refugees of Serbian nationality from the recently liberated areas of the Republic of Croatia, after the "OLUJA" action. Since that time began the expulsion of the remaining Croats, mostly the elderly persons and the other non-Serbian residents who lived mostly alone in their houses and whose children lived in the liberated area of the Republic of Croatia.

In the interview, she stated that according to what she knows, Joža, aka Bultina, recently disappeared from Tovarnik, after her house was broken into and everything from it stolen, but is still unsettled. She is considered either killed after the Serbian refugees arrived or she managed to escape from the temporarily occupied area. She also mentions that dr. Željko Rosanac from Čelije or Voćin, Pero Dorontić, his father and their families have been living in Tovarnik since the beginning of 1992, and that she has a bad opinion about them. Among the Serbs that moved in, she mentions a certain man, Serb by nationality, whose identification data she does not know. He has only one arm, and he allegedly came to Tovarnik after the village of Đulovac, Daruvar municipality, was liberated by the Croatian Army.

She claims she has some information about the movements and positions of the paramilitary formations in that area, especially after the "OLUJA" action was launched when into the village arrived a larger number of the members of the so-called Yugoslav People's Army. In the surrounding area of Tovarnik, in Ovčara (Pustara) and Grabova (Pustara), there are a large number of soldiers who have been stationed there since the "OLUJA" action. Beside the infantry armaments, they also have a lot of tanks and other artillery weapons. The so-called Yugoslav People's Army is also stationed in the surrounding areas of Sotin. In the center of Tovarnik, there is a non-established number of certain specialists (as they referred to themselves) located in the local school. One group wear the red berets and another green scarves on their foreheads. From the railway in Tovarnik in the direction of liberated territory, the whole area was cleared probably in order to get a clear view, and because they were expecting an attack, or to say, the liberation of that area by the Croatian Army.

In regard to the arrival from the temporarily occupied territory of the Republic of Croatia, from Tovarnik, to the Republic of Croatia the named has nothing else to state.

Statement was given by: R.Đ.

**ANNEX 86:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.I.**

A.I., the daughter of ..., born on ... in ..., Bosnia and Herzegovina, a Croat by Nationality. She resides in .... She is a housewife. She has one son. JMBG (Unique Citizen's Registry Number) .... ID Number: ...

STATEMENT

During September 1991, the Yugoslav Army and volunteers (Chetniks) came to our house, searching for weapons, psychologically maltreating us, and forcing us to admit where we were hiding weapons. They psychologically maltreated us for days and nights.

I lived with my husband and son. My son managed to escape to Vinkovci and joined the Croatian Army as a volunteer. The conflicts began. The shells were falling down and we were hiding in the basements. At the end of September, their police came and told us to pack our things and that they would take us to a safe place by van. We went to Šid, after that to Gibovac, and then to Sotin. We stayed there for three days. After a few days we came back home for my husband was in a bad condition as a result of the maltreatment. When we arrived home, they allowed us to stay but we had to have a white rag tied around our arms, to be marked as if we had been Jewish. My husband and I were extremely upset, and since he had troubles with his heart, he died in January 1992.

In April 1991, I was expelled from my house again. The Serbia Military police organized the buses and ordered us to gather as soon as possible. We could take just a small quantity of our belongings. They took us to Šid. There, we were put into the buses in which there were refugees from Lovas. We were taken to Bosanski Šamac, and searched. They took all our money. We had to organize the buses from Bosanski Šamac to Zagreb.

On 7 April 1992, we arrived in Zagreb tired and exhausted. We were put in the Sports Center in Zagreb. We were welcome. They gave us food and an opportunity to rest. I had relatives in Zagreb who offered to help me. They gave me an apartment to live in with my cousin in ... Naselje (a district of Zagreb) . I lived with her for a while. At the end of 1992, my son returned from the Croatian Guard Corps. We were given an apartment, where we still live. Address: ....

All figures in the statement are authentic and truthful.

Statement given by: A.I.

Statement taken by: Jelka Senfiner

**ANNEX 87:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.G.**

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 1993 in the offices of the Donji Miholjac border police station.

On that day, at 3 p.m. the following refugees arrived at the International road border crossing, Donji Miholjac as entering passengers from the Republic of Hungary:

A.G., born on the ... in Tovarnik, Vukovar municipality, permanent address ..., owns the SFRY passport, number – ..., issued in the Secretariat of the Interior in Novi Sad on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1993

S.G., born on the ... in Tovarnik, Vukovar municipality, permanent address ..., Tovarnik, owns the SFRY passport, number – ..., issued in the Secretariat of the Interior in Novi Sad on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1993

E.H., born on the ... in Marinci, Vukovar municipality, permanent address ..., Vukovar municipality, owns the SFRY passport, number – ..., issued in the Secretariat of the Interior in Vukovar on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1985 where its validity was extended till the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 1990

In the conducted informative conversation with A. and S.G.. I obtained the following information:

“After the fall of Tovarnik we were taken to ŠID where we were questioned the whole day and after that we were granted permission to visit our relatives in Gibarac where we stayed for 12 days. After we came to Tovarnik we contacted Dušan Grković who sent us home without the obligation to report to the Police due to our old age. In the conversation with the local Serbs we see that they have a problem with the newcomers who took everything in their own hands and hey do not want to go to the positions, they send the local Serbs and the remaining Croatsians there instead. Now they praise the Croatian authorities and the Ministry of the Interior and they say that everything was just fine in that period. So, when Željko Tralić (a Croatian) was going to the position in Nijemci he got killed when the vehicle passed over the antitank mine. Marin Ferinac (a Croatian) went a couple of times to the position in Nijemci. Dušan Stupar and Dušan Dobrić go regularly to the positions in Nijemci and Lipovac. Dr. Martinović used to work in the Vukovar Medical Center till the end of the war and he opened a private pharmacy together with Ljubica Rudić . They get the medicines and the rest of the equipment with the help of the Red Cross where Ljubica works. The knocked down transmitter that was in Tovarnik, was transported to Serbia. The hewing of the Jelaš wood is still in process and the wood is taken to Serbia. Most of the Serbian newcomers wish to go back home and only the small number of them are ready to fight.”

A. and S.G. mention that the arrival of the greater number of the remaining Croatsians can be expected because they have exhausted all the food supplies and they have no means to obtain more supplies.

They are going to J.G.'s daughter's place, at ...

In the informative conversation with E.H. I obtained the following information:

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1993 a hand grenade was thrown into her yard and the bomb damaged the family house.



In the Opatovac Local Committee the local Serbs are in charge and these are the following individuals: Stojan Bjelić, Rudan Borić, Mirko Erić and Ružica Stanković . They organized the referendum that was held in the so-called “Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina” for the Opatovac Local Committee. The Serbs who came from Pakrac and Daruvar wanted to go back home but they do not realize the true situation outside the so-called “SAO Krajina”.

E.H. planned to go to Vinkovci to her father’s, F.P., place but she decided not to, because she has the SFRY passport and she thinks she will return to Opatovac where he husband is.

The official record was made so that the information could be obtained.

Statement was taken by: Mladen Bilić

Statement was given by: A.G.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
SOTIN**



**ANNEX 88:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

TESTIMONY – SOTIN

M.M. was born on ... in ... (Široki Brijeg, Bosnia and Herzegovina). From 1965 until 1980, she lived in Ovčara-Vukovar when she moved to Sotin. She lived there until the beginning of the war. On 14 November 1991, she left her house. The Address: ..., Sotin.

She lives now .... Telephone number: ....

She is a Croat, married, two children. Her daughter D. lives with her mother. She is married. Her son's name is Dr. Her husband is missing. His name is S.M. He was born on ... Her son is ... Her daughter is ... Her daughter has a girl of the age ...

ID number: ...

Unique Citizen's Registry Number: ...

Until the beginning of war she was employed in the ...

She is giving the following:

STATEMENT

Immediately after the massacre in Borovo Selo on 2 May 1991, the Serbs began to actively and obviously organize themselves. I was employed in the ... in Sotin. Sotin is 8 km away from Vukovar. 30 per cent of the inhabitants in Sotin were Serbs and the rest were mostly Croats and some were Hungarian. The main organizer of Serbs in Sotin was BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ. He was employed in the SUP (Secretariat of the Interior) Vukovar. He was about the age of 60. His three sons assisted him in the organization. Their names are Mirko KOVAČEVIĆ, aka Mirda, Slobodan KOVAČEVIĆ and Branko KOVAČEVIĆ. Their father is the greatest extremist of all Serbs in Sotin. Later, it came out that people were killed or disappeared under his accusation. He developed the plans for killing the Croats. The other extreme Serbs were Željko MIJAKOVAC, Žarko MILOŠEVIĆ (ŽARE), Ilija TORBICA, his sons Saša TORBICA and Željko TORBICA, Lazo MOROKVAŠIĆ, Veljko VASILJEVIĆ, DRAČA DUŠKO, Vinko TRKULJA, Zoran RUF, a Hungarian, and Boro ANOJČIĆ. I want to emphasize that all of them were our neighbors from Sotin.

Chronologically viewed from the massacre in Borovo Naselje until 28 August 1991 no one was killed. That period was a period of the great tension. We kept watch while the Serbs were moving out. The women and children were transported across Duane to Vojvodina and probably to Serbia. They claimed that they were endangered although they were left alone. The men stayed and normally continued to work.

The day of 28 August 1991 arrived. The day when DRAŽEN LUKETIĆ, 20-years-old was killed while defending Borovo Naselje. The streets were still passable so they brought his body. The second day, on the day of the funeral the procession was attacked from the air. Fortunately, no one was killed although one woman was seriously wounded. Shrapnel hit her on her head; her name is Slavica KUŠIĆ. Another woman was also wounded and her name is Anica IVANČIĆ. At that time my husband was still with us. The funeral was

delayed until the evening of the same day. A couple of hours after that the Serbian tanks got into the village, they pulled down the barricade and destroyed a couple of houses. We hid in the basement and because the tanks did not get in our part of the village we were able to join the convoy and leave by cars toward Lovas, Tovarnik, Ilača. We arrived at Županja. Unfortunately, my daughter was not with us; therefore, we came back to Tovarnik and stayed at our friend S.K.'s place. There were my husband, mother, son and I.

We stayed there for 7 days. The same night when we left for Županja a bus full of people (Croats) also left. In Tovarnik we realized that our daughter and granddaughter were in that bus, when the bus passed through the village. The driver of the bus was a Croat, BORO VUKOJEVIĆ. The bus left toward Županja. It was a very tense situation because the tanks and Serbian Army were passing by us on the streets. You never knew whether they would stop and kill you or something like that. But, the bus fortunately was not stopped and it left for Zagreb.

The next morning we left for Sotin to feed the cattle. Then we came back to our friend in Tovarnik and the same day we left for Županja. There we found out that our daughter and granddaughter had left for Zagreb. After that for the next 7 days, we lived from Tovarnik to Sotin.

At the end of September 1991, Dražen TOLP was killed. He was 28. ĐAKOVIĆ (I do not know his first name), from Šarengrad, was also killed. The killings took place by a house of one man. His surname is FRANK. The house was 500 m away from Sotin toward Opatovci, in the direction of Ilok. Both of them were in his car. Dražen TOLP was stopped, dragged out of the car, and killed by a close-range shot. We could see that because we got his body back. OBRAD MACURA, a Serb, helped us to get the body back. My husband helped to organize the funeral of DRAŽEN TOLP. Željko MIJAKOVIĆ is the prime suspect for that murder for he was on watch by the house of FRANK.

On 2 October 1991, the tanks arrived from Negoslavci. There were more than 10 of them. This time it was not only passing through the village but the typical attack. They shot at all sides. My mother, son, larger number of Croats from Sotin and I escaped by a car toward Opatovac. At that time no one was killed, but the Serbs took some people out of the village. They were S.L., IVAN IVANČIĆ and I cannot remember the rest. There were 4-5 of them. They were taken to the prisoner-of-war camp in Begejci. After two months they were released and they came to Croatia. At that time my husband worked. He came to Sotin and when he saw that we were not in Sotin he met us in Opatovac. Around 6 October 1991 we returned to Sotin again. There was an extremely tense situation. At that time Tovarnik, Lovas and Ilača were already occupied.

Then the fatal 14 October 1991 came, the day of the biggest and strongest attack against Sotin. The Serbs finally occupied the village. The 16 of us hid in the grass toward the Danube behind the house of OBRAD MACURA. We were very close to the events. My husband watched what was going on from the canal. He could hear and see the Serbs (our neighbors) talking and shouting. He recognized GORAN PAVIĆ, Mirko KOVAČEVIĆ, Lazo MOROKVAČIĆ and BRANKO BJELAJAC. All of them were armed and in uniforms except BRANKO BJELAJAC. They were well armed and celebrated the victory and occupation of the village. They shot at all sides and if they had known where we were hiding they would certainly have killed us all. The next morning around 6 am we escaped to Opatovac. By the bank of the river (Danube) we dug trenches and lived there for 16 days.

Around October 25, 1991, a Hungarian PASTI JANOŠ with his wife RUŽICA and three children crossed the Danube. He was born there. There he was captured, interrogated and beaten by the Serbs. Afterwards, I was told that he succumbed to the beating. Before that he

promised us to come back for us. DANE STOJANOVIĆ, a Croat from Jablanica, went with him. He was also captured and beaten. The Serbs knocked his teeth out, but fortunately he survived. I was told about it when I came to Zagreb, before I did not know anything about him.

Two days after one of us 10 found a cottage where we settled. His name was PIŠTA STER. Snježana KUŠIĆ and ĐUKA POČIĆ were with him. We stayed there for three days and organized our lives. After three days we were noticed. They shot at us with snipers across the Danube. The third day two trucks arrived full of soldiers. We ran away toward the Danube. The Serbs blew up those houses and then shot at us. While we were running they shot at us – snipers from the other side of the Danube and from the cottages. It was horrible. We lay down and crawled through the grass in an attempt to save our lives. We already saw death. No one was hurt. We could go nowhere but Sotin. It was the only place we could go. We came again behind the house of OBRAD MACURA. OBRAD MACURA told my husband that in the village more soldiers had arrived and that they killed people, but that there was no killing at that moment. MACURA said that it was best for us if we surrendered because they would kill us any way. He said that Arkan's, Seselj's and other soldiers were there. It was 30 October 1991. PIŠTA STER and Snježana KUŠIĆ after joined by Đuka POČIĆ and MARIN KUŠIĆ refused to surrender. All of them disappeared. We went into the center of town and saw the Chetniks there. We came into one basement and spent the night there. We were discovered by a dog which began to bark, which made us surrender. We put up a white handkerchief and then MOMO TINTOR and DUŠKO DRAČA passed by in a tractor. They asked what we were doing there. They told us to go to their headquarters which were stationed at the house of DRAGO LJUBAŠ a Croat. There were 6 of us: my husband, son, mother, our neighbor S.H., his daughter L.H. and I. There were a lot of Serbs from the village but from the Novi Sad Corps also. We were interrogated the whole day. It was October 10, 1991. My husband was the first to be interrogated and when he came out he was unable to say anything. BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ and others I mentioned on the first page interrogated him. They asked us about the weapons and men. I was the second. They wanted to know about M. K. and I said that I did not know. I said that the women were alone and that the men escaped. They asked me about many things such as the HDZ and so on. They accused us of saying that we would kill the Serbs. I said that it was not true. Then he calmed down and said I could go home, but not mine. My husband was not released. I came into the house and begged BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ to leave my husband alive. He said he would not. If he is innocent he would be released but the army has to interrogate him. He did not want to speak with me any longer. ŽELJKO TORBICA took us by force into a car and drove to the house of H. (a Hungarian). I have never seen my husband since. They gave us to the reservists in the Kragujevac Corps. We spent 2 weeks in that house. There, I was told (by MIRDA) that my husband was taken to Negotlavci. ŽELJKO JOKIĆ told me that my husband was taken to Zrenjanin. ŽELJKO JOKIĆ is one of the famous Chetniks. My son-in-law was 2 months at the prisoner-of-war camp in Begejci. He was exchanged after two months. He is 30 per cent disabled now. His name is Z.M. Those from the Kragujevac Corps told me that my husband would be sentenced to 5-10 years in prison or killed. We had to work every day, digging potatoes and so on. There was no one to tell me what happened to my husband.

On November 14, 1991, MILE OSTOJIĆ took us to Šid. From Šid we went to Doboj by bus. There was a private bus-line for Zagreb. We took it and arrived in Croatia. Six months ago I found out that we were also supposed to be killed. BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ ordered OSTOJIĆ to do that, but he could not do it.

BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ brought charges against me as well as against all other Croats.

I want to say that MIRKO KOVAČEVIĆ's (MIRDA) wife is in Poreč with two children. Her name is MILENA KOVAČEVIĆ. She is a Croat, but she has been twice in Ilok and Sotin. She has never given any statement.

I would add that two brothers SLAVKO NOVAK and JOSIP NOVAK were also taken from Sotin. They were both beaten and taken to Negoslavci. They disappeared. VLATKO MARINOVIĆ was taken with them and he disappeared as well. PERICA PROCEK and MARKO IVANČIĆ were taken with them, and the list of all the people is in the statement of EVICA ĐUKIĆ.

KATA BANOŽIĆ is a woman who came from Ovčara a month ago and she said that all of them were killed. She also said that she would not say anything else because her husband, DRAGO BANOŽIĆ, is still in prison.

By signing each page of this statement the giver of the statement M.M. and the note-taker MLADEN BRNČIĆ confirm that the statement is authentic and given willingly.

Zagreb, 15 February 1995

The statement given by:  
M.M.

The statement taken by:  
Mladen Bronchi

**ANNEX 89:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.U.**

B.U., an engineer of technology, born on ...,  
resides in ..., ....

"I, B.U., the daughter of ... and ..., was born on ... in Vukovar, a Croat. I live in Sotin, ..., Vukovar municipality. I am an engineer of ... I state that during the war in the area of Vukovar municipality, I lived in Sotin with my father, M.U. and sister, S.U., in our family house and from time to time in the house of my grandmother, M.U. After the resistance of the Vukovar defenders was broken, my father, sister and I were forced to labor by the members of Serbian population. Almost during the whole 1992, I spent in Slaughter House in Sotin doing all kinds of physical labor without financial compensation. For the labor, we used to get just some food barely enough to survive. During 1993, I used to go to Sremska Mitrovica giving the private mathematic lessons. I had to go to Serbia to earn some money, since my father and sister could not get a permission to go out of Sotin and in Vukovar they could not get a job apart from obliged labor for which they did not get money. After the liberation of a temporarily occupied area around Knin, we were being physically and psychologically maltreated and several time beaten by unknown persons. I emphasize the point that we could not leave Sotin since my father could not get a passport. So, we were forced to sign a statement that we voluntarily left the house and other premises to Ranko Tomas from Borovo Naselje, for which in exchange he made a passport for my father.

Regarding the missing wounded and other persons from the Vukovar Medical Center, who were taken after the resistance was broken, I would like to stress that I cannot say anything



about where they are or if they are still alive, but while we were still in Sotin the Serbian residents used to talk about the wounded persons and people from the Vukovar Medical Center being taken to Ovčara, killed, and covered with a dredger. However, no one mentioned the names of people who did it.

I state, under the complete moral, material, and criminal responsibility, that during the time I spent in Sotin I recognized the following persons:

1. MIODRAG (Sreto) MILANKOVIĆ, born on 1 November 1952 in the village of Bršadin, resides in Sotin, Matija Gubec Street 13. He is a Serb by nationality, a worker. As a member of Chetnik formation, he was involved in the attack against Vukovar, on which occasion he was wounded at his leg. He beat the Croatian residents of Sotin. Antun Ragus from Sotin, M. Orešković Street 7, succumbed to beating.
2. LJUBIŠKO (Ljuboje) VUJANAC, born on 28 April 1958 in the village of Koreničani, Đulovac municipality, resides in Koreničani 161, a Serb by nationality. He expelled the Croatian family Škarić from Sotin. At this moment, as a member of Chetnik formation, he is at the first frontlines in the direction of the free territory of the Republic of Croatia.
3. DRAGAN (Miloš) LONČAR, born on 28 March 1967 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 26, a Serb by nationality. As a member of "Šajkački" formation from Novi Sad, he took part in the attack against Vukovar. At this moment, he is at the first frontlines in the direction of the free territory of the Republic of Croatia.
4. NIKOLA (Miloš) LONČAR, born on 23 July 1974 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 26, a Serb by nationality, the brother of Dragan Lončar. He was took part in the attack against Vukoar as a member of "Šajkački" formation from Novi Sad. Now, he is in Petrovci as a member of the so-called Krajina Army.
5. JANKO (Dušan) MIJAKOVAC, born on 3 March 1957 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 28, a Serb by nationality. During the war happenings in the Vukovar municipality, he was in Sotin wearing a uniform of the former JNA, and carrying a mashine-gun. Now, he is in charge of bringing the refugees from Western Slavonia to Sotin and placing them into the houses of the expelled Croats.
6. SLAVKO (Stevan) TOSIĆ, born on 26 April 1961 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 32, a Serb by nationality. He tortured, physically and psychologically maltreated and humiliated the members of the Croatian Army *Franjo Kracko* from Sotin. Now, he is a reserve member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.
7. ŽELJKO (Ilija) TORBICA, born on 19 August 1966 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Vladimir Nazor Street 14, a Serb by nationality. He was involved in the attack against Vukovar as a member of the Chetnik formation. Now, he is a reservist of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.
8. SAŠA (Ilija) TORBICA, born on 27 September 1968 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 16, a Serb by nationality. He was involved in the attack against Vukovar as a member of the Chetnik formation. Now, he is a reservist of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.
9. MIRKO (Milan) OPAČIĆ, born on 4 February 1951 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Boris Kidrič Street 53, a Serb by nationality. He was involved in the attack against Vukovar as a member of the Chetnik formation. Now, he is the Commander of Territorial Defense in Sotin.
10. ŽELJKO (Mitar) MIJAKOVAC, born on 26 November 1950 in Sotin, resides in Sotin,

Maršal Tito Street 66, a Serb by nationality. He was employed at the police station of the so-called SAO Krajina during the attack against Vukovar and a couple of months after the resistance of the Vukovar defenders was broken. Now, he is in Petrovci as a member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army. He took part in the maltreatment and expulsion of the Croats from the Vukovar municipality.

11. BAČIĆ from Vinkovci (the other information unknown). He cooperated with the Chetniks formations from Serbia. He and his son are still at the first frontlines in the direction of the free territory of the Republic of Croatia.

12. MLADEN (Mirko) DRAČA, born on 6 April 1967 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, M. Orešković Street 32, a Serb by nationality. He cooperated with the voluntarily Chetniks formations from Serbia. He took part in the expulsion of Croats from the Vukovar municipality. Now, he is a reservist of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.

13. MILAN (Mile) DRAČA, born on 30 January 1950 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 19, a Serb by nationality. He is in Sotin now, as a member of Chetniks formations. He also maltreated the Croats and observed the forceful work in the slaughterhouse and on the fields.

14. DUŠAN (Mile) DRAČA, born on 6 March 1948 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Vladimir Nazor Street. He was in Sotin during the war wearing a JNA uniform. He had an automatic rifle. He also took part in the maltreatment and expulsion of the Croats. Now, he is at the first frontlines in the direction of the free territory of the Republic of Croatia.

15. ŽIVKO (Milivoj) OPAČIĆ, born on 8 May 1954 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Školska Street 2, a Serb by nationality. He was involved in the expulsion of the Croats from the area of Sotin. He robbed the Croatian houses. Now, he is in Petrovci as a member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.

16. DARKO BOGDANOVIĆ, comes from the area of Daruvar or Pakrac. After the "BLJESAK" action he got employed in the so-called SAO Krajina police.

17. JOVO TORBICA, before the war, he lived somewhere in the area of Kutina. At this moment, he is in Sotin as an active member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.

18. BISERKO (STEVAN) KOVAČEVIĆ, born on 3 August 1930 in the village of Ervenik, resides in Vukovar, Moše Pijada Street 7, a Serb by nationality. During the war in the area of Vukovar municipality, he was in Sotin wearing a uniform of the former JNA. He carried an automatic rifle. He once was the Deputy Commander of Territorial Defense. Now, he works in the Civil Protection.

19. MILIVOJE BOSANAC, the other information unknown. Before the war he lived somewhere in the area of Slatina. Now, he is in Sotin as a reserve member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.

20. LJUBICA (Jovan) MALBAŠA, born on 14 March 1960 in Vukovar, reside in Vukovar, Trg Republike, a Serb by nationality. She took part in the maltreatment and torture of the residents of Croatian nationality.

21. BORKA (Nenad) TRKULJA born on 6 January 1958 in the village of Micijevci, Lukavac municipality, Bosnia and Herzegovina, resides in Sotin, Vladimir Nazor Street 52, a Serb by nationality. She took part in the maltreatment and torture of the Croats. At this moment, she is a member of the "KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA" club in charge of collecting things for the army and offering the help at the frontlines.

22. ANĐELIJA (Jovan) MACURA, born on 1 October 1955 in Krupa, resides in Sotin, Vladimir Nazor Street 24, a Serb by nationality. She also took part in the maltreatment of the Croats. At this moment, she is a member of the "KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA" club in charge of gathering things for the army and offering the help at the frontlines. She also works in the Civil Protection in Sotin.

23. VESNA (Duško) BORJAN, born on 29 April 1970 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 75, a Serb by nationality. She took part in the maltreatment and torture of the Croats. At this moment, she is a member of the "KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA" club.

24. ZORAN (Josip) RUF, born on 25 April 1966 in Vukovar, resides in Jakobovac, a Serb by nationality. He was involved in the armed attacks against the Republic of Croatia. At this moment, he is an active member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army and is at the first frontlines in the direction of the free territory of the Republic of Croatia.

25. ZORICA RUF, the other information unknown, the wife of Zoran Ruf, at this moment she is a secretary in the Territorial Defense in Sotin.

26. STOJA (Kosta) VUJANAC, born on 17 October 1957 in Bokani, resides in Bulovci, Gornje Cjepidlake 221, Daruvar municipality, a Serb by nationality. After she came from Western Slavonia to Sotin, she was assigned to give the expelled Croats' houses to the Serbs.

27. MIROSLAV (Dragomir) MACURA, born on 21 November 1960 in Ervenik, resides in Sotin, M. Orešković Street 21, a Serb by nationality. During the conflicts in the area of Vukovar municipality, he was in Sotin wearing a JNA uniform and armed with an automatic rifle. At this moment, he is the Head of Local Committee in Sotin. Before this duty, he was an active member of the Territorial Defense in Sotin.

28. SPOMENKA (Elemir) MILANKOVIĆ, born on 21 April 1958 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Matija Gubec Street 13, a Serb by nationality. At this moment, she is a member of the "KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA" club and also the main secretary in the Territorial Defense in Sotin.

29. PREDRAG (Savo) BEZBRADICA, born on 6 August 1968 in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 45, a Serb by nationality. During the conflicts, he was a member of the so-called SAO Krajina police. Now, he is at the first frontlines as a member of the so-called SAO Krajina police.

30. SAŠA (Dušan) DRAČA, born on 21 January 1970, in Vukovar, resides in Sotin, Vladimir Nazor Street 48, a Serb by nationality. Wearing a JNA uniform, he took part in the attack against Vukovar. At this moment, he is in Sotin as a police member.

31. GORAN (Gligorije) PAVIĆ, born on 23 August 1965 in Vukovar, resides in Vukovar, J. Kozarac Street 28, a Serb by nationality. As a member of the paramilitary Serbian Chetniks formations, he was involved in the armed attack against the village of Sotin, and on that occasion also took part in the murdering of the Croatian resident. He stood out in stalling the personal properties of the Croatian residents.

32. MILENKO (Dmitar) BLAGOJEVIĆ, born on 20 August 1966 in Pakrac, resides in Koreničani 30, a Serb by nationality. He stood out in physical and psychological maltreatment of the Croats. He robbed the Croatian properties threatening them with the weapons.

33. DRAGAN MITROVIĆ from Vršci, the other information unknown. He was involved in the attack against the village of Sotin as a member of the volunteers' Serbian formations.

He was also involved in killing the Croatian residents.

34. MILAN (Branko) KONČAR, born on 18 March 1966 in the village of Markovac, Daruvar municipality, resides in Koreničani 20, a Serb by nationality. He voluntarily joined and is still an active member of the so-called SAO Krajina Army.

35. OLIVERA (Drago) ANOJČIĆ, born on 25 October 1950 in Sotin, resides in Sotin, Maršal Tito Street 50, a Serb by nationality. . At this moment, she is a member of the "KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA" club.

On 16 August 1995, with my father and sister I came to Croatia by bus passing through Hungary. We have settled in Zagreb, ..., at my uncle's, M.U., place.

STATEMENT GIVEN BY: B.U.

**ANNEX 90:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF H.V.\***

on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 1991 – 7:30 a.m., Sotin – H.V. – 50

STATEMENT

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 1991 I was arrested in my home village Sotin, the place where I was born. I was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, 1935. Being indigeneous to this village, I was on very good terms with the rest of the people, as much as with those born there, as with the settlers who came from the areas around Knin, Glina, Petrinja and Topusko. On that unfortunate day my destiny caught up to me when I brought the water from the farm to my godfather and 2 more friends. At 7:30 a.m. while I was in my godfather's yard, the automatic fire was opened on us so we quickly went to the basement. The neighbor M. B. was already shouting: "Get out of there or I'll throw a bomb". The two of us went out of the basement and we had to lie down on our bellies just near the water tap and there the two people searched through our pockets. In the meantime, while his wife, mother-in-law and his granddaughter were standing there, the two men entered the basement and took sexual advantage of his mother-in-law. After that the two of us were forced on the road and we had to kneel down and so they put a noose around our necks and over the back, passing it between our legs, and we had to stretch our hands and then they tied us up. Tied in that way, we came to the house of Branko Utvić. We stopped there, because it was fired upon from the tank on the house of Andrija Topić, and then neighbor Marinko Berić forcibly brought the Bakša couple. After that we walked behind the tank, we came to my house and my neighbor Ž. M., who was at the same time the member and the commander of that group, told me to go with M. B. and to show him where my brother's rifle was. We went there so that I could show him where the rifle was, but it was not there. Somebody has hidden it somewhere else during the evacuation from Sotin. As I came into the camp, I met my brother and he told me where he had hidden the hunting rifle, 40 bullets and a hand-grenade, and I think that all of this is still there. Since they did not find the weapon, the neighbor who was a commander (the above mentioned) ordered the last tanker to fire 2 shells at my house and I had to watch that. After that they fired at my brother's son's house, the godfather J.S. and that same tank must have been from the village Sotin since he aimed at the most sensitive parts of the houses. While this was happening the two brothers Krajnović's houses were already on fire in Dunavska Street. Then we followed the tanks until we came to the ex-police station commander Branko Ivković. There we stood on the road. In Drago Pavić's house, Boro Anojčić welcomed them and

offered them brandy and all of them went inside to drink. At that time Žare Milošević was passing by and he asked me: where my bicycle was and why I am not going around the village on a bicycle. You were moving around the village too much. Then we came in front of the Kuzma Mravunac's house, and the Kušić couple, Marko and Manda were forcibly brought, and in the meantime they were robbing the houses, taking the home appliances, VCR-s, smaller TV sets, cameras and anything they liked. They took so many things that when they put the stolen goods in the transporter of the caterpillar, which opens at the back, they could not close its door. After that we came to Zlatko Šijaković's house which was in flames and we stood there for 15 minutes. The store owned by Franjo Kracek, who was the commander of our reserve composition of the National Guard, was burning and Martin Mikac's house was burning too. In front of the Local Office we stopped again and here the reservists took the Croatian flag, set it on fire and they left it half burnt on the road in order to be seen. They also set on fire the coffee bar (The coffee bar 11) owned by Ivan Luka Ivančić. My neighbor ..., the commander, ordered his group to go with 2 tanks and to find Ivan Luka Ivančić. When we arrived in the I. L. Ribar Street M.P. and I. I. were taken out of the basement and they were tied together with the three of us. They let M. K., M. K.'s wife, go. They shot at Ruža, Đuro Korač's wife, and she fell on the ground. After that we came into the Vladimir Nazor Street and we reached Ivan Milanović's house and then Stjepan Nemet was forcibly brought by Marko Kovačević and he was tied in the same way as me and Rapčak were tied. After that Saša Torbica came and he hit Nemet in the right eye which became swollen and turned blue, and he told him that he will kill him, that (if?) there is no one to kill him expect him. Later on we had to watch them shoot at the church. With 6 discharges they knocked the church tower down. We continued to walk through the street, they shot from the tank at the house of now deceased Ante Luketić, and they damaged it badly. Further on, we came to Josip Brand's house and they set it on fire. While the house was burning Dudar and his wife Katica offered them 4 bottles of liquor to drink. We, tied in that way, had to climb on the tank and we all went to Ljuban Bjelajac's house, where we waited for other tanks that went into the M. Orešković and V. Vlahović Street. We saw them shooting at Luka Viduman's house, at Mate Stojanović's house which was knocked down, they set the coffee bar and the house, both owned by Luca Strabilijus on fire and her house was burnt down. We saw that Franjo Lemunović's house and Stjepan Šijaković's house were on fire too. They were also shooting at Vinko Dukić's house and his son's (Trpimir) house was pulled down. Vlado Cek's house was also badly damaged, Slavko Novak's house was burnt down and to this very day there is no information about him. We went further, towards Vukovar and Ivan Novinc's house was on fire and then Mirko Berić set our postman's (Marin Kušić) house on fire, the house burnt down completely and there is no information about him too. Then we came to my neighbors' (S.B. and A.T.) houses and they were burnt down too. They set the house of Josip Novak on fire, there is no information about him nor about a friend M.Š. Afterwards we came to the house of our so called "gruntlak" (estate), Boro Anojčić came and he let M. K. and his neighbor go, and then came the convoy of all the Serbs from Sotin village, they were heading for Negoslavci. We were in the convoy, between the tanks and they led us to the villages where they were shouting at us: "Ustashas, slaughter them, these are the people that slaughtered and killed the Serbs in Sotin." As a result of this only one boy was killed, Miodrag Nađ and he were killed on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. They took us to the quarters where they physically and psychologically abused us. After that we were taken to the basement for an hour, and then they loaded us on a truck and took us to ŠID for further mistreatment. That same night our co-villagers Željko Mijakovac and Žare Milošević asked the officer on duty to hand me in to them so they could take me back to Negoslavci and abuse me in front of the Sotin and Negoslavci

villagers, but the officer did not allow that. He said that I was a war prisoner and that he could not let me go. The following evening, it was Tuesday, Željko Mijaković, Stevan Pavić, Petar Odor, other neighbors and also Milan Drača came and they wanted to take me again, but the same officer did not allow it. After that they phoned Biserko Kovačević who was one of the head people in the ŠID quarters. When he came around 9:30 a.m., after a lot of persuasion, the officer agreed to let me go and he unlocked the hall door. They thought that I would have to come out so they could grab me and take me, but the others (from Ilača, Orolik, Svinjarevac, Petrovci and Ilok) who had been waiting the whole night heard that too and they did not manage to get hold of me. They told the officer that he would just open the door and later on he would say that I had ran away. My wallet was in their possession and Mijaković told them to take my money because I would not be needing it any way, but they did not take it, they gave it back to me on the third day (on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September) together with my personal documents. That day, towards the evening, we were taken in the trucks to Mitrovica, then they transferred us to buses and we reached Begejci in the evening. The Novi Sad Television and the journalists met us there. They filmed every one of us and they asked us where we came from and we had to say that. The person on duty who received us said: "These are the Croats, Ustashas from Eastern Slavonia." We stayed there for 72 days till the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 1991 when we were exchanged in Bosanski Šamac. We were also abused in the camp.

The list of names of the persons who took part in the attack activity on Sotin village on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, 1991 at 5:30 p.m.:

1. Željko Mijakovac
2. Žare Milošević
3. Biserko Kovačević
4. Mirko Kovačević
5. Sloba Kovačević
6. Mirko Berić
7. Marinko Berić
8. Ilija Berić
9. Goran Pavić
10. Slavko Tošić
11. Boro Anojčić
12. Momčilo Anojčić
13. Mile Višić (Rambo)
14. Mile (called Zumbul- hyacinth)
15. Drago Martić
16. Janko Mijakovac
17. Dragan Lončar
18. Nikola Lončar
19. Drača Milan Drača
20. Dušan Drača
21. Saša Drača
22. Srdo Drača
23. Mladen Drača
24. Željko Olujić
25. Ratko Lalić
26. Branko Lalić
27. Željko Torbica
28. Saša Torbica
29. Zoran Macura

30. Siniša Durdar
31. Siniša Stevičin
32. Vinko Trkulja
33. Nikica Trkulja
34. Branko Trkulja
35. Milan Bjedov
36. Lazar Tintor
37. Mlado Tintor
38. Đoko Radanović
39. Nidžo Bezbradica
40. Žiko Opačić
41. Mirko Opačić
42. Zdravko Marčić
43. Željko Marčić
44. Mile Vučenović
45. Dušan Vučenović
46. Miodrag Macura
47. Milan Malbaša
48. Ljuban Bjelajac
49. Voja Bjelajac
50. Momo Tintor
51. Mile Ostojić
52. Lazo Morokvašić
53. Veljko Vasiljević
54. Mile Nježić
55. Petar Korov

## OTHERS AS COURIERS:

56. Čedo Berić
57. Mitar Mijakovac
58. Branko Ivković
59. Stevica
60. Bogdan Bazdar
61. Branko Utvić
62. Stevo Pavić
63. Milan Bjelajac
64. Petar Odor
65. Lazo Odor
66. Ilija Nježić
67. Predrag Bezbradica
68. Špiro Bezbradica
69. Rade Radić
70. Milorad Martić
71. Dušan Mijakovac
72. Slobodan Milošević
73. Milan Opačić
74. Milorad Bajić
75. Kosta Bajić's son – Bački Jarak
76. Jokić junior

The information given by: H.V.

SOT. – 50

H.V., born in ..., is on the list of the examined persons in the clinic of the Health Center of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia, where his medical records are kept.

He resided in the Begejci camp from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, 1991 till the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 1991.

**ANNEX 91:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.L.\***

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on 15 May 1998 in the premises of the Police Department of the Vukovar-Srijem District, Crime Investigation Department, Section for War Crimes and Terrorism, after the interview on the participation of the inhabitants of Sotin in the killings of victims of the Croatian War of Independence and on possible locations of mass graves in the area of the Croatian area called Podunavlje.

On 13 May 1998, an interview on the above-mentioned subjects was made with S. L. born on ... in Sotin, with residence in ..., ... by occupation, Croat by nationality, can be reached at the telephone number ....

On 30 September 1991, the witness, together with his wife A.\* and daughter M.\*, went into the basement of Lazar Morokvašić, and when they saw a chance, they fled to the field "sirka" behind the house. In the mentioned basement, there were, beside Lazar Morokvašić, also Milan Malbaša from Marko Orešković Street, Jovanka Dražić ..., and Momčilo and Nada Tintor.

On the street in front of the house of Lazar Morokvašić there was ZORICA RUF, maiden name Anojčić, who was wearing a transmitter of the JNA on her back and waiting for the "liberators". They came to the house with two tanks, three transporters and other vehicles. ŽELJKO MIJAKOVAC, who was at the head of the "liberators", asked Zorica Ruf, whether there were any Serbs in the basement. She said. "In the basement are Đurica, Zlata and the children, but there are also our people inside." Then, a voice not familiar to S., said: "Surround the house!"

Then, GORAN PAVIĆ from Mitnica, son of Gliša and Smiljka, wearing a uniform of the so-called JNA with a white rag on his arm and a bullet-proof vest and a helmet on his head came to the basement door with an automatic gun in his hands, and shouted: "Open the door! Lazo and our people, come out, and A.. come out last, the woman and the children ahead!" After they had come out of the basement, Goran Pavić, threatening with the automatic gun, ordered him to put his hands on the head and asked whether someone had guns. When he came out of the basement, S. saw DUŠAN DRAČA keeping an automatic rifle at the ready. S.'s daughter M. was crying, and Dušan Drača stroked her over her hair and said scornfully: "Cry, cry, my Sanja cried, too!" Then he asked S.'s wife A. about whether S. had weapons. Željko Mijakovac took a pack of cigarettes "Croatia" out of S.'s pocket and threw it away. He said: "From now on, you will smoke what we give you!"



Stevo then saw BORIS ANOJČIĆ in civilian clothes, who held a black briefcase in his hands and asked him: “Boro, what is going on?”, and the other one answered scornfully: “Fuck it, I am captured, too!”

The witness also noticed SLAVKO TOŠIĆ, called Lale, also wearing a uniform, whom S. and his wife A. personally saw taking valuable household appliances such as televisions and hi-fi's from Croat's houses, together with ŽELJKO JOKIĆ, and loading it into transporters. Among the above mentioned, the witness also saw MIRKO KOVAČEVIĆ, called Mirda, MIRKO BERIĆ, MARINKO BERIĆ, JANKO MIJAKOVAC and MIODRAG MILANKOVIĆ, known as Zumbul or Cvole. They started to beat S.L. with gunbutts, feet and fists. When they finished, Željko Mijakovac ordered: “Tie him up, he is a member of the HDZ and a Ustasha!” Then a person from Negoslavci, unknown to the witness, tied him up with a rope and said to S.'s wife: “He will be back; he just has to tell us a few words.” While they were beating him, the inhabitant DUŠAN LALIĆ, who was wearing civilian clothes and stood aside, said: “What are you doing to him?” They told him to shut up, or else he will end up as an Ustasha. The members of the paramilitary units took S. to his house and searched for weapons. As they did not find anything, they started torturing him both physically and mentally. Then they tied him to the back of a gun turret, and in that way he hung by his hands. Z.

J., while being beaten, had to walk behind another tank with tied hands and threatened with firearms. Stevo personally saw that HEKTOR VLAHIĆ, IVAN IVANČIĆ, VERA RAPČAK and around ten other civilians were taken in a tractor-trailer in the direction of Negoslavci. DMITAR MIJAKOVAC drove the tractor. According to the statement of the witness, he still lives in Sotin, at the address .... Then they drove the witness and Z.J. on a tank in the direction of Vukovar. They tortured them physically and mentally all the time. At the turning to Jakobovac, they were stopped by a person unknown to S., wearing one part of the uniform of the so-called JNA and an undershirt with a rucksack on his back and accompanied by several young soldiers. ŽELJKO MIJAKOVAC called him “Captain” and told him that he was transporting Ustashes and members of the HDZ. He also told him that S. had “slaughtered Serbian children” in the slaughterhouse of Sotin. The Captain ordered Željko Mijakovac to take S. down from the tank, because, if he was an Ustasha, then he belonged to him, the Captain. From there they were taken to the so-called “Goldsmitov salaš”, located in the vineyards in Vučedol, threatened with fire arms by the above mentioned inhabitants of Sotin and tortured both in a physical and mental way. At the above mentioned location, the brothers ŽELJKO and SAŠA TORBICA, inhabitants of Sotin wearing uniforms of the so-called JNA, joined the other inhabitants of Sotin. During the transport, they beat S. very hard and took him to an unnamed Major, who treated him correctly, but he allowed the others to beat him. On that occasion, a statement in the name of S.L. was written by ŽELJKO MIJAKOVAC and other local rebel Serbs from Sotin. The alleged statement by S.L. said that he participated in the establishment of the HDZ, that he “slaughtered Serbian children in the slaughterhouse of Sotin”, that he fired at Serbs etc. It was also written that S. refused to sign the statement, so that he was beaten again. Such a statement was also offered to Z.J.. Because they both refused to sign the statement, S.L. and Z.J., while continually being tortured both physically and mentally, were put in a military truck “pinzgauer”. There they were tied and guarded by two members of the regular so-called JNA. In the evening, they were taken to the Administration Building in Ovčara. S. later, in a conversation with MATO KUŠIĆ from Sotin, found out that in front of the Administration Building another military truck “pinzgauger” had been awaited, transporting inhabitants of Ovčara VLADIMIR TURBA and ĐURO ROGIĆ. While they were in the “pinzgauger”, S.L. heard a rifle burst and

somebody shouting “Ustashes!” but he heard no yowling or groaning, so that he does not know for sure whether somebody was killed on that occasion. Approximately 500 m away from the Administration building, while crossing the field between Ovčara and Negoslavci, he heard firing and shouting. They were taken in the “pinzgauer” to to the center of Negoslavci and there taken out of the truck. While leaving the truck, they saw Serbian inhabitants of Sotin in civilian clothes and in uniforms, as well as persons unknown to S., who were most probably inhabitants of Negoslavci. There were also children among them; the people wore Serbian peasant caps, different helmets and uniforms of the so-called JNA; they threatened them, and some of them even beat them.

Inhabitants of Sotin wanted to beat the witness, but they were stopped by GORAN PAVIĆ, who told them: “He belongs to me, I will take care of him”. It was told in such a scornful manner, that the witness concluded that he would be most probably killed. Then, they took S. and Z. to the premises of the so-called “Police” for questioning, where persons, unknown to them, wearing uniforms of the “Police” physically tortured and beat them all over the body. Then they offered S. the above-mentioned “statement” to sign it, which he refused. Therefore, he was beaten again. From the police station, they were taken to the house at the entrance of Negoslavci from the direction of Vukovar, the fourth house on the left side. There, they locked them into a room under the staircase, which functioned as a wardrobe. From there, the witness was taken to ŠID, and then to Sremska Mitrovica. In October 1991, he and Z.J. were taken to to Bubanj Potok, where S. saw M. and F.Z. from Berak. S. was told, though he personally did not witness it, that the father and son were tortured in the way that they were forced to have sexual intercourse with each other. He also saw the captured S.P. and Z.O. from Berak. He does not know what eventually happened to M. and F.Z. The witness S.L. was taken from Bubanj Potok to the camp in Begejci, where he was also tortured and beaten during questioning. In Begejci, the witness had to make a fence around the camp on the order of Colonel Živanović, who was then 45 years of age and 175 cm tall. Later, after they had returned from the camp, S.L. and S.Š. (father

... and mother ., maiden name ..., born on ... in Vukovar, with residence in ..., by occupation military retiree, Croat by nationality) were told by Petar Kracko, called Brada, Colonel of the Croatian Army living at the island Vis, that the above mentioned Colonel Živanović is now a member of the Croatian Army. In Stajićevo, S.L. also saw Dr Đuranac, who at the moment is working in the Medical Clinic in Borovo, who did not want to give necessary medical help to the wounded and camp prisoners, that is that he energetically refused to do it. According to the statement of the witness S.L., most probably it was him who established the cause of death of the prisoners. The witness saw Dr Emedi in Stajićevo and a member of staff of Medical Center in Vukovar, whose nickname is “Gumeni”. They helped the people in every way. The witness was released by exchange from Stajićevo.

As for the mass and individual graves, in Sotin, ... Street in the house of Slavko Šijaković, there was a *TEXT MISSING*...she said that the bodies were allegedly dug out by the Red Cross. Further, the witness said that, while he was transported to Vučedol, he saw 2 tank trenches, 20 m away from the road, where now there is a ploughed field 50x50 m. It seemed illogical to him, that no grapes were planted there, especially because everywhere around there were vineyards. This location can be seen from the Vukovar-ŠID road. Further, the witness S.L. claims that near the so-called “bajer” there was an excavation place, that means, a well-known archeological site of the Vučedol culture. He does not know whether it is covered up, but he says that is appropriate for a grave, because it is around 500 m away from the road.

The witness gave information on the following Serbian inhabitants of Sotin:

Dr MILORAD VIŠIĆ – the witness said that he personally saw the person on 30 September 1991 in a JNA uniform, with an unknown officer rank attached on the sleeve, armed with a pistol of unknown type, in the center of Sotin, in Goldsmitov Salaš and in Negoslavci. He was on duty in the hospital in Vukovar as a doctor, and is allegedly now a specialist in Novi Sad or Belgrade.

VELJKO VASILJEVIĆ – S.L. personally saw him in Negoslavci wearing a uniform of the JNA and armed. He heard that Veljko most probably took his brother-in-law Dragutin Pocić, and ordered that he be killed, because they were not on good terms. At the moment, he is employed in the farming collective in Negoslavci.

ZORAN MACURA – the witness heard that Macura could not now explain why the bodies of SMAJO HALILOVIĆ and his wife FRANKA HALILOVIĆ, were burned in the basement of their house.

GORAN PAVIĆ – he is at the moment somewhere abroad

BISERKO KOVAČEVIĆ – is somewhere in Serbia

MIRKO KOVAČEVIĆ – lives in Ilok, allegedly employed in the winery.

SLOBODAN KOVAČEVIĆ – in Serbia

BRANKO KOVAČEVIĆ – in Serbia

ŽELJKO JOKIĆ – in Norway

ŽARKO MILOŠEVIĆ, called Žare – moved to Plavno, Bač, SRJ

PETAR KOROV – wounded in the military operation “Storm”, allegedly seen in the hospital in Vinkovci

MIODRAG MILANKOVIĆ, called Zumbul, Cvole – moved to Bingula, SRJ

PREDRAG BEZBRADICA – moved

BORIS ANOJČIĆ – at the moment employed in Ilok as manager of the shop “Vupik”

MIRKO BERIĆ- moved to Montenegro

MARINKO BERIĆ – moved to Montenegro

RATKO LALIĆ – lives in Veternik, SRJ

BRANKO LALIĆ – lives in Veternik, SRJ

MILORAD NJEZIĆ – not seen in Sotin

MILAN OPAČIĆ – does not live in Sotin

MIRKO OPAČIĆ – does not live in Sotin

ZORICA RUF – married Željko Jokić, now living in Norway

DRAGAN LONČAR – moved

NIKOLA LONČAR – moved

SLAVKO TOŠIĆ – moved to Plavno, Bač

ŽELJKO TORBICA – moved to Serbia

SAŠA TORBICA – lives in Norway

BRANKO TRKULJA – does not live in Sotin

NIKOLA TRKULJA – does not live in Sotin

VINKO TRKULJA – does not live in Sotin

ŽELJKO MIJAKOVAC – does not live in Sotin

JANKO MIJAKOVAC – after having suffered a brain stroke, he is allegedly at the General Hospital in Osijek

MILAN VUČENOVIĆ – does not live in Sotin

DUŠAN VUČENOVIĆ – does not live in Sotin

LAZAR TINTOR – was allegedly killed in action

MLADEN TINTOR – left Sotin

MOMČILO TINTOR – left Sotin

STEVAN TEOFANOVIĆ – lives in Perth, Australia

SINIŠA TEOFANOVIĆ – lives in Perth, Australia

SINIŠA BUDAR – most probably in Norway

SINIŠA ČANČAREVIĆ – does not live in Sotin

LAZAR ODOR – allegedly killed in action

Witness statement was taken by

AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS: Nenad Barinić and Pero Budim

Statement was given by: S.L.

#### ANNEX 92:

#### WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.H.

No. KIR-138/93

PETAR HODOVANJ

From Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1993

The witness has been admonished in terms of Article 219 of the “ZKP” that he is not obliged to answer to certain questions, if it proves likely that answering to them would expose himself and his relatives to disgrace, significant material damage or criminal prosecution, and according to Articles 221 and 222 of the Criminal Law he is invited to say everything about the subject that he is familiar with. Accordingly, he testifies:

I was born in the village of Sotin, and there I spent my lifetime, all until Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, 1991, when I was exiled from Sotin. Sotin is not a big village, so it is quite understandable that the inhabitants knew each other.

After I was shown the names of the accused, listed according to the official request for investigation, I must say that I know each of the accused personally, although I have to point out that the accused No. 27, MIODRAG MACURA, son of Obrad Macura, is, as far as I know, dead.

Further, the accused No. 37, DRAGAN LONČAR, son of Miloš Lončar, is the same person as the accused No. 3, Dragan Lončar; the accused No. 38, NIKOLA LONČAR, is the same person as the accused No. 2, Nikola Lončar, whose personal data, as written beside his name, is unknown.

As I have already said, I lived in the village all until Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, 1991. It could be said that the attack on the village started on Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1991. That day, a Croatian soldier-member of the National Guard- was supposed to be buried at 3.00pm. Possibly, the enemy forces had

been informed about it, because at that time an aircraft attack started on the village, which was shelled.

As far as I know, two women were wounded during that attack.

As for the accused, generally I can say that already before the aforesaid date they stated to move out their families, in the first place women and children, from the village, and bring them to a safe place. Before the attack on the village, Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1991, I personally did not see that any of the accused wore military uniforms. However, a fact is that after the attack, all of them disappeared from the village, that means that they were not in the village.

I suppose that during that time they stayed in their bases, in the first place in Negoslavci, Vinkovci, ŠID. All until Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1991, it had been relatively calm in the village itself, which means that in that period no armed attacks on the village had been carried out. However, on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 1991, from two sides the village was invaded by enemy forces, which consisted of infantry units and mechanized tank units. They started to destroy apartment and family houses and outhouses. Because they destroyed only the Croatian houses in the village, I suppose that they had been directed by the inhabitants of the village which houses to destroy, who were in the units and who were the only who could have known which houses belonged to the Croats.

Statement was given by: P.H.

Statement was taken by: Court council

**ANNEX 93:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.M.**

B.M., I was born on the ... in ... Permanent address ....

I am married and I have two children. I have graduated from Economy High School. I worked in SDK in Vukovar. I am of Croatian nationality. During the war I was in Sotin as a member of the civil protection. I was in Sotin until the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. As far as I know I was the last one to come out before the occupation. Then I came to the free part of Croatia with the Ilok convoy. After that I was a member of the 124<sup>th</sup> brigade, and later I was a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Croatian Army Cannon – Howitzer Division – operational area Osijek. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, 1992 I transferred to reserve composition of the municipal Vukovar police where I still work. Now I work in Lovran and my family is situated in .....

Unique Citizens' Registry Number (UCRN) – ...

I give the following

**STATEMENT**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of August, 1991 the Yugoslav aviation machine – gunned and threw missiles on Sotin. Their aim was to enter the village from Vukovar and to bomb the center where, at that time, there was a funeral of the killed guardsman DRAŽEN LUKETIĆ – killed in Borovo Naselje. At that moment there were around 100 people at that funeral. The members of the reserve composition of the National Guard from Ilok, Sotin, Jakobovac, Lovas etc. and the members of the active composition were there too, but luckily nobody got hurt, except the two ladies that were hurt as civilians. They were taken to Ilok and they survived the war. One of them, SLAVICA KUŠIĆ, suffers from the consequences, but the other lady, M. I., is fine.

Then we got a notification that we must evacuate from village because Sotin would be attacked the next day and demolished entirely. We reached Lovas in convoy, where half of the convoy was passed through Tovarnik to the highway for Zagreb, while the other half was returned back to Sotin.

The next day this other half tried to evacuate again. Most of the people went to Ilok, and later they got to the free part of Croatia with a convoy. One part of the people stayed in Sotin and there is not much information about them. It is supposed that the majority of these people were killed, and they are registered as missing – taken in an unknown direction. The JNA, besides firing missiles, invaded Sotin three times with tanks without the infantry. It is known that the Serbian villagers were in those tanks.

In those two attacks they invaded with tanks, machine – gunned and fired with tank cannons on houses. In that way they destroyed about 20 houses. I saw that. It all happened in September. The third time when they invaded the village with tanks (preceded with artillery preparation) they did the same thing, but they came out of the tanks, burnt houses around the village and they picked up the Croatian villagers and they took them away, part of them to Golsmit farm – at the old Vučedol entry, and the rest to Ovčara.

Then some persons of Serbian nationality followed them, but not as prisoners. Among them were: MILISLAV MILINOVIĆ, MILOVAN MILANKOVIĆ, called “Zumbul” (hyacinth), BRACO TOŠIĆ, called “Picolj”, MILAN DRAČA, STEVO PAVIĆ, called “Burko”, and some others. As far as I know these people have joined the aggressor.

I think it was on the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. That was the day when ANDRIJA VARGA was killed with a bullet fired from the tank machine gun.

Part of the reserve composition had hidden in the woods – little is known about them. They are registered as missing, probably killed. Part of them were captured and taken to camp. The following were brought into the camp: F.K., B.V., K....., S.A.\*, M.M.– captured in Borovo Naselje as a National Guard member when Borovo Naselje had fallen in action.

ZVONKO HORVATIĆ– National Guard member – killed in Vukovar.

P.Č.– alive, he was in a camp.

M.D. – he was wounded and he was in a camp.

S.L.– he was in a camp.

H.V. – camp.

I.I. – camp.

I., the nephew of I.I. – his mother’s name is ... and he works in a Vukovar Municipality in Zagreb, his father is ..., killed in Sotin.

Z.K. and his wife I. – they were also in a camp.

M.K. – captured in Jakobovac, he was in a camp.

T.D. – camp.

S.Š. – camp, captured in Vukovar when Vukovar fell in action. Then the following went into the woods and are registered as missing: SLAVEK NOVAK, JOŽEK NOVAK, ANĐELKO KUNAC, MARTIN FIŠER, MARIN ŠKARICA, VLATKO RADIĆ,

MARIN KUŠIĆ, ĐUKA POCIĆ, SNEŽANA KUŠIĆ, STER ....., JOSIP HODOVANJ – killed, and some other people.

Besides them the following are missing: MARKO FILIPOVIĆ, and his wife KATA, ANDRIJA RAJS, DANKO KUŠIĆ, ŽELJKA LEMUNOVIĆ, IVAN HERI, KREŠO DUKIĆ, IVO MATIJAŠEVIĆ, TOMISLAV MARINOVIĆ, VLATKO MARINOVIĆ, MARKO KUŠIĆ, and his wife MANDA, MIROSLAV RAGUS, MARKAN RAGUS and his daughter MIRA.

There is no information about the people who were taken to Ovčara, those are the persons that are registered as missing.

The people taken to Goldsmit farm, were taken there by the Serbian villagers, and afterwards they were taken to Negoslavci, and later to the camp in Begejci or Stajićevo. I know three of them: S.L., Z.M. and S.

N. All three of them are alive and are in Croatia.

The first group of villagers that were taken that day to Ovčara, when some Serbs, who had joined the aggressor, went with them, were taken after Ovčara to ŠID and then into the camps in Begejci and Stajićevo.

There is no information about the people who were taken to Ovčara after the last JNA invasion on the village.

Sometime in the period between the 6<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991, KREŠO ĐAKOVIĆ and DRAŽEN TOLP were killed and MIROSLAV DULABIĆ and BLAŽENKA SEKE – SEJA were wounded at the entrance to Sotin, close to the “Frank” ferry. The aggressor cut the major road passage for Ilok and Tovarnik with armed transporters with the help of local Serbian villagers. From that moment onward Sotin could not be reached by normal roads leading from Ilok and Tovarnik.

Our people, hidden in the woods, were still there but they could not do anything. Later they were all caught. Some of them were in the camp, others disappeared.

According to the information I got from my relatives and villagers the following people from Sotin were killed in the homeland war:

(In Sotin itself, after the entry of the JNA, the following people were killed):

1. ANDRIJA VARGA, about 50 years old, from ... Street. He was killed by a tank anti-aircraft machine gun during the second tank invasion of the village. He was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Sotin.
2. JOSIP HODOVANJ, about 50 years old, from ... Street, near the Fire Station. The villagers of Orthodox Church religion probably killed him. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
3. MIŠO ANDRIJANIĆ called MIJO, over 60 years of age, from ... Street. Slaughtered. They say that he was slaughtered by BAJIĆ, KOSTA BAJIĆ's son. KOSTA BAJIĆ is MILORAD BAJIĆ's (from Sotin) brother. MIŠO was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
4. ANTE RAGUŽ, about 65, 70 years old. He was beaten and abused and he died in the hospital in Novi Sad, I think. He was beaten by the JNA or local Chetniks. A civilian, from ... Street.

5. PETAR (PERO) PROCEK, born in 1953, from ... Street. Killed and buried in the yard of SLAVKO ŠIJAKOVIĆ's house (... Street). He was killed by the JNA and local Chetniks. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
6. MARKO IVANČIĆ, born around 1945, from ...Street. Killed in Sotin, was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
7. SNEŽANA KUŠIĆ, born in 1957, from ... Street. Killed in Sotin, they say her body was thrown in the Danube. A civilian.
8. STER ....., born around 1955, from ... Street. He had lived with SNJEŽANA KUŠIĆ and supposedly they were killed together and thrown into the Danube. A civilian.
9. DRAŽEN TOLP, born in 1956, no number ... Street, killed at "Frank" (the ferry to Novo Selo). He was killed by machine gun from JNA armed transporter. He was in the National Guard reserve composition.
10. STIPO ŠKARICA, born in 1956, from somewhere around 6 Dunavska Street. Beaten and died as a result of torture. They say he was buried in the Orthodox cemetery.
11. ĐURO POCIĆ (ĐUKA), born around 1955, ... Street. He was most probably killed in the yard of the Culture Center. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
12. SMAJO HALILOVIĆ, born around 1930, ... Street, so called "...". Allegedly he was killed in his own house.
13. DRAŽEN LUKETIĆ, born around 1968, ... Street, killed in Borovo Naselje. Buried in Sotin in Catholic cemetery on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August, 1991. I think he was killed on the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> of August, 1991. He was a member of the National Guard active composition.
14. ANTON LUKETIĆ, born in 1954, no number ...Street, abused and killed in Lovas, where he was buried. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition. His father PERO and his brother ĐUKA were allegedly killed in Lovas too.
15. ZVONKO HORVATOVIĆ, born around 1959, ... Street. He was a part of the National Guard active composition. He was killed in Vukovar, they say it happened on the opposite side of "Graničar", just on the crossing of the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, 1945 and the JNA Street.

According to my knowledge, the following people are missing from Sotin:

1. NOVAK JEŽEK, born in 1955, from ... Street. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition. He hid himself during the last JNA invasion. After that the only thing about him that I know is that he, together with some other people, was captured by the JNA, and that they were locked inside the basement, near CIKOJE and afterwards they were taken in an unknown direction. There are four possible directions: Jelas, Klaonica (slaughterhouse), Ovčara and Vučedol.
2. ANDRIJA RAJS, about 74, 75 years of age, taken in an unknown direction. He lived in... Street. He disappeared on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.



3. SLAVICA CICVARIĆ, born around 1950, ... Street. Captured and taken in an unknown direction. She had to cook for the JNA, disappeared on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
4. MARIN KUŠIĆ, born around 1952, ...Street. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition. Taken in an unknown direction.
5. ANĐELKO KUNAC, born in 1957, ...Street. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition, taken in an unknown direction. It is said that he was most probably killed in the village. They say that he was buried in the garden.
6. SLAVKO NOVAK, born in 1952, ... Street, a member of the National Guard reserve composition. He was south from the Dunav area together with JOŽEK NOVAK and he was taken from there in an unknown direction.
7. ŽELJKO VOJKOVIĆ, called "Živac" (nerve), born in 1958, from ... Street. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition. He was abused and he disappeared. He was beaten while he was wounded.
8. HRVOJE DUKIĆ, from ... Street, born in 1938, an invalid, one leg paralyzed, he wore a shoe with a thicker sole. He was taken by the JNA and he disappeared. A civilian.
9. MISIKA KAMERLA, born in 1935, ...Street. He was mentally retarded. It is stated that he killed his own mother, and that afterwards the army killed him. A civilian.
10. ERZIKA KAMERLA, Misika Kamerla's mother, allegedly killed, from ... Street, about 80 years old.
11. TOMISLAV MARINOVIĆ, ... Street, born in 1925. A civilian, disappeared in the village.
12. VLATKO MARINOVIĆ(father Tomislav), born in 1959, from ... Street. Allegedly he was killed during the JNA attack on the village. He disappeared in the village, a civilian. He disappeared on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
13. IVO MATIJAŠEVIĆ, born in 1949, from ...Street. Disappeared in the village, a civilian. He disappeared on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
14. MARKO FILIPOVIĆ, born around 1935, from ... Street. A civilian, taken out of Sotin on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. Some people say that he is in Sotin again, but registered under a different name.
15. KATA FILIPOVIĆ, born in 1937, from ... Street. She disappeared together with her husband, MARKO FILIPOVIĆ on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. A civilian.
1. KREŠO DUKIĆ, born around 1933, ... Street. A civilian, disappeared on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
2. ŽELJKA LEMUNOVIĆ, born around 1945, ... Street. A civilian, disappeared.
3. NIKOLA (DANKO) KUŠIĆ, born around 1947, ... Street. Abused and taken in an unknown direction.

4. HRVOJE LJUBAS, born around 1975, ... Street. A member of the National Guard reserve composition. Disappeared.
5. HENRIH SILI, called "HERI", born around 1948, ... Street. A civilian. He was seen on a hog-breeding farm in Sotin, then he disappeared.
6. STIPICA BESTRCAN, about 17 years old, born around 1974, 1975. A member of the National Guard. Disappeared in Vukovar, he was wounded, disappeared from the hospital with the wounded persons. Father STJEPAN seems to be at Vrsar where there are many Sotin villagers.
7. MIROSLAV RAGUŽ, born around 1958, ... Street. Disappeared in Sotin on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. Name of the father ANTE, a civilian.
8. VLATKO RADIĆ, born around 1948, nickname "Rora", ... Street. Allegedly he was killed with lath. He is registered as missing. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
9. MARTIN FIŠER, born around 1955, ... Street. A member of the National Guard reserve composition, disappeared.
10. STJEPAN ŠARIK, born around 1958, ...Street. He was driving an ambulance to the hospital. He disappeared from the Vukovar Hospital together with the wounded people. He was called "Braco".
11. MARIN ŠKARICA, born around 1955, ... Street, father STIPO. Captured together with the mentioned group in ada and then he disappeared. He was captured by the JNA. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
12. MARKO KUŠIĆ, born around 1933, ... Street. A civilian, disappeared. Taken by the JNA and local Chetniks on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
13. MANDA KUŠIĆ, born around 1933, ... Street, MARKO KUŠIĆ's wife. Taken away together with her husband on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
14. ŽELJKO KUŠIĆ, born around 1965, ... Street. Disappeared as a member of the police (Ministry of the Interior), probably somewhere around Darda.
15. MARKAN RAGUŽ, born around 1935, ... Street, disappeared from the village, taken by the JNA. A civilian taken away on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991.
16. MIRA RAGUŽ, born around 1970, 11 Dunavska Street, a daughter of MARKAN and JANJA RAGUŽ. Disappeared together with her father on the 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. A civilian.
17. SIDONIJA DUKIĆ, born around 1910, 11 Maršal Tito Street. A civilian, disappeared. It is said that she was killed and thrown into a well.
18. ZRNIĆ ....., nickname "Zalad", a member of the National Guard reserve composition. Disappeared in Vukovar, born around 1970. Address ....
19. KRAINOVIĆ..... called "Brzi" (quick). He was driving an ambulance to the Vukovar Hospital as a medical member of the National Guard. Disappeared in Vukovar. Born around 1970. Address ...
20. KRAINOVIĆ ....., called "Siso", born around 1972, the same address as "Brzi". He most probably got killed in Vukovar. Brzi and Siso are the children of the two brothers.

21. GALIĆ ....., born in the period between 1964 and 1967, ... Street.  
Disappeared. Married, has one child. His father RUDOLF GALIĆ is now somewhere in Zagreb.

The following people were in the camp and are now in the free part of Croatia:

1. F.K.– B. He was a commander in Sotin. Now he is an officer in the Croatian Home Guard in Vinkovci.
2. P.Č.– a member of the National Guard. He was in a camp in Sremska Mitrovica.
3. B.V.Ć– a member of the National Guard. He was together with F.K.
4. Ž.R. – a member of the National Guard. She was together with F. K.
5. S.L.B.- a member of the reserve composition, he was a fireman.
6. M.K.– a witness to the murder of ROGIĆ and TURBA on their way from Ovčara to Negoslavci. At this moment, he is in the Croatian Home Guard in Nuštar as a reconnoiterer. He was a member of the National Guard reserve composition.
7. Z.K.– M.'s brother. He worked as a barber in a camp. Now he is in Zagreb.
8. I.K. – Z.'s wife.
9. D.K. – the son of Z. and I. A member of the National Guard active composition.
10. S.N. – reserve composition of the National Guard.
11. Z.J.– a civilian.
12. Z.M. – a bit mentally retarded. A civilian.
13. S.Š. – reserve composition of the National Guard. Surrendered himself to the JNA in Šarengrad.
14. S.Š.– a civilian. Captured in Vukovar on Mitnica. He was the manager of a self-service shop. Now he is in Umag in the Croatian Home Guard as a warehouseman. He surrendered on the Bulgarian field in Vukovar. Allegedly he was in Ovčara.
15. T.D. – reserve composition of the National Guard. Surrendered himself in Šarengrad.
16. H.V. – a civilian, he was taken in Ovčara.
17. I.I.Ć – a civilian.
18. M.M. – a member of the National Guard active composition. Surrendered himself in Borovo Naselje. He was on the Trpinjska road.
19. M.D. – reserve composition of the National Guard. Wounded at “Frank”, Sotin. He knows people from Sotin who were the members of the JNA.

20. M.J., called "L." (...) – captured in Hrvatska Kostajnica, a member of the National Guard active composition. He was in a camp in Manjaca.
21. "M." (...), born around 1937, 1938.
22. I. ...., his father is M., his mother V. who works at the Vukovar Municipality in Zagreb.

D.U., born around 1948, ... and Đ.E. – both of them supposedly work at the ranch in Jakobovac, and they live in Sotin. Đ.E.'s mother is trying to find him; she is in the free part of Croatia.

#### CONCLUSION:

The JNA invaded the village four times with tanks and transporters, shot around the village with machine guns and tank cannons. Before that the aviation force usually threw missiles on the village. During the fourth attack the JNA used the mortars first. That time they came out of the tanks, they burnt and demolished houses and they took the civilians away. That was on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991. Part of the villagers of Serbian nationality joined them then, part of them had joined them earlier, and the fact that they were in the tanks during the attacks and that they were showing which houses were to be demolished, is verified. They have pulled down the Catholic Church tower. They did not even touch the Orthodox Church.

Half of the villagers of Croatian nationality were evacuated during the first attempt to pass through Lovas, about half of the people that were sent back from Lovas were evacuated the next day, then one half of them went to Ilok, and the other in the direction of Zagreb. The smaller number of Croatians remained in the village and waited till the occupation. There is very little information about the people who remained in the village.

According to what we have managed to find out, lot of murders, abuse, taking to camps and in unknown directions happened there. All of this was done by local Serbs and the JNA, and also by various Chetnik formations. The local Croatians had to wear white strips for a certain period of time.

Immediately after the JNA arrived, the Croatians were locked up in a Center, and their houses were being robbed during that period.

Sometime before the 26<sup>th</sup> of December, 1991 the local Serbs gathered all the Croatian villagers and they held a meeting on which they said that those who wanted to go to Croatia had to register, that no one had to carry the white strips anymore and that they had to decide whether they wanted to be Serbs or "Ustashas". All of the people who said they wanted to go to Croatia had to give them their house keys. They had to sign a certain document whose content they did not know. On the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991, they took away most of the people from the missing list in three groups. About 40 persons were exiled from the village. They were driven through ŠID in the direction of Croatia and most of them are in the free part of Croatia now. As far as I know, nobody came out of the village after those people. I only know that afterwards the Serbs were moving into the village.

The persons who gave the statement confirm with their signatures on every page of this statement the authenticity of this statement and the fact that it was given without force, and that the written sentences correspond to the uttered sentences.

In Lovran, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 1993.

The statement given by: B.M., Z.M.

The statement taken by: Ladislav Kotrba

As an addition we give you the part from our daughter's (M.M.) diary, she as 11 year old girl has recorded some of her impressions in her diary during those days.

We were in our yard, when suddenly a strong explosion was heard. All 11 of us went to our basement. Just at that time there was a guardsman's funeral. Suddenly the planes arrived and they started to throw bombs on the funeral procession. My dad, together with another man went somewhere in a car, and I begun to cry. I asked Mister S., who just ran into the basement: "Where is my dad?". He said that he went to a certain lady Mara on the hill and that he was watching airplanes. He arrived soon. When the airplanes went, my dad would go out on the steps, and he would go back into the basement when he heard them again. And so we had to spend the night in a basement. In the morning, somewhere between 2 and 3 a.m., some people barged into our basement and told us to pack because we could not wait for the dawn to come to Sotin. We were all very scared, but nevertheless we packed and got out of Sotin in a car. There were a lot of people in the streets. We headed for Lovas, and when we got there we had to wait for a long time. Finally when the guardsmen reached a certain decision, they told us that those who wanted could leave their wives and children, and they were to go back home (all the people who stayed there were sent to Veli Lošinj). My dad did not leave anyone in Lovas, so all six of us (dad, mum, brother, grandmother, me and grand-grandmother) returned home. In the morning we went to Ilok, without grandmother and great-grandmother because they did not want to go. We spent 12 to 13 days there and we came back to Sotin. Before that my dad took my great-grandmother to Županja. It was peaceful at home and in the village. After few days the planes started to fly over the village. I asked my dad to go to Ilok, but he did not want that. So we did not go there. Again, after few a days B., me and a lady I., were supposed to start playing cards. Just as we began, two shells fell 20 meters from us. The dust started falling on us. Lady I. and I ran to our neighbor, and my brother went to the basement. Then, lady I. and I, ran as fast as we could to my place. Mum and dad decided to go to Ilok. While we were speeding in a car, the shells were falling behind us. Finally we got out of Sotin. We stayed for a long time in Ilok. I wished that we could go home, but we could not. The snipers where waiting on the village entrance. There was an evacuation in Ilok too. Together with the people from Ilok we headed for Zagreb. But we stopped at Županja. And there too, we stayed for a long time. In Županja, the same as in Ilok, I have met many friends. They were: Ana, Snežana, Marina, Marko, Davor, Marijana, Biljana etc. While we were in Županja the alarm used to sound two or three times in a day. We did not run into the basement because we did not have one. And we were not afraid. There were a lot of us in the house so some persons had to sleep at neighbors. Two of them went to Rijeka so there were not so many of us.

M.M.

**ANNEX 94:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.G.\***

MINUTES ON INTERROGATING THE WITNESS

V.G.

Made in the County Court in Vukovar on 05<sup>th</sup> May 2000.

Criminal Subject against Borivoj Tesić because of the criminal act from Basic Criminal Law of the Republic of Croatia

Present in the name of the Court:

Investigating judge:

Nevenka Zeko

Court assistant: -

Jadranka Kurbel

Recording secretary:

Alenka Lajko

Began at 10.50 hrs

Prosecutor: Deputy of the County State Prosecutor's Office Vukovar, Emil Mitrovski

Before the interrogation the witness is in the sense of article 238 of the Law on the Criminal Procedure warned that her obligation is to tell the truth and that she must not suppress a fact, and that giving a false statement is a criminal act. The witness is told in the sense of article 236 of the Law on the Criminal Procedure that she is not bound to answer some questions if she might put herself or her close relative in disgrace, significant material damage or criminal persecution.

After that the witness gives the following personal data:

Name, father's name: V.G.

UCRN: ...

Occupation: housewife

Address: ...

Place of birth and age: ...

Relationship with the defendant: not related

After that the witness is called to state everything that she knows about the subject, so she states:

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 1991 in the morning, around 08.00 hrs, we were in the cellar of our family house – my family and I. We heard the army of the so-called JNA going through our village, they were going in tanks and fired all over the village. A few of them came into our backyard ordering and yelling for people to come out of the cellars. We came out of the cellar, and one of them ordered me to go back to the cellar with him because he thought that someone was still in the cellar. Another soldier came with him. The three of us came into the cellar, and the first one who was giving orders, then ordered me to throw all the mattresses around because he thought that there was someone hidden in the cellar.

When I threw around the mattresses, he ordered me to take off my clothes. I remember that I had a black track-suit on, and I refused to take it off, then he approached me and tore the trousers of the track-suit off me.

He ordered me to lie down and then he raped me. The whole time this other soldier kept a gun pointed at me.

That lasted for about 10 minutes. After that a soldier that held a gun pointed at me, raped me. During that time, this other one held a gun pointed at me.

After that was over, both soldiers left the basement, and I stayed there all in tears, and my mother-in-law came into the basement with my child, who was at that time 2 years and 2 months old.

When they left, we intended to leave Sotin through the garden, but that was not possible, because the army of the JNA has occupied the village with personnel carriers, tanks and other vehicles and the infantry. The same day my father-in-law R. and a neighbour H.V. were taken to the village all tied up, so that we did not know where they were. I moved to the house of my neighbour ..., who was a Serb, together with my mother-in-law and my child and after about half an hour later the army came by the street again with the personnel carriers, tractors, tanks and infantry. We came out on the street because the other people of the village of Sotin, the "Serbs", came out on the street greeting the army. I can say that the soldiers were wearing masked military uniforms and that on the upper part of the sleeve they had a white cloth tied.

The army pushed all the people, both the Serbs, and non-Serbs, to climb the tractors' trailers, what we had to do. We were transported to Negoslavci the same day.

While we were going I heard people calling "Captain Boro" the person who raped me.

Žarko Milošević found accommodation for us in Negoslavci, and he was one of my neighbours in Sotin. I do not know where the other people from Sotin were settled and who settled them.

My mother-in-law, my child and I were settled in the house of the person whose name I cannot recall at this moment. We were completely looked after, we had food and we got a top floor all for us.

The next day, on 31<sup>st</sup> September 1991, a soldier that raped me first and whom they called "Captain Boro" came into that house. First he called for my mother-in-law, and took her to a room on the top floor to interrogate her. When after half an hour my mother-in-law did not come out, I began to worry and I went to the top floor with my child to see what was going on with my mother-in-law, and she was sitting all in tears. He threatened that he would kill my father-in-law and my brother-in-law. Then he ordered my mother-in-law to go out with my daughter, and ordered me to take off my clothes. I myself took off the trousers. He made me kneel on the floor and then he raped me from behind.

He did not take off his clothes, he just unzipped his pants and pulled them down a bit. I do not remember how long it lasted, it seems to me that it was not for long.

That man did not beat me, nor threatened me, during the intercourse he kept quiet. After that was over, he put on his clothes and went outside and I have not seen him since.

The next day we were transported by a truck to Šid where they asked us whether we had anyone in Serbia and we were free to go, but we were forbidden to go back to Croatia.

My mother-in-law said that she had a brother in Skopje, we got the tickets and we were transported to Macedonia.

My uncle ... was an officer of the JNA in Skopje and I remember that one day he brought home a newspaper in which was an article on Vukovar with the photographs of the officers of the JNA, so looking at those photos I recognized the person who raped me, and whom

everybody called "Captain Boro". In the newspaper article above the text on the wider photo I recognized that person who was wearing a short leather jacket and masked trousers.

The paper clip my mother-in-law took with herself when we were going back to Croatia. We returned to Zagreb in the middle of December 1991, after we heard that my father-in-law was exchanged.

That is all that I have to state for now.

The witness answers to the special court questions:

that the army that came to Sotin was not wearing the uniforms of the JNA, but masked uniforms and that she recognized most of the men when they were climbing the trailers, because they were the local people from Sotin, of Serbian nationality.

The witness adds that her husband ... left to work that day, 30<sup>th</sup> September 1991, in the morning, he worked in Jakobovac – a farm near Sotin and that he has never returned. She still does not know what happened to him.

On further questions of the Court, the witness answers: that "Captain Boro" while interrogating her mother-in-law in Negoslavci, said that he wanted to have intercourse with her, and that she answered that she had her period, so he did not insist on that, but after a conversation with her, as I have already said, he raped me. My mother-in-law was then 47 years old.

My mother-in-law knew that I was raped both times.

There are no more questions.

The witness is warned in the sense of the article 77 of the Law on the Criminal Procedure, so she states that she had listened to the dictation carefully, and that her words were credibly written in the minutes.

Done at 12.06 hrs.

Statement was given by: V.G.

Statement was taken by: Court council



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
LOVAS**



**ANNEX 95:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.V.**

TESTIMONY LOVAS

When Lovas was occupied on October 10, 1991, I was in the basement of K.J.'s house. MIRKO PEMPER (Croat) came to get us dressed in JNA uniforms on October 12, 1991 and at 9 a.m. he took us to the collective. We were held during the day and we were allowed to go home to sleep. Some people were kept at night as well; most of these people were killed. Of the people killed I knew there were, VID KRIZMANIĆ two brothers DARKO PAVLIĆ and ŽELJKO, ZORAN KRIZMANIĆ, ĐURO KRIZMANIĆ called "Miga" and others.

This routine continued until October 17, 1991. On October 17, 1991, at 5.30 p.m. they locked us in the yard of the collective. They searched us at the door and took whatever we had. We were searched by a Chetnik called "BOKSER" – he was large, muscular, and weighed around 120 kg., without a gram of body fat, and some bearded man. "Bokser" beat people without mercy, and the bearded man beat us a little less. I was beaten because I had batteries for a flashlight in my pocket; he accused me of using a flashlight and shooting.

The Chetniks went through the village and collected the residents, mainly Croats between the ages of 18 and 55. I think that there were about 70 of us. We had to spend the entire night sitting, not moving, on the benches in the yard of the collective – when someone moved they would take them to the dining area and kick and punch them and beat them with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top, rifle butts. They took people away the entire night. They mounted a machine gun in front of us, and 11 Chetniks armed with automatic rifles guarded us. We were told that if anyone moved they would kill all of us with the machine gun.

They continued with the tortures the next morning and they beat some of the people in front of us. They would call out the name of the victim and they were taken to the middle, then they were kicked and punched and beaten with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top and rifle butts.

They beat me when I was on the bench. From there we were taken to a clover field, where the same Chetniks had probably placed mines. They ordered us to hold hands and walk through the clover field, as if we are cutting it with our feet. Then someone stepped on a mine. The Chetniks shot at our backs, so that bullets from the automatic rifles killed some people. Shrapnel in the leg struck me. We had to take the wounded to a truck.

Then they took us to disarm the mines. We had to walk in the clover field and when we came to a mine we had to disarm it. I think that we disarmed about 20 mines. We were lucky that a man, he was either a Chetnik or JNA reservist, told us how to disarm the mines, even though the other Chetniks cursed him for helping the "Ustasha", they said that he should let us all die. That reservist was the only Chetnik in a JNA uniform, they called him SAŠA and he was about 20 years old. At the end he said that he would mark the mines and that they let us go, that enough of us had died already.

When we finished with the disarming we had to sit in a canal with our hands on our heads. Then the bearded man, who searched us at the door of the collective, came over to me and attacked me because I had not told them that I was wounded. He kicked and punched me, he beat me with his rifle butt and whatever else he could reach. I did not tell them that I was

wounded because I thought they were going to kill all the wounded. I was surprised when F.S. stood up and started yelling at the Chetnik to leave me alone, and he asked him what he was going to do with me and where was their TV coverage to show what they were doing to the Croats. The Chetnik said that he would kill him, but F.S. laughed in his face and pointed at his forehead to show him where to shoot. I later talked to F.S. He himself does not know where he got the courage to do what he did.

We were taken from the minefield back to the yard of the collective, as we continued to go on forced labor details. The Chetnik NIKOLA told us that he would kill us with an axe. I believe that NIKOLA (he was blonde, with long hair, he later cut his hair) would have done that if the other Chetnik there, GANE, a special forces member from Niš, had not convinced him not to.

I have to say that the Chetniks and the JNA soldiers were working together. The Chetniks would beat and torture us, and the Niš special forces members took us to the mine field to kill us.

Now I will return to the beginning to name the victims of the tortures. I know the following were taken from the collective yard and tortured in the dining area: T.J., S.L., B.P. and some others. T.J. had his hair cut by the Chetnik PETRONIJE, who used a bayonet to cut his hair in front of us all. He made him sit down and then he cut his long hair with a bayonet. When his hair was cut we could see the head wound he received from a steel wire with a machine nut. His hair was cut after he was beaten in the dining area. He was later wounded in the minefield and he died due to his wounds in the ambulance going to Šid.

They would beat the victims every morning in front of everyone. They called our names from a list made by the Chetnik they called "NOVINAR". He spoke with a Montenegrin accent. The victims would stand in the middle and the Chetniks would beat them with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top, rifle butts, and they would kick and punch them. The Chetnik PETRONIJE would stab the victims with a knife. I know that he stabbed three people. BOŠKO BOĐANAC – he was shot dead by the Chetniks on the way to the minefield because he said that he could not walk any further. I was behind him, puddles of blood remained behind him on the ground as he walked. I went around him and then I heard gunshots as they killed him. ALOJZIJE KRIZMANIĆA, who was massacred the same day at a chapel at the graveyard along with three others: PERO LUKETIĆ and ĐUKA (father and son). L.A. was tortured along with them but I do not know what happened to him afterwards. The Chetnik PETRONIJE also stabbed M.M. That morning they beat the following people in front of us all: B.P., S.M., S.I., S.D., T.J., H.M., B.I., B.N., V.I., B.B., K.M., P.M. ...

I sat and waited for my turn to be beaten. When I was called, LJUBAN DEVETAK asked who I was. I replied I was the son-in-law of H.M. He put me in the second group. LJUBAN DEVETAK decided who would be beaten. While they were beating one group the other group was forced to watch, this was done to scare them. Along with LJUBAN DEVETAK the following local residents were also there: ĐURO PRODANOVIĆ, MILAN TEPAVAC, ZORAN TEPAVAC, MILE RADOVIĆ (from Mirkovac, I was his best man at his wedding), MILAN VORKAPIĆ – called "TRNDO", almost all of the Serbs in the village were uniformed. Amongst the Croats in the JNA uniforms were: VLADO SOMBORAC, MILAN RENDULIĆ – called "BUVA" and maybe some others.

The following people died on the minefield: MARKO SABLJAK, IVAN SABLJAK, DARKO SOLAKOVIĆ, MIJO ŠALAJ, MIJO PALIJAN, ZLATKO BOŽIĆ, PERO BADANJAK, NIKOLA BADANJAK, LUKA BALIĆ, MATO HODAK, IVAN

KRALJEVIĆ ZLATKO PANJIK, ANTUN PANJIK, MARINKO MARKOVIĆ, IVAN CONJAR, SLAVKO ŠTRANGAREVIĆ and SLAVKO KUZMIĆ. V.I. was surely killed that day, but we do not know whether it was on the minefield or in the village. JOSIP TURKALJ died of his wounds on the way to Šid, and BOŠKO BOĐANAC died on the way to the minefield.

Of the local residents dressed in JNA uniforms who, together with Chetniks, were at the minefield were the following: ILIJA KRESOJA, MILAN RENDULIĆ – “BUVA”. I cannot state with full confidence that they shot at our backs then.

After LJUBAN DEVETAK put me in the second group, in the collective’s yard, the Chetnik PETRONIJE came to me and beat me. He beat me with his fists. The Chetnik MARKO from Novi Sad had already broken my nose.

I was beaten by MIĆO DEVČIĆ, about 20 days after the minefield massacre, when he took me to the police station (at the house of BORO KESERA) for questioning. He asked me where the three transport trucks with weapons were, which Croats were supposed to massacre Serbs and other such questions. Useless questions, but they gave him an excuse to beat me.

I saw when they brought ZVONKO MARINOVIĆ. The Chetniks took him to the house of IVICA FRANCISKOVIC (the White Eagles had their headquarters there). The next day I heard that he died of a heart attack. ZVONKO was taken out of the house of S.V.

Along with the people I mentioned there were many others killed. On the first day, October 10, 1991, about 20 people were killed in the houses, and after the minefield incident many people, including women, were killed.

The witness is willing to give testimony to any court that requests it, as well as in the media. JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ – JOZO was imprisoned at the collective, he was tortured and later killed. About 20 people were released from the collective before the minefield massacre.

By signing the testimony the witness confirms its authenticity, that it was given under no coercion, and that the written testimony matches the verbal testimony.

In Lovran, May 7, 1993.

**ANNEX 96:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF I.F.**

(displaced person from Lovas, Croatia, born on ..., eye-witness of mass killing of  
civilians)

I.F.

The JNA attack on Lovas began at 07:30, on 10 October, 1991. First they fired about 10 grenades from their positions in the graveyard. Milan LATAS was killed and Marija VIDIĆ was wounded during this attack. White Eagle (Seselje's units) Chetniks began to arrive from the direction of Opatovca. The first victim, of the White Eagles, on the road from Lovas to Opatovac was TOMO SABLJAK – TONA (nickname RODA). He was found dead beside his car. The Chetniks arrived in the village from the direction of Opatovac, and there was about 80 of them, I heard this from a Chetnik. One of the Chetniks, who had an army uniform, said that the army sent a small number of them into the village, as if they did not know how many people there was in the village. Before the attack the JNA had come and ordered us to surrender all our weapons, so the village was unarmed and offered no resistance. Once they entered the village the Chetniks began the arrests and killing of civilians. The JNA surrounded the village with tanks, so that no one could escape and the Chetniks could then capture them. During the first two days of occupation, that is the 10th and 11th of October, 1991, 24 civilians from the village were killed:

1. MIRKO GRGIĆ – killed in DANIJEL BADANJAK's yard on 10 October, 1991
2. DANIJEL BADANJAK – killed in his yard on 10 October, 1991
3. CECILIJA BADANJAK – killed in DANIJEL BADANJAK's yard on 10 October, 1991
4. VID KRIZMARIĆ – killed in his house
5. ANTUN JOVANOVIĆ – killed in his yard
6. ANKA JOVANOVIĆ – killed in her yard
7. ALOJZIJE POLIĆ – born 1951 – killed in his yard
8. MATO ADAMOVIĆ (Brico) – from Tovarnik – killed in front of IVAN MARIĆ's house
9. KATA PAVLIČEVIĆ – killed crossing the street at 2 Vladimir Nazor
10. ĐUKA POLJAK – taken from his house and killed in ĐUKA FILIĆ's yard, 11 Vladimir Nazor
11. MATO KESER – taken from his house and killed in ĐUKA FILIĆ's yard, 11 Vladimir Nazor
12. STJEPAN MAĐAREVIĆ – killed in ANTE NIKIĆ's yard, 17 Vladimir Nazor
13. JOSIP POLJAK – younger – killed in his own house, on Bezanija street
14. PETAR RENDULIĆ – in MIĆA TEPAVAC's attic
15. IVAN OSTRUN – killed at MUMI café
16. JOSIP KRALJEVIĆ – on street at ANDRIJA MARTINOVIĆ's house
17. PAVO ĐAKOVIĆ – killed in his house
18. DRAGUTIN PEJIĆ – killed behind JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ's house
19. MIJO BOŽIĆ – killed behind JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ's house
20. STJEPAN PEIĆ- killed in his house
21. ŽIVKO ANTOLOVIĆ – killed by sniper in front of STJEPAN SABLJAK's house
22. ANICA LEMUNOVIĆ – killed in the basement of his house
23. RUDOLF JONAK – found dead in front of MILE JOVANOVIĆ's house, his hands were bound by a wire cable. He was buried in the graveyard near the Peje Pavošević street entrance, in the VUKAS family vault

24. JOSIP RENDULIĆ (Joja) – killed in his yard, in shed
25. Unknown man, I found him outside the village at ĐUKA FILIĆ's orchard. He was put in a bag, so I could not recognize him

A group of 15-20 White Eagle (Šešelj's units) Chetniks came into my yard at 07:30 on 10 October, 1991. Among them were two men, Zoran TEPAVAC (Serb) and Slobodan ZORAJA (Serb from Lovas), they were in JNA uniforms with civilian jackets and M-48 military issue guns, and Zoran TEPAVAC was in a complete JNA uniform.

When then came to my house they began firing at the house with automatic rifles and started yelling "Come out Ustasha". I went outside and they sent me to get my brother E.F and V.B. from the same street, Vladimir Nazor street. I had to call to them to come out of their houses. When they came out, we were forced into the co-operative's yard. My wife, mother and neighbor I.M stayed at my house. My son M.F., age 16, was with me.

The Chetniks went through the entire village and killed some people immediately, others were brought to the co-operative's yard. This yard was used as some sort of collection center. There must have been over 100 women, children and elderly people there. There they began the questionings and beatings. The women and children were allowed to return home the same day, October 10, 1991, at about 15:00, but the men were held back. After that they began to select who would be released, about 30 people were held for two days and nights, and from those 30, 20 were held in a camp until October 18, 1991, and that night they were taken out and killed.

I was released on October 10, 1991 at 17:00, and on October 11, 1991 at 08:00 I received a telephone call by ŽELJKO BRAJKOVIĆ, who said that LJUBAN DEVETAK ordered that I report to the police station, they wanted me to be the president of the local government, it was only a trick, before me that day came VLADO SOMBORAC (Croat) who became the president of the local government.

The next day, October 12, 1991, LJUBAN DEVETAK sent a courier, TOMO SELEBA (Croat), for me and I was told to go on watch. I refused to go on watch, with the reason that I was scared. That night I was kept in the co-operative's kitchen among the Chetniks. All the Chetniks were not from the area they were from Valjevo and Belgrade; I did not know any of them. I was the only Croat amongst them. They swore at my Croatian, Ustasha mother and talked on how they will kill everyone.

On the morning of October 13, 1991 I was called by MIĆO DEVČIĆ (half Croat and half Serb from Lovas), who said that I had to come at 10:00 to take a uniform and weapons, I told him that I could not take a gun against the people with whom I had lived for 40 years. He asked if I knew that there was a war occurring and that my people would kill me. I replied that whoever in the village thought that I was guilty could kill me, and then I began to cry. He then said that I could go home and said that he would talk to LJUBAN DEVETAK. After that no one called me to put on a uniform, but they did call on October 14, 1991 for me to carry the dead, with a tractor and trailer.

When they released me from the camp of October 10, 1991, MILAN VORKAPIĆ placed a white armband on my left upper arm, these armbands were put on every Croatians and every Croatian house white rags were put on the entrances or doors. We were required to wear these armbands until November 1, 1991, and the rags remained on the houses until New Years 1992. Me and my son had to report at the local government offices every morning where we received our daily forced labor schedule. We worked from 07:00 to 17:00, when the curfew began.

On October 14, 1991 I was ordered to drive the dead from the village to the graveyard. A man, S.P (Croat), was assigned to identify the dead, there were 5-6 Croatian prisoners who were assigned the job of loading the corpses onto the trailer. Among them were: B.F., J.R, J.B, F.P., D.R.

On October 15, 1991, 9 people were killed. All the dead were civilians and they were all shot. We were always watched over by 6 Chetniks with weapons. We took them to the Catholic community grave. A canal 25 meters long, 80-100 cm. wide and 2 meters deep was dug by a military excavator, on the opposite side was a shorter canal, 10-12 meters long, to which I never brought the dead.

The first day we put into bags DRAGUTIN PEJIĆ, MIJO BOŽIĆ, RUDOLF JONAK JOSIP RENDULIĆ and I think ŽIVKO ANTOLOVIĆ, the others were covered with blankets, sheets or table cloths.

MILAN LATAS was buried in his garden at his house, on hill on Vladimir Nazor street. All the others were buried in the canal. The corpses were packed into the canal by hand, when one row was full the corpses were covered with dirt and new row was started.

On October 17, 1991 they began banging with drums to inform us that all men between 20 and 50 years of age where to report at 16:00, it was concerning our work. It was a trick, because waiting for us was the so-called army of "DUŠAN the MIGHTY" (Chetniks), who surrounded us at the co-operative in the center of the village. At 17:00 they ordered that we enter the co-operative's yard one by one, where they searched us and beat us, some were beat in the head. They had placed benches in three rows here, and they threatened that we all should be killed, that it supposedly was us who set fire to the "Borovo" plant, but this was done by the same Chetniks and that we would spend the entire night sitting on the benches and if anybody moved they would be killed. In front of us they placed a machine gun and six other guns, aimed at us. The men in front us wore camouflage uniforms, some had cockades, and some had bandanas. After half an hour, LJUBAN DEVETAK arrived and said that everyone who had worked on the waterworks or the slaughtering of the pigs, in other words the people on work details, to leave. Twelve (12) people then left, but before they left he said that I should also leave. He took us to the house of MIRKO MILIĆ where we were to spend the night, he put RADE SEDLAR (Serb) to watch over us. The next morning, October 17, 1991 he said that we could not go home and that we had to go to our jobs. The people who remained in the camp at the co-operative were beaten the entire night, they were pricked with knives, on October 18, 1991 at 10:00 they took them to a mine field they had put in a clover field on the entrance to the village, before the "Borovo" plant, towards the main road for Jelas and the road that leads to Tovarnik-Vukovar. I think it was public land, beside the land of J.P. On the way to the minefield they shot BOŠKA BODANAC, at the bridge at Dol. I did not go to the minefield, but I talked to the survivors amongst which was my brother, and they said that they had to hold hands and walk into the minefield. At the minefield one Chetnik kicked IVAN KRALJEVIĆ in the back and he fell onto a mine, 5 people died in the explosion, and then the Chetniks began to fire with their automatic rifles and killed 14 others. There were 13 wounded and 15 had no injuries, because a JNA officer arrived and asked what they were doing with the civilians and told them to stop the shooting.

Amongst the killed were:

1. IVAN PALIJAN
2. MATO HODAK
3. SLAVKO ŠTRANGAREVIĆ
4. NIKOLA BADANJAK



5. MARKO SABLJAK (Perin)
6. IVAN SABLJAK
7. ANTUN PANJIK
8. ZLATKO PANJIK
9. JOSIP TURKALJ (Durin)
10. MARKO VIDIĆ
11. TOMISLAV SABLJAK
12. SLAVKO KUZMIĆ
13. ZLATKO BOZIĆ
14. MARINKO MARKOVIĆ
15. DARKO SOLAKOVIĆ
16. PETAR BADANJAK
17. MIJO SALAJ (Mihovil)
18. LUKA BALIĆ
19. IVAN KRALJEVIĆ

They commanded that all the living stand up. Those that were wounded were helped. All the wounded were put onto a truck, a civilian truck I think, and the truck went to Šid, from Šid the lightly wounded were taken to the Lovas clinic, and after 3 days they were taken to Sremska Mitrovica hospital, the others went directly to Mitrovica. Those that were not killed or wounded, had to put the corpses onto the truck. The corpses were kept on the truck for 2 days. After two days they were taken to the graveyard where the corpses were put onto my trailer and I took them to the common grave, where I brought the others before. There were not wrapped up or put into bags, instead they were put into the common grave at the Catholic graveyard.

The night of October 18, 1991, there were 19 civilians killed, they were imprisoned in the basement of the local government, there they were beat and tortured, I saw one of them while he was still alive, ALOJZIJE KRIZMARIĆ, his pant legs were covered in blood, as if they were soaked in blood, he fell into a vase in the local government offices. They were taken from the camp and in one place were killed in groups of 3-4.

The following were killed that day:

1. MARKO DAMLJANOVIĆ (Bosanac) – one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
2. JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ – one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
3. DARKO PAVLIĆ – one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
4. ŽELJKO PAVLIĆ – one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
5. ĐUKA KRIZMANIĆ – killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
6. ZORAN KRIZMANIĆ- killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
7. FRANJO PANZA – killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
8. One unknown boy – killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
9. MARIN BALIĆ – killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, VI. Nazor street
10. KATICA BALIĆ – killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, VI. Nazor street
11. IVICA VIDIĆ – killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, VI. Nazor street
12. ANDRIJA DEVČIĆ – killed in IVICA KRIZMANIĆ's house, VI. Nazor street
13. MARIJA FIŠER – killed in IVICA KRIZMANIĆ's house, VI. Nazor street
14. PETAR LUKETIĆ – killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
15. ĐUKA LUKETIĆ – killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
16. ALOJZIJE KRIZMANIĆ – killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
17. STJEPAN DOLAČKI – killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard

18. STJEPAN LUKETIĆ – killed in Brd, on road in village
19. SLAVICA PAVOŠEVIĆ – killed in own basement, Paje Pavosevic street, was not in camp
20. JOZEFINA PAVOŠEVIĆ – killed in own basement, Paje Pavosevic street, was not in camp
21. MARIJANA PAVOŠEVIĆ – killed in own basement, Paje Pavosevic street, was not in camp

They were all put into black bags and put into the canal. I took all these people to the canal because that is what I was ordered to do. Every morning I had to report for the forced labor, on the same day I had to take those from the basement that were killed (October 18, 1991), as well as those that came back from the minefield. I was driving a tractor and trailer, with a white rag on it, I also had to wear a white armband, those doing the loading were B.F, D.R. and some others, they were all Croats who loaded the corpses. They also had to put the corpses into the grave. I would drive the tractor beside the canal, and they would throw the corpses in, when one row was full they would place some dirt over them. On the same day that they buried the dead from the minefield, FRANJO DUMIĆ was beaten to death and buried in the same grave but he was placed in a bag.

BOŽO VIDIĆ was killed in his basement on October 23, 1991, he lived on Vladimir Nazor street, and he was put into a black bag. He was buried in his own plot. His sister had asked if he could be buried in his own plot and he was.

ZVONKO MARTINOVIĆ was killed in the yard of ANDRIJA MARTINOVIĆ, Tomislav street, and was put in a coffin made of boards. He was killed near the end of October, 1991, I did not drive him to the grave, this was done by someone else who was ordered to. During this entire period the JNA was surrounding the village, and in the village they had their headquarters. Immediately after the occupation they stationed a unit from Kragujevac there.

Fifteen days after the start of the occupation, reservists from Bečej arrived, after them there were reservists from Bačka Topola and then from Subotica. The officers were from the regular JNA. In the first month of 1992, reservists from Pančevo arrived. Amongst the reservists from Subotica, Bačka Topola and Bečej were Croats and Hungarians, but they were not allowed to talk with Croats from the village.

They began settle Serbs before the new year, but in smaller numbers, so that until New Years 1992 they had settled about 20 Serbian families, but then they began a massive colonization. On December 22, 1991 policemen from Knin, SAO of Krajina came to our village and collected about 20 people (Croats) and began to beat them with metal rods and wooden boards over their entire body. They beat them in the basement of the offices of the local government. To two of the twenty they drilled holes into the soles of the feet with a power drill, and they drilled a hole below my brother's knee, I think it was his right one. They also removed 11 of my brother's teeth, from the right side, he had white gold fillings on these teeth, two other prisoners also lost one tooth each. They removed the teeth with ordinary workmen's pliers, and they would use a spoon to put salt onto the wounds.

They paid particular attention to five of the prisoners: M.M, E.F., V.B., D.R., I.J., they would beat them in the head and the entire body, and especially in the genital area.

My brother and M.M were tied to two steel posts with handcuffs for 24 hours. I saw my brother in Lovas again, 90 % of his body was covered by bruises. He and V.B. had to spit into each other's faces. They also forced one other to slap and hit. The other 15 were imprisoned until December 25, 1991. They were beaten upon their bodies. B., age 30, was especially beaten in the genital area.

After being released on December 26, 1991 they all had to leave the village and go to Zagreb.

I also wanted to leave then but they did not let me, I could not stand the terror and was afraid that I would end up like them. After two months, 7 armed Chetniks came, they were all unfamiliar to me, and ordered that I get ready to leave the village in 5 minutes. It was around 19:00 on February 21, 1992.

On that day, February 21, 1992, they first told me that I had to leave my house and village in 2 days. The same day I went to the command in the village, to the JNA officer, and asked for an escort out of the crisis area. He said that there would be no moves and that he would talk with "them". The officer had the rank of Captain, middle weight. But he said that the army would inform me within one day as to whether I would be leaving or not. Instead of the army it was the Chetniks who arrived, among them was one called "KOSTA". He was short, weak, had black hair, he wore various uniforms from camouflage to JNA, and sometimes civilian clothes. He told me that I had 5 minutes to leave my house, and the village and that he was my escort, not the army, and he asked me why I went to the JNA command. Since that day I am in Zagreb, with my family, as a displaced person.

This statement is given freely and without coercion, and by signing every page of this statement I verify its authenticity

Zagreb, April 4, 1993

**ANNEX 97:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.P.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
BJELOVARSKO-BILOGORSKA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
No: 511-02-04/V- /96  
18<sup>th</sup> March 1996

MINUTES ON TAKING THE STATEMENT  
Made in Bjelovarsko-Bilogorska Police Department on 18<sup>th</sup> March 1996  
Authorized official person: Dražen Tirić  
Recording secretary: Ana Kunješić

Began at 13.35 hrs

Name, father's name: S.P., ...  
Occupation: retired  
Address ...  
Born on ... in ..., ...

He gave the following

**STATEMENT**

I have lived in Lovas, at the above mentioned address with my wife M. until 26<sup>th</sup> December 1991, when I was exiled by the members of the Serbo-Chetnik forces, and since 1992 I have lived in ..., at Z.G.'s, the tenant, where I now live as a refugee.

On 10<sup>th</sup> October 1991 the members of the Serbo-Chetnik forces, mostly from the surrounding villages, came into my village of Lovas for the first time, among them were the volunteers from Serbia. They were all members of the volunteer detachment "Dušan Silni" from Stara Pazova where, according to some, was their training centre. When they came into the village, I, together with my family, my wife M., daughter B., grandson D., niece R.L. and her daughter M.L. and the neighbours V.

B. and P.H. and others, hid in my cellar. There was over 10 of us, mostly women and children. P.M. and I went outside, and we hid to some safer place, that is into my shed.

I remember that before the Chetniks came to Lovas, two cannon grenades were fired at Lovas from the direction of Tovarnik or Šid, and that when entering the village the Serbo-Chetniks fired a lot from automatic weapons, hand rocket launchers and throwing grenades.

8 members of the Serbo-Chetnik forces came into my backyard, among who my daughter B. recognized the brothers Lukić from Opatovac, who went to school with her. First, they wanted to throw some bombs into the cellar, where women and children were, but they did not, because these managed to answer them. Then they ordered that the gate should not be closed and that on it should be a white cloth, while before the attack the Serbs from the village had already marked their houses with white cloths, about which we did not know anything.

I was hidden in the shed, together with P.M., for two days, that is, only on 12<sup>th</sup> October did we report to the Serbo-Chetnik command which was at the Community, in a mechanic workshop. On my road to the command post, first I saw Mićo (Božo) Devčić from Lovas, wearing a blue police uniform, and who has worked until 1991 at the police station together with my son K.P., who was a member of the reserve of the police and was on sentry duties in Vukovar, and when the police in Croatia had to put Croatian symbols (Croatian coat of arms), Devčić went to work for the police in Serbia because of disagreement.

At the command post, I first had to report to Milan Radojčić, Ilija's son from Lovas and Radovan Tepavac, Dragan's son from Lovas, who were signing in the local people of Croatian nationality. After signing in they arranged us into two working groups, the first one had the duty of picking up the civilians who died during the attack in which there was I.F. from Lovas, my wife's brother, and who now lives in Zagreb, and I was in the other group with P.B., M.H., M.S., who is now somewhere in Bačka, and V.S., who is now in Laz, near Delnice; and had a duty of picking up dead animals. We were picking up dead animals only one day, and we collected: 8 bulls, which we set on fire and about 15 pigs, about 40 hens and 5-6 dogs, which were buried outside the village by M.H. with an excavator.

I heard from my brother-in-law, who now lives in Zagreb, that his wife picked up 20 dead people of Croatian nationality from Lovas, among who were: Tuna Jovanović, Vid Krizmanić, Dana Badanjak and Cecilija, forester Mirko from Tovarnik, Josa Kraljević, Ivan Ostrun, Pava Đaković, Stjepan Maderović, Đuka Poljak, Mato Kesar, Dragoš Pejić, Mija Božić, Stjepan Pejić, Kata Pavličević and Tuna Sabljak, who were all killed on 10<sup>th</sup> October 1991 from the infantry weapons by the Serbo-Chetniks, while on that same day Milan Latas was killed by the grenades and M.V. a who is now in Vinkovci was wounded. The above-mentioned people from the village were buried at Lovas cemetery with the excavator into a mass grave. My brother-in-law, I.F. has the exact list of the dead people.

I also know that on that day T.J.'s wife was killed, and was set on fire by the Serbo-Chetniks in a barn with those 8 bulls which we found dead and partially burned, but we have never seen her remains.

For the above mentioned crime I find the following persons responsible who I personally know: Željko Krnjaić from Lovas; Obrad Tepavac, Mićo's son from Lovas; Zoran Tepavac, Milan's son from Lovas; Milan Vorkapić, Nikola's son from Lovas; Milorad Vorkapić, Dragan's son from Lovas; Zoraja, Dušan's son from Lovas; Dule Grgović, Gojko's son who was born in Lovas, and lived in Tovarnik; and the already mentioned brothers Lukić from Opatovac, whom my daughter saw. All the mentioned persons I saw after the crime in uniform and with weapons, and the people from Lovas, with whom I talk, relate them to the above mentioned crime. According to my calculations, a Serbo-Chetnik unit participated in the occupation of Lovas, consisting of about 50 men, while we did not fight back.

While I was still in Lovas Dule Grković was saying in front of me how he killed Vid Krizmanić from a "Kalashnikov" and later he boasted around the village, and some said, that in Tovarnik and Lovas he killed about 45 people, and I can also say that he and Željko Krnjajić were some of the most blood-thirsty Serbo-Chetniks in Lovas.

On one occasion I also heard from some Serbo-Chetnik from Pančevo that a certain Kosta from Pančevo, who was a bodyguard of Ljuban Devetak from Osijek, born in Lovas, and who was a chief commander in Lovas, killed the Tovarnik priest with a "Kalashnikov". I saw this Kosta several times and I could recognize him if I saw him or from a photograph.

On 17<sup>th</sup> October 1991 around 14.30 hrs, three armed Serbo-Chetniks came into my house wearing olive-drab uniforms, one of them said he was from Kragujevac, and they searched the house, under the excuse of looking for weapons and they took all the gold jewelry from my daughter B. and 9 gold ducats which were for her dowry. They questioned me about my son, about who they had information that he was a member of the National Guard and about my membership in the HDZ (the Croatian Democratic Party). I told them about my son that he was in the reserve of the police with Mićo Devčić, and then they answered me that Mićo Devčić himself, who was then a commander of the police in Lovas, sent them to set my house on fire. After that I had to go to the Commander of the police, Mićo Devčić. The police department was located at Boro Keser's house. I went there for some more interrogating and Mićo Devčić, after the interrogation, which lasted for about 10 minutes, cursed at me: "Your fucking Ustasha mother, I will kill you all" and then he sent me home.

When I came home, my wife M. told me that a proclamation was issued that all men aged between 17 to 50 had to report to the command post of the place in the community. I went to report to the command post, where over 100 of us gathered, and we were all Croats. Before we entered the backyard of the Community, the Serbo-Chetniks searched us, and we had to sit in the back yard on the benches, which were brought from the hunters' hall, in two rows. We spent the whole night under the night sky. First, they started to sign us in. Ljuban Devetak separated about 20 men who he proclaimed to be the members of the labour unit, that is, the ones he assumed to be loyal to him, among them were Š.P., who came out of Lovas in 1995 and he now lives somewhere near Pula; T.L., who came out of Lovas in 1995 and now lives in Stubičke Toplice; M.Š., who still lives in the occupied Lovas, my brother-in-law, I.F., who came out of Lovas in 1992, and the others whose names I cannot recall at the moment, who were transferred into Mirko Milić's house.

During the night, the persons who signed us in also beat and tortured us, and I do not know where those who beat us with a cable wire came from. I was hit with this cable wire only

once across my back, and they tortured those who were interrogated at the mechanic workshop more. I remember that B.F. and L.B. were taken to that interrogation.

I can also say that during that night two machine guns were pointed at us the whole time, and 6 more Serbo-Chetniks guarded us with the "Kalashnikovs", among them I only recognized Milorad Novaković's son from Lovas, who was then about 16 years old.

In the morning of 18<sup>th</sup> October 1991, after 8.00 hrs, the Serbo-Chetniks began gathering around us. The commander Ljuban Devetak went to his office and some men Aca and Petronije from Pančevo began torturing us. Petronije first slammed me several times, and then he kicked me with his boot on my chin, where I have a scar now, and he then broke my two teeth and then he continued kicking me fiercely with his boots. During that time Ljuban Devetak started calling out the people that were taken out and beaten in front of us with iron pipes and stabbed with the bayonets. I remember that M.H., M. S., I.S., I.M., M.K., B.B., J.T., P.

B. and others were taken out on that occasion, and they were tortured by the mentioned Aca and Petronije from Pančevo and one more person who is said to come from Borovo. I would surely recognize those three men if I saw them. Dr Jovo Stanimirović was present at this molesting and torturing by the Serbs, he came from Tovarnik and worked at the Vukovar hospital, and as far as I have heard, he now is a head of the hospital.

Around 10.00 hrs they told us to go picking in the vineyard, and I immediately thought that they were taking us for shooting, because I saw that some Serbo-Chetniks came in new mottled uniforms and with some new guns, which I had not seen so far. Among them I did not recognize any of them, but I later heard that there were Milan Rendulić, Franjo's son and Ilija Kresojević, Mihajlo's son, both from Lovas. When we started going out of the backyard, they grouped us to walk in two groups and we set off on foot outside the village in the direction of the plant of the factory "Borovo", that is, in the direction towards the woods. On the road the Serbo-Chetniks killed Boško Bosanac, who could not walk because he was stabbed with a bayonet and all beaten up, as I have already said. They brought us to a community field, which is near the road, to the community orchard and the plant of "Borovo". They ordered that we all had to, and there was about 60 of us, walk on in a convoy up the hill in the direction of the field which is the property of Jakša Poljak. When we climbed the hill, they told us to watch out because the army would fire at us and ordered us again to hold hands and go in a line towards the plant of "Borovo". Before we started in the direction of "Borovo", they told us to watch out, because our people, and they had in mind people from Lovas, which was not true, had set a mine field, and that we should search the area with our legs. Behind us were 20 armed Serbo-Chetniks in mottled uniforms among whom were the mentioned Rendulić and Kresojević. Around 11.00 hrs, when we activated the first mine, someone shouted "Lie down" and we all probably did lie down, and the mentioned Serbo-Chetniks started firing at us fiercely from all their infantry weapons, and the shootings lasted for about 15 minutes.

On the mentioned mine field we were around 2 hours. Later I heard that further torture in the mine field was prevented by some two Serbo-Chetnik officers that were passing by in a military jeep, but I did not see them. When the mentioned officers prevented further shooting, we had to clear the field of mines, and we stayed there until we cleared the way towards the road. I noticed that the mentioned unit was commanded by some Dragan who had three stars on his shoulders, that is, he had the rank of a captain. When we who survived came to the road, that Dragan ordered us to pick up the surviving wounded ones. I took out from the mine field, together with D.K., the wounded I.M.,

who was wounded in the stomach from a mine. On that occasion I stepped on a mine with my right leg, and my toe of my right leg was torn off. When the mine exploded, I fell on the ground, but I managed to pull myself together. I saw that the mine torn half of my shoe off. I remember that L.R. pulled me out of the minefield. I was put into a truck with the other wounded, among them were the mentioned I.M., who was wounded in his stomach; E.F., who was wounded in the back from a gun and who is now in Novi Vinodolski; S.F., who was wounded in the arm from a gun and who is now in Zagreb; Z. from Opatovac who is now in Križevci; L.S., who is now in Zagreb; M.R., who is now in Vinkovci; K.K., J.T., who was wounded in the back from a gun and who died in the hospital in Šid; M.K., who is now in Pula; M.F., who is now in Primošten; J.S., who is now in Slatina and others; overall 13 of us wounded. We were all taken to Šid to a clinic, where our wounds were dressed and after that we were returned to the clinic in Lovas at Dr Slobodan Kačar's where we lay down for two days, after which Dr Kačar called out me, I.M., S.F. and Z., who were seriously wounded and then we were transferred to the hospital in Sremska Mitrovica. The next day, on Sunday, the other wounded were brought to the hospital to Sremska Mitrovica. I stayed in the hospital in Sremska Mitrovica until 20<sup>th</sup> November 1991.

I can say that 17 people from Lovas died on the mine field, among them I can recall Marko and Iva Sabljak, Sabljak Tomo, the Panjik brothers, Ivo Palijan, Mijo Šalaj, Mato Hodak, Pero Badnjak, Marko Vidić, Nikola Badanjak, Marković, I cannot recall his name, Slavko Strangarević and others whose exact information only my brother-in-law can give, who was in the group that buried them later in a mass grave in Lovas cemetery.

From the persons who took us to the minefield I could not recognize anyone, but only what I heard that there were the already mentioned Rendulić and Kresojević and the mentioned captain Dragan, whom I saw from a distance.

Later I heard that they took us to the minefield because on the first day of the attack on Lovas not enough people were killed.

For our taking to the mine field I consider Ljuban Devetak the chief commander in Lovas to be responsible, Mićo Devčić, the commander of the police, Milan Radojčić and Radovan Tepavac, who signed us in for the forced labour, which means that they had a greater role and Đuro Prodanović, who was the chief representative of the municipal authorities.

At the hospital in Sremska Mitrovica Dr Vladimir Basariček treated me kindly – I later heard that he was a Croat. When I was released from the hospital, I was allowed to stay at home until 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1991, but every day I went on crutches to Dr Kačar's to dress my wounds.

When I came home, on the 8<sup>th</sup> day a policeman Đorđe Ivković came together with two Serbo-Chetniks who interrogated me about the condition in the village and relationships, that is about the alleged responsibility of some Croats.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1991 around 14.00 hrs when I was at E.F.'s, Radovan Tepavac came wearing a police uniform and arrested E.F. and took him to prison which was in the municipality building in the cellar. Then I saw when I was going home on crutches, the Serbo-Chetniks taking F.D., Z.B., V.B. and S.

L. to prison by car. When I came home, I decided to report to the police, but in the meantime, two unknown Serbo-Chetniks came into my house and took me to the municipality, from where Radovan Tepavac, who was wearing a police uniform, took me to the prison. About 14 people stayed over the first night in that prison, and in the meantime

P.S., A.F. and B., Z.P., I.B. and others were brought in.

In the evening of 24<sup>th</sup> December 1991, the Serbo-Chetniks began torturing us. V. B., M.M. and E.F. were taken for separate interrogation to the police, and there was Đ.R., and they were fiercely molested and tortured there and they were told that they would be killed.

In the mentioned cellar some unknown men tortured us, and some said that they were from Knin. They beat us with butt-ends, chains, wooden bats and they were kicking us. They even put knives against our throats. This torturing lasted the whole night. I only managed to see that Radovan Tepavac from Lovas, who I know well, come and beat us for a while.

On Christmas day they did not beat us. In the evening they let us go and we could go home, and allegedly, some commander of the police from Ilok let us go, and they told us that the next day, on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1991, we would be taken on a bus to Bijeljina. In the morning about 50 of us from Lovas got on the bus, all Croats, but they did not take us to Bijeljina, but they let us go in Šid and told us to go to Kljujić's and "Fuck him".

We managed somehow in Šid and we paid for a bus to Tuzla, from where we left to Zagreb.

During the stay in the occupied Lovas 1991, I heard that the Serbo-Chetniks interrogated the women, who were then tortured and raped, but I do not have any concrete information on that, that is, I do not know who did that.

Of the other crimes that the Serbo-Chetniks did in Lovas, I heard about the murder of Slavica Pavošević, Jozefina and Marijana, who were murdered in the cellar of their house, and about the murder of Ankica Lemunović who was also killed in the cellar of her house. About the murder of Stipe Luketić, who was murdered when going out from the village to Vukovar. About the murder of Marija Fišer, who was murdered in the garage of Ivica Krizmanić, and about the murders of Đoko and Alojz Krizmanić, Pero and Đuka Luketić, Joja Rendulić, Rudolf Jonak, Katica and Marin Balić and about the murders of many others whose names I cannot recall, and who were murdered by the Serbo-Chetniks in October and November 1991, but I did not hear concerning any of these cases who did it.

When I came to Zagreb, I went to a doctor, because I was all beaten up, where I was given a check up. Because of the physical injuries and because of what I went through, I acquired, in the meantime, a status of a Croatian war military invalid with the permanent physical invalidity of 30%.

I enclose to this statement my own handwritten statement that I recently gave to the municipality authorities in Lovas with the centre in Đurđevac.

I have listened to the dictation of the statement so that there is no need for its reading, and I sign it.

Done at 15.15 hrs.

Statement was taken by authorized official person: Dražen Tirić

Statement was given by: S.P.



**ANNEX 98:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.S.**

Code: and22e  
SURNAME: S.  
NAME, FATHER'S NAME: L., ...  
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., ..., Croatia  
RESIDENCE:  
TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
EDUCATION: high school  
OCCUPATION:  
EMPLOYMENT:  
MARITAL STATUS: single  
CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

STATEMENT

Ten days before the attack on Lovas, we knew how it was going to be. We saw and filmed the attack on Tovarnik. We knew that we were powerless. The YU-Army gave us an ultimatum to surrender. They ordered our representatives in the Lovas Crisis Staff to go to Šid and negotiate. There were no Serbs in the Crisis Staff, but the Serbs from the village went with them. The members of the Crisis Staff were Adam Rendulić and Željko Cirka. The Serbs who went to the negotiations with them were Đuro Prodanović and Rajko Lovrić. They went to Šid (in Serbia) to negotiate with the JNA. The JNA ordered us to surrender our firearms and our village. We were too weak to resist them, so they thought they could do with us whatever they wanted. The village of Lovas has a population of 1,700 (8% Serbs the rest Croats). The negotiations were unsuccessful. After each meeting with the opposite side, the villagers would gather in the village hall and discuss the JNA terms. The villagers were divided. Some of them wanted us to surrender, the others were against that. Everything fell to pieces. At our third meeting we were to gather the arms and the army was to come for it. Half an hour before the army arrived, the Ilok police showed up (I only heard that, I did not see it) and picked up all of the arms that were gathered. There were some twenty automatic guns (mostly police owned), and several personal guns. There were also several hunting guns, and pistols. We had only infantry fire arms. Many individuals refused to surrender their arms, and escaped with them to Ilok. Whatever arms were gathered, the police did not let us surrender it to the army. They picked it up and left. I still do not know what exactly happened when the army arrived, because it was chaotic. This army came from Šid (Serbia). Tovarnik was occupied two weeks before our village.

Since we did not formally surrender, they attacked the village on October 10, 1991. They surrounded the village in such a manner that only the side facing Mohovo and Ilok was free. We did not see whether the Serbian villagers had any arms, but we presumed that they did. Some of them sheltered their wives and children before the attack and then later returned them. One or maybe two families moved out. They attacked us with mortars and grenade launchers. They barged into the village from the directions of Opatovac and Tovarnik. We heard the shooting, the sound of the hand grenades. Then the Chetniks entered the village. They did not have any military insignia on their uniforms. Some of them were dressed in uniforms and some of them in civilian clothes. They were fully armed by the JNA, and they cooperated with them. The Chetniks came from afar, but the locals joined them. Two villagers of Lovas came with them. These were Krnjaić and Dule

Grković. Krnjičić used to live in Lovas, but he moved to Tovarnik some time ago. I think that they were among the organizers. During the attack everybody hid because there had already been several attacks on the church so that all of the people ran into their basements out of fear. Everybody who was on the street was killed immediately. I heard that there was some resistance, but it was weak, because there were not enough arms. Only individuals or small groups resisted. We could not defend ourselves. We had no arms. We were practically left to their mercy. We never officially surrendered to them. This may have been a problem, or may have not. Maybe it was the way our fellow villagers settled old scores with us. What scores I do not know for we never did anything to them. The attack started at 7:30 a. m., and it lasted the entire day. They attacked from two sides, and the attack lasted until they met together in the center of the village, during which time some thirty civilians were killed. Some of them were killed in their own yards. Some of them were dragged out of their basements. By that time, the local Serbs joined them so that they already knew which houses they had to go to. They attacked every house. There is a list of casualties. Among them are Dane Budanjak, Cecilija Budanjak (Dane's wife), Vid Krizmanić and Bato Polić. I was at home when they started shooting. Since I was unarmed, I hid in the basement and waited to see what would happen. The shooting came closer. They threw two hand grenades in my neighbor's yard. My neighbor's name is A.S. This is how we knew that they came close to us. Our part of the village is close to Opatovac. The shooting lasted for an hour, and the fiercest battle was led around my house. Some of our neighbors also hid in our basement. People mostly hid in groups in each other's basements. They had lists of names. People on those lists were arrested immediately. All of those who were found at their homes alive were taken to the regional office, and locked up in the basement. On the first day of the attack, after the shooting, somewhere around 5:00 p. m., they withdrew from the village. They did not come to my house that day. They could not ransack all the houses at once. They took with them all of the people they found. They met in the center of the village and made a real mess in the village. We did not know if they were guarding the village. It seemed as if they moved from the village towards Tovarnik. Around 9:00 p.m. the tanks and personnel carriers barged into the village. At that point, the guards were put up around the village. In this period and during the attack, some people managed to escape, and those who did not remained captives in their own homes. When the village was completely encircled, the local Serbs were going around ordering us to surrender ourselves. Those who survived had to put a white sheet on their house doors, and all of the Croats had to wrap a white cloth around their right arm. Thus marked, they had to go to the regional office, surrender and register themselves. Their police administration office was located in a house near the regional office. Later on, the military administration unit was located in Brajković's house. In the beginning, the military command was in the Cooperative Society. Later, they moved it as it suited them. All of us registered in the Cooperative. They gathered all of the able men in the village and forced them to clean the village. There were many burned down houses, and the dead who needed to be buried. It lasted for seven days.

The order was issued that all of the men between twenty and fifty years of age had to come to the meeting. This was on October 17, 1991. A drummer marched through the village and read the order. The order said that we were all obliged to come in front of the Cooperative Society. The villagers came to get further instructions and hear what was going to happen. We were all arrested. We had to do what we were ordered to do. We waited for half an hour. We thought it was strange because usually meetings started on time. They would briefly tell us our tasks for the following day and that was it. The meeting was called for 5:00 p. m., and the curfew started at 5:30 p. m. After this half an hour we could not return to our homes. All those who were seen on the street after the curfew would be shot

immediately. They searched us through, and let us one by one enter the yard of the Cooperative. I asked the men who stood close to me if they were searched before, and they said that they were never searched before. The men who searched us wore civilian clothes. They were not local Serbs. We entered the yard, and sat on the benches until dawn. They still used to shoot during the night. If there was no shooting, that meant that one of us had some hidden weapons, and that we were the ones who were shooting; if there was shooting, that meant that there was someone else apart from us who was attacking them. Only one of their men was killed, and another one wounded, most probably by their own doing. Those civilians, who were murdered during the attack, were buried at the Catholic cemetery. I was not there, but my late brother went there. There was a canal, I do not know whether they dug it out, or if it had been here before. They threw bodies in it and covered them using their bare hands. They did this two or three days after the attack. Those thirty people should be buried there. Three or four women and elderly people were among the victims, but mostly they were men. We sat on the benches in front of the Cooperative all night. We had to sit still and wait till the morning. They maltreated us. They beat us with clubs over our backs. Ljuban Devetak came in the morning. He used to live in Lovas. He carried the list of names that they made that night. At least that is what the Chetniks told us before Ljuban arrived. They gave us psychological speeches. They said that they watched the videocassettes of the incipient assembly of the HDZ and that some of us were recognized on the cassettes. Somebody from the village must have denounced us. There were traitors who gave away the information about the whereabouts of the incipient assembly of the HDZ and the celebration. They made a list of those who should be executed. Ljuban read that list. While he was reading the names, they divided us into three groups. One group of some twenty people was separated as the working unit in the bakery (bricklayers and electricians). Eighty of us were in that group. He read the names from the list. Only a couple of people were chosen for the third group (they had better treatment than the rest of us). Nothing happened to those people. The largest group was summoned in front of four or five Chetniks who beat people until they fainted. They beat them with rifle-butts, clubs, chains, and stabbed them with knives. They beat them in the yard, in front of everyone. There were twenty of them, aged 40. I do not know why they singled them out, because among them were some people who would not hurt anyone or anything. This was the first group. I was in the second group. Our names were not read out. We were spared, as less guilty. We had to continue working. We stood aside, but we were beaten later, although not so badly. One family, father and two sons, did not hear when the meeting was called out, so they went to get them, and they brought them in front of the Cooperative. They were also beaten and stabbed with knives. We do not know what happened to one son, while the father and the other son were killed in the cemetery chapel. After we were beaten, my group stood aside and waited for further instructions. Another commander came. I do not know who that man was. A truck full of Chetniks arrived. The door opened and they got out. We knew that something bad was going to happen. They said that those who were beaten up should be executed, and that we had to go to work. One of the newcomers said that all of us were Ustashas and that both groups should be killed. They brought both groups together. They lined us up two by two and took us into a minefield. This was on October 18th, 1991, around 9:00 a. m. We did not know that it was a minefield. They told us that we were going to pick grapes, which was not logical after all that happened. I could not figure out what was going on. There were less than sixty of us. We went in front of them lined up two by two. There were fifty of them. We had to do everything that they ordered us. When we approached the exit of the village, we were ordered to regroup, so that we were walking on the outside, and they were in the middle. In this manner we would be the target if, in their own words, "Ustashas fired at them". We were practically employed as

a living shield. The villagers who happened to be there saw that, because we passed through the center of the village untouched. When we approached a minefield one man could not walk any more. He said that he could not walk anymore and he simply fell by the road. The Chetniks quarreled who was going to kill him, and they shouted to prevent us from turning around and watching. After that we heard automatic gunfire. The man was killed on the spot. His name was Bosanac. We continued to walk a little bit further, and then we were ordered to stop. They said that Ustashas planted a minefield here. They told us that we were going to look for the mines and inactivate them. We were ordered to line up front facing and hold each other's hands. They followed us behind. Then they ordered us to go and move our feet as if we were cutting grass. Armed volunteers walked behind us. These were the ones who arrived on a truck. They were dressed in camouflage uniforms. I did not know any of them. The clover was 25 or 30 centimeters high in this field. We crossed the stretch of land diagonally, and walked towards the hill. It was some 100 meters. We had to cross it, during which time they stood on the road. When we crossed to the other side, they shouted at us not to try to escape because they would shoot us. They fired in the air to intimidate us. We had to turn back and cross the land longitudinally, and they lined up 70 meters behind us, and followed us. We went forward, holding hands, and moving our feet as if we were sowing the grass. Then we walked upon the mines. Somebody yelled that he saw the wire. I am not sure whether the order came from them. Maybe they went through the field before and they knew where the mines were, or maybe they planted those mines themselves. I think they ordered us to stop right in front of the mines. We stopped. The one who was giving orders asked if someone saw anything. We said no. He said to go a little further. Then somebody yelled that he saw a wire. As far as I remember, somebody ordered one of us to pull the string. It was then that Kraljević (one of our guys) allegedly threw himself on a mine. According to the others, a Chetnik came from behind and pushed him onto it. I was standing on the opposite side so I could not say for sure. One or two mines exploded. There was a panic. People started screaming in pain. Several of them fell. There were some wounded. They (Chetniks) started shooting at us from behind our backs. I threw myself on the ground. When they stopped, probably to reload their guns, we heard an order from the road. They ordered the wounded to raise their hands. I heard a clicking sound, they were reloading their weapons. I raised my hand because I was wounded in my back. And then I realized what was going to happen, so I lie down again, and lowered my arm. They resumed shooting. In this second round even more people were killed. I lay in the grass, and therefore could not see anything. Then there was a silence. I heard the sound of a vehicle coming down the road. Then somebody opened a car door and yelled: "Stop shooting! Stop! It's enough." The shooting stopped. Then the man ordered soldiers to go and fetch a truck from the village and take all of the wounded to Šid. Later I found out that he was an officer. I lifted my head a bit and saw dead bodies lying around me, and I heard the wounded who cried for help. I waited. The following order was to separate those who were not wounded. The same man issued this order. He took one or two men to clear the minefield. I was afraid that I might be chosen, so I remained lying down. I heard that man inquire and order: "What is the mine like? What does it look like? Approach it like this... Bite off the wire. Don't be afraid. Take it to the road." V.B. and another man disarmed the blasting charges.

Some twenty people were killed here. Twelve people were wounded. Among the latter were another two slightly wounded people who did not want to say that they were wounded. Those who were not wounded gathered those of us who were and loaded us onto a truck, which had arrived. They drove us towards Šid, but we did not know whether they were taking us to Šid or unloading us near the woods. While we were getting on the truck, the Chetniks yelled that all of us should be killed. All fifty of them said something similar.

During the second round I was shot in the arm, so that I was in shock, and I did not pay attention to what they were saying. I got on the truck. They drove us off. Our first stop was in Tovarnik. There we were to go to a doctor who was supposed to administer first aid to us, but he said he could not help us. We asked one man to bring us some water and he brought us a barrage balloon. We drank from it until Šid. In Šid we were sent to surgery, where we were taken in. They gave us first aid. In the waiting room some people insulted us. One of us escaped in the crowd. His last name is S. Later he spoke about it on the radio. After dressing our wounds, they loaded us on a truck again and took us back to Lovas. The doctors said that we should be taken to the surgery ward in Mitrovica. There our driver quarreled with a doctor. The driver said that all of us were Ustashas and that we should be executed and not treated. They took us back to the surgery ward in Lovas. They made improvised beds on the floor of the waiting room. We spent two days here. We were treated by Slobodan Kačar. He probably arranged for us to be moved to Mitrovica, I do not know which hospital. We were in the same room with their wounded soldiers who came from the front. We were under the so-called SAO Krajina militia surveillance. After nine days four of us returned to Lovas. Nine of us were transferred to Mitrovica. While we were in Mitrovica they asked us what had happened to us. We thought of a story that we went to clear a mine field with the army, that one of us stepped on a mine, and that all of us were injured. We thought of this story during the ride because we did not know where they were taking us and what was to become of us. We were given medical treatment there, and I was returned to the village soon after that. M.R., L.G., and E.P.

were returned along with me. Later, the others were returned to the village as well. M. K. was taken to Belgrade while I was still in Mitrovica. They took him under the pretense that they found something in his eye, something on which they could not operate. He ended up in the camp. He was exchanged later and eventually he arrived in Zagreb. When we returned to Lovas we paid a visit to our doctor. He told us that he would resume taking care of us. They dressed my wound every two days. In the beginning, somebody had to go with me, because I could not walk on my own. I did not live in my house because it was ransacked several times. Their militia came for me, but when they saw my wounds they did not take me with them. This lasted until Christmas time. Then a neighbor of mine who worked in their militia (he was half-Serb, we used to be good friends before the war) helped me to get out. He smuggled me all the way to Šid. From there, I arrived in Zagreb via Bijeljina and Tuzla.

The minefield was located on the right hand side of the exit to the village, behind the last houses. It was a small stretch of land on the Tovarnik-Sotin road. "Borovo" agro-business was right behind it. We do not know who placed those mines and why, whether those mines were planted by themselves, or by the Croatian National Guard when they withdrew in April and May of that year. I personally think that the second option is a little improbable, because no one encountered those mines or even saw them in six months. I guess it was their own doing because they knew exactly where the mines were. They stopped us and told us to proceed walking slowly because the mines should be somewhere around that area.

In Zagreb, April 20, 1993

Statement given by: L.S.

Statement taken by: Andrija Pavičić

**ANNEX 99:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

M.M. was born on ... in ... She resides in ...

I rushed into the basement with three children when the attack was launched at 7.30 am, on 10 October 1991. The Serbs opened fire at the houses and killed two of my neighbors, Dragutin Pijić and Mijo Božić . They killed them in front of the balcony of that house. They were civilians. They carried no weapons. Actually, they took them out of the basement and killed them. At 1.30 pm, the Serbs came again, fired at the houses and broke all the windows. They tossed a bomb into our basement. We were terrified because of the shock which we experienced and the sound the bomb made. Because of the tremendous fear we experienced my daughter did not have her period for a year. Passing by the dead bodies, my children, I, and another 12 of us, ran to a cornfield during the night. A truck took us to Ilok. My younger son was 6, and used to wake up screaming for many nights because of fear. We left Ilok with the convoy. My husband was separated but he stayed alive.

Statement was given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 100:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF N.M.**

N.M., the daughter of ..., was born on ... in ...  
She resides in ....

When the Serbs got into the village around 9.00 am, we were in the basement. Approximately 30 Chetniks were in the garden. They called us to come out of the basement. The basement was in our house. My husband was the first who stepped out. One Chetnik tossed a bomb into the basement. My husband was taken to another street and killed. I was sent to the basement again, where I stayed until 3.00 pm. When I got out, I saw my neighbors' houses on fire. Until Saturday morning, I did not know that my husband had been dead for two days. My neighbor told me that. I saw them taking the dead bodies on a trailer and driving them to the graveyard. They dropped them into a hole and covered them with an excavator. There could be around 30 dead bodies on the trailer. I stayed for two months in the village. During those two months, they killed the people and robbed everything they could find. My son was severely beaten and taken on Sunday evening, just before Christmas on 22 December (at 4.00 pm). He was in the basement with another 15 persons. They brought him back home on 23 December, at 6.00 pm, and he was barely still alive. He was brutally beaten. They pulled out his teeth with pincers. They put salt on his wounds. They made him eat a cup full of salt. They put him in handcuffs and left him hanging with his hands tied. I treated him with compresses all the time. He was unarmed and wore civilian clothing. They ordered us to move out and took us to Šid. From Šid, we came to Zagreb. My son spent 35 days in the accident surgery in Zagreb. He lives in Osijek, now.

Statement was given by: N.M.

**ANNEX 101:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.M.**

other sources/ statement code: vk038

Last name: M.  
Name, name of the father: P.  
Year of birth: ...  
Place of birth: ...  
Permanent address: ...  
Temporary residence: ...  
Professional qualifications:  
Occupation:  
Marriage status:  
Citizenship:  
Nationality: Croatian

NOTE: The material was taken from the Vinkovci Police Administration, the Department for the Operational Activities of the JS

I give the following

STATEMENT:

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991 when I was going to get some milk, people were talking that the village will be attacked. On my way I met Ilija Vorkapić, a Serb villager. At that moment the attack on the village began, the shells started falling. To be exact one shell fell, like it was a signal for the attack. Kata Pavličević came out of her house and the Serb Rade Grković was with her. We heard a shot then, I saw that Kata Pavličević was gone, I saw her lying dead on a small bridge. According to my belief, Ilija Vorkapić shot her with a rifle.

The third day they buried the rest of the killed people. Then I went to hide in S.P.'s basement and afterwards we hid in the yard. Then chetniks came, They did not find us. That was the house near the Community building. We heard our people being beaten and tortured in Community building: we recognized L.P., P.A. by their voices. We hid in the attic and from there we saw Slobodan Zoraja, together with more chetniks, taking Mato Keser and Đuka Poljak somewhere. When we reached Filip Durek's house they pushed them into the yard and they killed them there, closed the gates and went away.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991 me and S.P. went to report at their command in the Community building. After we had reported, Mićo Devčić ordered me to go to Bečka (pasture-ground) to bring ships from Ekonomija. Seven or eight of us went. After the job done, they let me go home, the next day I had to report again and I was ordered to take inventory of the power-saws in the village. Then I saw them collecting the dead. They were driving them on the tractor. I.F. was driving, M.B. and J.,F.

P., M.S. and Luka Balić (later killed in mine fields) were loading the dead bodies on the tractor. There were about 10 of them, I can not remember them all, the chetniks were leading them. J.R. (J.) and R.J. were also loading then. They went to the cemetery, and I went to the command. They assigned me a work on Ekonomija.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991 I saw them gathering people and forcing them into the Community building. I was not taken there because I was over 55 years of age. On the 18<sup>th</sup>

of October, 1991 I saw chetniks take the beaten people in column to the mine field. In the evening I heard that my son I.M. was wounded on the mine field. The next morning I tried to reach my son who was in the clinic. The chetniks did not let me. They forced me to hard labor and they robbed my house. They held me on the target, and the chetniks were taking away all they wanted. It was forbidden to lock the houses and we had to wear white strips around our arms. Also the white cloth had to be on the gates.

We had a task (a kind of ultimatum) of making a 70 meters long blockhouse in 3 days time, and unless we did that we would be killed. We were not supposed to talk between ourselves. We had to report and be beaten in their command every morning and every evening. We worked for 12 days. When my son came back out of the hospital V.T. from ..., who worked on the excavator on the Ekonomija in order to enable his son to escape to Croatia, used to help me. When chetniks found out about that they beat me heavily, they shot just beside my head, they offered me to choose the knife with which they intended to slaughter me and they were looking for my sons weapon. One of the persons who beat me was Đuro Glušac from Šid, I know him as a hunter because I myself am a hunter. A certain Nikola from Daruvar was with him.

Božo Devčić must have sent them. This Nikola would have slaughtered me if it were not for Đuka who gave up when I called him by name and told him I knew him. It was lucky that Hungarian reservists were nearby, and they did all they could to protect us. T. V. helped me to escape to Croatia. After my son left to Croatia, they were threatening me all the time and they were telling me that I have to ran away or I am dead. So I escaped to Šid at V.T.'s place and he helped me a lot, and from thereon I went to Croatia.

I know that the following people came from the villages that were in the chetnik area: Slobodan Zoraja – Bora, Milenko Rudić and Mirko (brothers), Milan Vorkapić – Siljo, Milan Radojčić, Milorad Radojčić – Bajica, Željko Krnjić o and his father Božo Devčić, Dragan Tepavac and his sons Milan Tepavac and Zoran, Đuro Prodanović, Željko Brajković, Milan Vorkapić – Trnda, Ilija Vorkapić – Ičo (Trnda's brother), Tepavac Obrad and Tihomir (brothers). Obrad used to hit me very hard, but Mijo Grković was a good person and he did not beat anyone but he had to wear the military uniform.

So Mirko Dračić and Marko Japundžić wore the JNA uniforms too, but they did not hurt anybody as far as I know. I know the following chetniks who called themselves "Dušan – Silni" formation: Zoran Kalinić from Sr. Karlovac, Petronije from some area in Slavonia – he had a beard, he was about 30 years old, dark, his beard was neither black nor brown nor blonde. He did most of the slaughtering. Then Kosta, he was short, small, and dark, dark skinned, had a small beard, and he shaved himself later. People say that he is in Lovas now. Kosta was Ljuban Devetak's bodyguard. Mirko Rupić was his driver. Nikola – he was dark, tall, handsome, about 25 years old, slim, he shaved himself and he was from Daruvar. He used to beat me and he wanted to slaughter me.

It seems that his parents are in my house in Lovas now. I know a chetnik Trifun (last name) from Tovarnik. He probably killed Mirko Grgić the forester and Dane Badanjak and his wife Cecilija. Zoran Tepavac was with Trifun then. On one occasion when they were taking me to the interrogation, one evening about 9 p.m., I saw through the half-closed door in the Francišković Ivica's house, where the Command of the Bijeli Orlovi (White Eagles) was, three girls who were forced by chetniks to serve them naked. I do not now if they were sexually abused. As far as I have managed to find out the following villagers were killed in our Lovas village:



Antun Sabljak  
Dane Badanjak  
Cecilija Badanjak  
Pero Badanjak  
Bata Polić  
Kata Pauličević  
Marina Balić  
Katica Balić  
Đuro Poljak  
Stipo Mađarević  
Dragutin Pejić  
Mijo Božić  
Stipo Pejić  
Slavica Paošević  
Jozefina Paošević  
Mirjana Paošević  
Živan Antolović  
Anica Lemunović  
Rudolf Jonak  
Stipa Luketić  
Marija Luketić  
Josip Rendulić – “Joja”  
Marko Vidić  
Božo Vidić  
Marko Damjanović  
Panda Franjo – “Franciska”  
Vida Krizmanić  
Đuka Krizmanić  
Slavko Štrangarević  
Luka Balić  
Ivan Ostrun  
Tomo Sabljak  
Ivan Sabljak  
Marko Sabljak  
Boško Bosanac  
Antun Panjik  
Zlatko Panjik  
Zlatko Božić  
Petar Luketić  
Ante Luketić  
Đuka Luketić  
Marko Hodak  
Ivan Vidić  
Ivan Palijan  
Ivan Kraljević  
Darko Sulaković  
Marinko Marković  
Joja Turkalj  
Nikola Badanjak  
Ivan Conjar

Tuna Jovanović  
 Joso Jovanović  
 Anka Jovanović  
 Pavao Đaković  
 Josa Kraljević  
 Darko Pavlić  
 Andrija Devčić  
 Zvonko Martinović  
 Slavko Kuzmić  
 Predrag Baketa  
 Josa Poljak  
 Đuka Došen – buried in Tovarnik  
 Stipo Dolački  
 Alojz Krizmanić  
 Mijo Šalaj

The list is not complete. Most of these people were buried in the Catholic cemetery. It is not known where the others were buried. Most probably they were all buried in the Catholic cemetery in Lovas. Đuka Došen was buried in the Tovarnik cemetery. I obtained this information while I was in Tovarnik.

P.M. confirms with his signature on every page of this statement the authenticity of the statement and the fact that the written sentences correspond to the oral sentences.

In Opatijia, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October, 1993.  
 The statement was given by: P.M.

**ANNEX 102:  
 WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.T.**

SURNAME: T.  
 NAME, FATHER'S NAME: Z.  
 DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., near Vukovar, Croatia  
 RESIDENCE: ...  
 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
 EDUCATION: high school  
 OCCUPATION: ...  
 EMPLOYMENT:  
 MARITAL STATUS: married  
 CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
 NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

**STATEMENT**

Lovas is 25 kilometers away from Vukovar and has a population of 1,650, predominately Croats. Serbs comprise only 10 percent of the local population, and there is also a small Hungarian community.

Lovas was attacked on October 10, 1991, first with heavy artillery and after several days with the infantry. In the beginning, several members of the Croatian National Guard were

located in the village, however they withdrew before the attack began. Prior to the attack we held unsuccessful talks with the JNA on non-aggression. Regardless of the talks they simply attacked us. When they entered Lovas, they promised peace and said that all people should return to their homes. Many people were tricked into this. There was peace and quiet for a time and then, one morning, following October 10th, they barged in and expelled people from their houses. There was almost no resistance because we had no arms. The artillery attack was not fierce, however their infantry were very cruel. They wore four Cyrillic S symbols on their uniforms, and although some wore a five pointed star they were all genuine Chetniks. All of them were elderly people, the reservists who fired around the village, bombed people out from their basements, ransacked houses, killed women, children and men. On that day approximately thirty civilians were killed in my village. Some of them were killed in the basement; the others were dragged outside and then killed. A couple of women were among those killed. The villagers were forced to bury the dead and they did it superficially. Among the people who were killed on that occasion were Vidak Rizmanić, Ivo Palijan, Josip Josa Poljak, and several others whose names I cannot recall. In the evening the Chetniks gathered around the school and celebrated the execution by shooting around. At the time that they entered the village, I hid in my basement, but later had no other choice but to come out. Both the local Serbs and those who arrived participated in murders. The only difference is that the local Serbs did it indirectly; they tried to cover up their tracks.

After several days, we who remained in the area were notified to report to the Farm Cooperative regarding our work obligations. They ordered us to gather all of the tractors in the village and prepare for the taking out of the turnip and corn. They transported pigs and bovine cattle to Serbia practically every day. They paid small sums of money for the cattle; in fact, people were forced to sell the cattle for a mere trifle. Besides the cattle, they also took agricultural machinery. They took everything they could.

The commander of the Defence Headquarters in the Lovas Farm Cooperative was the local Serb, Ljuban Devetak. He covered for the atrocities that were done, and probably participated in them himself. Besides him, there was another person from Lovas, Milan Devčić, and the police commander who had been a member of the police force from before. His father is a Croat, and his mother is a Serb, and he joined the other side. He most probably arrived in the village with the Chetniks, because he was absent for a couple of days and then he showed up with them.

Anyway, while going out in the village, all of the Croats (men, women and children) had to wear white ribbons around their arms as the sign of surrender.

In the evening of October 17, 1991, during the curfew, we were invited to allegedly discuss certain business arrangements. I do not know who invited us. Upon our arrival to the meeting, they searched us for firearms and they sent us to the Farm Cooperative where they had previously set up benches for us to sit. We had to sit quietly the entire day and night. Eighty people were detained there, aged twenty to sixty-five. Their machine-guns were aimed at us under the pretense that a sniper was spotted in the village and that this measure would discourage all similar attempts in the future. We were not allowed to move, or relax because they would immediately start beating us over our backs or heads with batons and cables. We were not allowed to go to the men's room. There were no local Serbs; they sent Chetniks to do the dirty work for them. We would not see the local Serbs until the morning, and in that manner they would stay "clean".

The real maltreatment followed in the morning. They said that there had been some shooting the previous night, and they started interrogating us. They imputed various things

to people, and brought alleged evidence (the ammunition found in somebody's home, etc.), and they divided us into two groups. The criteria for this division was whether the people had directly participated in the work of the HDZ or not. Those people who were seen at the video footage of the HDZ celebrations were frequently beaten, and often beaten to death. During the maltreatment I was stabbed twice in my leg. I do not know the person who did this to me because he was not a local resident, but I would recognize him if I ever saw him again. Then they separated us again into "bigger and smaller culprits". Some of us were sent home. I was lucky enough not to be present when they separated the people (they ordered me to carry some table), and so I got to this second group. It did not make any difference though because later they forced all of us to enter the minefield. This occurred on the morning of October 18, 1991. At that time there were approximately fifty or sixty civilians in the Farm Cooperative and they told us that they were taking us to work in a vineyard. Subconsciously we all knew where they were taking us. We were taken to the minefield. They claimed that our men set up this minefield (I am sure that it was they who set it up). The minefield was located in a clover field in front of the Farm Cooperative, approximately one kilometer away from us. They expelled us from the village and directed us towards this clover field (I had already been stabbed with a knife, so I limped). We went on foot. Some people were too weak to continue, so they begged them to kill them, because they could not walk any more. They quarreled who was going to do it, and then a machine-gun burst and several shots were heard, and we knew that they had killed one man. The man's name was Boško Bosanac, nicknamed Bole. He was a Croat. They pushed his body into the canal by the side of the road.

We kept on walking, two of them in the middle, surrounded by us, so that we protected them with our bodies from any accidental bullet. There were as many of them as ourselves. When we reached the clover field, they ordered us to go right down. When we did so, they told us that mines were planted there somewhere, and as our men put them in, we should discover and dig them out. First we had to walk across the field. We were ordered to move as we would when mowing the lawn. We went like that, we were away from each other a couple of meters, at our arm lengths. The grass was thirty centimeters high. We crossed the whole field and found nothing. Then we were ordered to return and walk this small field once again, but this time longitudinally. The field is located at the entrance to the main road Tovarnik-Sotin-Vukovar in the direction of Šid. They remained some sixty meters behind us, at a safe distance in case we were to bump into mines. Suddenly we spotted a long green wire to which mines were connected. The wire was fifteen centimeters high, and it was visible although it was well hidden and painted green. Several trip wires and anti-personnel mines were placed all around. Suddenly we heard many detonations and explosions. I saw when a young man tripped over the mines. His name was Ivan Kraljević. There are two versions of the incident. According to the first version he threw himself in the midst of the mines, and according to the second version one of the Chetniks rushed forward and shoved him into them. When he fell down, he activated the entire mine field – and this chain explosion caused many deaths. One shell fragment penetrated my lungs. After the explosions, they shouted from the road above asking if anyone was heavily wounded. When the heavily wounded raised their hands, they fired at them. They shot me in the arm (from behind). Upon activating the minefield, many mines exploded simultaneously and Ivica Conjar and Mato Hodak, who were standing near me, were killed on that occasion. Mato Hodak did not die immediately. He cried to them to kill him, I heard the machine-gun burst and I saw when he died. I do not remember how many people were killed there, but I know for certain that thirteen of us were wounded. One wounded person died on his way to Šid. Several others stepped on the anti-personnel mines, and then the regular army arrived and ordered the Chetniks to stop shooting at us and pull us out. Among the Chetniks who took

us to the minefield were two local residents nicknamed Buva (Lice) and Kinez (Chinese). Before the war they worked as farmers in the Farm Cooperative. Those two openly joined the Chetnik forces while the other local Serbs covered up their activities.

While we were walking through the field they shouted that they would shoot us if we lagged behind, and that we could try and run if we wanted to (they knew we would run into the mines). When the regular army met with them they complied only after the army threatened to use their arms. They ordered us to help each other, and to separate the dead whom they would take to a cemetery. Several men were lucky enough to get out without a scratch and they helped us to mount a truck. They loaded the corpses onto another truck. During the whole time the Chetniks insulted us. First they took us to a village doctor, Slobodan Kačar, a Serb and an honest man. We received first aid there, but he could not do much because he did not have sufficient equipment. Then he sent us to Šid where we were supposed to receive the real help. Our armed escorts insulted us during the entire ride. In Šid, doctors did not give us adequate help and did not treat us as medical personnel should. A wounded man died there after receiving an injection. His name was Joja Turkalj. From there we were returned to Lovas where we were put in an improvised hospital (rather an in-patient clinic) within an infirmary, and nursed by doctor Kačar. That night the Chetniks fought among themselves in front of the clinic because some of them wanted to go inside and kill us, one even wanted to massacre us with an axe, while the others did not let them. There was shooting. The following day doctor Kačar arranged for us to be transported to Sremska Mitrovica. First they moved the seriously wounded and then the lightly wounded. As soon as one recovered one would be returned to Lovas. The three of us who had the most serious injuries stayed the longest. I got across the border to Croatia via Bačka Palanka, then I returned to Lovas to get my family and through a friend of mine (a Serb who managed to smuggle us in his car), we came to Croatia. Another two men who were with me went to Sremska Mitrovica and also managed to come here. All of us wounded are here in Zagreb at the moment. There are twenty of us.

I know for certain that the following people got killed: Mijo Šalaj, Slavko Kuzmić, Mato Hodak, Ivo Kraljević, brother of Ljubo Solaković, Toma Sabljak (or Savljak)... I cannot remember other men's names.

In Zagreb, April 29, 1993

Statement given by: Z.T.

Statement taken by: Andrija Pavičić

**ANNEX 103:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF N.K.**

N.K., son of ..., a farmer, ..., ....., ..., Lika, ...  
years old, gives the following:

TESTIMONY

I lived with my wife M. and our sons Đ. (born in ...) and M...(born in ...) in Lovas before the war began. My sons were not married. During the attack on Lovas on October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991, my son M. was in Osijek. When grenades started falling, the house of my neighbor M.M. was hit and started burning up. The fire was threatening my house so I was protecting it whilst under attack. I managed to save my house from the fire, but the house of M.M. burned out to the ground. Me and my son Đ. then hid in a hen house in our garden. Chetniks were walking around our house and garden, shooting in the house but they didn't find us. After two days, I went into my house and then I was captured by a patrol of their army and was ordered to report myself to a community for a work allocation. I took along with me my son Đ. who was disposed to tend after sheep. I was transporting "kom" (plums) for making brandy. Afterwards, I was allocated to drive a vehicle from door to door and to help load pigs and cattle that were then taken to the slaughterhouse. Cattle were taken away from both abandoned houses, of the people who had run away, and occupied houses. Cattle that were taken away, loaded and transported to Šid, weren't paid for.

I know that every night they were taking away people into the cellar of Kiser's house in the center of the village where their command post of the village was located. They beat and killed people there and often you could hear machine-gun bursts. One night they took away my son Đ. and his cousin Z.K., my brother's son. My son was imprisoned there for three nights. In the morning of the fourth day, S.L. said that my son's dead body is in the garage of his brother Božo L. I went to this garage and found there four corpses – of my son and of three locals. They all had wounds inflicted by firearms. Immediately after, around eight o'clock, I was ordered to go around the village to collect the dead. That was ordered by accused Milan Radojčić, who was given that order by Ljuban Devetak – head of the village. That was also the order of accused Milan Devčić. We had a tractor and a tractor trailer which were conducted by one of their colonists who was settled in Lovas immediately after the occupation of the village. That day we collected seven corpses besides the corpse of my son. They were: Franjo Safer, Z. K. (my nephew), one refugee from Tovarnik who's name I don't know, Marko Bosanac, Josip Jovanović and two Pavić brothers who's names I also don't know. Their dead bodies were then transported to the cemetery where an excavator dug a long canal. Bodies were then thrown into that canal. They didn't let us arrange them. Bodies were left in the canal in the way as they were being thrown from a tractor-trailer. We were guarded by several Chetniks (whom I didn't recognize because they weren't from our village) who prevented us from arranging the dead in the canal. On that job, besides me, were the following locals: M. S., T.L. and S.F. M.S. wrote the names of the victims.

The next day they made me collect the dead around a minefield. Before the beginning of the war, I helped Ž.A., who was a gravedigger, so they must have taken me for that job. We headed for an economy where in a clover field there was a minefield. That minefield was set up by Chetniks after their arrival at the village. Now the new driver, who was also their colonist, was driving. We found nine dead bodies near the minefield, mostly in drainage ditches. They were: Ivica Sabljak and Marko Sabljak (two brothers), Pero

Bodanjak (son of Marko Bosanac), but I can't remember who the others were. We transported and dumped them into the same ditch. The ones from yesterday were covered with soil. Then I was ordered to go to the village to collect the dead. We collected 16 or 17 dead people there. All of them were killed by firearms. I remember them. The dead were: Tuna Jovanović and his wife Anka, Dane Bodanjak, his wife Cecilija and their son Pero Bodanjak, Stipo Pejić, grave-digger Živan Antolović, Rudolf Rudić, Stipo Luketić, Josip Rendulić, Pero Luketić, his wife Katica and their sons Ante and Đuka. I also remember dead Marija Luketić and Kaja Pavličević. I can't remember the others. We transported them to the cemetery. A bulldozer piled soil on their dead bodies.

They didn't ask me to collect the dead any more, however if someone in the village died of natural causes, I buried them in the cemetery. I buried Antun Kovačević and two or three other locals. While at the cemetery, I saw that trench in which we buried murdered ones. I saw hands and knees of murdered people, which stuck out from the ground.

After that I worked on loading the cattle which were then transported to Šid.

In the meantime, Gojko Živorad from Budimci came to the village. He told me that he is from Budimci and that he left a house there, cattle and machines. That man came to my house on the morning on 4 February 1992, and told me that he had to leave the village in 10 minutes. He told me to go to Budimci, to settle in his house and to watch over his house, and in the meantime, he would watch over mine. When we returned to our farm, it would be preserved. After that Gojko Živorad drove my wife and me by car to Šid, and the others went by buses. Then we went to Bjeljina, after that to Croatia and I came to Budimci where I have still been living in the house of that man.

I can say the following about the accused:

All of us knew that Ljuban Devetak was the head of our village and that he ordered murdering, exile, robbing, and maltreatment.

In one of our encounters, he called my mother names; he threatened to kill me when it was my turn. I asked him why and he told me that it is because I had played on his wedding. I told him that my playing had nothing to do with it.

About Milan Devčić I can say that he helped Ljuban Devetak in everything. I was afraid for my son Đ. and I begged Devčić not to touch and not to kill my son. He responded that he would see what could be done.

All I can say about Milena Radić is that he was in the uniform and that he was a high official of a motor pool. I don't know anything else about him.

Željko Krnjaić had a very bad reputation. We heard refugees from Tovarnik saying that he had murdered and battered people in Tovarnik. He was leading Chetniks when entering Lovas. They were shooting along the street that day and all the night. He encouraged Chetniks to commit murder. His father Ljuban Kranjajić murdered my brother V. K. S.B. from Lovas witnessed that.

Slobodan Zoraja showed a tendency for murdering. He murdered Mato Keser and Đuka Poljak in their garden. The father of Đ.P., J.P., witnessed that. J.P. is alive and in exile.

I know nothing about the accused Željko Brajković.

I heard about Ilija Kresojević from survivors from the minefield that he had shot at people who had been chased in the minefield. There are approximately 30 survivors.

Accused Milan Rendulić and Obrad Tepavac were also shooting at people who were chased in the minefield. Accused Radovan Tepavac had gathered people to go to a local office and then took them to the minefield. He had also gathered people who were then taken to cellars where they were beaten and murdered.

Zoran Tepavac was also gathering people, but he was soon off that job and didn't want to participate in that kind of work. Afterwards he worked as a tractor driver and was transporting cattle to Šid. He didn't get along with Chetniks. I heard that he was beaten and that he died.

Accused Milan Radojčić was participating in gathering people who were then taken to the minefield.

Accused Milan Vorkapić was robbing all over the village. All of us knew that he entered houses and took what he wanted.

He chased away 8 pigs weighing approximately 150 kg from my neighbor M.M. He also chased away 8 pigs from M.M.

I didn't hear anything bad about Dušan Grgović. He was wearing the uniform.

Accused Milan Vorkapić came together with Chetniks to the village on the first day. He drove a truck. He participated in the robbery of "Borovo" in our village. He was wounded in the leg.

Duro Prodanović called the Croats in the village "ustashas". He insulted us by calling us names. He threatened us.

Ilija Vorkapić was perfidious person. He wore a military uniform but didn't carry any weapons. I have never heard that he has either murdered or beat anyone.

There was a doctor named Slobodan in the village who treated medically people battered by Chetniks. He treated my son Đ. He was once called to the command and Chetniks criticized him for curing Ustashas while they are fighting against and murdering Ustashas. On that occasion, the doctor was battered. The doctor stayed in the village.

As soon as they had arrived in the village, they set the church on fire and demolished it to the ground. Five houses around the church burned down to the ground. They were the houses of: J.K., I.G., A.M.S., M.L. (the real surname was B.), but I can't remember the name of the owner of the fifth house that was also burned down to the ground.

While I was still in the village, Chetniks set on fire approximately 71 houses. I know for a fact that among those houses were the houses of: Stipo Rendulić that is Stipo Luketić, Tuna Bašlić, Adam Reundulić (who was a community director), Ivica Krizmanić, Stipo Filić, Stipo Sevdak, Josip Mioković. I can't remember the owners of other houses. I can state that Milan Radojčić, Milan Devčić and Ljuban Devetak threatened to murder everyone of us and to burn down our villages. They didn't have any particular reason to burn and to blow up houses. They burned and blew up houses that belonged to people who escaped from the village and of those who stayed in their homes. They murdered Stipo Luketić and immediately burned down his house. They murdered Josip Rendulić and immediately burned down his house. These houses were demolished by explosive. I saw those demolished houses when I was going to the cemetery. Public opinion was that Ljuban Devetak and his collaborators ordered both murdering and demolition of houses.



The plant of "Borovo" in Lovas had burned down to the ground 2-3 months before I was exiled from Lovas.

Grenades from Tovarnik demolished silos of our economy in Lovas.

There wasn't a Croatian army in Tovarnik. There wasn't a Croatian army in Lovas either. There was no resistance when the army with Chetniks arrived in Lovas.

I remembered that the third time among the dead that I loaded on the tractor in other words tractor-trailer, were Zvonko Martinović, Ivo Ostrun and Josip Turkalj.

The witness has nothing else to add.

The cost of a journey Budimci-Osijek and back in the amount of 7000 HRD will be paid from the budget of this court of justice.

The witness has been warned of article 82 of ZKP.

The witness declares that he doesn't want to read the protocol because he listened to the dictation.

Finished at 11.21h.

In Zagreb, 28. 12. 1995.

Statement taken by: Nikola Osmakčić

Statement given by: N.K.

**ANNEX 104:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.K.**

On October 10, 1991, at 7.30 a.m. the bombing of Lovas, by the JNA, began. The bombing concentrated primarily on the "ŠOKAČKI" part of town, a completely Croatian section, and lasted about one hour. After the artillery stopped firing volunteers from neighboring villages in JNA, camouflaged and civilian uniforms began to arrive from the direction of Opatovac. This lasted until about 1 p.m. They gathered and took over the Partizan Street. It was here that I recognized the following people who attacked the village: MILAN VORKAPIĆ Senior and Junior from Lovas, Željko KRNJAIĆ, ILIJA VORKAPIĆ, and three from Opatovac. GOJKO from Tovarnik who used to work at "NAMA" in Vukovar, ZORAN TEPAVAC, MIRKO RUDIĆ from Lovas, ZORAN.. from Lovas.

Altogether there were about 50 of them on my street. They were primarily sitting there and drinking or searching through the houses of Croats. They remained for about 2 hours. They took the truck of Z.P. and went towards the center of town. Z.P.

had escaped earlier. In the afternoon, around dusk, the following: MILAN RADOJČIĆ, MIRKO RUDIĆ, a man by the name of KOSTA, a volunteer, came to look for me, and my mother answered. RADOJČIĆ called me to come out and told me that I had to go with him and that from then on I was to be at the police station in the center of the town, at the house of B.K. a Croat who was in Germany. My job was to be to take care of the generators that were providing the electricity and water for the village; this was done by the order of RADOJČIĆ. I went to the basement of the house of B.K., which was turned into a jail. The ground and first floors were the police station while the basement was a jail. The main jail was in the basement of the local co-operative. I was in this jail until December 31, 1991. I was there for forced labor. I was working on the

maintenance of the electric generators, used primarily for the water distribution in the village.

At the main police station was LJUBAN DEVETAK who was born in Lovas but was living in Belgrade. By profession he was an economist, and had worked in Osijek, then he moved to Belgrade and there he had a private firm. When they came to take me away they also ordered that I, my wife and my children had to wear a white band on our left upper arm, and put a white rag at the front of our house; only the Croats had to do this. Along with me in jail was B.I., a Croat who remained in Lovas and who was the mechanic for the generators, L.A. who did the maintenance for the central heating in the police building, L.A. who took care of the central heating in the government offices. We were together non-stop, and they would only take us out when there was a job to be done. For lunch we would go to the cafeteria at the co-operative. We had breakfast and in the evening we received a can and a piece of bread.

Mid-way through December 1991, under the orders of MILAN RADOJČIĆ, I was taken to Šid to SLAVKO MACURA, who was from Vukovar but was living in Šid, they were the only ones who had authority in Eastern Slavonia, in the name of the SAO Krajina, and he was in charge of the co-operative for operations. Then SLAVKO MACURA told me that I had to accompany him to the office of the general director of the "Elektrovojvodina", who came to Šid so that we could show him, on a map, the transmission wires and equipment we would use to bring electricity to that part of the Eastern Vukovar municipality. I was with them for 7 days, and I went with their people to the field, from Šid to Njemac to Opatovac and Tovarnik. I was with them until December 31, 1991, working on repairing machinery, so that on that day we could supply electricity to my village and I was allowed to go home but only under the condition that I had to report for work duty every morning. I had to report to the office of MILAN RADOJČIĆ who would then give me the duties for the workday.

During October 1991, I was taken to the co-operative's mechanic shop where there were already 100 people inside. I was then searched thoroughly, maltreated and all my personal belongings were taken from me, this was done by volunteers in camouflaged uniforms with cockades, they belonged to the Chetnik units known as "JOVIĆEVCI", "ŠEŠELJEVCI" and "ARKANOVCI".

LJUBAN DEVETAK then came into this group and separated 15 of us. I was among the 15 along with F.I., T.J., P.I., B.I., and B.I., and we were taken to the local offices, where LJUBAN DEVETAK told us that we were needed to maintain the infrastructure of the village, that he was told to separate 15 people from the group, and that he could not do anything for the others. He did not say who gave them these orders. The other people were gathered under false pretences; they were told that they were coming to discuss work in the fields. They went around the town announcing how people could go to work in the field. I was taken from this group of fifteen and put in jail in the basement of the police station to control the electricity, while the other members of the group were taken to the house of Mirko MILIĆ senior where they spent the night. At about 5 p.m. that same day I overheard a conversation between the volunteers at the police station. They were talking about the plans of sending one group to Kalvarija, Čota, Ekonomija from where they would provoke the others, by doing this they would provoke the others, by doing this they would then have a reason to maltreat the people, and during the night this did occur. They beat and maltreated the people the entire night, and the next morning they took the people from the co-operative to the clover field in front of the Borovo factory, with the excuse that Ustashes had tried to an attack the previous night and that they were still around. They told the

people to show them where the Ustashas were, but in fact they brought them to a minefield that was laid the night before by members of the "Šešelj" Chetnik group. Some of the members of this Chetnik group were PETRONIJE, DRAGAN, and JOCA from Belgrade. I learned about this when I was in the police station jail.

In the morning I saw the group that had been in the minefield but the group was about half its original size. I knew that something had occurred and I found out later in a discussion with L.T. The command of the JNA was located in the house of BRAJKOVIĆ in Tomislav Street in the middle of town.. The commander was Colonel Mirko KOVAČ . The unit was the Novi Sad Corps. The "Jović and "Šešelj" Chetniks were in the house of F.I. who was chased out of his home. Across the street in the house of P.B. were the "Arkan" Chetniks.

During the time that I was in the police jail I saw them bring in other people for questioning, the questioning was done by: LJUBAN DEVETAK, MILAN RADOJČIĆ, ŽELJKO KRNJAIĆ and Mićo DEVČIĆ, I know this because I was questioned twice. People were beaten during the questionings, this I know because of the screams I heard coming from the rooms. One night the before-mentioned people took me from the basement and showed me a video of the creation of the HDZ political party in Lovas. I was required to identify people in the video; I was also in the video. Here they beat me with fists, batons, guns, pieces of cables and pipes.

At the end of October 1991, I was present when they brought in S.L. and his wife who were beaten during questioning and one Chetnik by the name of "BASTA" said that it was not necessary to question them any longer and that they should be killed as was agreed earlier. After a few minutes they did this in the vicinity, at a location known as "centralo". They took them from the building into the dark and gunshots were audible. When it became light in the morning I saw their corpses.

Afterwards they let me go home in the evenings, as long as I showed up for work detail the next morning. I was visited one evening by MILAN RADOJČIĆ and ŽELJKO KRNJAIĆ who again warned me, in front of my entire family, that I should not try to escape because they would then kill both me and my family. During my stay at the jail, MIRKO RUDIĆ and Mile RADOVIĆ took my car with the excuse that they were guarding it so that some unknown volunteers would not take it. This proved to be false because the car was later given to MILAN RADOJČIĆ, who let it be known during several visits, to my wife and children, that it was now his car. The car was also taken by the JNA Colonel Mirko KOVAČ who then was the commander of the village, and he gave me a receipt that stated: "This document confirms that the car 'Renault 11' license plate VU-278-26 is now in temporary use by VP-4478" and the stamp read the Military Post Office number "4478-Kragujevac".

In fact all the cars, tractors and machines from the village were taken from the owners and given to the volunteers. The distribution and sale of these items was supervised by Milan MILJKOVIĆ, a Serb from Lovas, whose brother is in Zagreb, Miljenko MILJKOVIĆ in the Vukovar police and is the assistant commander-in-chief of the Vukovar police.

During the beginning of 1992 I was called by LJUBAN DEVETAK who had become the director of the agricultural association. Also present at the meeting were MILAN RADOJČIĆ, Đuro PRODANOVIĆ and ŽELJKO KRNJAIĆ who told me that it was well known that I supervised all the work on the electrical objects in the community and that I had to bring them all into working condition and that I was not allowed to leave until this was accomplished. They came to my house and took the suitcase in which I had prepared

things for my departure, and threw the things around the room and warned me not to play with my life.

In Lovas, which before the occupation had 1700 residents of which 94% were Croats, they settled around 1500 Serbs from Western Slavonia and some from Bosnia and Vojvodina. In the occupied Lovas there remained about 100 Croats, 25 people in mixed marriages and 144 Serbs from Lovas. The settlers arrived in cars or tractors and they moved into our houses with the permission of the housing commission. In the group were the following persons: Đuro PRODANOVIĆ, MILAN RADOJČIĆ, Ilija RADOJČIĆ and MILAN TEPAVAC all Serbs from Lovas.

These same settlers also received land, as much as they wanted – from 1 to 10 hectares. This distribution of land was done by ĐORĐE MARINČIĆ, a Serb from Slatina, Vlado SOMBORAC, a Croat from Lovas, and MILAN TEPAVAC, a Serb from Lovas.

The settlers did not take much from our houses because the volunteers and Serbs from our village had already looted the houses in the initial attack. During the attack on the village and before the attack around thirty houses were burned down, from those the new houses were rebuilt, financial aid was provided by the co-operative, and the new Serb settlers were moved into them. The old houses and the Catholic church were left in ruins. The church was first rocketed during September and the tower was damaged, after the occupation it was set on fire and further damage was done. Later, in 1992-1993, it was slowly demolished and the material was used in repairing their church and other buildings.

The main people in the co-operative responsible for the manipulation of the residents were local Serbs: LJUBAN DEVETAK, MILAN RADOJČIĆ, ĐURO PRODANOVIĆ, ŽELJKO KRNIJAČIĆ, MILAN TEPAVAC, Božo DEVČIĆ, Milan MILJKOVIĆ and Mićo DEVČIĆ – as the chief of police.

After the occupation the name of the co-operative was changed to PZ-Dušanovac, the director was LJUBAN DEVETAK who later became an advisor with special pay, then MILAN RADOJČIĆ became the director. ĐURO PRODANOVIĆ was the lawyer, Savo NESIĆ was in charge of agriculture, Milan MILJKOVIĆ was in charge of the mechanics' workshop, and Milan KOJIĆ from Mohovo was in charge of buying and selling.

During the occupation of Lovas the area under control of the agricultural co-operative doubled in size to about 4000 hectares, this land was taken from "Vupik" and was previously part of Opatovac, Mohovo, Šarengrad and Bapska. All the food produced from these lands was taken to Serbia and sold. This food came from a UNPA protected zone and UNPROFOR issued papers to approve these transfers. All these transfers occurred on the account of the import-export firm owned by LJUBAN DEVETAK.

UNPROFOR came to the village for the first time during April, but only to pass through the village. They did not stay in the village. The UNPROFOR contingent was composed of Russians with some Belgians who were in charge of civilian matters. When UNPROFOR troops passed through the village or brought mail to the remaining Croats, Serbs and members of the SAO Krajina police always accompanied them. The UNPROFOR troops always contacted the SAO Krajina police before they came, but towards the end the Croats had problems if they were with the UNPROFOR troops, the SAO Krajina police would maltreat them after the troops left.

The old oak forests around Jelaš were also cut down during the occupation. This wood was then taken to Serbia under the supervision of LJUBAN DEVETAK and with the approval of UNPROFOR. During the occupation there was not one day that the village was without

oil. They would unload the oil at Opatovac at the facilities of INA which were renamed *Krajina Petrol*.

When UNPROFOR took over control of the area the expulsion of Croats continued, UNPROFOR did nothing to protect them.

While UNPROFOR was in control of Lovas, there were around 50 Croats expelled, with around 30 expelled at the beginning of 1993.

On January 25, 1993, two women, a mother and daughter, were killed, Pavica KOVAČEVIĆ (1952) and Ida KOVAČEVIĆ (age 17). They were killed in their own home on VI. Nazor Street. They were buried at the Catholic graveyard in Lovas. No one knew about this murder until January 28, 1993, when Anica PAVLIĆ (age 55) was also killed. B.O. found her, a Serb from Osijek, he went to their house, saw that it had been searched and then followed a trail of blood to the well and discovered that she had been thrown into the well.

I personally went to the president of the co-operative and asked that we be allowed to go to Vukovar to retrieve the bodies of three murdered women who had been taken to Vukovar for autopsies. P.Š. and B.I. went to Vukovar for them and brought them back so that they could be buried in the Catholic graveyard, which was done by her brother and his sons.

After that, Đ.M. and I went to the remaining Croats in the village to organize them so that we could leave the village under UNPROFOR protection. Of the remaining Croats in the village 80 agreed to leave the village because they saw no other option. During the time of the killings they also started a massive mobilization and these people were sent to the front, I refused to go. I then went with P.Đ. to UNPROFOR that they could enable me to leave, but instead I was called by Goran HADŽIĆ, the president of the so-called Serbian Krajina, and VISIĆ, the president of the Vukovar municipality. I was taken to them to explain why I had gone to UNPROFOR. Then Goran HADŽIĆ asked me, as a representative of the remaining Croats, to tell him what was bothering the Croats in the village. I told him that we did not feel safe in the village, that there were murders, Croats were taken to the front lines, homes were pillaged and that these things could happen to us at any time. They then clearly told me that it was impossible, for a group of this size could not leave because it would be a big blow to their Krajina if 80 Croat civilians were to show up in Croatia and that the world would find out about it. As for the murders they said that we would get a document with the name(s) of the murderer(s) the next day. The following day they told me that the murderers were a Serb called "KOSTA" and his wife who came to Lovas. As for my request that the Croats be relieved of service in their army and that the Croats already taken be returned, they replied that this would be impossible.

The UNPROFOR representatives were deaf to all these requests, and instead of showing up they sent GORAN HADŽIĆ and his team.

When I realized after this conversation that I too would be mobilized, I decided to take my wife and children and escape from Lovas. I left on February 22, 1993, across the Hungarian border to Croatia and finally Zagreb.

I give this statement of my own free will, with no coercion, and by signing every page of this statement I verify its authenticity.

In Zagreb, April 18, 1993

PERSONS KILLED DURING THE PERIOD 20 OCT 1991 – 21 FEB 1993 (after the minefield)

1. Antun Pavličić
2. Kata Pavličić
3. Antun Kovačević
4. Pavica Kovačević
5. Elvira Kovačević
6. Josip Bačlić
7. Luka Andrić
8. Manda Bođanac
9. Anica Kovačević
10. Stana Somborac
11. Franca Kovačević
12. Božidar Filić
13. Božo Svirač
14. Mijo Đaković
15. Anica Pavličić
16. Marija Pavošević
17. Ana Turkalj
18. Manda Pavlić

Statement was given by: J.K.

**105:**

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF V. R.**

V.R., born on ..., daughter of ...

Financial Status Before The Exile

Well to do, a house, all household appliances and all agricultural equipment, a car, a telephone.

Data About Abandoned Belongings

Everything was set on fire and plundered. Serbs, who were newcomers, moved in.

Brief Description of Life Before That Aggression

It was a normal life of a happy family. It was endeavored that politics didn't change relations with Serbs from the village. They protected them more than before and they took care of them (they made it possible to choose one's occupation).

Description of Life During The Aggression

When the army (the Yugoslav People's Army), accompanied by Chetniks and other irregular formations, entered the village, they killed 80 people in the first 10 days. They killed everybody they didn't like and they would find the most senseless excuses to do that. A fear that they could do anything to you, that you weren't worth the bullet. They made us work in their fields and they were degrading all the Croatian population of the village. They didn't know what better position to take for themselves, especially those Serbs that they lived with until then.

Date of Arrival And Name of The Aggressor

October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991 – the former Yugoslav People’s Army, irregular formations and inhabitants of the village

#### Events That Preceded The Abandonment of The Residence

Two months passed from the date of arrival of the army, October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991, till the date of its departure – December 11<sup>th</sup> 1991.

#### Reasons For Abandonment of The Residence

Under the pressure of the aggressor, because of blackmail and the fact that her life was being imperilled, she decided on her own. Conditions of her life became impossible

#### Facts Regarding The Violation of Human Rights

Right after the arrival of the aggressor on October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991, maltreatment and killing of people started. The first 8 days it was permitted to move around between 10 and 12,30 o’clock, but only for supplying with bread. They roasted stolen pigs and they baked bread. A month after the arrival, the occupying enemy organized a working obligation from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. They threw her – V. – out from a clinic and a former employee from Vukovar’s hospital replaced her. People were forced to wear white handkerchiefs around their arms and to put white sheets on their doors as a mark of surrender. During the stay there, a volunteer came and said: “What would you want? Serbs have never lost a war – it will be as Belgrade and Serbia say. Teach your children about brotherhood and unity. Tudman gave you all of this. You have 26 dead people in a truck – bury them. What do I care, I didn’t come to you voluntarily either.” People were buried in a trench that an excavator had dug up. Two trenches, about 25 meters long and 1 meter wide, were dug and they buried 80 people there. According to stories of people who buried them and who collected corpses about the village, they dug them up with their bare hands. Trenches weren’t completely covered with ground – at some places, you could catch glimpses of bodies of buried people. When they buried them, first an excavator was heard, then shooting, so that people would withdraw into their houses, and then the only thing that was heard was an excavator digging. During that time, one of their volunteers, an inhabitant of the village, died due to clumsy handling of a bomb. A funeral was organized for him and a coffin for a burial was delivered.

They imprisoned people in a yard that belonged to a community and in a basement of the Local committee. Those people were accused of possessing weapons and of firing at the army. Because of that they were battered and killed.

When searching houses, they set them on fire and they took away carpets, money, gold and household appliances. My father and his stepmother were killed during the interrogation. Their house was set on fire and everything that was left was plundered. Every car from the village was carted away. Before and during a drive to the field, every woman was searched on the entrance and on the exit of the village. They changed, right away, the name of a school to “Sv. Savo”. The Cyrillic alphabet was taught and the ekavian dialect was spoken.

Serbian volunteers (villagers) forced girls and women, who served them and cooked them coffee, to sleep with them by threatening that they would kill their family. 400 Croats stayed in the village. They went to work in the fields. The war could be dodged with a excuse note from a doctor. Croats were the only ones that worked. Serbs that stayed in the village and Serbs that came from Podravska Slatina and Daruvar were moving into houses until other Croats left. The army also entered houses and abided there. After their departure, destroyed furniture and empty closets were the only things left.

My father-in-law was battered on Christmas Eve. Two of his vertebrae were broken. He was driven away from the village. My mother-in-law was driven out with threats and physical maltreatment. Women, whose husbands weren't in the village, were interrogated and they were taken away at night to be interrogated: "Where are husbands, where are weapons, where are they hiding, who feeds them?" They drove my father and a neighbour out from a house, they leaned them against a fence and accused them of constantly shooting at them. A volunteer that drove them out from the house and in front of the fence said that he didn't want to soil his hands and that he would send someone else. Both of them were killed later on. The neighbour had 3 children. A female neighbour got a job to clean premises that belonged to a community because her husband was killed by mistake. Nights passed in fear and with constant shooting around a yard and along streets. Her son A. was a real little hero – he courageously passed, together with his mother, by tanks, by the army and Chetniks. He gave her strength to hold out hoping for a better tomorrow.

Statement was given by: V.R.

**ANNEX 106:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.D.\***

FILIP DUREK, son of ...born ... in Lovas, residence ...; temporary residence in ...; nationality: Croat, a citizen of the Republic of Croatia, married, gives the following:

TESTIMONY

He stated that from May of 1991 he worked in a staff for crises of the village Lovas, that 12 people worked there and that Jozo Milas was a chairman. He stated that a guard was posted on the entrance to the village round the clock. During the day older people were keeping guard and at night younger people were keeping guard. In May Serbs left the village under the pretext of going to work abroad. He noticed that Milan Vorkapić and Željko Krnjaić moved around a lot. They took children away and women and parents stayed behind. F. stated that Milan Vorkapić came to the village when he was wounded – that was before Lovas fell. He furthermore stated that he was a member of a group that were in negotiations with the Yugoslav People's Army about non-aggression on Lovas. Early in October, he was negotiating with Adam Redulić, Milan Tepavac and Đuro Prodanović.

As F.D. further stated, the Yugoslav People's Army demanded that weapons be handed over to them and that they, in the staff for crises, arranged and notified the Police in Ilok about that. Then a commander of the Police station of Ilok came and took away 23 machine-guns, 2 or 3 antitank mines, a couple of rocket launchers and some anti-personnel mines. After that, the army came, that is representatives of the Yugoslav People's Army, who explained that those weapons were in a local office and that the police from Ilok had come and taken weapons with them and what they could do. Representatives of the Yugoslav People's Army didn't believe in that and they left. On December 8<sup>th</sup> 1991 they shot from their positions at a church tower which then began to burn. The next day they used incendiary bullets to shoot at the church.

F.D. further stated that on October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991 at 7,20 a.m. the attack on Lovas village began from the east side.

Then, from a region called Repiste, Serbian Chetniks and the Yugoslav People's Army fired mortars and tanks. After the artillery had stopped operating, the infantry entered the village from the direction of Opatovac, that is from the west side of the village. As F.



D. further stated, everybody that stayed in the village and had weapons ran away after the infantry had entered. He further stated that, during the attack, his family was in a basement of M.K., which is across the street from his house, and that he hid in a pile of wood in a yard in front of a house. He listened from there to everything that was happening near him and so he heard when Chetniks entered that very yard, when they ordered people out from the basement, where they hid, when they searched those people and then took M.K. with them. As F. stated, he was in that hiding-place under the wood for 3 days. He couldn't stand to be there any more and he had to go out. After he had come out from his hiding-place, he went by himself to the command. There he reported himself to Milan Radojčić who he happened to find there. F. told Milan Radojčić that he was in "Atar" when the attack on the village began, that he was in a cornfield all the time and that he came to report himself. After that Milan sent him to Mićo Devčić who was in another office. Mićo Devčić was wearing a uniform and had a machine gun on him. When he saw F., he exclaimed: "Where have you been until now?" Since there was another Chetnik wearing a uniform in that office, that one hit him in the back with the butt-end of a rifle. When F. fell down on the floor, that Chetnik continued battering him while he was lying. Then Mićo Devčić told that one to leave him alone. During the conversation, Devčić asked for whom he had voted. He told him that Ustashas lined up 12 years old boys and that they ate the brains of little girls. Then he said that he was at Borovo Selo, that he came back last night and that he knew everything. As F. further stated, he was interrogated until 4 p.m. He came back the next morning for interrogation and then they asked him mostly about Ž.A. and about F.M.

After the conversation with Devčić, Đorđe Ivković interrogated him – he asked him mostly about his sons-in-law and he didn't batter him. F. stated that Ivković knew everything about his activities, where he had been and what he had done. The same man threatened him with Šid, Mitrovica and other prisons (concentration camps). During the interrogation, Ivković told him that that F.M. was an extreme person. The majority of the interrogation consisted of that Ivković gathering as much information about F. and Ž. as he could. As F.D. stated, he went regularly for 8 days to the command to be interrogated. During further conversation, he stated that it was about October 25<sup>th</sup> and that he was having breakfast in his house, when Bora Zoraja and Ivo Balić came to him and that, on that occasion, Bora said to him: "Where have you been up to now?", "Why aren't you coming upstairs?" – F. didn't present himself for couple of days for the conversation. On that day, at the local office, they listed everybody who had a tractor so that they would drive wood from Jelaši forest. M.S., A.K., J.

K. and the others, besides him, transported wood with their tractors. As he stated, on that occasion they carted to Serbian houses about 2.500 m<sup>3</sup> of wood.

During further conversation, F.D. stated that after they had transported wood, they transported corpses of dead people and dead cattle for about a week and they buried them in shallow canals which were dug for that occasion in the cemetery. I.F., J.R. and the others were with him.

T. L. and Š. P. were making a list of corpses. According to the statement of F.D., the following persons were buried in canals in the cemetery: Dana Badanjak, Luka Balić, Josip Turkalj, Đuka Luketić, Ivan Sabljak, Marko Sabljak, Mato Hodak, Marko Vidić, Ivan Vidić, Stjepan Luketić, Boško Bodanac, Ivan Kraljević, Slavica Pavošević, Jozefina Pavošević, Marijana Pavošević, Iva Ostrun, Pava Đaković, Zlatko Božić, Zlatko Panjik, Antun Panjik, Slavko SŠtrangarević, Mija Salaj, Ivan Palijan, Marinko Marković, Darko Solaković, Petar Badanjak, Slavko Kuzmić, Tomo Sabljak – junior, Francika Pandža, Petar Luketić, Ante Luketić, Đuka Luketić, Đuka Krizmanić, Alojzije Krizmanić,

Josip Jovanović, Marin Balić, Katica Balić, Marija Luketić, Rudolf Jonak, Stipo Mađarević, Darko Pavlić, Željko Pavlić, Andrija Devčić, Pero Rendulić, Zvonko Martinović, Marko Damljanović, Anica Plemunović, Ivan Conjar, Božo Vidić, Vida Krizmanić, Zoran Krizmanić, Živan Antolović, Kata Pavličević, Alojzije Polić, Mata Keser, Đura Keser and Milan Latas.

During further conversation, F.D. stated that first corpses were collected and buried and then they transported wood. After that, on December 20<sup>th</sup> 1991, he was brought to one cellar of the local office where an ice-factory used to be. He was placed there together with the following persons: E.F., M.M., V.B., Đ.R., I.J., Ž.F., A.F., B.F., Z.B., S. P., S ....., P.A., I.A., M.P., I.Đ., M.F. and P.S. The above-mentioned persons, except M.F. and P.S. who were released on December 21<sup>st</sup> 1991, were in the same cellar until December 25<sup>th</sup> 1991.

Regarding a stay in the cellar, F.D. stated that they were battered there on several occasions. That one Chetnik came to the cellar and said to them that he came from Knin to make order. He further stated that they battered them with heavy nightsticks and that something was ringing inside those nightsticks that sounded like a chain. They didn't batter them on their faces, but on their bodies. F.D. stated that when they battered them, they ordered them to face the wall, to kneel down on the floor, to put their hands up in the air and then they battered them on their backs. As he further stated, on December 24<sup>th</sup> 1991, they brought to the cellar an oval plate filled with sausages, they wished them a Merry Christmas Eve and told them to eat, but when they wanted to eat, they battered them again. As F.D. further stated, they didn't give them enough water to drink – they brought 1,5 liters of water a day for all of them. On December 25<sup>th</sup> 1991, around midnight, they came again to the cellar, they battered them and they ordered them to sing Chetnik songs. After that, just before the morning came, they came back to the cellar, they ordered them to stand in front of the wall and they battered them again in the same way. On December 25<sup>th</sup> 1991, one older man, wearing a blue uniform, came to the cellar and said to them that they wouldn't be in the cellar any more and that they could go home. He also said that they had to leave the village before 7,00 a.m. on December 26<sup>th</sup> 1991. After he arrived home, F. packed his things and he abandoned the village together with his wife. After that, he went to Tuzla and then to Zagreb where he stayed in a hospital on Drašković street until December 31<sup>st</sup> 1991. After that he came to Krk.

During the conversation, F.D. stated that Croats that stayed behind in Lovas village had to have white flags hung out on their houses and they had wear a white rag on their sleeves. Also, they weren't allowed to walk with their heads held high, but they had to fix their eyes on the ground.

During further conversation, F.D. stated that, during his stay from October 10<sup>th</sup> until December 26<sup>th</sup> 1991, the chief in Lovas was Ljuban Devetak, whom he knows as an immoral person and a profiteer. When Chetniks came to Lovas, Devetak personally announced that he was in charge of Lovas and that every decision had to come through him. He further stated that the following persons maltreated Croats: Željko Krnjaić, Mićo Devčić (son of BOŽO), Milorad Vorkapić (killed himself with a bomb in a big shed in Lovas), Milan Vorkapić (son of Dragan), Milan Vorkapić (son of Nikola), Slobodan Zoraja, Đuro Prodanović, Obrad Tepavac (son of Mico), Zoran Tepavac, Dušan Grković, Milan Radojčić (son of Ilija).

F.D. stated that Milan Rendulić shot at people on a minefield. He further stated that Marija Zadanj was engaged in the Red Cross, that she was wearing a Chetnik uniform and

that she was responsible for plundering possessions from Croatian houses. That Viktorija Filić informed Serbian authorities against F.D. when she said that he was an extremist. She associated with Chetniks and she is also with them now. She stayed there with Petronije Perićić.

During further conversation, F.D. stated that Milenko Rudić was a driver of Ljuban Devetak, that Slobodan Zoraja fired a rocket launcher at F.'s house and that Dusan Grković threw a bomb into a basement. He stated that a commander of the Police was Željko Krnjaić and that he is responsible for his imprisonment in the cellar and for beating.

According to F.D.'s statement, every Serb that was a member of the Police or of a structure of their authorities had his own cleaning woman that also, under coercion, had to be his mistress. He doesn't know if all of them were raped, but he knows that ... suffered a lot. He further stated that ... served in the office of Devetak, that ... served in the office of Radojčić and that ...served in the office of Devčić.

In the conversation, F.D. stated that he often asked for doctor's help, because he was ill, and that the doctor Slobodan Kačar helped him. He states that doctor Kacar behaved very well towards Croats that stayed behind.

There was no other information.

Statement was taken by Authorized official: Marijan Magdić

Statement was given by: F.D.

**ANNEX 107:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.B.**

Z.B., born on ... in ..., residence in ...; nationality: Croat, education: finished elementary school, occupation: a housewife; during the war was a civilian in Lovas and was there during the occupation until December 17<sup>th</sup> 1991 when she had to sign that she was leaving all her belongings to the SAO Krajina and had to escape to the unoccupied territory of Croatia; presently situated in ..., in a hotel "..."; married, mother of three; gives the following:

**TESTIMONY**

"While I was in Lovas during the occupation, they forced us to do hard labour. We picked corn, made pickled cabbage, plucked apples and pears, stacked up packing materials in the Community and we did everything they ordered us to do. They took us to work under guard. For some time one Serb woman went with us, until they found out that she was of Serbian nationality. She was married to one Croat, so she had a Croatian surname. During hard labour, they verbally maltreated us and they constantly plotted how to agitate us. They played Chetnik's cassettes during a meal. On one occasion, they took girls to a wood to show them a corpse to frighten them and they told those girls that they would look like that one of those days. Under the pretext of searching us, they vulgarly touched us on the way out from the village. We lived in constant fear. There was shooting during the night. They killed a lot of our people in houses and on a minefield. Moving about the village was limited. We had to wear white laces and we had to have white rags tied on our front doors.

On October 18<sup>th</sup> 1991, Chetniks killed my father-in-law and my mother-in-law (M. and B.). They killed them in a basement of the unfinished house that belonged to Devčić.

They set my mother-in-law on fire. I heard that a Chetnik Petronije, with the help of the inhabitant Milenko Rudić, took them there.

For local Serbs a private quarrel from who knows when – even several decades old – was enough to kill someone. Inhabitants were the worst – they were the ones who brought all of those Chetniks to the village and they were the ones who told them who to kill.

Milorad Vorkapić, an inhabitant, died because of an accident when he threw a bomb somewhere in Lovas. They held a speech at his funeral. In that speech they said that he was born in Lovas, that he lived in Lovas and that he had to run away from Lovas because of Ustasas. They also said that he brought 70 combatants (Chetniks) to Lovas so they would liberate it, that he liberated it and that, in the end, he died because of an accident.

The fear grew. Chetniks returned to the village sometime early in December. Reservists of the Yugoslav People's Army and a small number of Chetniks were in the village. Nine of them were members of Ljuban Devetak's guard. It was rumored about new massacres, about the "bloody Christmas Eve", to such a degree that we wanted to run away from the village. The moment the village was occupied on October 10<sup>th</sup> 1991, we had to sign that we forsook our belongings.

On December 17<sup>th</sup> 1991, I ran away, through Šid and Bosnia and Herzegovina, to the free territory of Croatia.

The presenter of the statement – Z.B. – with her signature confirms the authenticity of the statement, that the statement was given without coercion and that the written statement is analogous to the given statement.

In Opatija, January 27<sup>th</sup> 1993

Statement was given by: Z.B.

Statement was taken by: LADISLAV KOTRBA

**ANNEX 108:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.M.\***

OFFICIAL RECORD

On 10 October 1991, I was in the village of Lovas, in the basement of my grandmother's, ... house, ... Street. There were also some other locals in the basement. We were hiding in the basement because the village was under a vicious attack from the direction of Tovarnik, which began in the morning, around 7:30 am. Shells from artillery weapons were falling all over the village. I emphasize that the fire was not returned from Lovas, because the defenders withdrew to the direction of Opatovac due to their small number and poor armaments.

On the morning of 11 October 1991, Milan Radojčić from Lovas came to our basement, wearing an olive-drab colored uniform, armed with an automatic rifle, accompanied by a Yugoslav People's Army Captain and another soldier. Then the JNA officer told us that we would not have any problems if we cooperated with them. After their short visit to our street, approximately 50 soldiers arrived with trucks, transporters and a few tanks.

That was the first day that we came out of the basement. We talked to the neighbors who informed us that we must put white ribbons on our houses and if we wished to move around

the village, we must tie white ribbons on our sleeves, and that this was the way to avoid all the mistreatment.

On the 15 October 1991, my cousin ..., came to me and told me that all of us must go to the village in order to get the schedule of our work obligations. When I came to the center of the village I reported to the kitchen, which was located at the elementary school. There I met Slobodan Grubač from Osijek, whom I already knew because he married Zora Devčić from Lovas, and therefore he often visited the village. He came with the JNA as their cook. S.T. from Lovas got the job in the kitchen, same as I did. In the afternoon Milan Radojčić came to the kitchen again, made an inspection of the employees as well as of the work in the kitchen. While I worked at the restaurant, the Chetniks used to come there dressed in camouflaged uniforms.

In a conversation with one of them called “Zoran”, who came from some part of the Bačka region, I found out that they were members of the paramilitary formation “Dušan – the mighty” and that their group consisted of exactly 74 individuals, with Ljuban Devetak from Lovas as their commander. They also told me that they were on the payroll list of Ljuban Devetak, who had already paid them 100,000 DEM to come to the village and to kill as many people as they can in the first few days, as well as to burn down houses and rape women.

Some time toward the end of October, I went to see the doctor who worked in I. L. Ribar Street and as I was passing through the street near the police SAO of “Slavonia, Baranja and Western Srem” I noticed a Chetnik nicknamed “Petronije” physically mistreating a person whose last name was B. Petronije was kicking him and hitting him with a bat while B. was lying on the ground. Petronije was a member of the “Dušan Silni” formation, he was about 35 to 40 years of age, medium build, and he was asking B. to hand him over the weapon. During that night B. was killed, but I am not aware of the circumstances of his murder.

Some time in October, a “voters’ meeting” was convened, and when all the villagers gathered, they were told that all the capable men will go to work. That day a larger group of Lovas villagers was taken to the mine fields. Later when I talked to the Chetniks I found out that the chief initiator of leading people to the mine fields was Ljuban Devetak.

In the period of the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, 1991, the SP “Borovo” plant was set on fire. The day after the fire I was approached by Milan Devčić from the police force. He was armed and he told me “Miro, I have set Borovo on fire. Later I found out that he was one of the main organizers in putting the SP “Borovo” plant in Lovas on fire.

My colleague, S.T. told me some time in October that when she had been going to work she had seen Krnjajić from Lovas beating Joso Jovanović in the village center. Soon after that Joso Jovanović was murdered.

One morning Zvonko Martinović, called “Štuka” was brought into the TO quarters for the hearing. After that there is no sign of him. The next day, since I was cleaning that office, I saw under the shed that was part of that building a small pool of blood, so I think that Zoran Martinović had been killed. I do not know the identity of the person who might have killed him or the person who conducted the hearing.

In November of 1991, I stopped working in the kitchen, so I was transferred to work as a waitress in an inn “...”. The Chetniks used to come to this pub too, and they boasted about who had spent more time in prison. They were all saying that the most notorious one was Petronije and that it doesn’t take much for him to kill a man.

While I was working there I found out who was performing the particular functions in the village. Ljuban Devetak was a commander of the Chetniks from "Dušan Silni" formation, and his orders were obeyed by all the subordinates in the village. He also gave the orders for all the evil deeds that were done in the village. I state that because this was told to me by a certain Chetnik "Zoran", as well as Nikola from Dobanovac.

Milan Devčić was working in the police, and I think he was a police commander. He also gave a hearing of the villagers, and after that he physically mistreated them with the help of the Chetniks that were always at his side.

Zoran Tepavac and Obrad Tepavac also worked at the police station, and at Devčić's request they brought people to a hearing, and I also know that they physically abused many villagers.

Nikola Luketić, Mijo Klisurić and Dušan Grković, also in the police formation, brought in the people and they kept watch in the village. They were all very well armed.

Milan Radojčić was the TO commandant. He was wearing an olive-drab color uniform during the whole period of my stay, and all the Serbs from Lovas who put on olive-drab color uniforms were under his command.

His close associates were:

Mirko Rudić, Milenko Rudić, Božo Devčić, Slobodan Grubač, Milorad Vorkapić and Mile, Đuro Prodanović, Milorad Novaković, and in the first days Dragan Svirač.

In the November of 1991, at the beginning of the month, Milan Radojčić came to the "...” inn and he told me to report to Milenko Rudić, at the TO<sub>2</sub>. When I came to the TO, Milenko Rudić showed me all the rooms I needed to tidy up, and he started to flirt with me and he suggested to me to sleep with him. I refused that and I continued with my work. Then he ordered me not to leave the premises unless he approved that. Later in the evening, he came back drunk and he attacked me by saying: "If you will not sleep with me, your father and mother will be gone in the morning, and you will be eaten by night time" Since he was very harsh I could not find any other solution, and Milenko caught my arm and he threw me on the bed, where he raped me. He repeated that several times in the next couple of days. All this took place in the apartment of ....

Also, one day in December, I had to clean the Chetnik dormitories, and Nikola (I know he is from Dobanovac) came to me, drunk, and he raped me under the threat of a gun, which he pointed at my forehead until I yielded to his demand to take off my clothes. I will not mention the details, nor other women from Lovas who I know were raped by Chetniks and local Serbs.

I am very familiar with the fact that every evening, women were brought in to Chetniks to stay overnight. In the eve of the particular night, Slobodan Zoraja would go to the village and he would collect several women and take them to the TO command, where Milan Radojčić would instruct each woman to which Chetnik she was going to sleep.

I got out of the village in December, when I got my exit permission to Šid. We also had been given permission to move around the village, and unless you had the permission on you, you were brought in for the hearing and mistreating by the occupying forces.

Statement was taken by AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Danijel Salopek

Statement was given by: A.M.\*

**ANNEX 109:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

First name: M.  
 Year of birth: ...  
 Place of birth: ..., ... Street  
 Occupation: ...

Note: Material was taken from the Ministry of the interior (MUP), Republic of Croatia, Police Department Vukovar, Operations Department

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

On 10 October 1991, I was at my house in the village of Lovas. That morning the assault on the village started by heavy artillery. After a certain time passed, the Chetniks advanced from the and heavy infantry fire could be heard.

That day nobody came near my house. In the morning on 11 October 1991, a raid started in the village. Three Chetniks who I did not know came to my house. They took my to the yard of the cooperative when I arrived at the sooperative, 100 persons were gathered there already, resident of Lovas who were brought there as well. On the premises of the cooperative I spent three days. Then Milan Devčić walked up to me, wearing an olive-drab uniform, and told me that I have to stay there longer.

On 14 October 1991, Milan Radojčić came for me and assigned me to aggregate maintenance, which was located in the backyard of the Cultural Center. During those days Franjo Pandžo, aka "Franciska", was taken from the cooperative to the police station for questioning. Since then every trace of him has been lost. End of October, I was taken by Mile Radović to the police station for questioning. Đorđe Ivković interrogated me and Radovan Tepavac was present at the time. During the interrogation I was not maltreated. The questioning was intended to find out whether I had money and to hand it all over to them. 3000 German Marks were taken from me then.

On 17 October 1991, all men were again gathered in the yard of the cooperative. They lined us up into two columns. In the early evening Ljuban Devetak came to the yard and selected several people for a working group. I was assigned to this working group and taken to the Local Committee building. That day about 50 persons were taken to the minefield located at the entrance to the village. I am not familiar how it all came about since I was taken from the yard of the cooperative earlier.

I worked on the maintenance of the water pipes in the village, as well as on other assignments, which were necessary until 22 or 23 December when Radovan Tepavac took me to the Local Committee by vehicle. After we had reached the building, he accompanied by a Chetnik took me to the basement of that building. Then I saw M.F., P.

S., Z.B. and his son V., S.L. and S.P. there. They took away our entire documentation, and after that, I was taken to the police department office, which was situated in the house of Boro Kesar. At the station, three unknown Chetniks beat me. They took me to the basement after the first beating, where they continued their physical abuse. While they were beating us, a Chetnik by the name of Zoran took a cup with salt in it, and emptied it into my mouth, although they had already beaten out three of my teeth and I was covered in blood.

After that, they took me out of the basement into the garage in the yard. I found Đ. R. and his mother in that garage, and after a short period, they also brought M. F. to that garage. Then Radovan Tepavac, aka Obrad, handcuffed us and kicked us with

his feet. On 26 December, Zoran Tepavac told us that we had to leave Lovas, so that on 26 December 1991, we left Lovas via Šid and Bjeljina and reached the free territory of Croatia.

Statement was taken by: authorized Official: Danijel Salopek

Statement was given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 110:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D. AND A.J.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT (PU) VUKOVAR-SRIJEM

Crime-investigation department

Vinkovci, 26 July 1995

Made on 25 July 1995 in the offices off the PU Vukovar-Srijem on the informative interview with D. and A.J., refugees from Lovas.

The witness D.J., son of ..., born on 3 May 1930 in the village of Pokupsko, Municipality Velika Gorica, residence in ...

The witness A.J., daughter of ..., maiden name ..., born on ... in the village of ..., Municipality Ozalj, residence in ....

This interview was conducted in connection to the action "RETURN" with the witnesses D. and A.J. who were expelled from the village of Lovas on 24 July 1995 by the rebel Serbs from Western Slavonija, and they have stated the following:

Around 7:30 in the morning of 10 October 1991, started a large mortar-tank attack on the village and later the infantry entered the village. After they had entered the village, they started searching the houses and arresting the citizens who had remained in the village and took them to the hall of the agricultural cooperative "LOVAS" which was in ...  
Street no...

The witnesses were in their house during this attack, i.e. in the cellar of their house, when reserve officers of the JNA came to get them. They were armed with long firearms, and according to the witnesses' estimate these men were Romanies from Serbia, which they recognised according to their speech, and they had long beards, but they did not recognise them. While the witnesses were taken from their cellar to the hall, two members of the reserve unit were going in front of them in the street and were taking "Paviša the butcher" to his house in .... He was found dead in that house later. When the witnesses were taken to the gymnasium, many captured citizens of Lovas were already in the hall. Approximately 100 people were held inside that hall, who had been arrested at the village. At one moment MILAN DEVČIĆ entered the hall, and told everybody present "NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO YOU", he had a long firearm and wore a camouflage uniform. After Milan had said this, ŽELJKO KRNJAIĆ also wearing a camouflage uniform, came into the hall and said that the elderly could go back to their houses and that they had to report daily for registry. He also wore a camouflage uniform and had a long. While the elderly went home, the younger remained inside the hall, since they were able to work. These were later abused by the local and foreign (from other villages) Serbs. The witnesses Dragutin and Ana reported to the Local Committee the following morning, since the headquarters and the "police" were stationed there. There they were registered and given passes in order to be allowed to move in the village, but they did not report for registry to the station the following next days since they were not moving around the village.



With the fall of the village of Lovas, the living conditions in the village worsened since there was no power in the village. The citizens were also abused (house searches by the “police”) because the aggressors hoped to find weapons in their houses. In the few months of the establishment of the so-called government SAO KRAJINA a curfew from 21:30 to 5:30 was introduced, so that nobody could move around the village, and the citizens of Croatian nationality could not meet for a drink or anything else.

While the captured were being held in the hall of the mechanic workshop, loud cries and weeping for mercy and the end of torture could be heard at night. According to public talking, the same people heard when the captured were taken to factory “BOROVO”, to the area known as “capital”, and the members of the paramilitary formations murdered B. B.B., who fell to the ground due to weariness, and could not continue anymore. The other prisoners were taken to the minefield where approximately 15 people got killed by mines, and the rest were injured.

With the takeover of the government, the notorious LJUBAN DEVETAK became the most powerful and most important man in the village and declared himself the commander of the village. ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ was his deputy and the commander of the “police” which was stationed at the Local Committee (MZ) building Lovas. The cellar of that building was used as a prison, where they locked up and tortured people. After the fall of the village the following individuals could be seen in uniform and wearing arms in the village: LJUBAN DEVETAK, ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ, MILAN DEVČIĆ, SLOBODAN ZORAJA, HRVOJE SOMBORAC, ZLATKO PAVLOVIĆ, DRAGAN VORKAPIĆ, MILAN VORKAPIĆ, OBRAD TEPAVAC, RADOVAN TEPAVAC, ZORAN TEPAVAC, ĐURO PRODANOVIĆ, MIODRAG NOVAKOVIĆ, SLOBODAN ZORAJA, NIKOLA LUKETIĆ, ŽELJKO BRAJKOVIĆ, ILIJA KRESOJEVIĆ, MILAN RADOJČIĆ, MILAN RENDULIĆ, MILJENKO RUDIĆ.

After the reserve guards were changed, “Hungarians” came to the village, who treated the citizens properly. Slowly LJUBAN DEVETAK and his assistants expelled the Croatian population from the village, in which according to him “IN THE OLD COUNTRY THERE WERE ONLY 8% OF SERBS IN LOVAS, BUT IN THIS NEW COUNTRY THE OPPOSITE WILL HAPPEN AND ONLY 8% CROATS AND MAYBE NONE AT ALL WILL LIVE IN LOVAS”.

Around the begin of October or November 1993 ELVIRA and PAVICA KOVAČEVIĆ were killed according to public talking they were murdered by “TONKA” who was then charged with murder. Elvira and Pavica, citizens of Lovas, were found in the cellar of their house and were most likely killed with a firearm. According to the witnesses’ statement the mass grave, in which approximately 100 citizens of Croatian nationality were buried, is on the left side of the path that leads to the chapel in Lovas. The mass grave was dug out with an excavator and the dead bodies of the murdered citizens of Croatian nationality from Lovas were thrown into it. The local Church of St. Michael was completely destroyed by the rebel Serbs and is currently used as a garbage depot.

The notorious LJUBAN DEVETAK, WHO HAS CLEARED THE ENTIRE FOREST Jelaš and used the money of the wood sale for his own purposes as well as the money of the corn sale which was in the silos on the “capital”, and the citizens never got their money. Devetak is not currently living in the village, but he has established some kind of company in Vukovar and has bought a flat in Belgrade. ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ is currently the commander in the village.

At the begin of 1995, ANICA PAVLIĆ was murdered and thrown into a well which was in the yard of her house. The citizens of Lovas found her inside that well.

The army "THE RED BERETS" are currently in the village, they are most likely Arkan soldiers (they are staying at Dragan Keser's house). They have arrived in the village after the fall of Western Slavonia, which was under the occupation of the rebel Serbs, the same Serbs who were in charge in Western Slavonija are currently in Lovas in the abandoned Croatian houses. At the burnt factory "BOROVO" are tanks, and in the forest Jelas tanks and army units are stationed. According to public talking these units are part of the NOVI SAD CORPS, and the forest Jelas is allegedly mined, and lorries are driving through the village with covered plates.

The following are currently in the paramilitary formations (after 10 May 1995): ZLATKO PAVLOVIĆ (specialist soldier), SINIŠA VORKAPIĆ (specialist soldier), MIODRAG NOVAKOVIĆ (specialist soldier), NIKOLA LUKETIĆ and RADOVAN TEPAVAC, who are on position in Đeletovac. The following are in the "police": MILAN DEVČIĆ in Tovarnik, ŽELJKO KRNJAJIĆ in Vukovar, while Đuro Prodanović is in the MZ Lovas. The witnesses do not know which duty Đuro has.

According to the statement of the witnesses, the young people able to work are in work platoons, which are digging out trenches from Tovarnik to Berak, the remaining Croats are in these work platoons.

Lately every house inhabited by a Croat or a couple in a mixed marriage was shelled as a warning what could happen.

On 24 June 1995 the witnesses decided to leave their house and because of that they were expelled by a person who had come from Western Slavonia (they do not know the name nor the surname of that person).

I did not collect any other information during this interview that could be of use for our service.

Statement was taken by authorized official person: Zorislav Pasa

Statement was given by: D. and A.J.

**ANNEX 111:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.V.**

S.V., born on ... in Lovas. Residence in .... I am Croat by nationality.

I am married and have two children. I finished elementary school. I worked in the factory Borovo in Lovas. During the war, I was a civilian in Lovas, from where I was exiled on 6 April 1992. Now, I am staying in ..., in the hotel "...", as a refugee. I am making a statement on the murder on my sister P.K. and her daughter E.

K., who were killed on 25 January 1993 in Lovas, although the UNPROFOR had guaranteed them that they would be safe, because they gave them (the UNPROFOR) a statement on everything that happened in Lovas. Unfortunately, the UNPROFOR did not protect them, and the local members of the paramilitary units killed them.

My sister P.K. (born on ...) and her daughter E. (born on...)

were the most maltreated because of her son who did his military service in the JA to April 27, 1992, in Knin. He was exchanged and came to Croatia his mother and sister remaining in Lovas. Chetniks maltreated them all the time and tried to

expel them. They placed pieces of paper under their gate on which it was written that they should move out or they would be killed. My sister P. did not want this, she did not want to leave her house and Chetniks killed them.

I saw my sister for the last time on December 25, 1992 in Hungary. We had an appointment there. At the time you could leave occupied Lovas with a passport. We met there because she wanted to see her son. She did not see him for 21 months, since the beginning of the war. Her husband died while her son was doing his military service in Knin. He saw his mother only once later and now she is gone. Chetniks beat up his father. He died due to a beating on about December 20, 1992 in Sremska Mitrovica.

My sister told me that she had given a statement to UNPROFOR about all the events that had happened in Lovas and UNPROFOR had promised that they would protect her. She signed that statement. These members of UNPROFOR were situated in Orolik. My sister said that there were usually a woman and three men. I was trying to convince her to come to the free Croatia because Chetniks would kill her but she believed in UNPROFOR. She believed that UNPROFOR would protect her from the local Chetnik authorities even though she knew very well who they were and what they thought about her. After she gave the statement, members of UNPROFOR came very often because she had told them that she was afraid that Chetniks would take their revenge because of the statement. All my attempts at persuasion was without avail. My sister P. returned to occupied Lovas, believing in UNPROFOR. But the situation became worse on about January 25, 1993 and Chetniks used the first occasion to kill her. I later received a letter from her in which she was trying to persuade me that everything was all right. Then I received information over the phone, from Germany, that the situation had become worse. Chetniks burnt my father's house (which is still in the village) and they (my sister and her daughter) were killed. A few days later we heard that one more woman had been killed – Anica Pavličić or Pavlić (I am not sure). All that information I heard was correct because after these events 10 more people were exiled from Lovas. They confirmed that the three had been killed and the house had been burnt.

People know who killed them but they are afraid because of their safety and because of the safety of their relatives who remained in the village. UNPROFOR should know all these things because they are responsible for the UNPA zone. My sister had told them all she knew and that was why she was killed. She believed in the protection of UNPROFOR but she and her daughter were killed. There is anarchy in the village. Local Chetniks who committed war crimes and massacres are walking around freely and keep on killing. I demand from UNPROFOR, in which my sister believed and due to it lost her head, to do something in order to stop these criminals, to arrest them. UNPROFOR should do it. I do not understand why they arrived in Croatia if they are not able to conduct peace and order.

By signing every page of the statement, the witness confirms authenticity and that the statement is given without coercion.

February 2, 1993

Statement given by: S.V.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
TORDINCI**



**ANNEX 112:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF T.R.**

VINKOVCI POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Section for operative jobs JS  
Vinkovci, 28<sup>th</sup> January 1993

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Made on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1993 at the Vinkovci Police Department about the interview with T.R., born on ... in ..., municipality of Otočac; address:... temporary address: ...; and about the armed attack of the so-called JNA and other paramilitary Serbian formations at Tordinci.

The first mortar attacks started on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1991 from Silaš, Pačetin, Ostrovo, Gaboš and Mlaka, the surrounding places where mostly Serbs live, and who were armed by the JNA with all kinds of weapons and equipment for organizing the armed rebellion against the Republic of Croatia.

There were mortar attacks every day and attacks from the aircraft of the so-called JNA at Tordinci, and on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1991 there was a combined infantry-tank attack from the direction of Gaboš, Ostrovo, Pačetin, Antinska Mlaka and on that same day in the afternoon hours, a complete occupation of Tordinci followed by the so-called JNA and other Serbian paramilitary formations that mostly consisted of the Serbs from the surrounding villages.

In the armed attack on the civilians of Tordinci also participated local people from Tordinci of Serbian nationality and who had earlier moved out of the village and joined the Serbian paramilitary formations, and these were: LJUBICA ADŽIĆ, SRETENKA SKELEDŽIJA, DUŠAN ADŽIĆ, PETAR ALAVANJA, BRANISLAV HADŽIĆ, BRANKO HADŽIĆ, JOVAN VELJKIĆ, PETAR MILKOVIĆ, ANTONIJE VUKIĆ, MOMČILO GLUVAKOVIĆ, ILIJA LACMANOVIĆ, DRAGOSLAV CVETKOVIĆ, MIRKO VUČKOVIĆ, DRAGICA MILKOVIĆ, BORKO BRDAR MILE DRAČA, DRAGAN ĐUKIĆ, ZLATKO COLIĆ, MOMČILO VUJKOVIĆ that were wearing the uniforms of the so-called JNA with the Chetnik symbols and armed with long fire arms.

During these combat actions of various Serbian paramilitary formations and the so-called JNA at Tordinci, the following local people from Tordinci were killed:

1. IVAN TOMŠIĆ (Ivan), born on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1954 in Vinkovci, address:...
2. STANKO SESAR (Andrija), born on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1936 in Kočerin, municipality of Široki Brijeg, address: ....
3. ANDRIJA BOŽIĆ (Martin), born on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1933 in Tordinci, address ...
4. IVICA LOVAKOVIĆ (Vinko), born on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1948 in Tordinci, address: ...
5. MARTIN JOŽIĆ (Andrija), born on 02<sup>nd</sup> September 1930 in Tordinci, address:...
6. IVAN MRĐA (Trivo), born on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1944 in Tordinci, address:...
7. JOSIP MALETIĆ (Andrija), born on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1939 in Vinkovci, address: ...;
8. ANDRIJA IŠTOKOVIĆ (Miloš), born on 25<sup>th</sup> May 1936 in Vinkovci, address: ...;

9. ADAM MIŠETIĆ (Kata) born on 06<sup>th</sup> February 1924 in Tordinci, address: ...
10. ANDRIJA KATIĆ (Adam), born on 24<sup>th</sup> January 1940 in Tordinci, address: ...;
11. IVICA PECELJA (Andrija), born on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1956 in Antin, address: ....

Statement was taken by Authorized official person: Krunislav Hrgović  
Statement was given by: T.R.

**ANNEX 113:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.I.**

VINKOVCI POLICE ADMINISTRATION

Department for operative activities JS

Number: 511-15-08/4-KU/92.

Vinkovci, 01 March 1992

OFFICIAL RECORD

Made on 1 March 1992, at the accommodation of the PA of Vinkovci, in relation to the informative conversation conducted with A.I., the son of ..., born on ... in Tordinci; permanent address: ...; he is temporarily living in ...; and A.L., the son of ..., born on ... in Tordinci; permanent address: ...; he is temporarily living in ...; regarding the attack of the so-called JNA and Chetniks on the village of Tordinci. The above mentioned persons, on 26 October 1991, together with some more Croats, were detained and taken to the prisoner-of-war camp "Begejci" near Zrenjanin.

"On 26 October 1991 we were captured by the so-called JNA, the members of the Territorial Defence, and Chetnik formations in the village of Tordinci. After we were captured Chetniks from Antinska Mlaka – Momir Vukić, Dragan Duduković, Zoran Ilić, Bato Dragojlović and his son, who threatened to shoot us saying that we should all be killed, molested and beat us. The above mentioned were dressed in the uniforms of the JNA with Territorial Defence insignia. They were armed with wide-range automatic weapons. One of the Chetniks, Perica Lakić, was the most brutal among them. He took A. I. to a manure heap, threw him down on the manure, put the barrel of his automatic rifle in his mouth, and cracked his two teeth. He put a knife under his neck and beat him with a baton all over his body. He forced him to drink water from the bowl which was used for feeding a dog and which was all bloody. Branko Lončar from Ostrovo, who was also dressed in an olive-drab uniform and had an automatic gun, assisted him in the molesting. A person called Stevo Žarić from Ostrovo, together with a group of armed Ostrovo villagers, entered Tordinci while carrying the Serbian flag and saying that he had come to celebrate the "liberation". After that they started molesting and beat captured Croats.

Among the local Serbian villagers of Tordinci, who, immediately after the JNA and Chetniks came, dressed in the JNA military uniforms and took automatic weapons, and afterwards participated in the molesting and torturing of the captured Croats, were: Bogdan Alavanja, Hosa Alavanja, Sava Vujković, Bude Lončar and Olga Lončar, Rade Drača and Draginja Drača, Milan Brdar, Marija Rakinić, Božo Lončar and Nada Lončar, Ivo Adić (a Croat) and Ljuba Adić. The above mentioned also beat and insulted the captured Croats together with Chetniks.



On 27 October 1991 in Dalj, at the prisoner-of-war camp, A.I. also saw Dragan Brdar who was dressed in the JNA uniform with Chetnik insignia and had automatic weapons. Nikola Lakić was seen in his company. He was also dressed in the JNA uniform and had wide-range automatic weapons.

On 30 October 1991, in the evening hours, A.I. was taken, together with the other captured Croats in Tordinci, to the prisoner-of-war camp "Begejci", near Zrenjanin, where he stayed for approximately 50 days, to be exchanged afterwards.

Statement was taken by Authorised officials:

Ivan Jelić  
Željko Tuzla

Statement was given by: A.I.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS  
VUKOVAR**



**ANNEX 114:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.K.**

Croat, born on ... in ..., region of Široki Brijeg, he worked as a workman, lived in Vukovar, now in Zagreb.

TESTIMONY

I was captured in Vukovar as a member of the civilian protection, in the center of the city. The representatives of Vukovar city had negotiations with the former JNA (Yugoslav People's Army). Also doctor Vesna Bosanac and Marin Vidić-Bili took part in those negotiations. They agreed that the town would surrender, and people would be free to go where ever they wanted, at least that was what they said to us, to us who gathered in the building of Vukovar's hospital, and we came from all shelters in the city, because we thought that we would have better chances to survive if we were together. Doctor Bosanac said that the buses for us were in Vukovar's hospital at that moment in the evening, doctor Bosanac came, and she told us that we should go back to our shelters, because as she said they (the army) had a list of all shelters in the city and it was agreed that they would come with buses in front of every shelter, but at that time the Chetniks had already started to occupy the city, and had occupied some parts. We considered that suggestion stupid, and we didn't do that, but we stayed in the hospital building till the representative came, and that was the commander of the former Yugoslav Army – major Šljivančanin, who said: "You will go to a gathering center in the shelter of "Velepromet", and first mothers with children and older people will be separated from the others." In that moment we knew that they had cheated us. We knew that because no one from International Red Cross and European Community observers who were in Vukovar then came to see us. The transport began. They took us to the warehouse of "Velepromet" and into the courtyard of cooperative "Vupik", Vukovar that was across "Velepromet". I didn't see that anyone was tortured, maltreated or killed in the hospital area, but I saw a large group of local men in front of the hospital building, and they were dressed in different uniforms, and with Chetnik's marks. They just threatened us, but no one was hurt. I knew lots of them, because they worked and lived with us till then. I was taken into the courtyard I mentioned before, together with a group of men and women, and they separated women on one side and men on the other at once. There were different men in that courtyard, dressed in different uniforms, and most of them were local men, who used flash-lights to recognize who they knew from our group, and they took out men by a criterion only they knew. DARKO FOT, a local Chetnik whose father was a Croat, took me and a few more men out of the group. They took my group into the courtyard of "Velepromet". There I saw lots of local Serbs in different uniforms, and all of them took out and separated men, and took them in, for me, an unknown direction. There were lots of women and girls among them, also in uniforms, and they did what all of them did. I knew all of them by sight, and the worst were INKA STANKOVIĆ, daughter of ex director of Vukovar's radio and her husband VLADO KOSIĆ, then wife of ZDRAVKO ČUK who was also in uniform, then NADA from the perfume shop and lots of others that I didn't know by name. MIĆO ĐANKOVIĆ, ex waiter from Vukovar, a man who was known as a criminal even before the war, and was in prison as a murderer, that man took me and some men out of the group. During that time there was chaos. I could hear shots, people screamed and sobbed, I could hear hits, beating, and the worst scene was a Chetnik who held a head that was cut off in one hand and a knife covered with blood in the other. His name is MIRKO, and they called him ČAPALO. I knew that

man well, he was a gambler and vagabond before the war, he had a tendency to violence. After a while, BORO ZNANOVIĆ took me and another man from the group. He took us out to the dark, and since I knew him, I asked him: "Boro, where are you taking us?", and he said: "Be quiet, I am taking you to a safe place, tonight it will be rough here." He took us in front of one building, it was the joiner's workshop of "Velepromet". There was one tall Chetnik, half drunk, he was searching two men in front of us. I saw a big pile of money, and under the table was an even bigger pile of different documents. When it was my turn, he asked me to give him my documents. I gave him my wallet, he took my coat off, and my leather jacket, and I was only in a shirt, and he did all that with that other man who was with me. He opened an iron door of the workshop, and pushed us in. There I saw about 50 people, they were scared, and they were different people by nationality and occupation. I heard from those people that they called that building "the cell of death". They brought some men after me, one policeman-B.I., from Šarengrad, MIĆO ĐANKOVIĆ hit him over face with a gun and cut him. After that they threw in one young man, both of his legs were shot through. After some time ĐANKOVIĆ came into the room again and took out policeman B., we knew nothing of him after that. After a while the door was opened again, and one drunk Chetnik came with an automatic gun in his hands, and he said: "At 9 o'clock, no, at half past 9 you will go for execution." I don't know when after that, but the door was opened again, but that was not the same man from before, it was an older man in uniform, he was a major. As he entered, he said: "Get up men." You can imagine how we felt after all we had gone through, how frightened we were. We knew that it was the end. But, the major said: "Hold your hands, two by two, put your heads down, and get out slowly, there's a bus postponed. We entered the bus, he ordered the bus driver to drive the bus behind the military vehicle, and to start going towards Negoslavci. That was done. I saw 9 buses behind us. At one point during the night, we started. Through Negoslavci and Šid we arrived in Sremska Mitrovica. We stopped between the military barracks and the penitentiary. We stayed there till the morning. As the morning came, lots of different people started to gather around us. Some of them were in civilian clothes, and most of them in uniforms, they called themselves "volunteers", and they would come in the buses, offend our people any way they could, they would beat us with everything they had.

Three men entered the bus where I was, they asked our names, they beat all of us with wooden sticks. They broke one of those sticks on one of us. Some time during the day, they took us to a racecourse in Sremska Mitrovica, there they allowed us to do a call of nature, and we received some water, but all the time they had their guns pointed at us. In the evening we started again, towards Novi Sad, we passed it, drove through Bačka, and came to Zrenjanin. During the occupation in Vukovar, I had heard that a camp for people from Vukovar had been established in Zrenjanin. What I had heard came true. We passed through Zrenjanin, and drove for about 10 more kilometers, and when we arrived on one deserted farm, we stopped. There were lots of people, in different uniforms, civilians, military police. The buses stopped in front of one stable. As we entered the stable, we had to pass through cordon of men who beat us with everything, the cordon was about 30 meters long. They ordered me to make a list of people that were there, so I knew the number, I made a list of 1242 people, in alphabetical order. After some time I found out that in another stable were 480 men. They were offending us, beat us, maltreated us, and they called one of those stable "Maksimir", and the other one "Poljud". During the first few days we were sitting and sleeping one over the other, on bare concrete. They would give us some water, one little slice of bread and some cheese, twice a day, and they beat us and tortured us 24 hours a day. I cannot describe all kinds of physical and psychological tortures, I would never imagine that people we lived with, and worked with would do that crime. Till the time we arrived into the stables they beat us where ever they could. They

beat me over my back, and since I was sitting on the right side of the bus, they beat me also over my legs, and I still have consequences. They also beat us over the genitals, and they tortured us the most till the arrival of the International Red Cross, which happened on December 4, 1991. Since that time people died from beating, and the tortures went on and on. I know that from beating 9 men died, among them Ivica Kamerla and Branko Koh. As I said, the Red Cross came and they made a list of all of us, and they gave us our camp number. After that killing stopped, but tortures, psychological and physical continued. One way of psychological torturing was that we had to sing the Yugoslav hymn, every morning and every night, and Chetnik's songs every time our guards, military police men, wanted. What was the worst for me, it's known to every prisoner, was: "Head down and hands on back". We had to be like that all the time, when we went to toilet, lunch, breakfast, dinner, questioning, we had to sit like that where they put us. The questioning started. We were taken there in some order and priority they made. I think that they thought they had captured the biggest cut-throats and Ustashas in Vukovar, and that they had done something "big". But, in fact, that were mostly civilians, from 11 to 90 years of age. Majority of us received a beating before or after questioning, as much as the examiner wanted. They tried to accuse us of actions that never took place, not in Vukovar or anywhere else. As I understood, they wanted to accuse us of what they did. They didn't treat all of us the same, some of us went only once for questioning, and some of us a few times. First people that were released from that camp, it was called STAJIĆEVO, were mostly Serbs that were among us, and people from mixed marriages, and other nationalities, and it is known that in Vukovar that was 22% of them. They searched the most for Herzegovinians, I think because they were afraid of them, they called them "blackshirts". God forbid that you had anything black on you and if you were Herzegovinian.

They searched us, took all we had, specially foreign money, and they said that they would give it back, but they never did. As they searched us, we had to come in front of the camera, and tell our data, and from where in Vukovar we were. They forced us several times to write an appeal to the president and the Republic of Croatia, because, as they said, our government had abandoned us, and did not need us, but we knew that it wasn't true, and we never signed. In the meantime, they released a few minor groups of people, and the first exchange was when they released 110 members of the Croatian police that were with us. Before us, they released all medical staff also, although we needed them because of the terrible conditions we lived in. Bad food, water full of sulfur, and great cold. When the International Red Cross visited us, I asked one of the translators, he was a black man, if he had ever seen a camp that has been worse than this one, and he said: "I have seen all camps, and I saw only one worse than this, it was in Bangladesh, and believe me, it had to be closed down". There was barbed wire all around the camp, guards everywhere, just like those camps from World War II. On December 24, 1991 they ordered us to clean the camp. Some people thought that we would be set free, but probably, because of the pressure that World's public opinion put on them, the camp had to be closed. They took us to Sremska Mitrovica, and to military prison in Niš. They had alphabetical order, and those who were up to letter "R" went to Sremska Mitrovica, and those from "R" to "Š" to Niš. As we arrived in Mitrovica, we saw men from Vukovar, from Mitnica. From Stajićevo also arrived military policemen and examiners, a few days after us. The questioning started again. I went for questioning 6 times. Every week-end since I arrived, Serbs from Vukovar would come, they would get lists with our names from the penitentiary's management, and they would called out whomever they wanted. They beat us the most. They called me twice. Mile TURUKALO and JOVANOVIĆ whose nickname was BOGA, and with whom I was a friend before the war, they called me first time, they stayed in Vukovar with our people till the end, but when Vukovar fell, they joined the "other side". They were saying some

information about me, that I was one of the establishers of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union), that I had on my head a big chess symbol (symbol of Croatia), so they searched my house, and they said that they found that symbol there which was not true. Second time when I was called, my neighbor and man I worked with did it. His name is Veselin PETROVIĆ, and with him was Grujo AMIDŽIĆ, whom I saw for the first time, and whose name I found out later. They said that I wanted to take away from them their flat, and they asked me who worked in headquarters, they said that I shot Serbs and the army, although I told them that since November 19, 1991 there was no army in Vukovar. They beat me for 3 hours, with rubber sticks, fists and legs. There was a young man with me, and they beat him too, because AMIDŽIĆ was his neighbor. I saw the results of beating when I came back to my room and when I took off my clothes, I was black all over the body, only not over the head, although PETROVIĆ hit me over the face several times. I had an operation on my hip in Vukovar, and because of beating in the bus, and on Mitnica, I was forced to have an operation on the left hip, as a matter of fact, they had to make me a new hip. I had that operation in Zagreb, on November 26, 1992, at Šalata Clinic. I was exchanged on March 27, 1992, as a member of the Croatian Army, although I was not a member, but they ordered me to say that because of the exchange. This is one part of suffering we went through from Vukovar to freedom. I have said only a little part of what I went through, because people that were with me, and who stayed there till September went through even worst tortures. In my opinion it would be very good to hear everything from me and the others, without adding or taking away anything, to hear the truth about us, the truth about people we know nothing about, and among them is my son also, fighter from Vukovar from the first day, and to put the end of that. There is a suspicion that on occupied territories are camps, that there are our people who have to work there or are taken to the front fighting line, and also there is a suspicion about mass graves and murders after Vukovar fell.

With signature on every page of this testimony I confirm its authenticity, and that it was given without any coercion.

In Zagreb, March 29, 1993

Statement was given by: F. K.



**ANNEX 115:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.R.**

B.R., born on ... in ... Croat by nationality, married, one child. ... by occupation. Permanent address: Vukovar, ....  
Temporary address: ... Captured on 18 November 1991 in Vukovar. Was in the Dalj camp (5 days) and Titov Vrbas camp (2 days). Exchanged on 25 November 1991. Questionnaire no. 33321. I am giving the following

**STATEMENT**

After the fall of Vukovar they called us to a square and guaranteed us that nothing would happen to us. When an officer arrived he killed a prisoner with a shot to the head as an example. Then they separated us and ordered us to give up all valuables. They took us to Lužac where murder, mutilation and torture took place. I saw about 40 guardsmen with the hand tied behind their backs, mutilated in a drainage ditch, and there were still some alive among them. Afterwards they took us to the village of Bršadin and took us to a supermarket, where they beat everyone they could get to and slaughtered anyone they wanted. In this commotion, among other Hamzo disappeared, a waiter from Vukovar. Then they took us to Dalj, where they took us to a school yard and separated people into groups of 20, killed the in front of us and then brought the next group of 20. The brought wood shavings, about 10-20cm thick, to the yard to soak up the blood. This lasted until 5 a.m. This when they took us to the basement and we were at ease until 6 a.m.

They took us to the first floor of the gymnasium, where they continued to beat us with plastic pipes and if anybody fell he would get kicked and killed with a knife. During the first day, five of our people jumped out of a closed or open window onto a slate, where they were killed by bursts of gunfire. They allegedly drove their bodies by truck to the Dalj brickyard, where they were burned. I loaded the dead bodies on the truck personally (...)

In Zagreb, 12 March 1996

Statement given by:  
B.R.

Statement taken by:  
Nikola Osmakčić

**ANNEX 116:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF H.E.\***

POLICE ADMINISTRATION VUKOVAR-SRIJEM  
Crime Investigation Section  
Section for War Crimes and Terrorism  
Vinkovci, 4 July 1996

**OFFICIAL NOTE**

...H.E., daughter of ... (father) and ... (mother), born on .... in ...a, municipality of Velika Kladuša, Republic of BIH, permanent address: ....., ....., citizen of the Republic of BIH, nationality: a Moslem woman, occupation: a nurse, single...

(...)

(...) The before-mentioned policemen took H. to the military range in the surroundings of Slunj to the improvised prison, where they locked her up in one room where there were several boards and one military blanket, and there were bars on the

window. In the mentioned cell she was alone after her arrival, but the next day another five young females were brought and they were: ...

(...)

H. further states that upon her arrival to prison, several members of the Serbian police and army raped her almost every day and in time, she got to know among them the following persons by their names and surnames:

MILOŠ PERIĆ– son of Milovan, from Polojski Klanac which is near Slunj (other information is unknown), he raped H. almost every other evening.

NIKOLA PERIĆ– son of Milovan, from Slunj surroundings, about 33 years old, he was a guard and later on, he was the prison commander.

RADE PAJIĆ– about 40 years old, from Slunj surroundings.

VELJKO NIKŠIĆ– about 40 years old, from Polojski Klanac which is near Slunj.

She could not find out names or surnames of the other persons. The rapes were committed in the cell where all of them were staying and that happened in the way that one or several of them entered the cell and ordered that all female prisoners take off all of their clothes, and then he would single out one of them and rape her in front of the other female prisoners.

(...)

On 12 October 1995, they took H. and other female prisoners from the Police Station at night and they handcuffed them and put them into a police van and transported them to an unknown place for which they later found out that it was the town Vukovar. When they arrived in Vukovar, H. and the other women were placed in the house on Ivo Lola Ribar Street. There were no signs, that is the house numbers, on the mentioned house and only the Serbian flag was hoisted. In the mentioned house, H. was locked up in the cellar, which was turned into a prison cell, and they were sleeping only on the military blankets, which were spread over the boarded floor. The commander of the prison in which they were was Ž.R., about ... years old, from Slunj. In the mentioned prison, daily mental and physical abuse, as well as the rape, was continued. Besides the rape in that prison cell, Z. and other female prisoners were often taken to the coffee bar “Trojka”, which is on Svetozara Markovića Street, where they were taken to the rooms upstairs of the same coffee bar, that is on the first floor, where different persons wearing uniforms and civilians came to it and raped them several times a night. Before they were taken to the above-mentioned coffee bar, female prisoners received things for making themselves pretty (nail-polish and perfumes) and while they were being led to the coffee bar, they were always handcuffed.

(...)

H. states that she tried to run away for the first time early in June of this year, in the way that she climbed through the window of the toilet and she hitchhiked all the way to the village of Mirkovci, to the post towards the town Vinkovci where members of UNTAES stopped her. Hamala told members of the UNTAES that she wished to cross over to the free territory of the Republic of Croatia, but then they brought her to the police station of the so-called SAO Krajina and policemen of the so-called SAO Krajina sent her back to Vukovar to the same above-mentioned prison. On that occasion, Svjetlana Dizdarević, who is a member of the police of the so-called SAO Krajina, beat H. The same female member

of the police slapped H. several times on both sides of her face and she also beat her several times at the prison in Vukovar.

(...)

Statement was taken by authorised official:

STJEPAN PERIČAK

Statement was given by:

H.E.

(signature)

**ANNEX 117:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.\***

M.M. born on .... in Vukovar, Croatian by nationality, lived in Vukovar until November 20, 1991, taken with a two months old baby and six years old sister to Serbia and then again to Vukovar where both, she and her little sister, were raped (witness was repeatedly raped) by local Serbs

At the end of August, 1991 me and my two months old baby were transferred to a basement. There was also my mother, brother, my minor aged sister (6 years) and two neighbors. My mother was bringing us food from the Red Cross. At the same time my husband was a member of the National Guard and he was visiting us often. The little girl (two months) did not sleep during the night and refused food (because of shooting).

On October 15, 1991 my husband visited us for the last time, he left at 21:30. He got killed on the bridge (not far from the house), they found him out of the car, in a sitting position. The following morning my brother came and told me it. He saw when they were bringing him from the car to a yard and he had recognized him.

One hour later my mother-in-law also came and we went together to see him at the house in front of Vukovar hospital. There many dead persons. He was cut over his face, he had a trace on his neck (somebody took away by force his chain), his wedding ring was on his finger but somebody had tried to take it away. Due to shock I lost milk for my baby.

On November 19, 1991, early in the morning, my mother came and told us to pack the things and to go to the hospital (Mrs. Bosanac had said so). All persons from the basement went to the hospital. In the hospital corridor there were already about 150 persons (mostly women and children, men had been already separated and they were waiting in front of the building). In the afternoon they loaded women and children onto trucks. There were 10-15 women on the truck. With them were my mother, little sister and brother. After that we were driven to the Velepromet building. There were several basements where small children with mothers and elderly women were separated. There we stayed for some time. There they started to provoke younger women. The following day, at 5:45 a.m. my little sister felt bad and my mother took her out in order to get some fresh air. The little girl came back crying and told us that mother had been taken away. Half an hour later we got the order to move, there were 4 buses. Me, my baby and my little sister entered the third bus for Šid. In Šid we were situated in a sports hall where we stayed till midnight when we were ordered to go to Belgrade). Me, S.D. and S.M. refused to go. Then four soldiers came and told that we would go to Šabac (Serbia). In Šabac (at 2:15 in the night) we were taken to a hall where we spent the night. At 10 a.m. we were told that we would go to neighbouring villages. Me and Z. (with her daughter and son) were chosen by M.S.. First they accepted

us nicely because they were Serbians. Then the labor started (stable, cows, pigs). If we did not manage to finish the work we did not get any food. Once me, my baby and my little sister were without food for three days. I gave suck to my six years old sister who first refused it and cried due to hunger. Two days later my baby was sick and I had to stay with her, I could not work and we did not get any food. On the New Years Eve, M.S. came to the room and said: "I have to try Croatian woman.", he pinched me and led through the village by saying: "Look at Tuđman girl, she loves Šešelj.", although people from the village criticized him because of the way he treated me.

M.S. (his wife) was friendly disposed to me; she did some works instead of me. My sister was not allowed to play with their children. There we stayed until March 1992.

M.S. mother told me in the morning that everybody was going back to Vukovar. M.S. was in the Red Cross and I (with children) moved to Vukovar. In front of the headquarters in Vukovar. PAJIĆ was waiting for us, he questioned me about my family and then I got a kitchenette apartment in the building called Olajnica. There I met J. (elderly woman) and she invited me to visit her. There we spent the night. As her house was near the road, reservists noticed me. First entered two of them – Braco and Mihajlo (about 40 years, called "Faco"). They asked if they could speak to me, then they entered the room, ripped my clothes and raped me one after another. They were telling me: "Come on Ustasha girl, now you will see how Serbs are doing it." Then came Ljubo Stojančić (17 years) and an unknown man (40 years, blond, high, thin, called Crnogorac). Then they too raped me. (All of them were neighbors from the street and I fought with each of them.) During the rape I was bleeding. Iko ordered Crnogorac to bring a beer bottle and they forced me to sit down on it. The rape lasted from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Then they dressed themselves and took me to their building. Mihajlo – Faca was holding my hand while I was bringing my baby and my little sister was walking. The building was situated on 15 minutes on foot. Crnogorac, Braco, Mihajlo and Ljubo raped me again and they invited two more men – Savo and Lapo who lived in the same street. It lasted to 3, 4 a. m. Then Faca stayed alone (it was his apartment) and the raped me till the morning. All that time my sister was in the room, they covered her with coats and blankets, she was screaming. When Faca stopped torturing me I fell asleep. I heard screams but I could not do anything. When I woke up, the little girl was red due to crying and said: "He touched me down there." She was crying and telling that it hurt her down there. I looked at her panties and there was blood on them (she is visiting a physician even now). Then I went to the headquarters and reported them to Pajić. He gave me the key of apartment and took me to the barracks, to the commander who told me: "We can not imprison them." Later they imprisoned them for three days.

The following day Crnogorac and Iko came and asked why I had reported them. The following evening Crnogorac entered through the window, threatened me with a knife, pushed me on the bed and raped. All that happened in front of my little sister (even today the little girl remembers it very well, better than me). Crnogorac was coming every evening (it lasted for two weeks). I did not have my period all that time.

The little girl was very afraid of night. She was telling: "Now they will come and torture us." The rape was happening always in front of her. On the first evening Faco took my little baby and threw her in the air, she fell down; he beat her over her head. She is complaining often that she has a headache and she has some deformations of the head. Her legs are hurting her too and I am afraid that it is due to freezing because one night she slept on straw in the stable because I had to watch a cow.

On April 15 came to live with me A. and S. with a two months old baby. The regular traffic lines with Serbia already existed. On that evening came Lapo and some elderly men. My

friend and me hid ourselves in the toilet. Then I reported them to Pajić and they did not maltreat them any more.

On April 20, 1992 came information that some people would go to Croatia. The day before we were in the room with our children, we heard conversation in a foreign language and I made my little girl cry. When they heard the crying they beat at the door. They were UN soldiers and they listed all of us. When we approached the school, we met Braco who did not allow me to go but UN soldiers helped us. At 5 p.m. three buses moved towards Croatia. Serbs drove us to Bijelo Brdo and members of UN to Osijek. In Osijek we spent the night at the hospital and in the morning we went to Zagreb because I found out that my mother was alive.

I give the statement of my own free will and without coercion. By signing each page of the statement I confirm its authenticity.

February 3, 1994

Statement was given by: M.M.

**ANNEX 118:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.P.**

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT ISTR  
THE 6<sup>TH</sup> POLICE STATION LABIN  
No: 511-08-35-3-VT19/94  
6 June 1994

OFFICIAL RECORD

Name: J.

Surname: P.

Father's name ...

Occupation: worker

Date and place of birth: ..., ...

Address: ...

...

He states that he and his nephew Z.P. took part as Croatian volunteers in the liberation of Vukovar. On a non-established date around 3.00 pm, his cousin Z. parted and went to take some food to a woman who lived in Bosanska Street. The Serbian volunteers had already occupied that part of the town. Since Z. had been gone for an hour, he went to look for him. He was entering every abounded house approaching the frontline of the Serbian army. Around 4.00pm, he noticed Z.P. walking along Padobraska Street toward "Baza". At that moment, Z. was about 20 meters away from him and he was in an abounded house.

At that moment, a Serbian soldier wearing a camouflage uniform jumped from a house in front of Z. He was armed. J.P. states that he heard the whole conversation between the two...

...Tripković (the Serbian soldier) pointed the long weapon at Z. saying: "Stop, Tarzan"...

...Tripković hit him with a rifle saying, "Shut up Ustasha" and pushed him to the ground. Then, all four of them started beating him with fists, legs, and rifles...

...The four Serbian soldiers took the knives-bayonets and kept stabbing Zdenko who was on the ground. Zdenko was heavily bleeding when one of the soldiers went to a nearby house and took a motor saw. That soldier switched on the motor saw and all four soldiers said that the "Ustasha's shit" should be chopped to pieces and threw into a gully. Z. was still alive when one of the four (it was not Tripković) began sawing first his legs, arms, then his body and head. J.P. states that he watched the whole event but could not help Z. The whole situation was extremely shocking, but the four Serbs enjoyed the most brutal murder. He watched everything, but at the moment they began sawing his head he could not continue. He hid in a corner and cried. After a while, he looked through a window again and saw them throwing the parts of the body into a nearby gully...

...He went back to "Baza". Afterward, he and another two men went to the place of the murder and picked the parts of the body into a plastic bag.

They buried Z. behind the kindergarten in Borovo Naselje, no. 315.

Statement was taken by authorized official:

Zahtila Elvis

Statement was given by: J.P.

**ANNEX 119:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.Đ.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
NATIONAL GUARD OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MILITARY POLICE IN SLAVONSKI BROD

Number: 108/00-92

Date: 22 June 1992

MILITARY POST 2229

RECORD ON TAKING OF STATEMENT

Was drawn up on behalf of the Military Police in Slavonski Brod on 22 June 1992 at the offices of the Military Police in Slavonski Brod.

Started at 09,00 a.m.

V.Đ., son of ..., born on ... in ..., occupation: ...-...

operator, residence: ... gives the following:

TESTIMONY

"... Early in October, a group of commandos, that is members of special police forces from Pančevo arrived. I was transferred to one of their groups, because I was a parachute commando in the army, and late in October, we set off by personnel carriers to clean up Vukovar. We went through Borovo Naselje to a ramp next to the public house "Mali Raj", that is we took Borovska cesta, and at the ramp we turned towards Vukovar and we went all the way to Vukovar through Priljev to the centre of town. Slobodan Trosić led our group.

He introduced us to the chief commander Savic Jovan who told us that he was an active soldier, a native of one village near Slavonski Brod and that he was serving in Pančevo. He was a sergeant by rank. One morning before an operation, he delivered us a lecture and he told us that he had been on battlefields in Sarvaš, Dalj, Beli Manastir where he had killed Croats regardless of their old age, age, gender and whether they were civilians or members of the National Guard. He said that he butchered women, children, he had killed them at a close range with a gun in the mouth, he had locked up people in rooms that he blasted later on ... During one cleaning operation of the town, I was in the rear with my group. We went from Sajmište to Mitnica. Our task was to clear all houses and basements. In one house, we found two members of the National Guard and about 10 civilians. Some of them were older and some of them were younger. Jovan Savić killed one civilian right away and he blindfolded members of the National Guard and brought them in one room. He placed civilians between them, he put bombs, with the safeties pulled out, in hands of members of the National Guard, he locked up the room, came outside and told us to wait for him to finish the job. After a while, an explosion was heard and Savić went inside and we heard several machine-gun bursts and screams. After a while, he stepped outside and said that those inside were quite and that we could proceed. During that day, he and his group repeated several times the same procedure in several basements. After the first killing, I was shocked with this way of killing people, but I could not say or try anything because I would be killed as well. When Vukovar was cleaned, I returned to Borovo Naselje. I could not live there any longer together with those kind of people, so I got out from there and I went through Borovo Naselje to Belgrade and from Belgrade to Polje near Derventa at my uncle S.Đ.'s. I stayed in his home until the beginning of the fighting in the surroundings of Derventa and then I, together with villagers, surrendered to the Croatian Defence Council..."

Finished at 10,00 a.m.

Authorised official: DAMIR CINDRIĆ  
Recording secretary: JASMINKA DRAŠKOVIĆ  
Citizen: V.Đ.

**ANNEX 120:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.P.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
VUKOVAR POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Section for operation affairs  
No: 511-15-10/3-KU- /92  
19 May 1992

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Name: D.P.  
Occupation: ...  
Born on ...  
Address: ...

On 13 May 1992 he gave the following information to the official of the Vukovar Police Department in connection with the enemy actions by the members of the so-called Yugoslav People's Army, Serbian volunteers and extremists from the area of Vukovar; in Zagreb, sports centre "Vinko Bek", Kušlanova 59A:

After I was captured by the active soldiers around 15.30 hrs, they brought me by a military vehicle to Sajmište Street to the warehouse of "Velepromet", where I noticed, while stepping out of the vehicle, and later during my stay at the warehouse, the following persons:

(...)

Several times those same persons, while they were making a tour around the warehouse "Velepromet", would take out the defenders and civilians, whom I knew by sight from Vukovar, from hangars and buses. After they would take them away, not many people would come back, while every trace of the others was lost. While I was standing in a line to be searched and signed in, I saw Pero RAJŠIĆ behaving brutally; he beat manager Z. I., who is at the moment imprisoned, with a butt-end of a rifle, a bat, and kicked him all over his body.

On 18 November 1991, after I was searched and signed in, I was taken into a hangar in which about 80 men were. During my stay in the hangar shooting could be heard occasionally, screams and howls that were coming from the warehouse's backyard. Around 20.00 hrs I watched from the hole in the hangar a Chetnik, his nickname was "Topola", brutally killing a young man, his surname was Perković, and nickname "Perkan".

The Chetnik named "Topola", about 185 cm tall, medium build, wearing a camouflaged uniform with a white ribbon on his shoulder, took out the above mentioned young man and in front of the hangar, cut off first one and then another ear after which he grabbed him by his hair and cut his throat with a knife.

(...)

Statement was taken by Authorised official  
Ivica Dodlek  
(signature)



**ANNEX 121:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.G.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE ADMINISTRATION IN VUKOVAR  
Department for the operational affairs "JS"  
Number: 511-15- 10/3-KU- /92  
Date: 1 June 1992

OFFICIAL NOTE

...F.G., born on ..., occupation: ..., residence: ... gave  
to the authorised official of the Police Administration in Vukovar the following:

TESTIMONY

"During the aggression of the occupying so-called Yugoslav People's Army, Serbian volunteers and extremists on the town Vukovar, I actively participated in its defence.

After breaking the resistance of defenders of the town on 18 November 1991, I retreated together with other defenders and civilians to the "MC" Vukovar, where on 19 November 1991 at around 10,00 a.m., members of the so-called Yugoslav Army and its helpers captured me.

After that we had to leave the basement and they took down our names after which they started separating us. The one who was taking down our names told everybody to go to a certain truck. The trucks were standing south of the hospital, in a one-way street leading from Borovo to the town centre. ... I was sent to the same truck as my brother J., who is today still listed missing. The son of the newsman Mirko Stanković from Vukovar, Zoran Stanković aka "Kesega", came to our bus. He told us that we would be either executed or slaughtered. He had a special grudge against me since my uncle, L.G.; had been among the first to initiate the defence of Vukovar. [...] We arrived at the warehouses of "Velepromet" in trucks where soldiers, conscripts, of the JNA were waiting for us. ... All of a sudden the young army – conscripts – disappeared and the local Chetniks appeared. They started yelling that we should get outside. We got off the truck after which we had to stand in a circle and they told us that those who had fought should stay on one side and the others on the other. I was standing in the group of people who had fought.

...Radivoje Jakovljević aka "Fridge"...approached me and pulled me by my hair and turned me around so was facing him. Then he took his knife, took a swing with it as if to stab me in the head, but I duck so that he missed and instead cut the left side of my forehead and the scar is visible even today. He also stabbed me under my right eyebrow. I begged him to shoot me, but was shouting that I have to suffer before I die. He was saying that he would pick my eyes out. ... Another Chetnik came and they forced me to the ground and held my arms and legs. The accused Radivoje Jakovljević approached me and wanted to cut my head off with a knife...but another officer of the former JNA, whom I do not know, saved me...I saw approximately fifteen decapitated bodies in that hole. I also saw heads scattered around in that hole. While we were in the yard of the "RO Velepromet", above-mentioned persons and persons familiar to me by sight physically maltreated us between 12,30 p.m. and 03,00 p.m., when they kicked us with legs, beat us with their

hands, baseball bats, wooden tool handles, rifle butts and with other objects suitable for inflicting injuries on the body.

First the above-mentioned persons physically maltreated me by beating me on the entire body with hands, legs and other objects, whereupon:

When that was happening to me, I was close to a garbage pit in which I saw 15 decapitated corpses.

While I was, covered with blood, standing and waiting for the further development of events, at around 07,00 p.m. I saw people, unknown to me, leading a person I know is an Albanian by the name of Daut and I saw one of them cutting off his head with a knife, passing between prisoners with this head and frightening the same.

When getting off a bus, he forced me to go, with my hands in the air and with my legs spread, towards the other bus. While I was going towards the other bus, the same was kicking me with his leg in the scrotum the entire way...”

Statement was taken by authorised official:

IVICA DODLEK

Statement was given by:

F.G.

(signature)

**ANNEX 122:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.M.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
NATIONAL GUARD OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MILITARY POLICE IN SLAVONSKI BROD  
Number: 90/00-92  
Date: 1 June 1992

RECORD ON TAKING OF THE STATEMENT

Was drawn up on behalf of the Military Police in Slavonski Brod on 1 June 1992 at the offices of the Military Police in Slavonski Brod.

Started at 05,00 a.m.

M.M., son of Todor, born on ... in ..., residence: ... gives the following:

TESTIMONY

“... When the training finished, Jovo Savić went on the field and I went to my relative’s in Donji Brezik... Then on several occasions, I was with him when he talked to which battlefields in Croatia he had been. He told us that at Mitnica in Vukovar he butchered people, shot them in the mouth with a gun, threw bombs into basements where women, children and old people were. He said that he had locked up a group of people in one toilet and gave them bombs, with safeties taken out, to hold and that after a while those bombs exploded. When he held a speech to an armed unit in Novi Grad, he said that everything had to be cleaned from Croats and Moslems and that everyone should fight for Greater Serbia and for Slobodan Milošević...”

Finished at 05,30 p.m.

Authorised official: DAMIR CINDRIĆ  
Recording secretary: JASMINKA DRAŠKOVIĆ  
Citizen: M.M.

**ANNEX 123:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F. V.**

No: Kio-1/00-25  
MINUTES ON WITNESS QUESTIONING  
F.V.

Drawn up at the County Court in Vukovar on 31 March 2000

Present from the Court:

Investigating judge: NIKOLA BEŠENSKI  
Recording secretary: KAROLINA KOSMAČIN  
Criminal proceeding against: DUŠAN ČUČKOVIĆ

for crimes committed as described in article 120, subsection 1 of the Criminal Law of the Republic of Croatia

Begun at 09.35 hrs

Prosecutor: Deputy County State Prosecutor in Vukovar Božidar Piljić

Defender: Vojislav Ore, attorney from Vukovar

Before the interrogation the witness has been warned according to article 238 of the Law on the Criminal Procedure that he is bound to tell the truth, and that he must not suppress a fact, and that giving a false statement is a criminal deed. The witness is warned according to article 236 of the Law on Criminal Procedure that he is not obliged to answer any questions if he would expose himself or his relative to embarrassment, significant material damages or criminal prosecution.

Name, surname and father's name:	F.V., ...
UCRN:	...
Occupation:	...
Address:	...
Place and year of birth:	..., ...

(...)

In the last months, before the fall of Vukovar, I and V.P. became friends because we were then in the same building although prior to that we did not live in that building, and we knew each other from before when we worked together at "Vuteks".

On the day of the fall of Vukovar, we saw each other again in the hospital and V. then said to me that we would go to see our family, but we were taken, together with many others to the hangars of "Velepromet" to the hangar no. 1. I came before V., and I know that I was taken outside, but I remember that V. was brought at night to this hangar.

That morning a story was going around that V.'s mother cursed at some woman and that the daughter of that woman said that V. would be taken to be executed.

Then they really came and took V. to be executed and they took me together with him. We were told that we would be taken to an execution by firing squad. Together with us they brought along a young man, about 18 years old, for having military boots on, and also one person whose name I do not know, but he was taken for being a cashier of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) in Borovo. One man with a machine-gun took us and I do not remember anything about the ammunition, but his pockets were hanging so he probably carried ammunition in them. While we were walking in a row, a Serb who worked with me in "Vuteks" saw me and he saved me from being executed. I promised him that I would not give up his name, because otherwise he would be threatened. I asked him why he did not save V., and he told me that he could not save both of us. I do not know how long I stood there and I watched this person leading those three men who I described before. He took them behind the last building, where there was a railway nearby, and they were 10 to 15 meters away from me.

I saw that person shooting at those three men, and I saw them falling to the ground. After that this person came near where I was standing, and there was also the kitchen of the people who held us captive. Then I heard another person giving this one a bottle to drink from it and spoke to him calling him by his nickname. This one drank from the bottle, and then he went back to the bodies of those three men and fired at them again.

I do not know what kept me standing there and waiting from all these beatings and this sight, and then grandmother N., who lived with us at Olajnica before the fall of Vukovar, came to me and took me away from that spot, and later to Šid and from Šid back to Croatia.

I do not what to tell what he looked like when the others took us out and he was killing us. He simply looked like he was drugged, he was drunk...

(...)

The murder itself happened about ten meters from a group of women and I think that they could hear the shots, and perhaps see it. The murder happened somewhere between 10 and 11 o'clock, and in the evening the army took the others and me and loaded us on a truck and took us to Šid.

(...)

V. was wearing glasses, but I think they fell off his face before he was killed. The others beat us, and this person that was taking us would beat us if we would fall behind.

(...)

Recording Secretary: K. Kosmačin (signature)

Investigating Judge: N. Bešenski (signature)

Witness: F.V. (signature)

**ANNEX 124:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.Š.**

Criminal proceedings against:  
ŽARKO TKALČEVIĆ  
because of the criminal offence described in article  
120, subsection 1 of the Criminal Law of the Republic of Croatia

No: Kio-182/96-28

MINUTES ON WITNESS QUESTIONING

M.Š.

Drawn up at the County Court in Osijek on 10 May 1996

Present from the Court:

Investigative judge:

MLADEN FILIPOVIĆ

Recording secretary:

BORKA MILJEVIĆ

Began at 09.05 hrs

Defender: Nedjeljko Rešetar, attorney from Osijek

Before the interrogation the witness has been warned that he is bound to tell the truth, and that he must not suppress any fact. The witness is warned of the consequences of giving a false statement and that he is not obliged to answer any questions if he would expose himself or his relative to disgrace, significant material damages or criminal prosecution.

Name, surname and father's name: M.Š., ...

Occupation: ...

Address: ...

Temporary Address: ...

Place and year of birth: ..., ...

(...)

While I was in Mitnica, Vukovar was constantly being shelled. Grenades were falling from everywhere. They were coming from the direction of Negoslavci, barracks, the Danube River, cemetery, Vučedol, that is, from everywhere. There are no military facilities in Mitnica, and civilians live there. Across the pond were some barracks, but there was the so-called JNA and from there they fired at us.

My first neighbour M.L. was killed, then my neighbour F.B., her son B. and daughter-in-law Ž. who was 5 months pregnant. T.B. also was killed. Those are the neighbours surrounding me, and there were many people that died in Mitnica. There were many devastated houses where civilians lived. I can say that Mitnica was levelled with the ground, as they say. They fired from all kinds of weapons, and I do not know what kind of weapons were there. My brother-in-law T.Š. and his wife were wounded. They lived in Sajmište and that is a street leading to Negoslavci, and that part of the street quickly fell and they then came to live with us. During the entire attack at Vukovar, I was in the cellar.

There was an elementary school in Mitnica. I note, that I cannot talk about the details, because it was the time when we could not leave our cellars. We would simply just run to the well and back to the cellar. I spent the whole 3 months with my family in the damp and

wet cellar. We had a 7-month-old baby with us and we had to wash its diapers there. We lived under very hard conditions. We did not have any food. In one word, we could not move from the cellar, because the grenades were constantly falling. Negoslavci is a few kilometres far from Mitnica. It is the first village after Vukovar.

I do not know the defendant, and I have never heard anything about him before, and I cannot say anything about him, but I can say something about those victims that had disappeared. When they evacuated us, we were going towards Ilok, then at the Bulgarian cemetery and Vučedol I saw tanks, mortars. I saw the same in Negoslavci when we were taken through Negoslavci to Bogdanovci to be exchanged, which was not a success and thus they drove us back and forth for five days. I saw in the backyards of Negoslavci mortars, multi-barrelled rocket launchers, trucks and the backyards in Negoslavci were full of them. I can say that Negoslavci was not much damaged, and Vukovar was levelled to the ground. I saw also that Bogdanovci was also levelled to the ground. I saw Chetniks in Negoslavci and Bogdanovci but those men in white uniforms and those from the United Nations escorted us, and they were going only in one car, and the members of the so-called JNA were with us.

I can say that there was a home for retired persons in Mitnica. That home was shelled. I can say that it was also hit from other weapons, not only it was shelled. I know that there were human victims there, but I do not know how many of them were there.

(...)

Done at 09,25 hrs (witness signature)

**ANNEX 125:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.F.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
Virovitičko-podravska Police Department  
III Police Station  
No. 511-169-30-03/5-SP-61/25-96  
Slatina, 25 March 1996

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Name: M.F.  
Occupation: worker  
Born on ...  
Address: ...

On 22 March 1996 he gave the following information to the authorised official person of the III Police Station in Slatina:

(...)

He furthermore stated that his artillery formation somewhere at the end of August or in the beginning of September 1991 was transferred to the area near Vukovar, together with the infantry battalion, not far from Negoslavci. They were stationed at the area of an, unknown to him, agricultural farm in a cornfield where their combat position was and from which they fired at Vukovar, that is, at one part of the town known as Mitnica. The entire artillery

formation fired at Mitnica, that is, all of the 6 120 mm mortars, whose crews were mostly formed by regular soldiers of the so-called JNA, although there were reserve soldiers from the surroundings of Belgrade or that area. According to him, the same formation, that is, 6 mortars, fired approximately, 300 mortar grenades at the area of Mitnica daily. When shelling Mitnica, co-ordinations and other instructions were given to the shooters and commanders of the sections by Žarko Tkalčević personally, since he was also at that fighting position. The formations fired at Mitnica, besides by day, also by night, according to the orders of Tkalčević.

(...)

Statement was taken by authorized person:

Miroslav Gumbarević

Statement was given by: M.F.

**ANNEX 126:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.S.\***

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
Vukovarsko-srijemska Police Department  
I Police Station Vukovar  
No: 511-15-10/3- /98  
1 April 1998

MINUTES ON THE TAKING OF A CRIME REPORT

Made at I Police Station Vukovar on 1 April 1998

Authorised official person: Gojko Crnjac

Recording Secretary: Anita Prpić

Began at 11.30 hrs

Name: A.S.

UCRN: ...

Father's name: ...

Occupation: retired

Address: ...

Born on ... at ...

She states:

On 16 September 1991 Mile Lovrić, called Mića, from Vukovar, came to my backyard from Zrinjska Street, I do not know the number of the house he came from, but I think that it was between 12 and 14. He came to my backyard around 12.00 hrs, and spoke to me: "A., what are you doing?" I answered him that I would go to find something to change into since I was then wearing a housecoat. Mića told me that he was going to kill me, that is, that he was sent by the Serbo-Chetnik formation that gave him a list of Croats that should be killed. On that occasion he showed me the list and my photo that was clipped to the list, while he covered two photos with his hand, and I could not see them, that is, I could not determine the identity of the other persons. On the list that Mića showed me, and some of the names he read to me, I saw that there were about thirty persons on it. He told me that

he killed Marijan Bodrožić, and what I, personally, later found out to be true, although I saw Marijan lying down in M.T.'s garden, Zrinjska 7, while Marijan's house is at Zrinjska 3.

During the conversation with Mića I tried to talk normally in a way that I tried to persuade him that it was not necessary for him to do so, since I know him personally and also his family, but he did not want to come to his senses, but he started using vulgar language, telling me that I was "the Ustasha whore and that I should be fucked, and later killed". I told him then that I was an older woman and that I could be his mother, and if he wanted to have intercourse, that there were younger women who would gladly have intercourse with him.

While I was telling him this, he caught me by my housecoat, tore all my clothes off, and pushed me on a bed that was in the cellar, where I remained sitting, in a shock. While I was on that bed, he took off from his chest one out of four bombs, that hung on him and put it on a table, then he undid the belt on his trousers, undid the trousers, lowered them to his knees, and then his underwear.

After all this was done I noticed that he was nervous, and that his penis was not stiff, that is I assumed that he did not want the intercourse itself, but that his personal intention was to humiliate me as a person.

Then he came to the bed, where I was already sitting, made me lie on my back, and tore off my clothes completely, lay between my legs, and with his fingers he pushed his penis into me, and kept lying on me one or two minutes.

(...)

The same day a great number of reserve soldiers, who were searching the house, came to our street, and about 10 persons came to S.'s house who remained in the backyard, on which occasion they asked us where we kept the secrete radio-stations, where the cellars were, and we answered them that we did not have any radio-stations, and that the house did not have a cellar, besides the farming house where we were. They asked us about the weapons, and we answered that we did not have any, and if they did not believe us, they could search all the rooms and convince themselves that we were telling the truth.

...one of the reserve soldiers called "Jovo Bosanac" who allegedly came from Šid, came to me, and hit me in the neck from the back, after which I fell down the stairs on the concrete in the cellar, and then he came to me and kicked me with a boot in the spine. Then he took me by my clothes on my chest, lifted me and hit with me against the wall, on which occasion I hit against the wall with my head and my back. After all the assaults and hitting he ordered me to go upstairs to show him something, after which he took me by the shoulder, and together with him I went to the attic, where mattresses and boards were. When we came there, he kept slamming me and shouting vulgar words, which I do not remember since I was beaten a lot and in mental shock, and I do not remember all the vulgar words that he shouted at me. In one moment he lifted my skirt, tore off my nylons and underwear, and pushed me on those mattresses and he undid his belt and trousers, after which I said to him that he could have sex with his grandmother, since I was 65 years old. He did not pay attention to it, but he lay on me and pushed his penis into me. I felt nothing on that occasion, but only pain and a terrible burden.

The intercourse itself seemed to last very long, probably because I was under stress from all those beatings. He asked whether I felt that the intercourse was done, I state that I did not feel anything, probably because of all that mental shock, and after it was finished I felt that I



was bleeding from my sexual organ, and I lay there helplessly. The person named Jovo Bosanac got up, did his trousers and called in the backyard asking whether anyone wanted the same. One of the reserve soldiers that was standing on the stairs, that is on the terrace, came to me, but when he saw me bleeding, he gave up, while the others did not want, nor did they come up to me.

(...)

Finished at 13.45 hrs

Reported by: A.S.

Recording Secretary: A. Prpić

Authorised Official Person: Gojko Crnjac

**ANNEX 127:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF E.M.**

My name is E.M.. I was born on... in ... My permanent residence .., Bosnia and Herzegovina. I have completed elementary school; I am unemployed and single. I am a Muslim. As a regular soldier I was in the war during 1991.

I am giving the following

**STATEMENT**

I was drafted into the army in December 1990. I was supposed to join the so-called "Tito's Guards", situated in the barracks "Maršal Tito", in the Maršal Tito street. The Guards' commander was Mile Mrkšić. He was a colonel by rank. I spent almost 6 months in the barracks. The commander of my company was Miroslav Radić, a captain by rank, from Bosnia. The commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> company was Saša Bojkovski, a captain by rank. The commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> company was Zoran Zirović, a first lieutenant by rank. The battalion commander was Borivoj Tešić and his deputy was Slavko Stijaković, a captain 1<sup>st</sup> class by rank. The commanders of the platoons were Zoran Stomatović, a Senior Sergeant; Srđan Stojanović, a Sergeant First Class; Dejan Jovanović, a Sergeant. The barracks were in Dedinje. Around 15 July 1991, the larger units had gone to the battlefield. Three days before leaving the barracks were "armored". 2,500 soldiers, I was among them, joined the convoy of the armored-mechanized infantry brigade. The commanding officer of my brigade was Mile Mrkšić. I was a member of a diversion unit. There were also the armored-mechanized, rocket and infantry units, etc. The convoy was around 54 km long. I was in a truck together with "Stuka" Spasoje from Ruma and Dragan Vidačak from Busovača. We set off from Belgrade about 3.00 a.m. We stopped just before reaching Tovarnik and there each member of my unit was given four rocket launchers. We continued our trip immediately after we were given the weapons. We went through Tovarnik toward Negoslavce. By the way, in Belgrade before we left, reservists wearing olive-drab uniforms reinforced all units. A few days before we left, the artillery and the "VBR" howitzers had been sent from the barracks. In Tovarnik we saw the artillery waiting for us, which then joined us.

The same day we reached Negoslavce. The commanding officers stayed in Negoslavce but we set off on foot toward Dubrava. Around the economy Dubrava we dug trenches facing four directions: the first direction toward Petrovac, the second toward Bogdanovci, the third toward Lužac and Borovo naselje, the fourth toward Vukovar. From the economy Dubrava

facing in the direction of Ovčara the artillery and tanks were entrenched in a zig-zag pattern. The weapons were entrenched 10-15 m one from another, somewhere even less. The tanks were mostly T-84s, but there were also T-55s. It was raining the day we dug, so we spent the night in the trenches. Sergeant Dejan Jovanović was in charge there. The following day, early in the morning, we set off on foot along the so-called Petrovački path toward Vukovar, or more precisely Petrova Gora. The same morning we reached Petrova Gora. In Petrova Gora we were stationed in the houses. I was stationed in a four-story building in Petrova Gora Street. We stayed there until the offensive was launched. The mortars were located around the left entry to Petrova Gora. The size of the mortars ranged from 120, 82 to 60 mm. Around the railroad track were mortars of 60 mm. The medical corps was located in Petrova Gora Street, the right diverging road, offering only first aid. Before the offensive against Vukovar was launched, at the end of July and beginning of August, the corpses of the Croatian women, children and men were buried around the transformer station in Petrova Gora or the houses' gardens in Nova street. Every day 4-5 people were brought and killed. They were killed either by weapons or were slaughtered. Sometimes even mass killings took place. Captain Miroslav Radić was the commanding officer for the following streets: Savo Kovačević, Vasilje Gaveš, Nova Street, Bogoljub Vukajlović and 8 mart street. Captain Miroslav Radić commanded people to be killed in a house near the store, on the opposite side of Stanko's house – a taxi driver from Vukovar, in ..., I think. In ... Street, an elderly lady, a Croat, who lived with her daughter, was killed by Spasoje – nick-named "Štuka"- from Ruma. He raped the daughter and what happened with her, afterwards I don't know. Spasoje was a member of my platoon. In Nova Street at Stanko's house, a taxi driver, the command of Miroslav Radić was located. I think it was October. The local Serbs, the Serbs from Vukovar, were also involved in the killing. Of the local Serbs I know only Sirčo who had long, blond hair.

4 or 5 m away from Stanko's house, on the opposite side of the street, the Chetniks from Novi Sad were placed in the house belonging to a certain Pero. He had a daughter studying economics in Belgrade. The first house, at the beginning of Nova Street, belonged to Jovo and according to my estimate approximately 20 people were killed in there. The head of one Croatian guardsman was cut off. Next to Jovo's house was Z.'s house, an auto mechanic, a Croat, his wife's name was V. They stayed in their house, they were not maltreated, but he had to repair the Chetniks' cars. The first local Serbs to get up in arms were from ... Street, Pero and Stanko, and three brothers from ... Street. They had a house on the left side of the street, number ..., I think. Behind their house, in the direction of the brickyard, a group of people called "Sirče", from ... Street, gathered and killed people too.

The attack on Vukovar began from Nova Street. My unit attacked 8 mart Street with tanks and infantry. First, they set all houses on fire and than retreated. The 8 mart Street was occupied after the third attack. In each action 3-4 men were killed. On the crossroads of Nova Street and Bogoljub Vukajlović Street two tanks, T-84 and T-55, were destroyed, and one T-84 was disabled. Colonel...was the commander of the tank unit. Half of Nova Street was occupied then. Afterwards the whole waterchannel was taken which caused the break of communication with Bogdanovci. The command of the 2<sup>nd</sup> company was stationed on the corner of "Supanca" and "Ognjena" Streets. After the JNA and Chetniks had occupied I maj Street up to the Milovan Hill, Blagoje Adžić arrived. At Stanko's house in Nova Street a meeting was held with Vojislav Šešelj, Veselin Šljivančanin, Mile Mrkšić, Miroslav Radić, Zirojević and Saša Bojkovski. At the meeting a plan for further actions against the town was developed. Veselin Šljivančanin was in charge for the operation Vukovar . He was a major by rank. All further actions were executed according to the plan.

At the end of October a colonel from Bileća and I went on reconnaissance. He was killed by a missile nearby Savo Kovačević Street. Most of the time I was a military courier.

After Nova Street fell, streets were occupied one after another. The civilians were taken to the "Velepromet". In the "Velepromet" the men were separated from women. There was the mass execution of the people. In the barracks' central building, in the basement, the people were killed as well. The corpses were taken out by the regular army, at least 50 corpses, but I think even more were killed in there. Both the Chetniks and the regular JNA took part in the killings. Of all officers that were involved in the killings, Zoran Zirojević was the worst.

When I brought the above-mentioned colonel, who was killed by a missile, wrapped in a blanket I was proclaimed insane and was sent to be examined at the "VMA". My commander Miroslav Radić appointed me as a courier for Šljivančanin. As a courier my job was to deliver documents to the officers. I delivered the messages to Radić, Zirojević, Bojkovski and the members of the "Šešelj" and "Arkan" formations. Šljivančanin was stationed in a house in Svetozar Marković Street. He "was the law" and everything he said "was the law". The orders were usually in writing but sometimes they were given over the phone. The head of communications was a Senior Sergeant I don't know his name. On the day of the fall of Vukovar my unit, the 3<sup>rd</sup> mechanized company commanded by Miroslav Radić from Bosnia and Herzegovina, surrounded a hospital. No soldier could enter the hospital except for the officers. The hospital guards were Dragan Vidačak from Busovača who was involved in killing, Spasoje, Đorđe Nikolić, Elvir Nadić from Bihać, a lieutenant by rank got killed.

On 20 November 1991, Major Šljivančanin came to the hospital and held a meeting at 7,30 a.m. While the meeting was still in session a group of the wounded was taken out of the hospital.

There were the busses waiting outside the hospital premises that took the first group of the wounded to OVČARA early in the morning. According to Captain Radić Miroslav they were executed there. The execution platoon was formed from the 3<sup>rd</sup> company of the Guards' brigade from Belegarde, on 18 November 1991. Štuka and Dragan Vidačak were members of the platoon. I came to OVČARA late in the afternoon and I saw the soldiers stamping the ground. I overheard that the people were thrown into the pits and covered with wood and soil.

Afterwards I learned from Captain Radić that approximately 1040 persons were killed in the VELEPROMET warehouse and approximately 200 in OVČARA.

This statement is given voluntarily and the signature on each page confirms its authenticity.

My residence is... now, in exile.

In Slavonski Brod, 17 November 1992

The Statement given by: E.M.

**ANNEX 128:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF T.C.\***

T.C., a Croatian woman born on ..., Croatian by nationality, lived in Čakovci, municipality of Vukovar, about events when she was raped by a Chetnik in her own house

In September 1991, the JNA together with Chetniks arrived at our village. They started to threaten, shoot, capture people, steal, even murder. Majority of the local Serbian residents joined those who had arrived. They wore caps with cockades, some of them wore JNA uniforms, some of them had blue uniforms. Among Chetniks who were destroying anything that belonged to Croats were also our Serbian neighbours: Milivoj Durđević, Dragan Sobota, Milan Kovačević, Sreto Katić, Ahmet Alija, Boro Radeka, Željko Nikolić, Radivoj Ivković called "Šiljo" and others. They were maltreating, expelling, threatening, beating, raping and killing on a daily basis. They were harshly terrorizing us. All our men, who were capable of work, were taken to camps. Some of them (MIJO SOLJIĆ, STIPO FARAGA, STIPICA FALABIĆ) were ordered to go digging up holes for dead cattle. Till today we do not know anything about them, they are not at the camp and they never returned to their homes. A Serb said that they had finished up in those holes they had dug. We were not allowed to go anywhere. If we stood at our door, Serbian children threatened with guns that they would kill all of us Ustashe.

IVICA PRKA was among the first ones who was killed, he was killed by a sniper from the corn field while he was feeding small dogs in the yard of his house. After him Chetniks killed Vinko Lucić and his wife Luja. Around midnight Chetniks took them out of their house and killed them in front of it. I remember that it happened on the 10th day of the month but I do not remember if it was October or November 1991.

I had to bring corn for my pigs (I had six pigs) and I agreed with A.K (woman neighbour) that we would go to pick it on her field first and then to mine. When you wanted to go to a field, you had to get permission on which it was written with who you went and when you would be back. It was Saturday, I remember, and we wanted to pick enough corn for Sunday. In the night (Friday/Saturday) Chetniks killed at her own house ANICA KOVAČEVIĆ and her son JOSIP KOVAČEVIĆ (10 years old). ANICA was killed on a couch and JOSIP was killed in his bed. The following day, as we were not allowed to move, I watched through my window (my house was near their's). I saw when Chetniks arrived with a tractor and a trailer (stolen from my brother). There were two wooden coffins on the trailer. In one of the coffins they put Anica and in the same coffin her son Josip. In another coffin they put Luja and Vinko that had been killed the same night. BOŠKO ŠOBOTA, Chetnik drove the tractor. Nobody knows where these bodies were driven or where they buried them.

We, Croats, had white ribbons at our gate in order to enable Chetniks who were not from our village to recognize us.

Some time later, IVAN KARAGIĆ was killed in his yard. He was killed by MILOŠ ŠOBOTA and his son DRAGAN ŠOBOTA. After all this, one day at about 4 p.m. RADIVOJ IVKOVIĆ, called Šiljo (about 25 years old), entered my house. He locked the house door and the kitchen door. I can not say who was outside. He started shouting, then he grabbed me and told: "You are the first one, I'll kill you!" Then he tied my hands behind my back with some wire. He pushed me on a couch and ordered me to take off my clothes. As I could not do it with my tied hands, he tore them and raped me. Then he said to me: "Stand up now!" As I was afraid, tied and destroyed I could not do it. Then he searched the whole house, he was looking for weapons allegedly. I had no weapons because my husband

died in 1987 and I did not either hear nor see my daughter for one year. As I had no pension I worked for years by all these Serbs that did it to me. I had to do it in order to feed me and my child. I looked in the direction of the bedroom and I saw when "ŠILJO" took my golden ring and my daughter's gold chain. then he cursed my Ustasha mother and asked me why I was looking at him. I didn't dare to watch him any more so I did not know what else he took. Finally, he threatened me that he or somebody else would kill me if I told anybody. He made a record (I had to sign it) that he didn't take anything. I remained alone, cried and I was afraid. I could not stay there anymore. Later I went to my neighbour and told him what had happened. I cried. He said: "Don't, it isn't possible. Go to the headquarters and tell them everything, take the wire with which he had tied you." I went to my cousin's house because I didn't dare to spend the night alone. The following morning, when I was going back Chetniks asked me where had I been and why was I walking around. I told them that I had been at my cousin's house and that I had to go home in order to feed my cattle. They cursed my Ustasha mother and said that it would not last for long anymore. I fed the cattle and I took the wire and I went to the headquarters. They wrote down everything I said and said that they would examine all. I was crying and I was living in fear for days. So I asked my neighbor ... to drive me to Bjeljina in order to find my daughter. He told me that I had to ask for permission and that it would cost a lot of money. I got permission for one day and found another neighbor (woman) who was looking for her parents and ... drove us to Bijeljina. I called from there my sister in Brčko. When I told her that I was her sister, she said: "Sister, that's you, we heard that you had been killed at your house. " I replied: "Sister, that's me, I experienced the most terrible thing, but I'm alive. Do you know anything about my daughter?" She said that she was in Zagreb.

On the same day I returned to Čakovci because I had permission till 6 p.m.. I gave .... two pigs because he drove me there and back. I stayed for some time and I asked .... again that I would like to find my daughter. He told me to ask permission to go to Bosnia in order to find my daughter. When I got it, I left the cattle to neighbors and I left. In February 28, 1992 I came to my daughter in Zagreb. her husband worked as ensuring personnel of Vukovar hospital and since then we did not hear anything about him. When she saw him for the last time, she was 4 months pregnant and now she has a one and half year old son. She does not know anything about her husband.

I have to admit that LUCA ROKLICER did a lot of harm to us. She was walking around in Chetnik uniform, she was stealing from houses, threatening, beating women and killing. She took from my house anything she wanted. I think that she is guilty of a lot of harm.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm it's authenticity and that the statement is given without coercion.

In Zagreb, August 18, 1993  
Statement was given by: T.C.

**ANNEX 129:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.J.**

F.J., daughter of ..., born on ... in ... A Croat by nationality. A worker by occupation. I used to work at factory "Borovo". I am married and the mother of two daughters. My residence is in .... I am currently living in Zagreb.

(...)

STATEMENT

I was at the shelter in the old school "Vladimir Nazor" on 17 November 1991, together with 500 other civilians. We had to surrender at that time. The Chetniks together with the army ordered us to get out, after this they took us to Velepromet.

At approximately 11 o'clock, we arrived at Velepromet, where they selected us. They took me out of the line first. One Chetnik came with "4S" and took me from the line. At the gate one of them asked me: "Where is your Gypsy?", this is how they called my husband. That Chetnik took me to a room, which was empty.

(...)

They took all of them outside and murdered them. That same at approximately midnight they transferred S.P. and me to another room where other women were imprisoned. The second night they took S. away, and before that they kept provoking, abusing and threatening us, they were showing us a knife and asking: "Is this an Ustasha knife and is this Ustasha blood on it?" We would all keep quite then.

(...)

After the second interrogation, I was beaten and I cannot tell everything that has happened to me, and they took me back to the other women.

At approximately ten o'clock of the following day, they took me to the barracks and asked me if I knew where certain people were, whose photographs they kept showing me. They beat me and said: "If you want to tell us your last wish, tell us now.", I told them: "I want God to get back at you". At that moment I recognized SLOBODAN MALIĆ who wore a mask, he said: "I will take you to a place and if you manage to reach the ground, you will be free".

(...)

They took me to a training ground, tied my hands with a rope and told me to climb up a slide or gallows and to jump. I jumped but I could not reach the ground with my feet but hung on the other rope. They said they would return and get me when I reach the ground with my feet, so that I hung there for I do not know how long. I had the feeling that everything inside me had snapped and had lowered itself into the pelvis. I do not know how much later two armed soldiers returned and took me back to Velepromet to the other woman in a vehicle. This was the fourth days and all I could think of was to die.

(...)

A soldier came and said: "All Serbs come outside".

I was very frightened at that time, I heard children screaming, crying. They separated the Serbs from our trick at that moment and one Chetnik said: "So are there only Croats now".

Someone said yes and he ironically said: "May you rest in peace". They came and provoked us, and asked us if wanted to go to ŠID.

(...)

Before the fall of Vukovar, on 15 September 1991, they murdered my husband C. (...), they had crucified him alive on a truck and then shot him from a tank. He was murdered then and I was told that a Russian had buried his body near a post where the trash was collected.

(...)

Zagreb, 19 May 1993.

Statement given by: F.J.

Statement taken by: Ana Klarić

**ANNEX 130:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF G.K.\***

G.K. I WAS BORN ON ... in ... municipality. I lived in Vukovar.... I am Croatian by nationality, and a ...r and I worked at "Vupeks", Vukovar. I am married and the mother of two sons ... and ..., the latter is still listed as missing. I was at the Mitrovica camp. Currently I live in ...

STATEMENT

On 15 September 1991, my husband ..., son .... and I were captured. I was part of the Civil Defence. Until then Chetniks were at position about 200m from our house. That day they arrived with tanks and surprised us.

They captured us near our house and lined us all up against the wall. Rajko Petrović was there, formally a friend of my son and he told him: "..., you know they are going to execute you by firing squad?"

They took the men away and I knew nothing about them for three days. Later I heard that they were locked up in a basement.

On night Jovo came with an automatic rifle and told us that he is taking us to Marko Crevar to be questioned. Darko Nikolić, Stjepan Jurković and Stevo Vaselek were there, who were later taken away and nobody knows what happened to them. Marko Crevar maltreated me there and constantly threatened that ... and ... (her sons) are at his mercy and how he will execute them.

Before they took us, me, Darko Nikolić\*'s wife, Nada Farkaš\*, Marija Kovač\* and Zorica Rundić\*, to the basement after the capture, this certain Jovo made us take our clothes off, maltreat us and told me: "Lie down or I will kill you!" It was about 2 a.m. He took out us one by one. It is very hard for me to talk about it, but he raped me.

After the questioning at Marko Cervar's they took us to "Velepromet" on 3 December 1991, there I saw my son .... He told me that he heard what had happened to me, but I did not want to admit anything to him.

They took me to the barracks again for questioning. Zigic was there, Lazo Savić – who brought me there, and some Captain. They questioned me for about two hours, maltreated me because of my brothers, and asked about my son. A General questioned me about

weapons, showed me the automatic rifle, but he kept telling me not to be afraid, that they will not execute me, and that they were the ones who liberated us. Afterwards he said that I am going to spend the night there, because curfew had already started.

A guard took me to a room, gave me a pencil and notebook so I could write what I said during the questioning. I asked him again what I was supposed to write after which he hit me.

In the morning they returned me to “Velepromet”. Lazo Savić took me and told me that I am not going to Negoslavci. He said he had had enough trouble just getting me out of there.

Until 14 November 1991, I stayed at “Velepromet”, then they took 15 of us, women, children, and older men, by truck to Mitrovica. There they separated the men from us. My husband ... was with me until they did not separate us there. I saw that they made the men undress and when they started to beat them, they took us away.

In Mitnica arrived people who came after the fall of Vukovar. Here they constantly maltreated us, but did not beat us. They took us in groups before cameras and recorded one by one, while we had to do what we were told. The oldest among us was a 90-year old woman who they brought in her night gown. Dr. Bosanac was here as well – she would be taken to questioning in the morning and returned at night.

On 18 December 1991, an officer entered the room in the morning and called out about 50 women, but I was not one of them. The women told me that I started to cry and scream at this point, and the man put me on the list too.

With my signature I confirm the authenticity of this statement.

In Zagreb, 12 April 1995

Statement given by:  
G.K.

Statement taken by:  
Nada Likarević

**ANNEX 131:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.O.**

Witness statement of V.O., born on ... in ..., residence address  
..., worker, married, citizen of the Republic of Croatia, Ukrainian by nationality.

The first assault at the part of town where I lived was carried out with 5 tanks. It happened on 5 September 1991, around 8.30am.

(...)

...another assault on 14 September 1991 at 1.30pm. 17 or 18 tanks were involved. They passed through the street in two rows. Around 100 infantry soldiers were with them. The infantry soldiers were mostly locals, reservists, our neighbors.

(...)

They fired until dawn. They walked through the houses.

(...)

That day, in Petrovača Street, 67 persons were killed. (...) They were all civilians. My mother was among them. She was born in 1926. She was cooking dinner for my father and herself. Three men entered the yard. One of them stayed with my father in front of the



house. The other two entered the house and started shooting at objects. Šimo Samardžija, who used to work as janitor in the hospital, shot my mother in the temple. When she fell, the other one fired from a rifle at her. She was left there between the table and the stove. On 16 September, when it became a little peaceful, I went to the basement of my house, and then I wanted to see my parents.

(...)

This document does not imply the name of the official who took the statement, nor does it imply the signature of the witness.

Statement was given by: V.O.

**ANNEX 132:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.D.**

SURNAME: D.  
 NAME, FATHER'S NAME: A., ...  
 DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., ..., Croatia  
 RESIDENCE: ...  
 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
 EDUCATION: high school  
 OCCUPATION: ...  
 EMPLOYMENT:  
 MARITAL STATUS: married  
 CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
 NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

STATEMENT

Mitnica is a part of Vukovar, the district whose residents defended themselves and surrendered only after the negotiations. The negotiations were held at Vučedol. Our representatives were Karaula, Komšić and Mandić, and the Serbian representatives were Šljivančanin and other officers. A representative of the International Red Cross, the Branch Office for Slavonia and Baranja was also present. Karaula used to live in Australia, so that he spoke with the representative of the International Red Cross without an interpreter. It was agreed that all of us who were carrying arms surrender, regardless of our belonging to either police force, or a unit of the Croatian National Guard. According to this agreement, the civilians were to be evacuated. They told us that we were going to be treated as prisoners of war, according to the Geneva Convention. They agreed and signed that they were going to treat us according to this Convention. After agreeing upon, and signing the document, they separated us soldiers from the civilians. They made lists. They took us, the soldiers, to Ovčara. On the other hand, the civilians were taken to the detention center in "Velepromet", and placed in their storehouses. Here they separated Serbs from the others, and they divided Croatian women and children from Croatian men. All through the night people were denouncing other people. M.A. who was employed in Vuteks told me that he saw many of his former fellow-workers, and even their mothers or grandmothers, who were denouncing and betraying people. People were settling old scores. In the "Velepromet," the most notorious were Kesega, and Zoran Stanković, the son of the Serbian correspondent from Vukovar. Zoran committed numerous liquidations; he even

murdered young Kovačević in front of his father's eyes. Goran Perić bragged on the television how many Croats he murdered. The Latinović brothers also killed people; one of the brothers is called Đuro. Then, there was a man nicknamed "Frižider" (Fridge) who was particularly notorious. He often went to Belgrade. At first they (the Serbs) ran away because they claimed they were threatened, and later they returned dressed in military uniforms and carrying out military assignments. In the camp, there was a Muslim who was mobilized. In "Cigłana", which was immediately occupied by Serbs, Croats did not commit any killings, as the Serbs tried to present. Those "combatants" from Serbia had the right to take any house in Vukovar they wanted. Milo Garić told me in the prison of the things the Serbs did in Vukovar, how they tortured or killed people. They transferred us from Ovčara to Mitrovica. We were ordered to keep "heads low, hands on our backs." The International Red Cross escorted us to Mitrovica, so that we were not maltreated during the ride. In Mitrovica, the prison guards received us and immediately started cursing our "Ustasha mothers." This was a civilian prison. We were strip-searched and beaten. They took all of our belongings, and they made lists. We had to sign those lists. We were all locked up in a single room with approximately eighty beds. There were 180 of us. They took our personal data. From there they transferred us by eight or nine buses to Aleksinac, where we endured a brutal maltreatment. They beat all of us regardless of our age. Everybody beat us: military police, officers in command, even the bus drivers. They dragged people off a bus under the pretence of searching them, and then they beat and maltreated them in all sorts of ways. A large number of civilians gathered behind the prison fence and insulted us, shouting: "Give them to us to slaughter them." We were beaten up, our backs and heads were black and blue, and the blood clotted under the skin. We were especially maltreated because we were members of the Croatian National Guard.

Soon, they transferred us to Niš. In Niš they clapped six of us (M., B., B., M., I and another colleague) in a prison. The treatment was horrible. They did the same thing to the other people. The commander of the camp was Colonel Radulović, he was a military commander in Šibenik. He drank a lot. His wife and children remained in Croatia, and he was exchanged. He approved of all the maltreatment. We were interrogated by the members of KOS (the Serbian Counter-Intelligence Service), and we knew by the way they spoke that they were locals from Niš. They beat us as much as they wanted, and whenever they wanted. Whoever wanted could come to our lock up and beat us. They used every moment to beat us, even when they were taking us to the interrogation room. The worst was an ensign, a strong man. He had no mercy. Sometimes he wore a uniform, and sometimes he came dressed in civilian clothes. He never wore his shoulder tags. Another investigator was a captain of the first rank. They did not tell us their names, but we could never forget their faces. They maltreated and tortured us in every manner. Later, a group from Stoicevo arrived. They brought boys into the camp. I saw T.'s sons. T. was a man who worked at the local fire station. I also saw S.L.'s son. Those boys went through all camps. In their attempt to justify their actions, they (the Serbs) were asking us illogical questions, with the intention to crush our spirits. The main questions were, "How many people have you killed?, Did you slaughter?, How many people did you slaughter?, Did you rape?, How many children did you slaughter?, etc. They went on, forcing people to confess the crimes that never happened. They discredited people in that way. They beat the prisoners until they signed the confessions. For example, they forced D.M. to sign the statement, which claimed that S.M. killed some soldiers. They beat D. until he signed it, and then they brought S. and showed him what D. had signed, and forced him to confess. They beat him too, of course. They forced J. to sign the statement that K. liquidated three or four reservists in M. Z., which simply could not be true, because nobody was ever killed there. They accused us that

we murdered their soldiers. They found out various information about us, where we fought, what we did, etc. and on the grounds of that they brought up false charges against us. Their television showed the people that had been killed by their mortars. Those bodies looked as if they were massacred. To be even more preposterous, they showed bodies of the people who fought on the Croatian side, or of the Croatian civilians who died by their hands. Those were the civilians who remained in Vukovar. They were buried across from the hospital. One of my best friends, Colonel Z.B. was also buried there. People were also buried near the "Sloga" stadium. They dug out all of those bodies and showed them as the victims of the "Ustasha crimes". Many invalids came out of the camps. Damir Tiralj was brought to Mitrovica. He was born in 1965. He was wounded, but was not given any medical help, so he died. They murdered Boldić, he was beaten to death. Many people were injured (head, spine, joints...). Most of the time I spent in Niš. The treatment was the worst there. First I came to Mitrovica and I spent five or six days there, and then I was brought to Niš where I stayed from November 23, 1991, to February 16, 1992. Then I was retransferred to Mitrovica, and on March 5, 1992, they transferred us to Belgrade where we stayed until the end of our captivity. They adjusted their treatment of us with the current reactions of the international community. All of this we felt on our skin. They turned us into media news. The television crews came to B.D. D. was a man who experienced a real hell before and during the war. He was an honest man who worked in the "Borovo." He was just visiting his child in Knin, when they caught him and maltreated him brutally. He was accused of being a criminal, of murdering many Serbs. They brought journalists and forced him to give various statements. All of us got our bills of indictment two days before we were exchanged. They wanted to break our will. We had to sign that we received these bills of indictment. They tried to force me to accuse Merčep because they had in their possession all of the videocassettes from our meetings. They asked us to denounce other people. The exchange was horrible. The so-called mercenary army escorted us. The exchange took place on August 14, 1992, on the eve of the Assumption. We arrived in Zagreb on August 15th. They beat us before the exchange, and drove us in the buses with the windows closed. It was intolerably hot. Three men had to sit on seats made for two. Two men fainted, and we all were dehydrated. The exchange was in Nemetin. When we arrived in Nemetin, they were not sure if the exchange was going to take place at all. Their (Serbian) civilians used the situation, got on the buses and started beating people. The hours were passing by. The members of the UNPROFOR in this area (Russians) simply watched the raving mob and laughed. Let me also say this. Upon the arrival of the International Red Cross to Niš, the guards hid us so that the members of the ICRC would not see us disfigured. They moved us to the army barracks in Aleksinac, and after the ICRC visit was over, they returned us to Niš. The ICRC could never reach those prisoners who were in solitary confinement. In my opinion, this was a real concentration camp. The only thing it lacked was the gas chamber. They used to leave us, and other people whom they brought in, at mercy of the criminals who were imprisoned there. You can imagine how they treated us. They did not respect their signatures and the Geneva Convention at all. At the exchange anyone could see how badly our men had been treated. The prisoners brought by the Croatian side looked healthy, while we were beaten up and exhausted... I still remember how we had to bathe in an icy room with the opened windows. All of us got ill. We suffered from rheumatism, parts of our bodies swelled. We all knew who committed crimes. We knew who the residents of the town were, who destroyed it, and who defended it. The amount of the explosive thrown at the town was incredible; the record is 1,500 mortars a day. I would like to mention Nikola Popović who was a loyal citizen of Vukovar until the town fell. We fed him, and he showed his appreciation by joining the Chetniks and betraying us. Mirosljub Vujović declared himself a Montenegrin, and now he serves in the

Chetnik ranks. I understood when they killed men in the battles, but I could not understand how they could murder civilians. The case of "C." (...) is an interesting one. He lived in "Koreja", a small Vukovar district. Everybody knew him. He was crucified on a wagon, and they (the Serbs) fired a mortar at him. Zvonko Kobler worked in Jakobovac at Ovčara. He was among the first people who were imprisoned. Several men from Negoslavci worked in the same shift with him, and they bragged to him about what they did to "Ustashas". They committed atrocities; they ran over people with tanks... Their wives castrated our men. Many civilians from Vukovar know the perpetrators. For instance, Mormek was a Ukrainian. He came to my brother-in-law's house, broke things, and maltreated his wife. The residents of Vukovar claim that in Croatia they saw people who worked for the enemy, and who maltreated them in the camps in Serbia. A group of our men worked in the mines in Aleksinac, where many of them were executed, and according to the available information those who are alive still live in the unbearable conditions.

In Zagreb, February 25, 1993

Statement given by:  
A.D.

Statement taken by:  
Miljenko Buljan

**ANNEX 133:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.R.**

S.R. (...), born... in ..., ... municipality. I lived in Lipovača, address ... By nationality I am a Croat, by profession I am an ... and I worked at "... in Vukovar. I am married and the father of three children. I live in Zagreb, address ... I give the following

STATEMENT

The barricades in Lipovača were put up already for Easter 1991. The Serbs emptied the village, they moved their families out, except for the men. Lipovača fell completely into Serb hands on September 5, 1991.

On August 25, 1991, I went to get my children who were at the seacoast and upon returning I found out that it was not possible to go into Lipovača, because the Serbs had completely occupied it. Later I learned that they killed Ivan KUNAC and the remaining Croat men were arrested so that they could be exchanged later.

After that I went to Vukovar and participated in the battle up to the fall of the city. After our people negotiated with the former JNA we surrendered and I finished at Mitnica, where I also fought. We were taken prisoner by the former JNA.

We were taken prisoner on November 18, 1991, and transferred to Ovčara, where they separated the women and children from the men. I was in the first group that came to Ovčara. Here Chetniks, and they were in camouflage, entered into the bus and beat us. I heard that on the other buses they escorted people out, took them away and killed them, but no one from my bus was taken away. I heard from the other people that a person from Mitnica and Borovo Naselje, came into the bus.

They told us that we were going to Šid and that our wives and children would be waiting for us there, however, we were driven to Mitrovica. There we were met by two rows of Chetniks with sticks, rifles and truncheons. As we passed between them they struck us. Some of us collapsed or fell. They searched us here, stripped us naked and put us in a room

roughly 50 square metres in size. They placed approximately 100 of us there. During the first few days we slept on the floor, and then they gave us some mattresses.

Every second-third day they led us to away for questioning, one by one. This was questioning of the type: Where were you? What were you doing? How many Serbian children did you kill? and so on. I was interviewed by some Major, and I was beaten by the guards.

I was beaten so badly that during the last ten days spent in the jail I could not stand on my legs. The guards told me how they would cut off my legs so that I would not have to suffer. They would come in the middle of the night and maltreat us, they would walk upon us as if we were livestock. They were especially out to get me because of my name. They maltreated us in every way, mentally and physically.

Among the guards, according to their nicknames, were: "CRNOGORAC", "RAMBO", "ŽARE". They were blood-thirsty and they all beat us.

Since we were visited by representatives of the Red Cross and *Medicins San Frontieres*, and I was in very bad shape, on January 26, 1992, they removed me and another two from my room. I was carried away on a stretcher and immediately after that I was driven to Zagreb, to the New Hospital, and then to Rebro Hospital and then again to the New Hospital and so on through the period of three months until I recovered. I lost 25 kilograms in weight.

With my signature I confirm the authenticity of this statement.

In Zagreb, March 29, 1995.

Statement given by:  
S.R.

Statement taken by:  
Liokarević Nada

**ANNEX 134:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.G.**

The statement of D.G. concerning life in Borovo Naselje, being taken prisoner and his stay in Dalj and Novi Sad from November 19, 1991 to December 5, 1991.

My name is (...) D.G., I was born on ... in ... I lived and worked in Borovo Naselje. I have a wife and two sons. I am now retired. By nationality I am a Croat. I am currently in ... at the address .... JMBG: ..., Personal Identity Card No. ... I give the following:

**STATEMENT**

I am born in Vukovar, and live in Borovo Naselje with my wife and two sons. I worked in the leather footwear factory for 38 years, my wife worked there for 35 years, with the technical goods.

It was the most terrible when once, at the very beginning, I was at my weekend house in Vučedol and a Serb, BOŠKO MASIREVIĆ told me that we Croats would have the same fate as the Kurds. I was so upset that I wanted to fight him, but I managed to regain control. This occurred in June on 1991.

Not long after that I met a colleague from work who showed me a paper, that all the Serbs were getting, where was written what the "Ustasha" would do to the Serbs. He also then verbally told me that we was called to go to the barricades, I did not answer.

The following day I returned from work and my father was waiting for me in front of the door, he had been crying, and he told me: "Son, report to the Local community center", because if you do not report they will blow up our house and us together with the house. I went there for a meeting and at the meeting one of the meeting organizers talked about the deterioration of the Vukovar municipality and the "Borovo" company, that there is nothing left to do, and when that person finished another person rose up and said: "what are we waiting for, let us change the supervisory personnel!". However, the first person replied, who should we change since they are all our people. At that time that colleague left the meeting saying that he had nothing to look for here, and that he had to go to the barricade after all, because his people had threatened that what they promised to him would occur.

I also remember that Serbs I knew kept asking me if I had heard how they were being threatened over the telephone, that if they did not leave that they would be killed by the "Ustasha".

I also remember how I met a Serb that I knew who told me how he wanted to go to a weekend house at Savulj – Borovo selo, but he was stopped at the barricade and how he was questioned by Milan NENEZIĆ, the nephew of RADOJICA NENEZIĆ, a retired JNA general who came from Serbia to organize the Serbian uprising in the Vukovar municipality area, he told me: "It would be different if you were stopped by MILAN, he would surely kill you".

I noticed that Serbs were leaving Borovo Naselje, they were leaving for Borovo Selo, Trpinja, and even for Serbia.

Those that remained with us lived normally, even though individuals were informers, they had radio-stations. At night I saw how they were giving signals with flashlights from inside buildings, because how else could they know that a group of people had met while the shells were not falling, and 10-15 minutes later shells began to fall either close to, or directly on, these people, if it was not for these reports.

Once, in this way, near the post office in Borovo Naselje some 12-odd children playing soccer were injured, the shell fell between them. A similar thing happened during the delivery of water with a tanker truck, 5-6 people were killed by a shell while waiting in line for water. This lasted for four months. At the end of September there was no electricity or water. The situation with food was already very difficult. The battles last from July 1991, and during November 17 and 18, 1991, they told the people over the loudspeaker to surrender and come out with their hands over their head and to go towards the Danube River. Our guardists, when they saw that nothing else remained called for us to go to the shelter at the "Borovo" factory. In that way we went to the shelter at the factory and found 4,500 people there, together with the guardists. The Chetniks who were entering Borovo Naselje were killing those who did not leave their basements by throwing bombs into the basements. The guardists who were with us left for negotiations with the commanders of the JNA army and asked that a list, in five copies, be made of everyone when they left the factory. At these negotiations our boys were sometimes beaten, but they succeeded in their intent for the list to remain. On the day that we came to the factory shelter, the JNA set fire to "Komerc" where the wounded were. Ours side asked to go to extinguish the fire, because there were around 850 injured there, newly-borne, pregnant women. Of all of the people who went to put out the fire, not one person returned. They were all either taken prisoner or

killed. This happened at around 09:00 on November 19, 1991, and all of us at the factory shelter surrendered at around 13:00. The JNA army came onto the property of the factory and separated us, the guardists went specially – they surrendered their weapons and were loaded, it was said that they were going to Sremska Mitrovica, the civilian males up to 55 years of age were also separated and also loaded into trucks for Serbia, and men older than 55, together with the women and children were loaded and driven to Dalj.

When we getting off I saw that we were in a hall, and they said: “Get out, Serbs to the left, Croats and others to the right!”. When we were separated they ordered all the men to come out and line up. They then said: “Serbs step out, you can go wherever you want”, and Croats were put into a line and ordered to follow a canal beside the road with our hands behind our head. If someone’s hand happened to fall they would be struck with a rifle-butt on the back or head. I recognized PERO GRUJIĆ in a Chetnik uniform, I saw how he was making orders.

In the women were driven off in trucks for Novi Sad and Srbobran. They left us until 11 o’clock in the evening, we were sitting in that canal. They then forced into the hall, where we began to choke from some sort of gas, we heard a noise and thought the ventilation was working, however, they had left their trucks running and were diverting the exhaust into the hall.. This stopped after about two hours. People were in critical shape, everyone was covering their heads with whatever they could to breath in a little of that smell as possible.

In the morning they called by name those of us who had given our personal identity cards and forced us into another hall. Those individuals remained and were not called were loaded into trucks and driven towards Novi Sad, I was in the group that remained in the other hall.. Here they divided us into three groups. As far as I could notice, the first group contained individuals who politically stronger and people were taken out of that group and killed, I merely heard a shot and that person did not return, and the guard would come for another person. They then took us for questioning.

I was taken to RADO GVOJIĆ, before the war he was a lower court judge in Vukovar. Accompanying him were a mandatory 2-3 Chetniks who would hit us at his signal. I was beaten because of my shoes. They were military shoes given to me by my son in exchange for my boots, I claimed that I took them from the factory and one of GVOJIĆ’s Chetniks called BIBA from Borovo Selo beat me in the neck with a rifle-butt. We stayed separated like that for two days while the questioning took place. We did not get anything to eat that entire time, only a glass of water to drink. Anyone who was beaten to the point of exhaustion was put onto a bus, they were not returned to the hall. On the second day when we were put in the bus we found those who had been beaten inside, immobile.

On the trip to Novi Sad, two middle-aged men in my bus died as a result of the beatings.

When we left Dalj the buses stopped at the exit from Dalj at the unloading area of the “Apatinska” brewery, there people were taken off the buses and executed right beside the buses. From my bus two people were called and executed, and one man, when he saw the Chetnik coming for him, killed himself, and the Chetnik jumped saying. “You won’t do it yourself, I will do you” and stabbed a knife in his back. I did not know the people doing the execution, I only remember that they were civilian men between the ages of 20 and 30, with “Šubare” and “kokarde” (Chetnik style) hats.

We were lucky that a JNA Military Police Major appeared who did not allow any of the Chetniks to come onto the buses, instead he put a soldier with a automatic rifle at every door to stop the slaughter. This lasted around 45 minutes and we continued on towards Novi Sad. When we came to Novi Sad, the Serbian Red Cross was waiting for us with a list

and the called for us by name. One person was beaten badly. They asked him what happened to him, and he replied that he fell down the stairs. According to that list they knew exactly who arrived, and who disappeared during the trip. They continued to drive us to the sports hall called "Ledena". Here they lined us up again and again chose those who had military shoes, and they were first forced out of the line and separated. I was among those people. First they led us to a hall and had us sit on the concrete waiting for questioning. In the evening they called us over the loudspeaker to come to the bar for dinner. The guard who was watching us told us: "You do not need dinner!". We were not allowed to get our dinners, we were also not allowed to go to the washroom. The questioning started and lasted the entire night, it was my turn in the early morning. I was not beaten at the questioning, but I did see others that had been beaten. At around 07:00 in the morning the women from the Red Cross came, they gave me food, I asked for them to find my wife. She was not there, she was in Srbobran at the "Elan" Hotel. I took advantage of the confusion and escaped, with P.K., from the "Ledena" hall and went to Srbobran with a taxi and found my wife. Since we did not have passports we left for Banja Luka and through Bosanski Šamac entered into Croatia.

My older son Ž. was taken from Borovo Naselje with the guardists to the Stajićevo camp, and then transferred to Sremska Mitrovica. He was in the camps for 7 months.

By signing every page of this statement, it's giver, D.G., confirms it's authenticity, that the statement is given without coercion and that what is written conforms to the statement given.

In Karlovac, December 12, 1994.

Statement given by: D.G.

Statement taken by: Gordana Predović

**ANNEX 135:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.S.**

I surrendered on November 19, 1991 in front of the building of Commerce to the members of the JNA, territorial units and local Chetniks.

The act of surrender was: we were getting out from the building of Commerce one by one. We were giving our weapons to the members of the JNA in front of the Commerce building. After that we were searched in front of one department of the factory "Klinasto remenje". There they took all our belongings, documents, and all things we had. After that about 50 of us were separated. We were maltreated, tortured, and provoked by local Chetniks. JNA soldiers were standing by the side and they were only looking at all those scenes. After that they drove us back to the Commerce to pick up wounded persons and elderly people who couldn't walk. We were bringing them out from the building, which was wrecked and burnt, to the trucks and buses. When we finished, we had to get into the truck, too. We were about 15. We moved across Trpinja, Vera to Dalj.

We arrived at Dalj at about 7 p.m., in front of the building that had the marks of the Red Cross. There we got out from the truck and helped the wounded and disabled persons to enter the courtyard of that building. The members of the JNA and the Red Cross (Serbian) made some lists but I couldn't see them. I was separated from my group. I was brought on the side and there local Chetniks had to recognize us. Among them I recognized: Marko



Stević, born in 1965, Vinogradska 58, Vukovar; Đorđe Stojaković – called "Đoko", born in 1960. There were also 4 of them who I didn't recognize. In the truck with me was also Ivica Korsoš from Borovo Naselje, Jadranska 41. From that moment onwards we don't know anything about him. We saw him in that courtyard for the last time. He wasn't registered by any international humanitarian organisation and we didn't hear anything more about him. They took me away and after that I was hardly beaten. Two days later I was driven to Bogojevo where I was tortured for 10 hours by Chetniks and Arkan's units. Then I was thrown into the bus – we were 28 in that bus.

They beat us during the way to Stajićevo. In the concentration camp in Stajićevo I remained for one month. I was maltreated continuously. We had 2 minimal meals – piece of bread and two swallows of tea.

One month later 650 of us were transported to KPD (prison) in Sremska Mitrovica. There they continued with daily maltreatment and unthinkable ways of interrogation. Local people were coming during those questionings – Đorđe Vojnović, Marko Kraguljac – who questioned me on that occasion.

After 6 months in KPD in Sremska Mitrovica I was removed to VIZ (army prison) in Belgrade. There they raised the bill of indictment against me and 30 other persons. I was accused of the crimes that I couldn't ever commit. I remained for 45 days in VIZ Belgrade. I was waiting for the trial but in the meantime (on August 14, 1992 – after 9 months of capture) I was exchanged in Nemetin. Finally I was free.

Statement was given by: P.S.

**ANNEX 136:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF N.K.**

**CONCENTRATION CAMP STAJIĆEVO**

(...)

We arrived at the camp on 20 November 1991 around 8.30 p.m. with ten busses, escorted by two military personnel carriers .. We entered the pavilion with our heads down and arms behind our backs ... The pavilion was dirty, on the floor remnants of 7-year-old cow dung, cobwebs on the walls and 4-6 broken windows. In the first pavilion sat about 970 prisoners on the concrete floor with their legs contorted, heads down and arms behind their backs. In the beginning every lifting of the head or standing up without permission was punished with beatings. The prisoners in the first part of the camp were packed in tighter. In an area of 2,5x2,5m were 10-12 prisoners. In this part were mainly guardsmen and reservists.

(...)

At the camp were about 1300 prisoners and in the beginning about 170 wounded and 210 sick persons. They had suffered mostly various types of shot wounds and had amputated limbs.

At the camp were 23 under age children and about 150 prisoners ranging from 60-80 years of age. They were persons with chronic ailments (17 with Diabetes mellitus, Angina pectoris about 10, malignant illnesses, hypertension, active TBC, about ten epileptics, schizophrenics, persons with coronaries, brain strokes etc.)

(...)

After 15 days about 80 prisoners, between the ages of 60-80 and children, were released from the camp.

Statement was given by: Dr. N.K. (signature)

**ANNEX 137:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF V.H.**

POLICE ADMINISTRATION VARAŽDIN  
POLICE DEPARTMENT IVANEC

**REPORT**

On 20 November 1991, a few days after the fall of Vukovar, Borovo Naselje fell as well. We negotiated and surrendered the weapons to the JNA. Then the loading on busses and cargo trucks started taking place ... We traveled for several hours and we were hungry, thirsty, wounded and ill. Finally we arrived at some farms. On the busses were people between the ages of 10-81. Of course, not everybody made it there, because we heard that some were killed and left on the way, all reservists. Then the unloading of busses started. As we exited through the bus doors individually they started beating us with rubber and wooden bats, shoes and their fists. All beat like this they threw us on the concrete floor with the order: "Head down, hands on your backs." Sitting like this many got serious frostbite and ached all over. The entire night they beat us individually... We all shivered with cold, fear, pain but these bastards did not have any mercy. They beat us constantly, even we one had to relieve oneself... In my shack they killed two men. One person went to relieve himself and they shot him with the machine gun and they beat the other one and died when a reservist jumped on his neck with a boot. After this happened, two drunken reservists came, but they were never sober anyway, and threatened to beat us if we told the Lt. Colonel (camp commander).

(...)

Statement was given by: V.H.

**ANNEX 138:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF D.K.**

I was arrested on November 20, 1991 in Borovo Naselje as a member of the reserve forces of the Croatian National Guard. I was in Vukovar until I was wounded. After that I was removed to Borovo Naselje. The members of Croatian Army were separated immediately at the factory. But civilian men (mostly) were separated later from their families and taken away with us. They were chosen by JNA soldiers and others who decided who were capable (according to their opinion) of carrying weapons (including children from 10 years and older to men over 80). The same thing happened in Dalj and Novi Sad.

So, from the very beginning the majority among us were civilians. They loaded us into buses and then we were deported to Serbia (via Trpinja, Vera, the Dalj mountain). We stopped for the first time near some inn. There were a lot of JA soldiers. The military police didn't let them enter the buses. We kept going. They didn't beat us but we had to sing Chetnik songs. They took all our money. All the time they were threatening us.

**STAJIĆEVO**

We came to Stajićevo at night. There they beat us for the first time. We passed through the corridor of civilian policemen who beat us with sticks. From that moment onwards our posture was: "Bow your head – hold your hands behind your back." When we passed the corridor, JNA soldiers forced us (by kicks) to sit down on the concrete floor. From that moment onwards it was our only living area. We could barely sit down. Our heads had to be bowed always. Then they started to beat randomly chosen people. Serbs were separated (in some way) from us. The majority of them were situated in the part of the stable where it was much warmer and they were not maltreated. We spent the first night on the concrete floor along the stable – 2 meters wide. There was a passage in the middle and we would lie down on both sides. Spotlights were kept on day and night. They started to beat us during that first night. People were taken away and we couldn't know whether they were brought back. People who couldn't support all that (patients, elderly persons) called their attention – but they were beaten, too. Some of them died later (father of IGOR KOH died a couple of weeks after he was beaten up). As much as I know – 10 to 20 persons were killed. Some persons were taken away and they never came back.

They were beating us all the time. Even when we went to the toilet (the military policemen beat us with sticks and kicked us). From the beginning we urinated inside the stable (near the wall – one meter from the place where we lived and slept). As we urinated inside the stable there was an unpleasant smell. When it started to disturb them we had go out to do that. For a couple of days we ate 2 times a day: breakfast – slice of bread and a half slice of salami and tea; dinner – slice of bread with something to spread over and tea. It was like this until November 29, 1991 when they started to give us boiled food of very poor quality. The following day we got straw and one blanket and a little bit later we got military coats. Our sleeping place was less than 1/2 square meter. It was very cold. We were beaten the whole time – except a few persons who were doing some jobs concerning us. We had to sing Chetnik songs and Yugoslav anthem before sleeping. The same thing was done in the morning. The guards were usually drunk. They were coming in with dogs. Our position depended of their mood. Some people were beaten so harshly that they couldn't walk without help. The ICRC came on December 12, 1991. They made lists of us but it didn't change anything except the appearance of the camp. We got a canteen and red toilet cabins. But the questioning remained the same – verbal maltreatment and beating.

## SR. MITROVICA

On December 12, 1991 we were removed: one part to Nis and the other one to Sremska Mitrovica. I was in the group that went to Sremska Mitrovica. There they didn't maltreat us so much but during the questionings we were tortured regularly. We were situated in a heated room, on the floor, we had pillows, but there were too many people. We could sleep only when we were literally on top of each other. The food was better there than in Stajićevo but it became worse. People were taken away randomly and then they were beaten up. In my room (pavilion 3, room 1) 2 men died. The first one was KELAVA. He was cruelly beaten in Stajićevo and when we came to Nis he had a high temperature. His condition got worse. He went under medical examination but they didn't give him anything. He had a fever for 2 to 3 days. He was taken away again. We heard later that he had died. My opinion is that they could have helped him if they wanted to (he got only pills). The other was JOSIP BOLDIŠ who died due to beating. They beat him in the bathroom – three days after the visit of the Red Cross (in February).

I heard about the case of DAMIR KIRALJ who was killed by beating. DAMIR ŠARAN was beaten very cruelly, too. And I passed through the same torture on March 1, 1992 when I was questioned. I was beaten with a stick (my legs, back side, neck). They beat me for half an hour. Then they brought me back into the room and as I couldn't stand upright (I felt faint) they removed me to the out-patient department and there they gave me an infusion (glucose). Then the Red Cross found out about all those cases and mass beating quickly stopped (but not completely). The questionings stopped, too, soon after that. But after the exchange of May 4, 1992 things became worse. We were locked in the room all the time. Once a week we went out for a walk but during those walks we had to squat and to pick grass. They took us to work (to pick weeds from turnip fields) but we were too weak for that kind of work. The guards were stealing bit by bit from us all the time – at the beginning. But later it became worse and worse. People didn't get cigarettes and packages. The worst thing was with cigarettes. They were using our position. Every attempt of resistance was punished by beating. They beat us so regularly that we were not afraid anymore. During the last days they didn't beat us but they maltreated us psychologically: we squatted for two hours (with our hands on the crown of the head) while the officers were tortured people being chosen randomly.

## EXCHANGE

The same happened on the day of exchange – they beat us again. Then – singing, maltreating, and stealing. I will never understand that hatred.

By signing each page of this statement, I confirm the authenticity of this statement. I give the statement of my own free will.

Zagreb; August 21, 1992

Statement was given by: D.K.

**ANNEX 139:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF K.O.**

SURNAME: O.  
 NAME, FATHER'S NAME: K., ...  
 DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ..., ..., Croatia  
 RESIDENCE: Vukovar, Croatia  
 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: Refugee Center Kosnica, Zagreb, Croatia  
 EDUCATION: elementary school  
 OCCUPATION: laborer  
 EMPLOYMENT:  
 MARITAL STATUS: married  
 CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
 NATIONALITY: Ruthenian

I give the following

STATEMENT

I came from work at the ... and I went out again. My neighbor P. called me to help him cover the roof of his house with the tarpaulin. I went home to put on my shoes, because I was already wearing slippers. My wife went to get Z., our son. The three of us lifted up both tarpaulins on the porch. The two of them were on the roof and I was standing below. We spread tarpaulin over the roof. P. was at the top of the roof, and I was near the road. My son was standing on the other side. While spreading the other tarpaulin, a mortar fell and I shouted: "Run away, guys, I lost my arm". I slid two meters down the front side of the roof and then down the gable. A shell fragment hit my knee. I fell on the ground. In the meanwhile another two mortars fell near us. The women started screaming. The nurses arrived in an ambulance. They took P. and my Z., and later they returned for me too. In the Vukovar hospital, a doctor amputated my arm. I stayed there for some twenty-seven, or twenty-eight days. When they started shelling the hospital, I was transported to Komerc. I was there on November 18th and 19th. It was all right in Komerc in the beginning, however we soon ran out of yeast, so they started giving us a flat cake made without the yeast. I could not eat it because I have no teeth. There were some five or six thousand of us – elderly and young people, and children. I was bed ridden, and I could see only those who were close to me. My neighbor T.T. was there. He always got something extra, so he gave it to me. Some women who knew me brought me cigarettes. On the night between November 18th and 19th, they transported me to Bobota. I do not know who drove us, but he had a five-pointed star on his cap. He gave me a cigarette. On the night between the 18th and 19th, they (I do not know who or from where) blasted the corner of the Komerc building that we were in and they let in tear-gas. Many people were killed there ( I do not know whether they were female or male). I saw seven or eight bodies. They attacked Komerc with tanks. We were in the basement, but we could hear everything. A friend of mine, M.P., told us that we should get out of the warehouse because it was three or four storeys high, and if it collapsed nobody would be able to find us. Five or six thousand of us were hidden in there, and they fired from their tanks. I do not know how many tanks were there or from what side they were firing. I heard them shouting: "Pass the hose!". Anyone who knew what was going on, he/she saved himself/herself from the tear-gas. The elderly women were crying. A young man threw out a cloth or a towel as a sign of our surrender. Then they carried us out on stretchers. Those who could walk were taken to ŠID. Those of us who were wounded and bed-ridden were carried out on the stretchers. My manager whom we called "B." (...) came

around. It was cold (sleet), so I asked him to bring me a blanket. He brought me one and since then we did not see each other. I do not know at what time exactly they took me away. Around 11:00 a. m. the bus arrived and those who could got onto it. Later, nine or ten vans came especially constructed to transport the stretchers. They transported us to Bobota. In Bobota they dressed my wounds and gave me an injection in the arm.

In Dalj, I recognized one man. I recognized the town. I often went to get bricks there, because I worked on the construction site for thirty years. I recognized this man. He came to me with a flash-lamp. I do not know his name, but I know that he worked in Borovo. He wore civilian clothes. I was in the van when he hit me. They stopped. They wanted to give us (me and another three men) over to those men in Dalj. The one who hit me said he should not have bothered with driving us at all because we could not run away anyway (we were all bed-ridden). He could have just opened the van and thrown us into the Danube when we were crossing the bridge. He asked the driver if anyone was inside the van. He opened the door, and looked me straight in the eyes. He must have recognized me. The blow was so hard that I fainted. When I woke up we were already in Sremska Mitrovica. In Mitrovica I had to fill in a form (date of birth, army service, father's name etc.), but I could not fill it in. My son did it for me, and I just signed it. I stayed there three days and two nights. Then they took us to Stajićevo where I spent two or three days. In Stajićevo, the medic (captain of the 1st class) dressed my wounds. The man ordered: "Attention!", and when he saw that I did not get up he hit me with a baton over my head and broke my glasses. Then he noticed the bar fixed to my arm and said: "Look at this bayonet." I took off the top of my jumping suit and when he saw my wound he told me to sit down. I said, "Fuck that, you already broke my fucking glasses." He left. Another four men came and grabbed me by my legs, and for the stump... and kept kicking me. I cried. The bar in my arm galled. The blood poured from the wound. I wet my pants. They carried me into a room (an improvised doctor's office) some fifty or sixty meters away, and put me in a bed. One of them stood there holding an automatic gun, the other one stood on the opposite side of the room, and the doctor (the captain of the 1st class), who did not wear a doctor's uniform, started massaging me and asking me questions. He ordered me to take off my jumping suit. When he saw that my underpants were dirty, he took scissors and cut them in half and threw them away. He dressed my wound. Then he went to answer the phone. A yellowish Golf (make of car) arrived and took me in an unknown direction. Seven days later, a nurse who dressed my heel (my heel was in question, and they even wanted to amputate my leg) told me that I was held in the Niš military hospital. Later (on the nineteenth), they returned me back in this same Golf; on the twenty-third they returned me to the hospital, and in this manner they drove me to and fro until January 9th, when my son-in-law came from Bosnia to get me. He did that through the Red Cross. The Red Cross registered me, and the son-in-law of a certain Serb paid in German Marks. This man's name was M.M., a school teacher (born in 1944, small moustache). He was a good friend of my son-in-law. He lived in Ulice near Brčko. They took me there. They wanted to amputate my leg, but the two doctors intervened on my behalf. Seven or eight days after that my toe moved. When they transferred me on the nineteenth, they put my leg in a cast (17 kilos), and they put glass wool beneath the cast. I had scabs all over. They put this glass wool to torture me. I weighed 58 kilos when I came to the hospital. Sometimes I got breakfast, sometimes dinner, and lunch was the only steady meal I got. There was one man, dark like a Gypsy. He beat me every day, although I was seriously ill. They made a hole in my leg, I had it on a wire cable for twenty-eight days. They did it without any anesthetic. The window and the door were slightly opened. Those three men guarded me in shifts. They guarded me to prevent Serbs from killing me. But they spit on me anyway. This dark guy let them come into the room. They even took his baton. All this was happening in the Nis hospital. I was

not allowed to tell the doctors that I had been beaten, because then I would not get any breakfast. The doctor would only scold them, and at night I would be even more beaten. As soon as I drew my arm from under the blanket, he would take out his baton. They interrogated me because it said in my file that I was a member of the police force. When I returned, they wrote that I was a member of the ZNG (Croatian National Guard), and I did not even know what it was until I came here. I knew the men at the poll-booth, there were around two hundred of us. I did not even hear of the ZNG until I came to Bosnia and Herzegovina. On January 9th, my son-in-law came and took me away. When my sister-in-law saw me (her job is to bathe the bodies of the dead men) she said I would not last till Sunday. This was on Thursday afternoon (around 4:00 p.m.). She did not recognize me. I recovered in ten days. When my wife arrived, I was all right. Last year in May I even walked a bit. A doctor in Brčko dressed my wounds (until Brčko fell in April), and he gave me a salve that soothed the pain when my leg swelled. The scabs fell off in August.

In Zagreb, April 22, 1993

Statement given by:  
K.O.

Statement taken by:  
Miljenko Buljan

**ANNEX 140:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.Z.**

J.Z., born on ... in ... Permanent address is in Vukovar.  
Temporary address:.... Housewife, married, Croatian citizen, Ukrainian by nationality.

I am giving the following statement:

Until 27 August 1991, I lived in an apartment of PIK "Vučedol" in Vukovar. The JNA had earlier occupied the PIK area and they had their post there. The tanks were located in the yard of the PIK premises. I was afraid of the army. On 27 August 1991, I asked the soldiers to let me go buy bread. They asked me if I would return. When I made a few steps they started to shoot at me. I suffered wounds on my arm and back. I fell into the drainage ditch. Somehow I made it to the Bulgarian cemetery and hid in the chapel. That day the guardsmen took us to the shelter until the fall of Vukovar.

At the end of November, during the fall of Vukovar, the JNA chased us out of the shelter and made us walk to "Velepromet", where they listed all of our names. We remained there for two days. From there we were driven to Negoslavci by bus. There were only women, without children, forced into a beverage warehouse. The floor was covered in broken glass. We were forced to take off our shoes and walk barefoot across the broken glass. The guards wore beards, cockades and fur-caps. They wore cartridge belts across their chests. They cursed my "Ustasha" mother and one woman tried to protect me by saying not to curse at me. During one moment, provoked, she cursed their Chetnik mother. One Chetnik grabbed her by the hair, pulled out a knife and slaughtered her. Her body fell to the floor and her head remained in his hand. He showed us the head and said: "See, this is what an Ustasha mother looks like."

(...)

In Kutina, 15 December 1993

Statement given by:  
J.Z.

Statement taken by:  
Andrija Pavičić

**ANNEX 141:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.R.**

M.R., ...

STATEMENT

(...)

Suddenly, I heard a gunshot and a body falling to the ground. My husband was lying dead on the stairs, there was blood all around, I was screaming, the children, too. S.'s mother and father were completely out of mind. Aunt was pointing at his face, also totally disturbed. Tot Siniša, "Beli", yelled: "Come out!" I was screaming and begging not to kill my children. I said: "Promise that you will not kill my children", and he said "I promise, now, come out". I took my sons. I pulled my husband from the stairs to the bed. I was all covered with blood. His brain was dripping out, and it felt warm in my hands. I took a cloth and wrapped his head into it, so that the children would not see the brain. I could not stop kissing him and wiped the blood until the children stopped me saying: "Mama, let's go, dad is dead. Let us flee!" We came out. "Beli" and Orščanin, called "humanlike (illegible)" and one man from Osijek with a cockade on his head stood there like beasts. "Beli" was not content since he could not kill us all. He forced us out of the house (illegible), and set everything on fire. The house was all in flames.

(...)

In Zagreb, 21 February 1992

Statement given by: M.R.

The document does not include the name or the signature of the official who took the statement.



**ANNEX 142:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF N.L.**

N.L., daughter of ..., I was born on ... in ..., Vinkovci municipality. I am a Croat by nationality and a housewife by occupation. My permanent address is in Vukovar .... My temporary address is in Zagreb, .... JMBG: ... I am giving the following

STATEMENT

(...)

Local Chetniks came to our door on 19 November 1991, wearing beards, untidy, in camouflaged uniforms with four "S" signs on their hats. We had to come out with our hands up and white rags; afterwards they took us to the wooden marketplace (Drvena pijaca) ... All the Chetniks were very drunk .. In the courtyard of S.'s house, the baker, I saw dead people, and they brought three completely nude men in front of us and said: "Ustashas, you see this, recognize them, because the same will happen to you." I could not recognize them, because they were completely black and blue, and you could not distinguish the faces from the arms. I was so scared, maybe that is the reason why I could not recognize them, because I could not even look at the Chetniks even though I know that they are from Vukovar. I lot of blood was running there ... while I was still in the shelter I saw my son B.L. in front of the door, who was without his left leg, which had been severed. He was bleeding and dying, and I could not help him. This day in the afternoon he died at the hospital.

My other son P.B. (1968) was one of the wounded at the Vukovar hospital and I do not know what happened to him afterwards.

After the wooden marketplace they took us to "Velepromet". There they listed our named, separated women from men, and took us to the barracks. There we spent the night, and in the morning they drove us around Sajmiste, then to the hangar of the winery and locked us up. The next morning they said: "C'mon, the Ustasha scum to the left and the Serbian ladies and gentlemen to the right side." They uncontrollably shot from their weapons, probably were killing people, threw tear gas, took some women out and did not bring them back inside.

(...)

In Zagreb, 16 June 1993  
Statement given by:  
N.L.

Statement taken by:  
Ana Klarić

**ANNEX 143:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF L.D.**

L.D., born ... in ..., BiH. Croat by nationality, housewife.  
Married, mother of five. Address: ... Temporary address: .... JMBG: ... I am giving the following

STATEMENT

In the fall of 1991, the JNA and Chetniks yelled over a megaphone: "All Croats surrender, this is Serbia." Among the military personnel were many local Serbs. They shot from everywhere, threw grenades, slaughtered, mutilated. The containers were full of arms, heads, legs were sticking out, some were decomposed and you could sense the stench in the air. My son-in-law was in the Guard, so he helped civilians and wounded. When he entered the basement at "Vuteks" to offer help, he found dead and mutilated bodies and blood everywhere. Of one pregnant woman the stomach had been cut open, the baby removed and the Chetniks placed a dog inside her stomach, they wrote: "This is what Croatian mothers give birth to." Mostly our neighboring Serbs were doing this, those who we shared everything with. Our houses were on fire, grenades were falling and killing people. The Serbs had sent their women and children to Serbia earlier and the men stayed in Vukovar to slaughter us Croats.

(...)

I guarantee the authenticity of this statement with my signature.

In Zagreb, 20 July 1994

Statement given by:  
L.D.

Statement taken by:  
Ana Klarić

**ANNEX 144:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.B.\***

B.B.

TESTIMONY

I was arrested on November 18, 1991 in Priljevo by the aqueduct. I was arrested by the Serbs, Chetniks from Kosovo, who spoke in the Albanian language, and I understood all they were saying. When they captured me, they took my clothes off, tied my arms and legs, and tied my mouth with my shirt so that my lungs would break. Then they cut me a little on the genitals, around the left ear and on left hip. I was tied all night, and on concrete. They put out cigarettes on my stomach and arms.

On November 11, in the morning, they woke me up at 7 o'clock, and since I was stiff from cold, they had to put my clothes on me. They made me walk to the street light for Lužac. There were tanks and infantry. They continued to beat me there and pursue me in front of the tanks towards the grain elevator. Since I was weak from beating, one policeman threw me into a manhole. There I hooked up on an armature which saved me from falling down. After an hour and a half I went out from the manhole and started to walk through Lužac village. I clashed into a machine – gun nest, and I was captured again. I was handcuffed. Then two home Chetniks approached me, and they started to boast that they slew my father and mother and threw them into a well of one priest from Trpinja. One of them was Grujić

form Borovo settlement. They took me into a basement full of water and coal, where another 15 men were. They beat us with spades, shovels and rifle butt – ends. They tortured and beat us all night. On November 20, 1991 military police came and took us to Bogojevo, by the train station where their headquarters were. The military police continued with torturing and beating. After they took some information about me, on the way to the tent, one of their policeman hit me on my right cheek, broke my teeth, my cheek – bone was crushed, and jaw broken. When I fainted, they poured water upon me, and then continued to beat me. On November 21, 1991 they put us into the military car and drove us to several camps. Since there was no free place left, they left us in Begejci. Four of us were broken from beating. One of their second lieutenants put us into the military car, and took us to hospital in Zrenjanin. There they took X – rays of our lungs, but didn't have X – rays for our heads. Nurses were just like them. They wanted to kill us too, and they shouted that we were Ustashas: "Allow us to slay them and pull their eyes out." When I get the X – ray of my lungs it was just a black spot. I fainted in the corridor and I lay there on a bed for few minutes. When I regained consciousness, they put us in the military vehicle, and took us to Begejci. In Begejci they lodged us in their station. There was about 25 of us. I couldn't move from pain. After four days one military doctor came and she called us by name. When my turn came, I complained about cuts on my genitals and hip. She just sprayed the wounds with spray. In a couple of days doctor Đuranac came with his assistant who was in charge of us. My wounds were purulent, so he washed it out, cleaned it and dressed it, and he repeated it three times. After two weeks I was called for questioning. Doctor Đuranac was called too, and when they asked him if I was ready for questioning and torture he answered them to do their job without any problem. After he went out of the room, ensign of the first class Ivović, Žarko, Rambo, and Mirko started on beat and torture me.

They were forcing me to confess five civilian murders, they claimed I did. Since I am illiterate, all of this someone else writes, I just dictate. They were forcing me to write a statement, but I told them that I was illiterate, and they beat me more and more. They sent a teletype message to my work to check if I went to school, and if I were literate.

Then they tied me and beat me all over again, who knows what time it was that they did it. They sent me to Marakana where I was tied with wire for more then one week.

The others fed me and helped me with physiological needs. All these days I was beaten and forced to confess five murders I didn't do. When I felt that I couldn't sustain any more beating I confessed those murders, but not willingly. I was closed in solitary cell. I slept on concrete, and there one military policeman took me to the basement, reloaded the gun, and put the barrel into my mouth ... I stayed in the solitary cell till December 21, 1991. On that day they put us into the bus and took us to Sremska Mitrovica prison. In one room there was about 125 of us, it was room number 8. On November 26, 1991 they sorted us out into the solitary cells again. On December 29, 1991 they transferred us into room number 5 where 97 of us were. I met three men there for the first time. We spent five days there, and then into the solitary cells again. I went to captain Šalić, investigative judge, for questioning, but I had to confirm my statement that was signed by ensign Ivović. On January 15, 1992 I went into the solitary cell again, where I stayed till February 13, 1992.

Opposite from my cell was one woman. She was raped and tortured by three convicts. They brought one man to my cell, he was wounded, and he had been taken with other wounded persons from hospital in Vukovar to Ovčara, but he escaped from the truck, and was captured again by Cerići. When we talked he told me that those wounded men from Vukovar's hospital, 286 of them were killed in Ovčara. Then he went to Belgrade, and I was left alone again. They brought also another man, and I was tortured regularly and their

convicts beat me too, usually five of them. Then I was taken to the basement of the prison and beaten again. There was a bathroom, and they brought men and made them take what captain Šalić wrote. On February 13 I was taken to Belgrade. Supervision of International Red Cross was more strict there. Out trial in public lasted for a month and a half, but again they managed to find some people that had to give statements and confess crimes they didn't do. I saw when they broke one man's spine and he was taken to VMA (military police academy) in Belgrade. Tortures continued all the time when reservists were in charge. When the young reserve army came tortures were not so bad. Then they forbade the International Red Cross to come to Military Supreme Court for two and a half months. I believe that I with another two men had special torture, and that none was beaten as hard as we were. All the time they were saying that they would kill us, hang us and pull our eyes out. On August 14, 1992 they put us into buses, but before that we were put through another search and torture. On the way from Belgrade to Nemetin, they walked through the bus and beat us, provoked and humiliated us. In every village we were passing through, home Chetniks came and beat us, specially in Sarvaš and Belo Brdo. Some of them even called us by names and asked for us. In my bus two Chetniks came and ask for one man. I remember only that for now, because you can see for yourself how it was. I am alive.

Statement was given by: B.B.

**ANNEX 145:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF E.Č.**

REPUBLIC CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT VUKOVAR  
Operative Department  
16 May 1992

OFFICIAL RECORD

E.Č., ..., born on ... (...) gave the following pieces of information:

I was in Vukovar during the attacks of the JNA, the Serbian extremists and the Chetnik paramilitary units on the town.

In the first days of the attack, I was doing my regular job as sanitary inspector: I inspected the kitchens in the hotels "Dunav" and "Gradska kavana", where the meals for the members of the National Guard Corps and the MUP were prepared.

When the artillery attacks intensified, and when the situation was such that I could not perform my job, I reported at the TO Headquarters and put myself at the disposal for the defence of the town. As they could not find an adequate place for me to do my work, they told me to stay at home and wait for them to call me.

On 18 November 1991, when the resistance of the defenders of Vukovar was broken, and when the aggressor army entered the town, I was in the basement of my house, in ... Street, in the part of town called "Rupe" when I noticed several personnel carriers moving from one house to the other, and that they were taking civilians. Together with my wife, I went to the hospital in Vukovar, because I thought that we would be safe there. The family

of J.N. went together with us, and another 6 or 7 families that lived in "Lužac", and which moved to "Rupe" when the aggressor army had occupied "Lužac".

I arrived at the hospital at around 11.00pm and contacted Dr. Bosanac and Milić Vuković, and put myself at their disposal. At that time, a great number of civilians were accommodated in the basement of the hospital, who were hiding there for safety reasons. The night between 18 and 19 November, I spent in the hospital. I did not notice that the aggressor soldiers entered the hospital, however, a great number of them were around the hospital.

On 19 November, too, the aggressor soldiers did not enter the hospital. However, a major of the JNA, accompanied by Bogdan Kuzmanić from Vukovar, who was wearing a camouflage uniform and had a beret on his head and a automatic rifle in his hand, came to the hospital around 10.00 or 11.00pm. Kuzmić was standing at the door of the office the major had entered, in which also were Marin Vidić and Dr. Bosanac.

After a short while, the major came out of the office and left the hospital. Dr. Bosanac left with him. Milić Vukovic, who worked in the hospital as X-ray technician, told me then that Dr. Bosanac went to Ngoslavci for negotiations. She returned around 3.00am.

That night, nothing special happened, except that the wounded and the civilians and the medical staff of the hospital were in great fear.

On 20 November 1991, around 7.00am, the hospital management called the medical staff for a meeting.

Around 8.00am, members of the JNA entered the hospital and demanded that all persons who were not employees of the medical center should leave the hospital. When we came in front of the hospital building, we were lined up from the building to the I. Gundulić Street. There were around 150 men. After they had searched us, they transported us to the barracks, where we arrived around 9.30. All until 3.00pm, we had to "watch" the local Serbs. I recognized Radivoj Jakovljević, called "Frižider", who went from one person to another, hit some of them, and threatened that he would kill them; I also recognized Kosić Vlado, who was wearing a camouflage uniform and holding a rifle pointed at us; there was also Sreto Nedeljković, who lived at the "Wooden Market" ("Drvena pijaca"), and who was keeping watch in the barracks at a porch where weapons and ammunition were kept. There were also other men whose names I cannot remember. All the local Serbs called us Ustasha and yelled which of them would kill us.

Around 2.30pm, from the barracks we were transported in the direction of the economic estate "Ovčara". There were around 5-6 buses. The Chetniks in camouflage uniforms took Jakov Šimunović and a man, whose last name was "Adžaga" out of the bus I was in.

When we came to a hangar at "Ovčara", we had to come out of the bus. From the bus to the hangar, the Chetniks and the reservists of the JNA stood in two lines, and we had to pass between. They beat us while we were passing. When we entered the hangar, there was another group of Chetniks waiting for us, and they started beating us with sticks, police sticks, gunstocks and crutches. There I recognized several local Serbs, who were actively involved in beating the civilians. One of them was Miloš Bulić, called "Bulidža", who was wearing a camouflage uniform, and who beat the captives; there was also a man whose first name is Đuro, a fisherman, who also beat the captives, and a man whose last name is Guja, his mother's name is Marija, who used to work in the Police Magistrate's Office in Vukovar.

When the second beating round was over, I recognized in the hangar Slavko Dokmanović, who was standing there with a captain. Then, Slavko, who was wearing a camouflage uniform with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on it, called me by name and said: "Here's our inspector!", after which the Chetniks jumped upon me and delivered numerous hard blows. When they left me alone, I saw Dokmanović beating everybody he could reach with hands and feet, he was out of his mind and did not make any selections of whom he beat.

While I was standing in the group in the hangar, I noticed a group of 5-6 men wearing camouflage uniforms as they beat Damjan Samardžić, called "Veliki bojler". They were jumping on his feet and chest as he was lying on the ground, they bumped with his head against the concrete floor. After 20 minutes of physical torture, they left his body lying on the floor. Somebody approached him and realized that he died due to the tortures.

Then they lined up the persons from two buses at the center of the yard in front of the hangar where fresh straw was kept. While I was standing there, I heard the conversation of two unknown Chetniks, who were arranging that they would kill us as they killed the 300 Ustashes last night.

Stevan Zorić, wearing a camouflage uniform, approached me and asked me whether I recognized him, and that he would not kill me, since I had done him a great favor in connection with some documents from the municipality a long time ago.

Then, some Serbs made assurances for several captured Croats. Miloš Ljubičić stood up for S.G. and took him out. The son of Dr. Ivanković took out D.B. and his son, V.D., T.B., and P., called "...", and one member of the MUP from Zagreb.

We stood at the entrance of the hangar. Then, a bus full of Chetniks arrived. They were led by a Colonel, I think his last name was Mrkšić and that he was the Commander of the armored units of the Corps from Novi Sad, since I saw his picture in the paper "JNA". They wrote down the names of us, who were taken out, as well as the names of those who stood up for us. Then, Boro Latinović approached me and "boasted" that he alone had killed 50 Ustashes last night.

When the Chetniks who had arrived entered the hangar, the Colonel assigned them into groups of 10 and gave them a sign with a whistle to start beating. When the first was tired of it, he gave another sign for the next group, which, too, physically tortured the captives. Horrible yells and screams could be heard from the hangar.

After the beating, they made a list of the names of all captives. Then Mile Bakić, wearing a camouflage uniform and an automatic rifle, came to the hangar, and took my group, which was previously taken out, to a van that took us to the warehouse "Velepromet".

When we arrived at the warehouse "Velepromet", we found there the person whose last name was Bingulac, and who introduced himself as Commander of "Velepromet" and who said that he could not accept us because the warehouse was full. Then they took us to the facilities of "Modateks", where we were taken over by a person called "Deda". There, we found a great number of women and children.

In the morning of 22 November 1991, a active Sergeant of the JNA arrived and he introduced himself as "Makedonac". He was accompanied by a young woman in a camouflage uniform. All I know is that she was the daughter of Pero Korda, and I think that her name was Sladana.

I also noticed Jovo Dabić, who was wearing a camouflage uniform.

I would like to stress that Sergeant "Makedonac" threatened every one of us, and I can clearly remember him saying: "you'll see who I will burn your pupils with a cigarette", because allegedly, he knew that we were defenders of Vukovar. Around 4.30pm, Jezdimir Stanković came to "Modateks", and he took us to the warehouse "Velepromet". There I noticed Nenad Žigić, who was wearing a camouflage uniform. Then they took us to a room called "carpentry", and one of the soldiers told us that it was the room of death. There, they searched us and took away all the objects, documents and the money that we had.

In the evening, Chetniks entered the "carpentry" and took K.C., G., P. called "...", and the member of the MUP from Zagreb. They took out P. three times, but the third time he did not come back. When they took out C.K., somebody talked to him for a long time in front of the room. That person asked him questions about the meat transport from the slaughterhouse in Sotin, the way of payment, and other things. I heard that they mentioned my name and S.G.. From the voice, I thought that it was V.B., who used to work in the Municipal Office of Vukovar.

When Chetniks entered the room, I recognized Žarko Leskovac, a 60-year-old. A man, whose last name was Soljić, begged him for help while he was being taken from the room, but Leskovac told him that he did not know him, although they used to be good friends.

I also heard a conversation from outside; the Chetniks were asking the military policeman to give them another 4 persons, so that each of them had one to slaughter for himself.

Around midnight, the Military Police transported us in buses to the barracks, because they were afraid that the Chetniks would slaughter us all.

In the barracks I saw M.U., who was tied up with a wire rope. Two reservists forced him to swallow two bullets. They were accusing him of being a sniper of the National Guard Corps.

In the morning of 22 November 1991, a man arrived, who introduced himself as Vojin Mišić from Negoslavci. He told us that he would kill and castrate all Croats and that he would "exterminate our Croatian seed".

After a short while, they took our names and transported us to Negoslavci, and from there to Sremska Mitrovica.

We arrived in Sremska Mitrovica around 11.00am. At the entrance of a hangar of the "KPD", we had to pass through two lines of policemen, reservists and soldiers. They beat us with police sticks and gunstocks. They took us to a playground, where we had to lie down with faces down, and take off our shoes. They beat us on our feet and jumped on them.

We were lined up in front of a pavilion, where they beat us again. Šoljić from Čakovci died due to the injuries.

After that we were assigned to rooms. While I was approaching room 3, I had to pass two lines of soldiers. V.V. walked before me, and he lost consciousness due to the blows he got. I grabbed him by the coat and pulled him to the room, during which I was given a number of blows all over the body. The first days I was not questioned. I worked in the outpatient department and took care of the wounded. There, I saw a number of badly treated wounds, treated in the hospital in Novi Sad.

On 14 December 1991, I was questioned for the first time. When I entered the room, I found there Goran Hadžić and Borivoj Savić. The subject of the questioning was the work of the Croatian Democratic Party (HDZ), to which I had no answer, since I was not a

member of the HDZ. They accused me of having committed murders in Vukovar, which was completely groundless. They also asked questions about who had organized the mobilization, and who was mobilized from my housing building. I answered that Nikola Pelić was mobilized, and that he was a good fighter. Then both of them stood up and each of them hit me a few times in the head.

From "KPD" Sremska Mitrovica, I was exchanged on 7/8 February 1992.

We were transported to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and we crossed the border to Croatia in Slavonski Šamac.

I also want to point out that I was the room officer in Mitrovica, and that I moved a lot in the pavilion, so that I could see our soldiers who were physically tortured by reservists, who were for the most part from Montenegro.

I also would like to stress that we all were starved and psychologically tortured.

Statement was given by: E.Č.

Statement was taken by authorized official: Danijel Salopek

**ANNEX 146:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF P.B.**

On 8 September 1992, an informative interview was conducted with P.B., the son of ..., born on ... in Vukovar, permanent address is in ..., a tractor driver, currently residing ....

B. stated that his last visit to his parents' house in Bogdanovci was on or around 20 August 1991. When he left for the "Dubrava" economy, his place of work and residence, he could not return to Bogdanovci because a battalion of tanks (B. estimates 60 tanks) arrived and stayed on or around 29 August 1992, their commander was Captain MILENKO LUKIĆ. He is the one who gave orders to open fire on specific targets, as well as orders for tank assaults on Vukovar, Bogdanovci and other targeted locations. The officer responsible for the safety in this unit was Captain UROŠEVIĆ (does not know the first name). B. states that Captain Lukić shortly thereafter removed from his uniform all insignia from the so-called "JNA" and replaced it with a cockade and Chetnik insignia.

During September 1991, the first workers of the occupied economies went to work. B. started working 15 October 1991, after he passed a background check which was conducted due to him being a Croat. It is characteristic of this area (Jakobovac, Ovčara, Grabovo, Dubrava) that persons from Negoslavci took over the administration at the economies. The director of the economy Ovčara was VOJO IVKOVIĆ who told him that he did not need workers of Croatian nationality. He is the same who used to work at Ovčara with Bogdan LAZIĆ before the war. The alleged background check consisted of B. having to go to MARKO SUVAJDŽIĆ in Negoslavci whom he left his pistol, a "CZ" c11 7.62 mm. ĐORĐE KOVAČEVIĆ's wife, who represented somewhat a safety shield in Negoslavci, accompanied him. ĐORĐE KOVAČEVIĆ displayed an extreme pro-Serb position and opinion. After the arrival of the so-called "JNA" in Dubrava he immediately offered his residence for the purpose of accommodating the command, he later volunteered to join the armed formations. In April of the following year he began working at the silos.



Beside B. other persons working as tractor drivers were: D. and Ž. S., N.P., D.K., B.K., P.T. B. named others who worked at the economy: S. B., M.B., S.B., M.L., G.V., R.B., C.V. aka "...", NIKODIN VESELINOVIC and his son ZDRAVKO who later joined the police. About 90% of the employees were locals from Negoslavci, and employment was awarded depending on combat merit.

According to B.'s statement a concentration camp did not exist at Ovčara, nor did he see any prisoners there during his stay. Around the time of the fall of Vukovar prisoners were brought from Vukovar in numerous convoys, on three separate occasions.

The first convoy was a convoy of prisoners, fighters from Mitnica, which was escorted by observers of the EC. In Ovčara they received juice for refreshment and the locals disapproved of them. Shortly after the convoy continued through Negoslavci to Sremska Mitrovica. Among others (B. does not know the exact number of prisoners) in the convoy were F.B., A.K., A.M. and others.

According to B. the second convoy came a day or two after the first one, which was between 18 and 20 November 1991. In the convoy were the wounded from the Vukovar hospital. This convoy consisted of 6 busses, which were escorted by Chetniks and members of the so-called "JNA". I.V. and J., born K., were along with a group of 20-25 persons released from the group of wounded thanks to someone's guarantee in Ovčara. B. does not know the fate of the separated group. We found out that V.I. and J. are staying at the Hotel "..." in ... The remaining prisoners were locked into an old hangar, which is located in the new part of the Ovčara economy. B. stated there was talk that about 170 persons from this convoy were killed and buried in a previously dredge-dug ditch. The man who dug this ditch is CVIJETIN JOCIĆ (he is still at Ovčara) and according to his statement and estimate about 50 persons could fit in the ditch he dug. B. said that Chetniks and the army dug and expanded the ditch themselves, as well as buried the killed. During that evening, residents of the Ovčara economy heard shooting. The following morning when B. came to work he saw a blood stained tractor-trailer on the economy premises.

According to B.'s the mass grave is located at Rita "Vorginac". The vicinity of a small forest at the intersecting roads between the lots three, four and fifteen, which is all located on the left side of the road Ovčara, Grabovo; from Ovčara a distance of 1.5 km air-line.

The next day B. also saw from a distance four killed men, about 100 meters away from the main hangar. The first corpse was in front of the guard shack at the entrance to the economy, and the rest were in the canal along side the road. Where the wire fence of the economy ends is a body located, buried with the help of a dredge. In the vicinity, between two birches along side the road, is the buried body of DAMJAN SAMARDŽIĆ who according to B. was killed along with ALEKSANDAR IVEZIĆ aka "Aco" and PLAVŠIĆ (from the "Vupik" management-first name is not known). He heard that ... (does not know the first name), wife of .... (member of the National Guard of which the enemy propaganda claimed that they found chains made of children's fingers in his house), after she had been raped she was killed. The third convoy consisted of 15 busses with women, children and elders who were driven from the "Velepromet" warehouse through Sremska

Mitrovica to the Republic of Croatia. This convoy passed through Ovčara near the end of November 1991.

The order of the convoys may not be right but it is accurate that three convoys did pass through Ovčara.

During that day belongings of the prisoners were left in the concrete yard of the economy. The employees burned traveling bags and clothes, which the Chetniks and army took from the prisoners, later. B. found a personal identification card bearing the name Tomislav Bosanac. Blažević knows of other persons who died during these events: TOZA (first and last name unknown), step-son of DRAGO BANOŽIĆ, as well as ĐURO ROGIĆ and VLADIMIR TURBA who were killed by a man nick-named "SILA" from Negoslavci (full name not known).

According to B.'s statement it came to an armed incident in Negoslavci toward the end of August 1992 between members of "TO" (Territorial defence) Negoslavci and the so-called "specialized police" which was located at the radio transmitter at Dubrava. The conflict resulted over a misunderstanding over fuel. Five policemen, who B. said are in the chain of command of the "specialized police", came to the center of Negoslavci to settle the score with the ones who were disobedient. When they stepped out of the car the shooting began and a woman and child from Negoslavci were wounded. Shortly thereafter the shooting was returned from nearby houses resulting in the death of four policemen and the wounding of one. In retaliation, after the shooting the headquarters of "TO" (Territorial defence) Negoslavci ordered the placing of twenty mortars in combat formation aiming at the soccer field. The intention was the leveling of the economy Dubrava. Next to the mortars two "PA" cannons were set up as well.

The so-called "specialized police" arrived at Dubrava during the month of June 1992 and as B. says, they are "Arkan's people". After the conflict the residents of Negoslavci decided that they should leave the place where they were stationed, but Blažević does not know anything about further evolvments in this matter. He stated that the residents of Negoslavci are well armed and they have more weapons in the house than family members.

B. also stated that in the new part of the economy in Ovčara under the porch are located ten T-55 tanks and ten FAP 20-26 trucks. In the mentioned hangar, where the prisoners were held, are now ten 122mm howitzers being stored, as well as the munitions for the mentioned artillery and most likely some light weapons. The artillery allegedly belongs to the "TO" (Territorial defence) Vukovar. Frequently training is for this type of equipment is organized for the members of the "TO" Vukovar. On one occasion B. recognized BOŠKO BRKLJAČ during drivers and tank handling training.

Attached to this statement are photocopies of drawings of buildings where the before mentioned weapons are kept.

Among other things B. mentioned how residents of Negoslavci became rich due to the fact that they stole things from nearby abandoned towns. They claim of themselves that there are more thieves than residents in Negoslavci.

In B.'s opinion D.B., P.T. and N. J. with children, would like to leave Ovčara.

#### NAMES THAT HAVE BEEN MENTIONED:

1. B.L. son of M., born ... in Priluk, OS
2. M.S., son of Đ., born ... in Vukovar,
3. D.S., son of M., born ... in Vukovar,

4. Ž.S., son of M., born ... in Vukovar,
5. N.P., son of L., born ... in Vukovar,
6. S.B., son of Đ., born ... in Vukovar
7. M.L., son of C., born ... in ..., BiH,  
resides in ... Street ...
8. G.V., son of B., born ... in Vukovar,
9. R.B., son of Ž., born ... in ..., .....  
, BiH
10. N.V., son of P., born ... in ..., BiH,
11. Z.V., son of N., born . in Vukovar,
12. Đ.K., son of S., born ... in Vukovar, resides at  
...
13. C.J., son of N., born ... in ..., BiH,
14. B.B., son of P., born ... in ...,  
BiH,
15. P.T., son of F., born ... in Vukovar,
16. D.B., son of R., born ...in ...  
Vukovar,

Attachment: – drawing of the arrangement of weapons and tools of TO (Territorial defence)

Vukovar[drawing of the location of the mass grave at Ovčara]

STATEMENT WAS TAKEN BY SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE MUP BRANCH

Ivan Zaležak (signature)

STATEMENT WAS GIVEN BY: P.B.

**ANNEX 147:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.L.**

M.L., born on ... in ..., BiH. Croat by nationality, housewife, married, mother of two. Permanent address in .... Now I am in .... Captured in the shelter in .... Was at the "Velepromet" camp. I am giving the following:

STATEMENT

On 18 November 1991 at around 11, the Serbian police and Chetniks with cockades, knives, Kalashnikovs, and all bloody. They said: "Everybody out on the street." There we joined the pitiful group of people. Tanks escorted us from both sides with their barrels pointed at us.

They took my husband, granddaughter A. and me to "Velepromet" ... He took us to the second building where other men and women were present, and there they separated the men from the women ... The first night at "Velepromet" I saw executions. I saw 12 tied persons who were taken outside and executed, at around 9 p.m. ... I saw streams of blood flowing, eyes were falling out everywhere, hair, teeth, livers and brains were being splattered all over. My granddaughter A. saw all this, along with many other women, because they took us outside to watch with the intent to make us have nervous breakdowns. Before this they beat those people so severely that their bodies were bloody. When they undressed them before the execution, I saw that some bled from their genitals. Some had their fingers severed, others their ears or genitals, all those body parts were scattered around the ground. That same night around 11 p.m., a second group of 25 persons was brought to the edge of the road where ditches had been dug out. They lined them up and executed them ... "Sanika" (Aleksandar Tomašić) gathered the scattered brain matter, arms, legs, genitals and other body parts ... Afterwards we were returned to the room, but around 3 a.m. they chased us out again ... A man came up to the door and they killed him with bursts of gunfire, while making us watch. They cut him in half, I saw fire and the body falling into two pieces ... Later they caught Č., a blonde young man, and threw him into walls and doors. His hands were tied behind his back and I saw how bloody he was. At the same time they beat N.B., threw him against the walls ... The entire night people were being taken out and executed, we were not allowed to sleep at all.

(...)

In Zagreb, 24 May 1993  
Statement given by:  
M.L.

Statement taken by:  
Ana Klarić

**ANNEX 148:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.R.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE ADMINISTRATION ZABOK  
POLICE STATION KLANJEC  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.R.  
NO.: 511-16-20-D-635/2-1992

Klanjec, 14 April 1992

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Drafted on 10 April 1992 at the Hotel “...” in ..., in regard to the informative interview with the deserter J.R. and the execution of the crime of genocide against the Croatian population in Vukovar.

(...)

He was a captive among other citizens of Vukovar and surrounding villages at the warehouse of “Velepromet” in Vukovar. During the captivity Slobodan Krivošija, originally from Zadar and a waiter by occupation, separated persons and send them into the direction of the rooms where the mutilation and murders took place ... Among the separated persons was Slavko, former manager of the “Univerzal” store, who was taken to the other room, which was separated by a wall of their room. Shortly after they took Slavko and closed the door, he heard a blow with a blunt object, Slavko’s sigh and the falling of the body to the concrete floor. The next morning, when they lead them from the room where they spent the night to the direction of the bus to the Sremska Mitrovica camp, they passed through the neighboring room where the massacres took place. On the concrete floor he saw splattered human brain matter and stale blood, on which gasoline was poured. The mentioned selections and massacres lasted the entire night on 18/19 November 1991.

(...)

Statement was given by: J.R.

Record drafted by Zdravko Iveković (signature)

**ANNEX 149:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.H.**

SURNAME: H.  
NAME, FATHER'S NAME: A., ...  
DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: ...  
RESIDENCE: ...  
TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: ...  
EDUCATION: ..., Croatia  
OCCUPATION:  
EMPLOYMENT: housewife  
MARITAL STATUS: married  
CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following

STATEMENT

At 10:00 a.m. on November 16, 1991, they summoned us to the main Territorial Defence Headquarters in Vukovar and they told me to make some food because our guys were going to the front. In the meanwhile, a certain I.K. came and said that Vukovar was lost, and that I was welcome if I wanted to withdraw with them. If not, I was told to save myself any way I could, to put on civilian clothes and take a powder or something like that. So it was. The guys made a breakthrough, but I refused to go along without my family. My husband and son-in-law were wounded, and there were also my daughter and grandchild. Even today my son is under medical treatment in a Zagreb hospital. I was supposed to take those women and children who wanted to the hospital, while the others were free to go wherever they pleased. On November 17, at 6:00 a.m., my daughter came from the front-line and told me to leave with the others, and she would follow as soon as she could. Of course, I refused. She told me: "Mum, when the Chetniks arrive, we will gather at one place and blow ourselves up." On November 18, at 6:00 a.m., I gathered women and children in the shelter and told them that those who wanted could follow me, and those who did not could stay in the shelters, in Olajnica, or elsewhere. I brought women and children to the hospital. Ten minutes after my arrival in the hospital, doctor Bosanac came and told us not to fear, because the real army would arrive soon. She said she was going to negotiations in Negoslavci and promised that all of us would pull through. But that did not happen. Mrs Bosanac entered the Vukovar hospital in the company of the Chetniks. There was no army, only Chetniks. She was accompanied by Vojvoda (a Chetnik officer, literal translation Duke) Mirko Novković, called Capalo. The two of them were the first to enter the hospital. The Vojvoda is from Vukovar, he is a local Chetnik. He said that they who had blood on their hands would answer for it. In the meanwhile, the army came with trucks and they took us to the "Velepromet". The "Velepromet" was turned into a refugee center. They started separating people. Stevica Cigan separated me from the rest of the group. They took me to the "Velepromet" joiner's workshop. Inga and Zoran Stanković also separated people. These two were the children of Mirko Stanković. Inga had a military rank of some kind, I do not know which, and they both wore green uniforms (the JNA uniforms). She came in front of me and said: "You see, I am also a Croat, but I am not on the wrong side." I was taken to the workshop and I spent five days there. I was interrogated every day. I was interrogated by Nenad Žigić, an ex inspector in the Vukovar police force. They beat me. Žigić also wore the JNA uniform. I know Žigić very well, because my husband brought him things from Vienna and Germany on several occasions. We were in good relations. He was the main interrogator; he represented some sort of a Civil Court (at least they called themselves so). I was beaten by Simo Samardžija, Milan Samardžija, Drago Sušik, Aleksa Sušik and Stanko Sušik (three brothers). Drago beat me, cursed my mother, and asked me who was I going to bring bread at the barricades now, because in the beginning I said that I joined our guys as a cook... I was not afraid. I was in my town. There was nothing that could frighten me. They beat me real bad and when the blood started gushing from my nose and ears, doctor Marić came to me and stopped the bleeding. His wife was there too. I saw them wearing uniforms. He did not beat me or maltreat me; he just stopped me from bleeding. Bulidža, Simo Samardžija, Kamenko (they called him "Kameni" – "Stony") escorted people to the place of execution. They maltreated and beat me every day, and on the fifth afternoon they took me out to watch how they court martialled people. On that day they took out Goran KOVAČEVIĆ, a young Croatian soldier from Vukovar. The Chetnik called Bulidža jumped on his back. The young man fell on his stomach and Bulidža cut off his head and held it up in the air and impaled it. He did all of that in front of me. Later he

brought out a young man from Zagreb (I did not know him). They never told us their names, we knew only their nicknames. Zoran Stanković, Miki Ikac, and Predrag Petrinjac held the guy, and Vojvoda Milan Novković "Capalo" switched on a circular saw. They cut the guy in half. After that they returned me inside. All of this took place in the joiner's workshop, the circular saw was held there. They cut him where they tied him. I watched when they killed Zdravić (I do not know his surname). The fellow was also from Vukovar, his brother is in the hotel "Dubrovnik". They took out Martin Sajtović and his son whom we called "Braco" – the kid was hundred percent crazy. He did not harm anyone, but they took him out just the same and killed him. We could hear machine-gun bursts. They tortured Zdravić, and finally they butchered him. They did not give us either food or water. Every day they maltreated, provoked, and humiliated us. They kept saying that we were Ustashas. On the fifth or sixth morning, Predrag Petrinjac took me to the interrogation room. Nenad Žigić, Captain Dragan, and a certain Milan Torbica interrogated me. Later I saw on the television that the same men looted in Bosnia. They were my interrogators. They brought a baking tray in front of me. Something was in it, a roasted head and trunk, but it did not have any arms or legs. They allegedly found it in Olajnica, where I was in charge of the shelters. They accused me of roasting Serbian children. They accused me of slaughtering and roasting fifty Serbian children. They said we fed on the meat of those children. In fact, there were only two Serbian children and a married couple in my care in Olajnica. The husband was wounded on October 2nd at the Market. He was the Croatian Army soldier, while she was with me in the shelter. Later her wounded husband also came to join us in the shelter. Their two children were the only Serbian children in the shelter. All the other children were Croatian. I defended myself by saying that I slaughtered no children. No children were ever slaughtered. Then Žigić told that Dragan and Milan Torbica to go out, and the two of us were going to continue talking like good old friends. When they got out, he asked me: "Really, why did you do it? Why did you butcher Serbian children?" I said, "You know what, Nenad. Nobody did anything. I know what my fault is. My fault is that I fed women and children and helped people. If this is what you are accusing me for, I am here to answer for my crime. But I also saw what you did." He asked me, "What do we do? You are all Ustashas." I said, "I did not see any 'U' sign on our men, while your men wore the symbol of the White Eagles units." After that he ordered that I be locked up again. They escorted me back to the premises where they kept the prisoners, and then Drago Sušik came and told me to come with him and look for my husband's grave. They took me to the railway track. Less than two meters from the grave was a hole (earlier it had been a part of the Vukovar brickyard). The numberless corpses lay in that hole – children, women, and men. He told me to look inside, and commented that perhaps I would find my husband's bones in some ten years or so. On my way back from the hole I saw a street dog carrying a child's hand in his jaws. Blood was dripping from the hand. I said nothing. They locked me up. They did not give me anything to eat. I was not hungry. They were insulting us prisoners the entire day. Everybody who passed by was provoking and insulting us. The local people were worse than the newcomers. Among those who were constantly there was a certain Pero nicknamed Pufna (Puff), I do not know his last name, he was a member of the Croatian Army until the fall of Vukovar, and since then he has joined the Serbian side. He wore the green uniform (the so-called SMB uniform – the JNA uniform). Drago Sušik also used to come. On the seventh or eighth day of my imprisonment Drago told me how lucky I was that his mother had died in Bačka, because if he were not obliged to go to his mother's funeral, he would make me curse 'the milk I sucked'. He left and did not return any more, but there were other men, a certain Topolak (I have never seen that man before, but people told me he was from Vukovar), Mile Samardžija, Bulidža, and others, who maltreated me. On the ninth or tenth day of my imprisonment I was transferred

to the room where they kept those prisoners who were sentenced for execution. Žigić told me that I was sentenced to death. We were standing in a small room (2x2 meters), when he told me that in front of three other men. The two of them were Captain Dragan and Mile Torbica. Captain Dragan told me I was sentenced to death on account of slaughtering fifty Serbian children. He also informed me of the exact date when the sentence was to be executed... One night, the masked men in the same uniforms came to our room. I did not know them. They asked the guards the reasons for women and children being kept in that room and ordered them to transfer us to another room. They took us to the room I was locked in before. There I spent five or six days. The military police arrived in the meanwhile and took us in their charge. They considered us the war criminals. There were thirteen of us, both men and women. There were more people in other rooms but we did not have any contact with them. At least 2,000 of our people were held in the workshops, basements, everywhere. Periodically, they would kill people or transfer them elsewhere. On the twelfth night of my captivity, after we were placed in the hands of the military police, a policeman told us that we had nothing to fear, that no one was going to insult and maltreat us any more. So it was. On the thirteenth night, Snežana Korda came. She was sixteen or seventeen years old at the time. She kicked me in the spine with her boot so hard that I lost my breath, and accused me of setting her grandmother on fire in Olajnica. The fact of the matter is that I fed her granny. There was no food to spare, but I managed to make soup for her grandmother, because she was deaf and old and bedridden, and she could not eat anything else. On this thirteenth night this girl insulted me and beat me. After midnight, the Chetniks from Negoslavci arrived, and among them were the following: Smiljka Popović, Gojko Popović, Biljana Popović, and Gojko (I do not know his last name) who lived with Smiljka Popović. They said that we were Ustashas and that we killed their daughter. They did not just insult us, they humiliated us. Those military policemen drove them out. On this thirteenth night, sometime after midnight, the Chetniks took out a person from Zagreb, and killed him on the spot. They must have slaughtered him, because we heard no machine-gun burst. They took him out from the room in which I was held. I saw them dragging him by the legs. He was dead. When they returned to take out another man, the military police interfered; they probably had enough of such behavior. They must have been fed up with all the murders they committed in twelve days, because they left. After an hour or two (or at least it seemed so long to us), the same military policeman who talked to us returned and told us that we had to leave the room as quietly as we can, get on a bus, and lie down on the floor. We did so. It was dark, and we did not know where we were going. We thought we were on our way to Negoslavci to be executed. We arrived in an army barracks. I cannot complain about the regular army conduct. They gave us food and cigarettes. Those from the "Velepromet" would come from time to time, among them were Miki Ikac, Predrag Petrinjac called 'Peđa', Snežana Korda, Inga Stanković, Zoran Stanković, Aleksa Sušljik, and Mirko VOJNOVIĆ. They would come and insult and humiliate us: "Take a good care of these Ustashas, they are the butchers, the murderers. They should have been executed. You must return them." My daughter, A.M., L., V. and I were mentioned as those who should be returned in "Velepromet" and interrogated. They claimed that we were the murderers, that things should have been handled differently. They said all kinds of things. The army did not let them take us. I forgot to mention that my daughter and I were maltreated and beaten while in the "Velepromet". They would beat me in front of my daughter, and she had to stand still, and vice versa. They used to say: "Look Ustasha what we can do." They told my daughter that her child was with them, and that she would never see him again. They took her to the railway track with the intention to kill her. They would put me against the wall and shoot over my head, or beside me. They insulted and humiliated me. From the barracks I saw the wife of a man called Busman, he was on their



side when he was killed. She used to come to the barracks and insult us. Goran Lukić and his mother Ljubica would also come and insult us. Goran even told me: "See, aunt A., had not uncle Jura joined the wrong side, I would be able to save you." Gojko (unwedded husband of Smiljka) would also come and say: "I told you what would happen when I put on my military boots." Đoko Krstić, Mićo Škorić, Mile Škorić, Pero and many others would come to look at us in the barracks, as if we were some monstrous murderers. They would come and insult us. They said that they should hang us as an example, to show the Serbs what butchers we were. On the morning of January 2nd, I was transferred to Sremska Mitrovica. In Sremska Mitrovica I met many men, women and children from Vukovar. Thirteen of one child and us grown-ups arrived at that time. V.Z., A.M., my daughter, her twelve year old son D., M.G., P.Ž., a Slovenian woman, a Serb (I did not notice when he arrived to this prison in Mitrovica), a certain Ž., a policeman who worked for the Croatian Army (he was beaten because he was a Serb who worked for 'Ustashas'). He was released on August 14th, and presently lives in Zagreb. This is all I can remember. In Mitrovica I met doctor Bosanac, she was in the room no 14. First we were taken to Pavilion no 1. When we were taken for a bath, they could not hide us, and the International Red Cross from Geneva registered us. They had to transfer us to room no 14. Doctor Vesna Bosanac ordered me to put on paper names of the Vukovar Chetniks so that she could write statements about everything that went on in Vukovar. I refused because I did not know what was on her mind. She is also a Serb. She claimed she had nothing to do with them, and still, she would go to them at 7:00 a.m. and stay with them until 10:00 p.m., and then return to our room with a pack of "Marlboro" cigarettes, while we smoked "Drava", or most frequently nothing. We were certain she had something to do with them, and that is the reason why I refused to reveal any names to her. On March 24th we were registered, and released. On March 27th, Mr Goran Hadžić (president of the so-called Krajina) came to the room no 14 in Sremska Mitrovica, and asked for my daughter and myself. The women in the room gathered whatever courage they had left and told him that we were exchanged.

In Mitrovica, they took pictures of me, they gave me to read the Bible in Cyrillic script. Of course, I do not understand Cyrillic script. However, our female guards forced me to read it. Their names were Zdenka and Gordana. Later I heard they were two sisters from Gorica. A woman called S. whose brother was at the Vukovar front told me this. We met by an accident. She showed me her brother's photo. He was wounded and disappeared from the Vukovar hospital. She was asking around if anyone knew one of the two women, because she had heard at the Ministry in Gorica that the two of them were in Mitrovica. That is how I found out that they were from Gorica. During my stay in Mitrovica, some majors and colonels whose names I do not remember interrogated me. They did not maltreat us, but they were filming our answers with cameras, we had to talk of what Ustashas did... They wrote our statements. You would come, sit on a chair or an armchair, they would give you a speech and film you while you read it. Then they would show it on the Serbian television. You would have to say: "I am so and so. I killed this many people. I regret it. I wish to answer for my deeds. I cannot sleep with all of those children on my conscience. They hunt me in my dreams, etc."

I was taken to the "Velepromet" on the eighteenth, at 7:00 a.m., and I was separated from the rest at 9:00 a.m. At seven o'clock approximately five or six thousand people (men, women and children) were there. During this time they separated people in the PIK's (agricultural cooperation) yard, across from the "Velepromet". Kameni, whom they called 'Kamenko' (Stony) gave a speech in front of the prisoners, while the guards had their machine-guns aimed at them. He said that all of those who had blood on their hands were

going to answer for their atrocities before the Civil Court, while those who were innocent would be free to go their way. In the meanwhile, they locked people up in those "cages", they held us women and children in the storehouses, joiner's workshops, rooms that had formerly served as offices. They packed ten or fifteen of us in the room 3x4 meters wide. Around 9:00 a.m. they told us that those who had small children should take a can food and a piece of bread to have until they reached their destination. I went, and my daughter and her four and half years old son remained in the room. I joined the queue for food. Then Stevica Cigan passed by me.

A.M. was first who was separated. He escorted her away, and then came back for me. He told me to come with him, and that I would not be long. He explained that Drago Šušljik and himself wanted to ask me a few things and that I would catch up with my family afterwards. At that point I did not know that my daughter and her child were also separated from each other. They even told me that my husband joined their forces and that they were going to confront me with him the following day. They told me that he remained with them, and that I could also stay if I wanted to. They did not come for me after that because of course there was no husband to confront me with. I did not know what happened to my husband, I only saw when they took away his chain, wallet, and jacket. I have not seen him since then. Executions were held day and night. The place of execution was fifty meters away from the joiner's workshop where people were held, so that all of those who were in the "Velepromet" could watch the executions taking place, even those who stripped us of our things and jackets, with the explanation that we would not need them any more. Predrag Petrinjac beat me and took away 1,000 DM and 40,000 Dinars that I had. He was our neighbor. He asked, "Where is that Ustasha?" I told him, "You know that uncle J. is aboard the ship, and that he was in Germany." He claimed that I murdered a Serb in order to steal his 1,000 DM. They took everything from us: jewelry, money, and everything. He took my glasses and crushed them underfoot.

I saw the mass grave; I can even draw it for you. A thousand corpses were there, if not even more. There were corpses in this hole, and on the track, beside the road that leads to another hole, where the gallows were built. Something was hanging from two trees, but I do not know what exactly because I was not allowed to lift my head. I was ordered to keep hands on my back, and my head down. While I was taken to look for my husband, I was not allowed to touch corpses, and at that time I accidentally saw two men and a women hanging from the trees. They were all civilians. The men were dressed in slacks and the woman had a skirt on, at least as much as I could see. A thousand of corpses were lying in heaps on the track and in those holes. Those who were allegedly taking me to find my dead husband obviously wanted to mentally destroy me. A two-meter high barbed wire fenced the "Velepromet". Eight men were mounted on this barbed wire, with their faces turned in the direction of the railway track. Eight of them were mounted there, however I did not know who they were. I saw them when I passed by them escorted by the guards. Later I heard a machine-gun burst. They were all murdered. They must have been because I heard the machine-gun burst. Those men were taken from the so-called tin rooms.

The joiner's workshop consisted of two rooms, one room was called the execution room because all the prisoners from that room were executed, while the prisoners in the other room were maltreated and humiliated, mentally murdered. Žigić was there, it was his office. There were a writing desk and three chairs in it, for the three of them. The prisoner had to sit on a chair and talk. Then one of them would rush forward and hit you with his fist or a baton.

There were no representatives of the International Red Cross or EC monitors in the "Velepromet". I have never seen them in the hospital either. Only doctor Bosanac and Mirko Capalo came, no member of the International Red Cross showed up. They came around 7:00 a.m.

In Zagreb, April 22, 1993

Statement given by:  
A.H.

Statement taken by:  
Andrija Pavičić

**ANNEX 150:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.G.**

M.G., born on ..., not married, mother of six children: ... (1965), ... (1970), ... (1972), ... (1973), ... (1975), ... (1985). Worker in "Borovo". Lived in Vukovar, ...

She made the following

STATEMENT

(...)

In October, M. (husband of ...) was supposed to come in the evening, but he did not, because he was killed. She cannot remember who came to report his death. Mijo's mother came and they went to see him. All that she could see was a smashed forehead (the right side), his neck all covered with blood, one arm (right) and a leg broken. Several dead bodies were in the yard. He was buried two days later at the Old Hospital Cemetery. (...)

...there were around 100 men; they were sitting one on the other in the warehouse "Velepromet". When they were passing through the town, the trucks drew over the dead bodies. (...)

Later, she did not see him, because they had taken them to a basement. (...)

They took out a nun, tore off her clothes and tortured her, after which the young soldiers of the JNA came and fought with the reservists. (...)

... they took A. by her hand, she was screaming, BORO ŽUVANOVIĆ pulled her arm and hit her with his leg, and she fell to the floor. Mrs. G. wanted to approach her, they took her to a room in the warehouse "Velepromet". (...) They took off her clothes, beat her with legs, hit her with a gunstock in the head and wanted to rape her. However, they gave up, saying that she smelled. They smoked cigarettes and extinguished them on her, she had three burns on her left hand-it was a Serbian symbol. (...)

After that, they took them to another room, took their clothes off; one girl, A.Z.\* (18), had her clothes taken off in front of the reservists, and then they tortured her, beat her and then returned to the room. There were 89 persons in the room, where they spent 3-4 weeks. In that time, they spilled urine and excrement over them. (...)

STATEMENT GIVEN BY: M.G.

Statement taken by: Slavica Jerončić

**ANNEX 151:**  
**WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.V.\***

B.V., born on ... in Borovo Selo, permanent address in Vukovar. Divorced, mother of 2 children – ... (names of her 2 children). The children have lived in The children and youth center ..... The last year and a half I lived with.... (born on the ....). He is now registered as missing, the last time I saw him was in the Vukovar hospital, he was wounded in his arm and leg. He fought near Negoslavci as a member of the National Guard. Brother ... (born....) is registered as missing. Last time he was seen was in the Vukovar hospital, he was taken as a civilian. Half brother (mother's side) ..., born on ..., was killed, hit with a shell (lost his leg...) in front of the building in which he lived with his mother. I give the following:

STATEMENT

The JNA planes flew over for the first time on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, 1991. I lived in ....., near the Vukovar radio station and near the central pharmacy. I met SINIŠA GLAVAŠEVIĆ that day and he told me to hide somewhere so that a tile does not fall on my head. I told him that I was not afraid because my children were in Osijek. SINIŠA and his colleague ran to the radio station, and I stayed in front of the pharmacy and I went in the direction of the count ELZA's castle. I hid there at my colleague N.C.'s (... old) place, and a lot of people were already there (about 20 of them). But this shelter was not safe so her husband proposed that we could go to the Danube high-rise buildings. We packed quickly, we took the most necessary things and we went there. I stayed in that shelter till the fall of Vukovar. Hundreds of people were in that shelter, everybody from the building and some other citizens. That day the airplanes were flying over the town the whole day and night and they were throwing thousands of bombs. The following days chetniks started to monitor the town from the direction of Borovo Selo, Dalj, Negoslavci and Bačka. I went out of the shelter every day to see what was going on. The following days the most of the stores closed, and the last time when I could buy some food was at the end of the September and the beginning of October. The greatest danger, besides the shells, were the sniper men. You could not get out of the shelter and not hear the sound of the bullet. The bullet would pass right beside you and you asked yourself whether to go where you intended to or to go back in the shelter. That was the worst thing.

Some people were wounded and the four of them (T.D., A. and the two more whose names I do not know) were wounded when the shell fell in front of our building. They were preparing a meal called "čorbanac" (a kind of soup) for all the people in the shelter. The shell fell right in the fire on which they were cooking. One woman (KATA?) KITIĆ died in the hallway in front of her apartment on the fifth floor. Three apartments on that floor were damaged then and she was blown up (her body was totally torn to pieces and the parts of it were scattered everywhere). The woman who was with her lost her leg, K. (... years old), and the third woman just injured her leg. We wrapped K. in a blanket and we transported her to the hospital, I went in the hospital with her.

That woman who died was left in the building and after couple of days it started smelling terribly in the building and that third woman was coming with us. I walked to the shelter (a minute walk), I ran and I tried to avoid the sniper bullets. The shelter had to be in dark so that the light could not be seen from the outside, only a wax-candle was lit or a hanging lantern.

We had enough of food, we did not have only bread. We cooked on a gas heater. We had no electricity. We had sufficient quantities of water in the beginning, tank trucks used to

deliver it, we kept water in bathtub and canisters, we had to boil it because we were afraid of the infectious diseases. Later on, we did not have water any more, because the tank trucks did not deliver it, so we went to Danube to get water or we collected the rain-water, but we could not drink it because chetniks threw poisonous gases so instead of drinking it, we washed our clothes in it. When we would go to Danube to get some water we were afraid of the shells. Once when I was going there I saw that there was something burning on our side of the bank in Borovo Naselje. I knew that it was the Borovo complex, it was just getting dark. A thick black smoke overcasted the whole area, you could feel the suffocating smell of burnt rubber. We came back with buckets of water in the shelter, and we washed ourselves. We could not boil our clothes all the time, because at the end we did not have any detergent, so we washed our clothes with soap only, and finally we ran out of soap too. We paid attention to give our children everything they needed, and we did not indulge ourselves. The sick people, the children and the old people had the advantage. We others ate mostly from cans.

Just some time before the fall of the Vukovar our fighters brought us a wounded sow.

Josip ČERNIK, about 33 years old was among our soldiers, he is registered as missing, his relatives are in Subotica.

We threw the part of the sow that was wounded, and we soured the rest of it. We had to cook the meat before eating it, because we were afraid of the trichinosis.

All of us in the shelter were like one and we helped each other as much as we could, but nevertheless there was a Serb in our shelter and he came later, that was the third basement he was in. We found out that he was there to spy on us. The post quarters and the generating unit were in our basement, and we could send the information further on. But fortunately he did not manage to send any information, because there was always one of us in the quarters.

As the time went by, it got cold the last month. We warmed ourselves on the wood and coal that were in the basement. I used to go to get two pieces of wood when the fire would cease. The day before the fall of the Vukovar the situation got unbearable. We all went in the direction of the hospital, but they could not take us in because there were a lot of wounded and other people in the hospital. There was no space for all of us, but their shelter was much safer. We sat and lay one over the other. It was cold outside, but it was not snowing. That day and that night we stayed in that shelter, but however the next day we went in the hospital again and we asked them if they could take us in, they said they could not. We kept on talking and we begged them to take us in because we had nowhere to go and we said that we were cold. That was around noon on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November, 1991, and they finally took us in. It was an oppressive atmosphere in the hospital. There were a lot of people, many wounded persons. Most of them were in the basement. Some of them were in the medical department, and other wards were completely demolished. We went round to see the ones we know that were wounded. In the afternoon, around 4 p.m. the chetniks entered the town and they surrounded the hospital. Nobody could come out. The chetniks negotiated with the doctors. I was in the hospital range when three Serbian soldiers that were wounded, were released, they were taken in an ambulance. The chetniks got VIKTOR HORVAT, about 45 years old, S.M. and S. ? out of the hospital (they were taken by the chetniks we used to know by sight). We could not bear to watch that out of terror. They were questioning people with guns pointed in them. The two of them came back, but VIKTOR HORVAT did not, and nobody knows what happened to him. People consider him killed. At the same time we started to get into the trucks and mini vans (transporters) with canvas covers. We heard the sniper shooting in the distance. Our trucks

were taking us to Velepromet. There was a room there and 100 people were in it and they were lying on wooden palettes. We did not get anything to eat that day and that night. We stayed there till the next day. Some of the people were brought here a day or two days before. They took us all, one by one, to the interrogation. They took me too. Those were the Serbs I knew and some volunteers from Serbia. One of the chetniks that interrogated me, was familiar to me, he was younger, about 25 years old. His mother worked in a grocery store, her name was Mirjana, and there was a girl with him, her name was SLAĐANA (about 23 years old), she also interrogated us and beat us. They asked me about the positions of our soldiers, about the hospital, who performed which duty and they accused me of various things.

M. M.\*,... 's wife was taken to the interrogation just I was. I came in while they were interrogating here, they opened the door, they took couple of blankets and they raped her in the next room. When they came back into the room where I was, they bragged about the fact that 15 of them had raped her. I just asked myself what were we to expect. After the interrogation they brought me back to the room where I was before. It was about 11 p.m. The next day, around noon they transferred us from that room into another, so called joinery and there we happened to find that woman M. and she told me what had happened to her. That day, in the evening about 120 men and women were transferred into the "barracks", and I stayed there for 10 days. Already the next day, many people (mostly men and only one woman), about 70 of them, were taken in an unknown direction. The rest 30 of us stayed in the barracks. We were placed in one bigger room (they say that this room was used for the training of the army before). We lay on the floor, on the blankets, they brought us from time to time cans and little of bread and some water only to drink, we could not even wash ourselves.

The chetniks that were here were mostly the volunteers from Serbia, and the chetniks I knew used to come occasionally when there was an interrogation to be performed or when they had to rape someone. The chetniks always came in the evening or at night, and they would take us to the interrogation again. A certain captain ŽIGIĆ used to interrogate us, (he was about 40 years old), he worked here before the war started, they used to provoke us, scared us by saying they would kill us, they said they would f... our ustasha mother, they threatened us with knives under our throats so that we would confess something that was not true etc. They raped women and girls.

One night they took us, four women and one man to interrogation, captain ŽIGIĆ was there again, he asked me who was the father of my daughter, I said nothing, he said in an angry manner: "Bring the guards and take her out, she deserved the nationality medal." The rest of the people remained there. V. I.\* (about 26 years old) was kept for the longest period of time, she was a mother of the 5 year old boy – ... (his name), when she came back she told me that they raped her for the second time. First time she was raped it was in Velepromet, now she told me that they threatened her that unless she took her clothes in front of them, they would tear her to pieces. When she came back to the room, at first she did not want to talk to anyone, she just cried. I was raped the second day I came to the barracks. I was taken by five men, I did not know any of them, they were about 25 to 30 years old. The two of them had an alcohol breath, they brought me in a small room on the third floor, it was an office, and a chair that spins and a big office table were there. They ordered me to take off my clothes. They asked me where was my husband, if he had fought somewhere, and I had to take off my clothes myself, because they threatened me with sticks. They raped me on the floor, the four of them, one after another, and they kept saying awful things during that, and they hit me on the face. When there was turn on the fifth one I said: "How would you feel if someone treated your mother or your sister or your daughter like

this.” He stopped for a second and it looked like he did not want to do it anymore and he went to the door. He asked the other ones if they had anyone just outside the room who wanted to rape me, they said they did not and all five of them went outside and I followed them. They brought me in the room on the ground floor where all the other prisoners were and the next couple of days they were taking us to the interrogation, the 10<sup>th</sup> day they told us that they were shifting us further away, but they did not say where. They brought us to Šid and we stayed there for an hour or two, they gave us some biscuits and milk and then they drove us further in transporters. We did not know where were they taking us. Now they were calling us by our nicknames, they called me sniper man, then grenadier, they were not so bad and they treated us well, they brought us to Sremska Mitrovica in Correctional facility. There they separated men from women, men were taken to the basement and dungeons called “čorke”. I stayed for 7 days there, I was placed in a room with 70 other women, three children were there, and Dr. VESNA BOSANAC was there, she was taken to interrogation every day, and they interrogated her the whole day, every day she had to write reports on the incidents from Vukovar, especially from the hospital. In the evening of the third day I got sick, it seemed I had a gallstone attack, so Dr. JURAJ NJAVRO gave me Kofan tablets. He was the only doctor that had a duty to treat the prisoners medically, he worked with little quantities of medicines that they gave him, I could not recognize him, I could not even think that a man can fall so low, he was all covered in beard, and had a haggard face and he had dark black rings under his eyes. I could not believe that that was the man whom I saw once before in the Vukovar hospital. He asked me where did I feel the pain and he examined me and gave me the tablets that helped in the short period of time. Dr. VESNA BOSANAC was constantly provoked by the chetniks, she had to sweep the hallways from the last floor to the ground floor. She also looked miserable, depressed, she was thin, she had a haggard face. When she came to see us she told us that she had to write about each day spent in the Vukovar hospital, who was treated there and with whom did they cooperate and who helped them etc. We also heard from some of our prisoners that a woman was crucified between two poplars near the Vuteks stadium. That was a football stadium. When they crucified her they shot at her from their automatic guns and howitzers. The chetniks constantly called us by names in Mitrovica, sometimes they would let me go. We were asking ourselves if they were going to kill us or exchange us. So Dr. SADIKA was exchanged for ARKAN. I was released on the seventh day, and Dr. BOSANAC stayed there couple of days more. I was released on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December, 1991, and I arrived to Zagreb on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, 1991 at 2 or 3 a.m. I was accommodated in the “...” hotel for a month, and then I went to the huts in Špansko.

I confirm the authenticity of this statement with my signature on every page of the statement.

In Zagreb, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, 1993.

The Statement Was Given By: B.V.

The Statement Was Taken By: Dr. Helena Nakić – Alfirević

**ANNEX 152:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF J.L.**

REPUBLIC CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
POLICE DEPARTMENT ZABOK  
POLICE STATION KLANJEC  
Klanjec, 15 April 1992

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

Made on 10 April 1992 on the informative interview with  
J.L., deserter from Vukovar, in connection with the execution  
of genocide against the inhabitants of Vukovar

(...)

Beside the already mentioned, he also knows that Zoran Stanković, whose nickname was “Kesega”, on 18 or 19 November 1991 (he does not remember the exact day), after he had put in the bus the captives who were kept in the warehouse “Velepomet” in Vukovar, got on the bus and asked the captives: “Who got on the bus first?” A 17-year old said that it was him, and “Kesega” approached him and cut off his head with a knife. He kept the head in the bus all until they had almost reached ŠID, and then he threw it out of the bus.

Statement was taken by official person: Zdravko Iveković  
Statement was given by: J.L.



**WITNESS STATEMENTS REFERRED TO IN “PRISON CAMPS”  
(ANNEXES, VOLUME 5, APPENDIX 6)**



**ANNEX 153:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF T.H.**

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OSJECKO-BARANJSKA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SECOND PP OSIJEK – PI DALJ  
No: 511-07-569-VT-18/95

20<sup>th</sup> October 1995

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

T.H.

Occupation: worker

Born on ...

Address: ...

Temporary address: ...

On 19<sup>th</sup> October 1995 he gave in the Police station in Dalj the following information:

On 31<sup>st</sup> July 1991 I went to my regular job as a reserve policeman in the Police station in Dalj. I was ordered to go to the point "Vodovod" that was on the exit of Dalj in the direction of Borovo by the pump of the local waterworks. On 1<sup>st</sup> August 1991 in the early morning hours, somewhere around 4.00 hrs a cannon-infantry attack on Dalj started, and the Chetniks from Borovo Selo started firing at us and infantry attacked us, the members of the police and the National Guard that were on the point "Vodovod" .

T. together with 10 of his colleagues withdrew from the point "Vodovod" to the nearest houses at the entrance of Dalj, and when they reached the nearest houses, they decided to move on, because fierce cannoning started from the tanks, cannons and the ship that was on the Danube river. They continued withdrawing across the gardens, and after 200 or 300 meters, T. and his colleagues marched directly into a Chetnik ambush where 4 members of the National Guard were killed at the spot, and 5 of them were wounded.

Since they did not have any ammunition to defend themselves, they stopped with the defence, and the Chetniks then began with the arrest of the survivors. The group of the Chetniks that moved towards them was led by ILIJA KOJIĆ, who is responsible for the deaths of nine people that were killed on that spot. T. and his colleague S.

M. from Brodanci, who is now a member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the Croatian Army, were arrested by the Chetniks, because they could get up and raise their hands up when being told to do so, and the other five from their group that were slightly wounded, but could not raise, were killed by ILIJA KOJIĆ, by shooting them in their heads.

T. and S., tied up, were brought by the Chetniks to the road, on which were already the captured civilians F.D. and Ž.K., they tied them all up, pushed them into a van and drove them into the Chetnik prison in Borovo Selo. In the prison in Borovo Selo they ran into the earlier captured Croats, six from Tenja and five people of Albanian nationality. T. states that they were all in a very bad condition from beating and battering.

In the Chetnik group that arrested T., was a former policeman from the Police station in Dalj, called JOVO, T. cannot recall his surname. In the Chetnik prison in Borovo Selo T. spent three days where he was constantly beaten, interrogated, molested, taken to the improvised hangings and shootings. From all the Chetniks that molested him, T. singles out the cruellest ones NEDELJKO STEVANOVIĆ from Dalj, and ZORAN TIPIĆ from Borovo Selo, and the former policeman MARKO LONČAREVIĆ who often came and tortured them and interrogated the prisoners, and with him were always the Chetnik volunteers from Serbia, who would beat the prisoners until they lost consciousness.

On the third day of Tomislav's being in the prison, two officers of the former JNA came into Borovo, a Lieutenant Colonel and a Major, and they took T., N.R. and the member of the National Guard S.M. out from the prison. In a military armoured carrier they drove them to Bogojevo, the Socialist Autonomous Region of Vojvodina, where they took them out of the carrier, and an hour later they were in a military vehicle "Kampanjola" make, in which was sitting already Z.K. from Erdut, and the four of them were taken to Belgrade, into the barracks "Maršal Tito", and separated immediately into different rooms.

T. was interrogated, as he states, day and night, he was beaten, and he lost consciousness several times while being beaten, and he would often regain consciousness all covered with blood on the doormat in front of the doors of the room where he was beaten. All this time while he was in Belgrade undergoing interrogation, he did not know where those other three men were and whether they were still alive.

T. found out that the officer of the former JNA, having the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, who was taking the interrogations was called IVAN, he does not know his surname, and he also found out that the aforementioned was Deputy Commander of Osijek Bijela vojarna until 1990. The head of the interrogators in Belgrade was the famous SLOBODAN, having the rank of Colonel General. T. found out that he worked for KOS (Intelligence Agency), and that he was among the major ones in that agency. For the aforementioned Colonel Ivan, T. states that he was about 180 m tall, thin, about 35 years old and that he had black, thick hair and black moustaches, and he showed T. videos of the entire attack on Erdut, Dalj and Aljmaš, and on the Police station in Dalj.

After about 10 days of his stay in Belgrade, on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1991 T. saw for the first time N.R. and they were together by a military vehicle transferred back to Bogojevo, and then in the early morning hours, they were taken on a military armoured carrier to the Chetnik prison in Dalj, which was in the backyard facilities of the Local Community in Dalj. In the prison, there were many captured members of the police, and also four members of the National Guard, and a lot of Croats, civilians from Dalj. In the Chetnik prison in Dalj, interrogations were also made and molesting, and the prisoners were forced to work in the private houses of the local people of Serbian nationality in Dalj, and also unload the goods of the humanitarian help that arrived on trucks from Serbia and Bosnia.

In the further interview T. names the members of the so-called "Chetnik's Crisis Headquarters", which organized all the activities in the village, and among them were: ĐURO ZMIJANAC, ĐORĐE KLAJIĆ, DRAGOLJUB ČALOŠEVIĆ, MILAN KLAJIĆ, MILAN and SRETO LALIĆ, and BOŽIDAR DOBRIĆ, called Bosko trgovac, ĐORĐE and STEVO KOJČIĆ, ŽELJKO ČIZMIĆ, RAJKO and DOBRILA MILADINOVIĆ, JOVO and BRANKO KLAJIĆ, and he further states the people, the Chetniks who tortured them: MIRKO and NIKOLA POVACA, MILORAD STRIČEVIĆ, MIŠO PANIŠIĆ, GEORGIJE

and BORISLAV MILINKOVIĆ, MLADEN and NIKOLA DRAGIĆ, and the brothers RISTIĆ. Furthermore T. gives the names of the Chetniks, the prison guards/wardens in which he was imprisoned, and who watched them, beat and molested them: ZORAN ČALOŠEVIĆ, called FARIKA, NIKOLA KALABIĆ, NIKOLA VAZIĆ, ĐORĐE VAZIĆ, GOJKO SAMARDŽIJA, ZORAN CULIĆ, ĐORĐE RADIVOJEVIĆ, MILAN and DUŠKO PEKIKOZIĆ, MILENKO TRIPUNOVIĆ, BORO, called VICO and his brother who was called by his nickname CIGAN, MIODRAG and NIKOLA KIKANOVIĆ, ĐORĐE and MILAN KLAJIĆ, called ČOŠAK, and many others who were, as T. states, on sentry duty on the streets and fired at women and children, the Croats, while they were running and leaving the temporary occupied Dalj, among them were: PREDRAG ILINČIĆ and his father MIŠO ILINČIĆ, called PICIKA, ĐORĐE ČORDAŠIĆ and others.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 1991, there was an exchange of prisoners between the Croatian forces and the rebel Serbs, on the principle “everyone for everyone”, and in this exchange at the temporary occupied airport KLIS, not far from Osijek, T. was also exchanged, and he has lived since then in Osijek, and he still feels both physical and psychological consequences of the Chetnik tortures in the prisons.

T. has nothing more to state about the mentioned events.

Statement was taken by authorized official: Miroslav Kovčalija

T. (...) H.

from ..., now lives in ...

Age: ...

At the time of the attack of JNA I was in defence as a reserve policeman on the point “Vodovod” towards Borovo Selo. I was captured on 1<sup>st</sup> August around 08.00 hrs, and the group of the Chetniks which was lead by Ilija Kojić with the accused Jovan Curčić participated in this imprisonment.

There were 12 of us in the group and we were in fact, withdrawing, but we marched into a Chetnik ambush and four of our members were killed in this ambush, five were wounded, and I and S.M. were not hurt, while D.T. succeeded in hiding and he was not imprisoned. I have already said that they captured me and this S., and Kojić ordered the killing of those who could not get up when they were told to. I know some of these wounded and murdered: Z.K. and I.H., the others were members of the National Guard and one of them was C. the other one V. V. I was taken to Borovo Selo together with S. and another two civilians – Ž. K. and F.D. This last one was already beaten, and it could be seen because his eye was cut. In the prison in Borovo Selo we encountered 6 Albanians and 7 people from Tenja. In the prison in Borovo Selo during the interrogations, we were in various ways physically molested, beaten and battered and Medo Stevanović from Dalj, together with the others who were allegedly from Prigravica, and two of them were from Savulja in Borovo Selo – Zoran Tripić and Ivan Lukić, participated in this. On 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1991 they transferred me, S.M. and N.R. by military vehicle, that is the vehicles of the JNA to the barracks “Maršal Tito” in the Military prison.

I was, normally being interrogated in this prison in Belgrade and during the interrogations I was physically molested, that is, beaten by the military police whenever the interrogator was not satisfied with my answers. I saw there, in the military prison, Marko Lončarević who was called by the Army as some sort of witness who had to confirm their accusations in consideration with me, and I concluded that this Lončarević was closely cooperating with this military police and with those generals of the former JNA. Siniša Magušić was

released from the military prison, and they brought me and N.R. from Belgrade to Dalj on 11<sup>th</sup> August 1991 back to prison again. They continued with the interrogations and physical molesting in Dalj when they were not satisfied with the answers. The chief of the interrogations was Milorad Strivčević, who gave orders when to beat someone, and Đorđe Miladinović, Branko Gojković, Dobrivoje Radovančević were the ones who beat us, and occasionally there would come Boro Milinković and Vaso Gavrilović. During the time while I was in prison in Dalj, together with the other prisoners, had to go to clean and arrange the rooms that were damaged during the combat actions in Dalj. The guards were the two brothers Trbić, Ljubomir Savadinović, and their commanders were Đuro Zmijanac and Đorđe Čalošević. I heard from M.P., we went to school together, and although he was a Serbian volunteer, that Marko Lončarević ordered the murder of Stjepan Penjić, a journalist from Vukovar. The dead body of that journalist was set on fire by the two prisoners, the members of the National Guard, D.U. and T.K. They both survived, but the wardens broke K.'s leg in the prison, and U.'s arm during the molesting. The so-called Headquarters of their territorial defence was the chief authority in Dalj, and Boro and Đorđe Milinković, Milorad Klaić, Đorđe Klaić and Dragoljub Čalošević were in charge there. They were the so-called leadership of that Headquarters and nothing could happen in the village without their knowledge or permission, so I think that they are responsible for all the evil that was done in Dalj by the members of the Serbian paramilitary forces to the non-Serbian people.

Milan Grujić and Drago were responsible for the distribution of the humanitarian help, so they would take the prisoners with them who would do all the physical work, that is, unload the goods from the trucks and on that occasion they would also physically molest the prisoners. In the prison itself Đorđe Klaić and Jovica Makivić, since they worked in the prison in the afternoon hours would go round the prisoners and beat them with some cables, just for their own quest for self-fulfilment. Sometimes they would bring with them Puac, called "Bato" who once broke an arm of N.R. by beating him. As to Sreto Ilinčić, he came to Dalj from Austria, drove humanitarian help and with permission, beat and molested the prisoners with those cables or batons.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 1991 Marko Lončarević came with the persons wearing the symbols of the SAO Krajina police and took us to Klis where we were exchanged.

I have nothing more to state about this, and if I remember something else, I will add it to my statement on the main trial.

I do not want to read the Minutes, because I listened to the dictation, and I confirm it with my signature.

Statement was given by: T.H.

**ANNEX 154:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF F.K.**

Croat, born on ... in ..., region of Široki Brijeg, he worked as a workman, lived in Vukovar, now in Zagreb.

TESTIMONY

I was captured in Vukovar as a member of the civilian protection, in the center of the city. The representatives of Vukovar city had negotiations with the former JNA (Yugoslav People's Army). Also doctor Vesna Bosanac and Marin Vidić-Bili took part in those negotiations. They agreed that the town would surrender, and people would be free to go where ever they wanted, at least that was what they said to us, to us who gathered in the building of Vukovar's hospital, and we came from all shelters in the city, because we thought that we would have better chances to survive if we were together. Doctor Bosanac said that the buses for us were in Vukovar's hospital at that moment in the evening, doctor Bosanac came, and she told us that we should go back to our shelters, because as she said they (the army) had a list of all shelters in the city and it was agreed that they would come with buses in front of every shelter, but at that time the Chetniks had already started to occupy the city, and had occupied some parts. We considered that suggestion stupid, and we didn't do that, but we stayed in the hospital building till the representative came, and that was the commander of the former Yugoslav People's Army – major Šljivančanin, who said: "You will go to a gathering center in the shelter of "Velepromet", and first mothers with children and older people will be separated from the others." In that moment we knew that they had cheated us. We knew that because no one from International Red Cross and European Community observers who were in Vukovar then came to see us. The transport began. They took us to the warehouse of "Velepromet" and into the courtyard of cooperative "Vupik", Vukovar that was across "Velepromet". I didn't see that anyone was tortured, maltreated or killed in the hospital area, but I saw a large group of local men in front of the hospital building, and they were dressed in different uniforms, and with Chetnik's marks. They just threatened us, but no one was hurt. I knew lots of them, because they worked and lived with us till then. I was taken into the courtyard I mentioned before, together with a group of men and women, and they separated women on one side and men on the other at once. There were different men in that courtyard, dressed in different uniforms, and most of them were local men, who used flash-lights to recognize who they knew from our group, and they took out men by a criterion only they knew. DARKO FOT, a local Chetnik whose father was a Croat, took me and a few more men out of the group. They took my group into the courtyard of "Velepromet". There I saw lots of local Serbs in different uniforms, and all of them took out and separated men, and took them in, for me, an unknown direction. There were lots of women and girls among them, also in uniforms, and they did what all of them did. I knew all of them by sight, and the worst were INKA STANKOVIĆ, daughter of ex director of Vukovar's radio and her husband VLADO KOSIĆ, then wife of ZDRAVKO ČUK who was also in uniform, then NADA from the perfume shop and lots of others that I didn't know by name. MIĆO ĐANKOVIĆ, ex waiter from Vukovar, a man who was known as a criminal even before the war, and was in prison as a murderer, that man took me and some men out of the group. During that time there was chaos. I could hear shots, people screamed and sobbed, I could hear hits, beating, and the worst scene was a Chetnik who held a head that was cut off in one hand and a knife covered with blood in the other. His name is MIRKO, and they called him ČAPALO. I knew that

man well, he was a gambler and vagabond before the war, he had a tendency to violence. After a while, BORO ZNANOVIĆ took me and another man from the group. He took us out to the dark, and since I knew him, I asked him: "Boro, where are you taking us?", and he said: "Be quiet, I am taking you to a safe place, tonight it will be rough here." He took us in front of one building, it was the joiner's workshop of "Velepromet". There was one tall Chetnik, half drunk, he was searching two men in front of us. I saw a big pile of money, and under the table was an even bigger pile of different documents. When it was my turn, he asked me to give him my documents. I gave him my wallet, he took my coat off, and my leather jacket, and I was only in a shirt, and he did all that with that other man who was with me. He opened an iron door of the workshop, and pushed us in. There I saw about 50 people, they were scared, and they were different people by nationality and occupation. I heard from those people that they called that building "the cell of death". They brought some men after me, one policeman-B.I., from Šarengrad, MIĆO ĐANKOVIĆ hit him over face with a gun and cut him. After that they threw in one young man, both of his legs were shot through. After some time ĐANKOVIĆ came into the room again and took out policeman B., we knew nothing of him after that. After a while the door was opened again, and one drunk Chetnik came with an automatic gun in his hands, and he said: "At 9 o'clock, no, at half past 9 you will go for execution." I don't know when after that, but the door was opened again, but that was not the same man from before, it was an older man in uniform, he was a major. As he entered, he said: "Get up men." You can imagine how we felt after all we had gone through, how frightened we were. We knew that it was the end. But, the major said: "Hold your hands, two by two, put your heads down, and get out slowly, there's a bus postponed. We entered the bus, he ordered the bus driver to drive the bus behind the military vehicle, and to start going towards Negoslavci. That was done. I saw 9 buses behind us. At one point during the night, we started. Through Negoslavci and Šid we arrived in Sremska Mitrovica. We stopped between the military barracks and the penitentiary. We stayed there till the morning. As the morning came, lots of different people started to gather around us. Some of them were in civilian clothes, and most of them in uniforms, they called themselves "volunteers", and they would come in the buses, offend our people any way they could, they would beat us with everything they had.

Three men entered the bus where I was, they asked our names, they beat all of us with wooden sticks. They broke one of those sticks on one of us. Some time during the day, they took us to a racecourse in Sremska Mitrovica, there they allowed us to do a call of nature, and we received some water, but all the time they had their guns pointed at us. In the evening we started again, towards Novi Sad, we passed it, drove through Bačka, and came to Zrenjanin. During the occupation in Vukovar, I had heard that a camp for people from Vukovar had been established in Zrenjanin. What I had heard came true. We passed through Zrenjanin, and drove for about 10 more kilometers, and when we arrived on one deserted farm, we stopped. There were lots of people, in different uniforms, civilians, military police. The buses stopped in front of one stable. As we entered the stable, we had to pass through cordon of men who beat us with everything, the cordon was about 30 meters long. They ordered me to make a list of people that were there, so I knew the number, I made a list of 1242 people, in alphabetical order. After some time I found out that in another stable were 480 men. They were offending us, beat us, maltreated us, and they called one of those stable "Maksimir", and the other one "Poljud". During the first few days we were sitting and sleeping one over the other, on bare concrete. They would give us some water, one little slice of bread and some cheese, twice a day, and they beat us and tortured us 24 hours a day. I cannot describe all kinds of physical and psychological tortures, I would never imagine that people we lived with, and worked with would do that crime. Till the time we arrived into the stables they beat us where ever they could. They



beat me over my back, and since I was sitting on the right side of the bus, they beat me also over my legs, and I still have consequences. They also beat us over the genitals, and they tortured us the most till the arrival of the International Red Cross, which happened on December 4, 1991. Since that time people died from beating, and the tortures went on and on. I know that from beating 9 men died, among them Ivica Kamerla and Branko Koh. As I said, the Red Cross came and they made a list of all of us, and they gave us our camp number. After that killing stopped, but tortures, psychological and physical continued. One way of psychological torturing was that we had to sing the Yugoslav hymn, every morning and every night, and Chetnik's songs every time our guards, military police men, wanted. What was the worst for me, it's known to every prisoner, was: "Head down and hands on back". We had to be like that all the time, when we went to toilet, lunch, breakfast, dinner, questioning, we had to sit like that where they put us. The questioning started. We were taken there in some order and priority they made. I think that they thought they had captured the biggest cut-throats and Ustashas in Vukovar, and that they had done something "big". But, in fact, that were mostly civilians, from 11 to 90 years of age. Majority of us received a beating before or after questioning, as much as the examiner wanted. They tried to accuse us of actions that never took place, not in Vukovar or anywhere else. As I understood, they wanted to accuse us of what they did. They didn't treat all of us the same, some of us went only once for questioning, and some of us a few times. First people that were released from that camp, it was called STAJIĆEVO, were mostly Serbs that were among us, and people from mixed marriages, and other nationalities, and it is known that in Vukovar that was 22% of them. They searched the most for Herzegovinians, I think because they were afraid of them, they called them "blackshirts". God forbid that you had anything black on you and if you were Herzegovinian.

They searched us, took all we had, specially foreign money, and they said that they would give it back, but they never did. As they searched us, we had to come in front of the camera, and tell our data, and from where in Vukovar we were. They forced us several times to write an appeal to the president and the Republic of Croatia, because, as they said, our government had abandoned us, and did not need us, but we knew that it wasn't true, and we never signed. In the meantime, they released a few minor groups of people, and the first exchange was when they released 110 members of the Croatian police that were with us. Before us, they released all medical staff also, although we needed them because of the terrible conditions we lived in. Bad food, water full of sulfur, and great cold. When the International Red Cross visited us, I asked one of the translators, he was a black man, if he had ever seen a camp that has been worse than this one, and he said: "I have seen all camps, and I saw only one worse than this, it was in Bangladesh, and believe me, it had to be closed down". There was barbed wire all around the camp, guards everywhere, just like those camps from World War II. On December 24, 1991 they ordered us to clean the camp. Some people thought that we would be set free, but probably, because of the pressure that World's public opinion put on them, the camp had to be closed. They took us to Sremska Mitrovica, and to military prison in Niš. They had alphabetical order, and those who were up to letter "R" went to Sremska Mitrovica, and those from "R" to "Š" to Niš. As we arrived in Mitrovica, we saw men from Vukovar, from Mitnica. From Stajićevo also arrived military policemen and examiners, a few days after us. The questioning started again. I went for questioning 6 times. Every week-end since I arrived, Serbs from Vukovar would come, they would get lists with our names from the penitentiary's management, and they would called out whomever they wanted. They beat us the most. They called me twice. MILE TURUKALO and JOVANOVIĆ whose nickname was BOGA, and with whom I was a friend before the war, they called me first time, they stayed in Vukovar with our people till the end, but when Vukovar fell, they joined the "other side". They were saying some

information about me, that I was one of the establishers of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union), that I had on my head a big chess symbol (symbol of Croatia), so they searched my house, and they said that they found that symbol there which was not true. Second time when I was called, my neighbor and man I worked with did it. His name is VESELIN PETROVIĆ, and with him was GRUJO AMIDŽIĆ, whom I saw for the first time, and whose name I found out later. They said that I wanted to take away from them their flat, and they asked me who worked in headquarters, they said that I shot Serbs and the army, although I told them that since November 19, 1991 there was no army in Vukovar. They beat me for 3 hours, with rubber sticks, fists and legs. There was a young man with me, and they beat him too, because AMIDŽIĆ was his neighbor. I saw the results of beating when I came back to my room and when I took off my clothes, I was black all over the body, only not over the head, although PETROVIĆ hit me over the face several times. I had an operation on my hip in Vukovar, and because of beating in the bus, and on Mitnica, I was forced to have an operation on the left hip, as a matter of fact, they had to make me a new hip. I had that operation in Zagreb, on November 26, 1992, at Šalata Clinic. I was exchanged on March 27, 1992, as a member of the Croatian Army, although I was not a member, but they ordered me to say that because of the exchange. This is one part of suffering we went through from Vukovar to freedom. I have said only a little part of what I went through, because people that were with me, and who stayed there till September went through even worst tortures. In my opinion it would be very good to hear everything from me and the others, without adding or taking away anything, to hear the truth about us, the truth about people we know nothing about, and among them is my son also, fighter from Vukovar from the first day, and to put the end of that. There is a suspicion that on occupied territories are camps, that there are our people who have to work there or are taken to the front fighting line, and also there is a suspicion about mass graves and murders after Vukovar fell.

With signature on every page of this testimony I confirm its authenticity, and that it was given without any coercion.

In Zagreb, March 29, 1993

Statement was given by: F.K.

**ANNEX 155:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF B.I.**

(B.I., Croat, displaced person from Vukovar, eye-witness of firing squad execution and massacre in Vukovar )

On November 21, 1991 we were forced to surrender to save the civilians, the military police then put us in trucks and drove us towards Trpinja and Bobota. At the butcher's shop "Životinja" a group of about 35 people were thrown out. Then I heard gunshots and these people never returned. Amongst the people taken out was Mile Špehar and Božo Milinarić, they were in the truck near me so I saw when they were removed, otherwise we had to keep our heads down and our hands behind our backs. Some women and young girls were also taken out. We arrived in the town of Dalj at about 03:00. There we were forced into a hall, but again some people were removed from the group. Amongst the Chetniks there I recognised the following: Grujo Amidžić, a lawyer from Vukovar, who carried a book beneath his arm as he took people from the group, Zdravko Mačvan, a former policeman

from Vukovar, and Đorđe Uzelac – the Chief of the police station in Vukovar. They would separate people from the group by pointing at them and they were removed.

On November 22, 1991 after midnight they took my group out to be shot, in the rain. I was taken by Zdravko Mačvan who said: "March Ustasha".

There were 6 other people in my group, but I cannot remember their names. The group were taken by Dragan Nikić and Sava Savić from Savulje. Mačvan took us to a meadow where there were two tractors, one had the equipment necessary for digging and the other was equipped for earth moving, but I was not allowed to look left or right. There was a massive grave dug out in which I saw many corpses. In front of me was the group led by Savić, I saw as he killed everyone in his group with a Kalashnikov. These people were shot next to this canal-grave and as they were shot their bodies fell into the grave.

After those people were killed a second group came that was led by Dragan Nikić from Avulse and Savić. As I was waiting in line, I saw how Dragan Nikić killed the people with a chainsaw.

The canal was on an incline so that the bodies would roll into the grave. With the chainsaw he would cut off the peoples arms, legs, heads or even cut them in two, whatever he wanted.

I watched as these body parts fell to the ground and twitched like a slaughtered chicken. As I was watching I was not thinking about anything, I was merely waiting to be killed. Dragan Nikić slaughtered a young girl in my hall, she was a blonde by the name of Jelena, daughter of M.J., but I do not know her father's name. He grasped her hair, lifted her head and cut off her head with a knife, he then threw the head through the door into a puddle, and he left the body in the hall. That girl never even got to say "a" and she was dead. Then Nikić said: "I have 500 Ustasha bitches on my soul and I have a room for 5000 more:" While he was talking he looked me in the eyes. When my turn came, Zdravko Mačvan took a knife in one hand and lifted my head, with his other hand he ran a knife along my throat and I fell into the grave with the other dead bodies, and then he shot me twice. I still have two bullet scars on my right upper arm. The cross on my rosary saved my life. That cross was made of metal and happened to come between my throat and the knife, it was almost cut in two, only one edge remained intact, and the cross became embedded in my throat. After me there was another group that was led by Milan Gojković called "Švabo" and Zoran Jerotić, I am ...'s baptismal godfather. More bodies fell on me and around me. They shot G.J. twice but the bullets passed through his right ear and through part of his throat, but he remained alive. While still in the grave I felt blood gushing out of my throat. The rain was falling and you could not see the sky or the ground, I did not hear any more gunshots, so I decided to get out of the grave. When I tried to pull myself out, I felt the dead bodies rolling down. I pulled myself out slowly, but was surprised when someone near me moved. It was G.J., who pulled himself out after me. When I got out of the grave, I was spotted by a man on the road. It was either S. or J. from Gumara, who said: "Grandpa, come here so that I can help you." I went over and he said: "What a hole, what is in it? " He then reached over and pulled the cross from my neck. The blood began coming out faster, he put a whole pack of paper handkerchiefs on the wound and said: "Grandpa, go now and do not lift your head because you have a big wound, and go as far as you can."

I went away from him and came across some soldiers who took me in. They put me onto a bus, where I recognized S.M., one of our people, who had also been taken prisoner, I did not manage to see the others. They threw me and 24 others out of the bus at the bridge at Bogojevo.

Here we were met by Veselin Mačvan from Bršadin, who took us to hall, where I saw some young Chetniks with cockades who were nailing people to beams by putting nails through their hands or feet.

I saw at least 10 people that were nailed up. On the side were older Chetniks who were drinking "rakija" and they were holding axes. In one corner beside them I saw some severed heads, only one had long hair, all the others had short hair. Once we entered the hall they said "Look what is awaiting you, Ustasha. Go stand in line." An officer called Perica came into the hall and told six of us to go outside and to get onto a bus. We went to Begejci, where I was kept for three months. It was November 23, 1991 and there were around 1600 in the hall, where I stayed for 2 days and then I was transferred to a clinic. Here I found Z., Z., T., B., and N. Who was brought in because he received very harsh treatment. After about 4 days they brought in a tall man who weighed about 100 kg, he was beaten so badly that he died between me and B.

There was a Dr. Đuranac who covered him with a blanket and said that he died of heart problems, but I saw that his jacket was ripped by all the fierce blows he received. After 4-5 days a Frano called "Crnogorac" was also beaten to death and left to die in our room.

Somewhere around February, maybe January 21, 1992, I was transferred to Niš. It was difficult for me there, I was taken out every second day and beaten. My entire back had burst open from the beatings, my legs had bruises and the soles of my feet were 20 cm. thick.

On March 22, 1992, I was transferred to Sremska Mitrovica. Here I was beaten, questioned and threatened. On May 22, 1992, I was exchanged at Lipovac. To this day I still have a wound from the attempted execution. The wound frequently breaks open and does not want to heal. There was more that happened but I cannot remember all the details.

By signing this statement the giver guarantees it's authenticity and that the statement was given without coercion, and the statement taker confirms that the written statement matches the given statement.

In Zagreb, May 5, 1993

Statement was given by: B.I.

**ANNEX 156:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF A.S.\***

Testimony

We were captured by the JNA on November 19, 1991 at the Obučara warehouse. Before that the defence commanders of Borovo Naselje negotiated with the JNA about the conditions for the surrender of Borovo Naslje. Banožić and some other people went to the negotiations. Then Banožić came back. He had been beaten up and without shoe-laces. We demanded from the JA to let us go to Nuštar (women, children, all wounded persons, civilians and defenders of Borovo Naselje). The JA didn't agree. So, we were forced into an unconditional surrender. 8000 civilians, woman, wounded persons, children and small number of defenders surrendered.

The act of surrender started on November 19, 1991, at about 1 p.m.. We left the shelter in a column. We were searched and then listed by some soldier. We were immediately put onto

buses (within the factory yard). Men were separated from women and children. I was brought in the bus together with other guardsmen. We left in the late afternoon. We drove via Trpinja to Bogojevo. Then, via Novi Sad and Zrenjanin to Stajićevo. During the way we didn't leave the buses, they gave us neither food nor water.

We arrived to Stajićevo at about 10 p.m., on November 19, 1991. More than 10 buses arrived. At the entrance of the camp Stajićevo a corridor of the military police and reservists was waiting for us. When we got out from the bus we passed through a corridor of military policemen who beat us with hands, sticks and boots over our whole body. If somebody fell down they kept on beating him till he managed to get out from the corridor. We would have black bruises over the whole body due to beating. Many people had broken ribs. When I passed through that corridor I didn't know where I was and what was going on with me. I felt that somebody caught my hand from behind and said: "This one is a woman." He took me away and I sat down on the concrete. At that moment they were bringing other prisoners into the camp. In fact, the camp was a kind of stable – 100 meters long, about 10 meters wide. People of all ages were situated inside. Then another soldier approached me and asked me where I was from. When I answered that I was from Vukovar he scolded my mother and hit me with the gun barrel. They started to accuse me of killing Serbians and children.

Women didn't remain in Stajićevo for a long time. I was removed to the camp Begejci (near Zrenjanin) during the same night. I was driven by a JNA vehicle. Beside the driver, there were also three JNA soldiers – Žare, Voja and Rambo. On the way they were forcing me to kiss them and they were threatening me with rape and death. I arrived at Begejci in the night of November 19/20, 1991. There they started with tortures – they put a gun barrel to my forehead (they played "Russian roulette") and then they asked me whether a cartridge was in the barrel. Then they were clicking with that gun. It lasted till the morning when they took us out and we had to sing the Yugoslav anthem. Then we went to eat. The same thing happened the following day.

We were sleeping in the stable. There were over 500 civilians and some guardsmen. There were 25 women. All those woman were civilians (50-60 years old). There were many men older than 60. There were also children between 18 and 14 years (age of the youngest prisoner). We were sleeping on the concrete floor of the stable, we had only some straw. The door was open all the time – even when the temperature was close to 0 C (sometimes even under 0 C). As the room was overcrowded we were not able to sleep in a supine position. We had to lay down literally, like "packed sardines". So, in the morning we would wake up in the same position as we had laid down.

The camp was fenced with two rows of barbed-wire, with police dogs in between them, watch towers and deep ditches. We got beaten every day. They ordered us to hide our heads, then they took away somebody and then we heard hits, cries of beaten men, woman and children. Among the beaten people there were many elderly persons who suffered from chronic diseases but they were without medicines. One man died due to beating. Hundreds of other people had broken ribs. During the two month stay, bathing was allowed only once (before the arrival of the ICRC). They hid me and a few other persons for two days from the ICRC.

Women were removed to another room ten days later. We slept on the concrete floor, with one blanket to cover us. The temperature was close to 0 C (the water was frozen) the women couldn't sleep because of cold. All of the women had diuric problems. Then lice

appeared in the camp. The meals were very scanty. Usually it was some kind of unsalted greasy water. One prisoner found a mouse once. Other people couldn't eat because of hairs.

On December 22, 1991 I was removed to Sremska Mitrovica. There I spent 3 1/2 months in the segregation cell. We were 5 women – Đ.K. (Croatian), M.

B. (Croatian), M.D. (Croatian), M.B. (Serbian) and me.

During the first two days they brought into the camp Sremska Mitrovica two civilian guards (women) who beat us with sticks, hands, legs. M.B. went mad there. She was speaking to herself. She was saying that they were making robots of us and that they would export us to Japan. She wasn't sleeping at night. She would wake us up and shouting: "They are coming to kill us!" They started a legal proceeding against me and then I was taken away to the segregation cell. It was a small room – 1.5 m wide, a little bit longer, where it was very cold. I had a bed in the corner. I had also a vessel (called "kibla") as the washroom. During those two months I was allowed to have a bath only before the arrival of the ICRC. At night I heard terrible cries of pain coming from other segregation cells. They were threatening me with the same torture (if I said something to the ICRC). The soldier who escorted me to the questioning beat me on the way. I was accused of armed rebellion. On February 3, 1992 I was driven to VIZ (army prison) in Belgrade. They tied my hands with some plastic band. They tied them so tight that the band damaged my skin and my fingers were swollen. They were beating us at night and I could hear cries from other cells. I was condemned to 15 years of prison. But, I was exchanged on August 14, 1992.

During the exchange they took away all our hand-watches, money, jewellery, cigarettes. During the whole way they beat us with hands and legs. The JNA soldiers let civilians beat us and they forced us to kiss the marks of the "SAO Krajina". A few kilometers before Nemetin 2 members of UNPROFOR entered the bus. 3 JA soldiers beat us and forced us to sing Chetnik songs in front of them. When those 3 soldiers went out a representative (woman) of the ICRC arrived and she didn't let them to enter the bus to beat us again. We stopped a few times on our way. Some prisoners (from the first 2 buses) were taken out and then beaten by JA soldiers and Russian soldiers – members of UNPROFOR.

I give the following statement of my own free will and by signature I confirm the authenticity of each page.

Zagreb, August 21, 1992

Statement was given by: A.S.

**ANNEX 157:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF T. V.**

Statement Number: and24e

SURNAME: V.

NAME, FATHER'S NAME: T., ...

DATE OF BIRTH: ...

PLACE OF BIRTH: Vukovar

RESIDENCE: ...

TEMPORARY RESIDENCE ...

EDUCATION:

OCCUPATION: ...

EMPLOYER:

MARITAL STATUS: single  
CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Croatia  
NATIONALITY: Croat

I give the following statement:

I was wounded 10-12 days before the fall of Vukovar. On the day Vukovar fell, three soldiers arrived, two were with the regular forces and one was a reservist – he had a beard, he was from Sarajevo. There were approximately 250 civilians in a large basement 300 metres from us. From there we all went to the so-called "Drvena pijaca" (Wooden market). At that time they shot 4 or 5 young men. These young men had been with me in the military unit. I do not know what happened to a friend of mine, Z. B.. We were told that he was killed at Slavko Pehar's place. He had a bakery shop. Both Slavko and Đorđo disappeared. Slavko died and the younger one took over. Immediately outside the bakery there is a yard. This is where they shot young men. There were four or five. None of them left this place.

They took us Vukovar people by trucks and vans to the "Velepromet" warehouse. They pushed in the women, children and elderly. They began to separate the prisoners in the warehouse, women and children on one side and men on the other. Local Serbs, who had escaped into the army base, did the separating. They had weapons. Amongst them were Goran Stanković, and Vlado, I do not know his surname. He worked in "Građevinar" as a locksmith. There was also a gypsy, Stevica. All of the Vukovar people knew him. There was a bulky man from Belgrade named Cigo.

When they took roll call, they led out a Dugalić. They called him Škalja. A Serb asked him to point out the Croats. They searched me in the prison. Everyone was searched and asked who he voted for. There was a soldier from outside, shaven and he wore a helmet with the red star. I did not know the name of the man who searched me. (His mother's name was Anka.) I asked him, "Do you recognize me?" He said, "No." He is from Vukovar. There were approximately fifty young men who awaited their fate.

After this they called out ten young men, of which I was one. They lined us up. In front of us stood six men with automatic rifles. I thought – this is it. However, I saw they were waiting.

It was approximately 8:00 p.m. The women and children were waiting for the buses to arrive. Where were they taking them? I do not know. Then they took us to another premises. There were approximately forty young men there. It was a warehouse. It was cold. The month of December. Two tree stumps, two candles, and the three of them. Stevica, the one in camouflage uniform and the other man from Belgrade entered the room with a flashlight and said: "Yellow boots, out". They escorted out twenty-five young men. There was pushing and shoving. They beat us, not looking if we were young or old. First, Cigo took out ten young men, then the man in camouflage uniform took out ten, and Stevica took out five. They searched them, and then put them into a truck. Since then nothing is known of their fate. We remained inside the warehouse all night and the next day until 12:00 pm. At 1:30 pm they escorted us out. We heard shooting throughout the night, but we were locked up so we could not see what was happening. There was shouting, screaming and crying. They were probably massacring the people. I did not see it, but it was definitely happening. People were not screaming and crying for nothing. They escorted people out until 1:30 pm, and then there was a pause.

In the morning they said that the Chetniks were coming to slaughter and kill. The regular army came and told us that we would go to Sremska Mitrovica by bus. As we left, we had

to keep our "heads down and our hands behind our backs". Half way to Sremska Mitrovica they took out a young man and killed him. He was dark, a bit stocky. I think he was in the third bus. The reservists who were escorting that bus killed him. They shot him. Stevica Cigan and two others whom I did not recognize were there. I think one of them was from Šabac. I do not know why they chose to kill him, maybe because he was in the Croatian Guard.

When we arrived in Sremska Mitrovica, we left the bus one by one. "Plavci" (Blues) were lined up from the bus to the building. They were not the police, they were the prison guards. Amongst them, there were some police officers and reservists. They beat us at every chance with their fists, batons, feet, and clubs. A tall, dark, stocky man with a moustache grabbed me. He threatened to shoot me in the head. He spoke like an Albanian. He was a prison guard. They took me to pavilion 1. (I spent fourteen days there). After 10 minutes they brought in an older gentleman (he was over forty). He wore a black leather jacket. Two men escorted him. They left him lying on his back. He died after a few minutes. I do not know his name. A boy asked around for this man, because he did not know his father's whereabouts, so it is possible that he was his father. That boy was from Olajnica (a part of Vukovar). That man probably died from severe beatings. They beat him mercilessly until his last breath. He could still hold himself up when they brought him in, but once he lay down, he was finished. After fourteen days I was transferred to the sleeping quarters upstairs. One floor upstairs. There were 187 of us. There were more young men. Some slept on beds and others on mattresses. The mattresses were full of fleas and bed bugs. Unhygienic. We could wash a bit, but there were no showers. The food was terrible. Approximately twenty prisoners were left without food each day. We were beaten daily. The reservists would come, and sometimes the guards as well. They mistreated us. They took away jackets from people who succeeded in saving them up until then. They beat us everyday. They took us out for questioning. They would bring back young men who could not stand on their feet for three days. They beat them on the bottom of their feet. They beat us on our backs and heads. They placed people in solitary confinement. Some never returned.

Three months later, the International Red Cross arrived to take down our names. We found out that we were supposed to be transferred to Pavilion 3. I believe this was on January 16th. There we were settled into rooms. I was in room number 2. There were 120 people here. They slept like sardines on mattresses. The solitary confinement rooms were in Pavilion 3. They were below us. We heard people scream. They called out for their mother, father, brother...This happened during the night. The food was terrible. As was the water from the tap. There was no meat. Very little bread. I lost ten kilos. Members of the International Red Cross asked us if the living conditions were hygienic, if we bathed regularly. I said I did not shower for three months. We did not have toilet paper or soap until after the International Red Cross arrived. They asked me where I had been up until then. I told them I had been in Pavilion 1. They were surprised that the Serbs did not know this. I remained in this room until March 27, until the prisoner exchange.

We were allowed to go outside for a walk after two months. This happened after the arrival of the International Red Cross. We made this request through the Red Cross, and they asked for two weekly outings into the yard. We went into the yard with our blankets. We spent ten minutes outside.

Some young men were taken outside because local Serbs from Vukovar arrived in Sremska Mitrovica. These Serbs would take out the people they recognized and beat them. They would spend two hours outside. When they returned, they would be holding on to their



backs or their legs. They beat them. Their military police stood by, and the Serbs beat the Croats. Four or five of them would beat a person. The majority of the population of Vukovar was Croat. There were over twenty different nationalities in Vukovar. No one paid much attention to this. No one complained, but the Serbs. Milošević wanted to conquer Vukovar, expand the borders and create Greater Serbia.

In Zagreb, March 22, 1993

Statement given by:  
T.V.

Statement taken by:  
Andrija Pavišić

**ANNEX 157A:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF Z.K.**

Z.K.  
Police Station Ivanec

**REPORT**

On 20 November 1991, around 1.00pm, we were captured by Yugo-soldiers, but there were also Chetniks among them. The same day, around 2.00pm we were put into busses and then we set out to Novi Sad. During the travel, provocations and tortures started. When we arrived in Stajičevo, the "Calvary" started.

When we were getting on the bus, around ten of them were standing at the entrance of the barn and beat everybody, tripped them, while all the time they were cursing and using vulgar language.

I was put in the stable on half square meters. My legs were underneath my body and I became stiff. I got the "boarding and lodging" in the concrete feeding-trough here horses use to eat before.

The next morning, they made the situation a little bit more comfortable to us, so that I was given a "lodging" in a concrete "kopanji", from where horses used to eat.

(...)

Statement was given by:  
Z.K.

Statement was taken by an authorized official.

**ANNEX 157B:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF M.S.**

RECORD ON WITNESS STATEMENT

WITNESS: M.S.

Taken in the Vukovar County court on 17 Jan 2000

Authorised officials:  
Nikola Bešenski, Investigative judge  
Smederevka Šerbić, Court reporter

Criminal offence proceedings against: Dušan Čučković for the violation of Article 120, Subsection 1 of the Criminal Law of the Republic of Croatia.

Interview started at: 11:30 a.m.

Present were:  
Prosecutor: assistant Božidar Piljić  
Defence lawyer: Vojislav Ore

Before the interview, the witness was warned according to Article 238 of the Criminal Proceedings Law, to tell the truth and not to withhold anything as well as that giving a false statement is a criminal act. The witness was informed according to Article 236 of the Criminal Proceedings Law that he is not obliged to answer certain questions which would disgrace him or any close relatives, cause material damage or criminal prosecution.

The witness stated his personal data:

Name, surname and father's name: M., S., ...  
JMBG (Unique Citizen's Registry Number): ...  
Occupation: worker, unemployed.  
Address: ...  
Place and year of birth: ..., ..., BiH, ...  
Relationship with the defendant and plaintiff: not related, not in conflict.

The witness states the following:

(...)

On 19 Nov 1991, when I and my children went to hide in the basement I found out and realised that the situation was such that we had to surrender. Many of us mostly women and children went to the Vukovar hospital. Members of the so-called JNA and the paramilitary formations, which I call Chetniks, came that same day. I remember that they first separated the women and children. I was in the first group taken to the Velepromet. It was 19 Nov 1991. My children and I spent the night in a warehouse of the Velepromet.

(...)

In the morning of 20 Nov 1991, all women with children were separated and we were in front of the Velepromet. I remember that my mother in law, N.S., was also there as well as M.S., my husband's sister, M.G. and D.M.'s wife whose name I do not know.

We were standing there without any food for a long time, I do not know how long but I think it was past noon already when I noticed a person wearing a leather jacket and a fur cap with a cockade. He was leading V.P. and two other persons whom I did not

know. He was carrying a short weapon; I think it was some kind of automatic weapon. When they approached us I saw that person slapping V.P.'s face so V.'s glasses fell. V. bent to pick them up but this person stepped on his glasses saying he would not need them any more. That person slapped V. many times and I heard him saying, "Whose Serbian mother you dare to curse?". I am sure that V. did not curse or say anything else. Who would have dared to talk in a situation like that. We were afraid to open our mouth let alone say something.

Approximately fifty metres away from us there was a big wired gate and the train tracks were running through nearby, as well as a channel and a cornfield.

I watched, I think my mother in law and M.S. watched it too, and I heard a burst of gunfire after which I saw, for it was daylight, all three persons falling to the ground near the channel.

(...)

When the person with the fur cap and the cockade was standing near us I saw that another person gave him a bottle of plum brandy. He was drinking it in front of us, he was furious. It was obvious that he was drunk, because he was salivating while he was drinking.

(...)

It was broad daylight without fog and there was nothing, which would conceal the murders from us. The murders took place behind the gate, which was open, and we could clearly see what happened there.

(...)

...I saw. He killed them. He came back and drank almost a litre of plum brandy after which he returned to the bodies and enjoyed in firing again at each body.

No further questions.

Investigative judge: (Signature)

Witness: (Signature)

Court reporter: (Signature)

Statement was given by: M.S.

Statement was taken by: Court council

**ANNEX 157C:  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF S.G.**

S.G.

I had worked for a Medical Center in Vukovar since 1 November 1963. During the war, I used to go to work nearly every day. My job was in the framework of the Employment Union- the Center Administration- or more precisely the service for planning and analysis. I was arrested together with the Medical Center personnel, the civilians and wounded who were present at the hospital in Vukovar that day.

In connection with these happenings, I am giving the following:

STATEMENT

On 20 November 1991, between 7.30 and 8 a.m., the members of the JNA arrested the non-medical staff present at the hospital. At the same time, the medical personnel was summoned to the Surgery department to be instructed about the evacuation of the wounded and sick, which had already been arranged between the JNA and the hospital administration. Immediately after leaving the hospital, the women were separated from the men. We were formed into ranks and searched. We were taken to the busses parked in the Gundulić Street – Southern exit of the hospital –(5 busses). This action was headed by a JNA major. Afterwards I learned that his name was Šljivančanin. After spending some time on a bus we were approached by the above mentioned major who told Medical Center personnel with a hospital staff identification card to step off the bus. The following persons stepped off:

Z.D., the manager of the ...

M.K., a ...

Ž.H., an ...

Z.R., a ...

D.H., a ...

I also had a hospital staff identification card, but without a photograph, so I was sent back into the bus. Eventually, all five buses went to the Vukovar barracks. As far as I can remember it could have been around 10 o'clock. According to my estimate, we sat on the buses at the barracks until 2:30 p.m. We experienced a lot of unpleasant things, while staying at the barracks, brought upon us by the uniformed persons- the Chetniks, the members of Arkan's formation, the police of the SAO Krajina, and the reservists of the JNA. Things such as humiliations, scolding, insults, threats, beating with wooden sticks against the bus windows. They called us Ustashas and butchers. Among them, I recognized the following persons:

Milan Bulić, a butcher from the hospital,

Ježdimir Stanković,

Vlado Kosić,

Veselinka Stanković, nick-named Inka,

Jakovljević, I don't know his first name, but his nickname was Frižider,  
Nedeljković, I don't know his first name, but his wife works in the Medical  
Center,

And some other persons that I know from sight, but I don't know their names.

The above-mentioned persons said that we got onto a bad bus and that it could be bad luck for us (said Vlado Kosić). Between 2.30 and 3 p.m. we went toward the VUPIK plant – "OVČARA" .We stopped in front of a hangar, which was used for the storage of agricultural machinery. We had to leave the buses and enter the hangar. On the way from the buses to the hangar, we passed by uniformed persons, the members of the JNA and paramilitary units. We were searched again. They took our papers, money, golden jewelry, hand-watches, luggage, clothes, and other things. There, I saw again the above listed persons – Milan Bulić and others whose names I don't know. Later I was told that the president of the Municipal Assembly of Vukovar, Slavko Dokmanović was there also. They beat us with wooden sticks, iron sticks, crutches, legs, fists, and other objects as we were entering the hangar. In the hangar, we had to stand facing the wall and arms behind our heads. We were beaten and insulted again. A young soldier said that he would kill me if I lied, took my money, and said that we were dealing with some horrifying killers who would come during the night and kill us all. After about 45 minutes of standing while facing the wall, we were told to sit down with our backs against the wall. Than I was approached by a group of soldiers who asked me provocative questions. One of them handed me his gun and asked if I knew how to use it and how many Serbs I had killed. During these events, a strong, corpulent, tall man approached me. The soldiers called him "vojvoda" (duke). He had a black fur-cap with a cockade on it and wore a bright leather jacket (yellow) with fur around the lapel. He said he had something better for me. That better thing was a Chetnik's knife on my throat. At that moment, a group of JNA officers entered the hangar so the group of soldiers around me broke up. I overheard the soldiers addressing them Mr.Colonel, Mr.Major, Mr.Captain, without mentioning the names. On my way from the bus to the hangar, I saw some persons, arrested at the hospital, with whom I was well acquainted:

Đ.K.  
S.Š.  
Ž.J.  
Z.V.  
Ž.J.  
E.Č.  
D.B.  
V.D.  
T.P.  
T.P.  
D.B.  
T.B.  
A.M.

At one point in the hangar, M.L., a member of a reserve unit in the JNA, passed by me and asked how I got and what I was doing there. I said that I was brought from the

hospital and that this was the evacuation of civilians to Šid. He took me immediately, to a Colonel and told him that I was his neighbor and that he could guarantee for me. The two took me out of the hangar and said that I would be sent back to Vukovar. Outside I met other prisoners:

E.Č.

D.B.

V.D.

T.P.

Ž.K.

and two unknown men. Afterwards, I learned that one of the two was a member of the MUP and that he was from Zagreb. That means there were eight of us. Before entering the hangar, Ž.L. (a professor) and another elderly man, whom I know by sight, but don't know his name, had been taken out of the bus and sent back to Vukovar. I am not sure whether K.K. was sent back from the Vukovar barracks or from OVČARA.

While we stood in front of the hangar, the prisoners inside were tortured and beaten. Every five minutes, to the sound of a whistle, a new group of beaters entered the hangar to continue with the task. The eight of us were listed. We were taken to a Major of the JNA who approved us to be taken back to Vukovar. Accompanied by Major Ivanković D., a member of "Beli Orlovi", and two soldiers we were brought back to Vukovar by van. As we left OVČARA we separated from the group of people (250-300) arrested in the Vukovar hospital. What happened to them afterwards, I don't know. We arrived in Vukovar around 7.00 p.m.

Zagreb, 27 July 1992

The statement given by: S.G.

**MILITARY DOCUMENTS**





**ANNEX 158:  
ORDER ON THE DEFENCE OF THE JNA FACILITIES, 14 MAY 1991**

THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CORPS COMMAND  
NO. 11/1-73  
14 May 1991

THE DEFENCE OF THE JNA FACILITIES

ORDER.-

TO THE COMMAND OF: the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade, the 51<sup>st</sup> GB, the 158<sup>th</sup> mixed anti-armored brigade, the 12<sup>th</sup> mixed artillery regiment, to the 17<sup>th</sup> light artillery \_\_\_\_\_, to the 670<sup>th</sup> PONTB, the 327<sup>th</sup> motorized brigade, to the 395<sup>th</sup> motorized brigade, the 38<sup>th</sup> PARTD, the 317<sup>th</sup> PV.

I ORDER

1. The subordinate commands of the units, barracks, and garrisons will organize the defence of the following JNA facilities: barracks, separated warehouses, JNA centers, RRC, GA (if they are out of the barracks range), watchtowers and the homes of the officers. The defence should be organized according to the PS OS of the item 317-359 and with the engagement the units that are in the condition of momentarily readiness, the command of the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade and the 12<sup>th</sup> mixed artillery regiment, engaging the units of the 1<sup>st</sup> mb of the 353<sup>rd</sup> motorized brigade and the 2<sup>nd</sup> mb of the 36<sup>th</sup> motorized brigade.

The troops intended for the defence should be trained on top level and in the case of need they must act decisively and energetically according to the rules of the combat use.

The level of combat readiness of the troops that are to be engaged on the territory of Slavonia and Baranya must be in the condition of the momentarily readiness and on the area south of the river Sava the political – security situation will be regulated by the Corps Command according to the situation.

2. For the security of the separated and remote facilities (warehouses, RRC, watchtowers, residential facilities) where there is not enough troops the engagement of the units that are in the condition of momentarily readiness can be brought in question and other troops can be used while taking into account that there is some reserve of the ready troops left.

3. In case of the attack on more than one facility, besides the mentioned measures the activity on institutions that organize these activities (municipal assemblies, the stations of the Ministry of the Interior and of the Secretariat of the Interior, the quarters for the training of the paramilitary units etc.) should be foreseen. For this kind of activity the armored mechanized units, the artillery units and the units of the anti-aircraft defence should be engaged and if necessary the use of the aviation must be demanded and in that case the ultimatum with the deadline must be issued to the mentioned institutions and after that the energetic activity must start.

4. The plans of the defence of the facilities must be made till 3 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 1991 when they have to be delivered by the commanders of the units to the Corps Command. The transport of the commanders that will deliver the plans will be regulated with the special order.

Two copies of the plan of the defence for every facility should be delivered to the Corps Command.

The executors of the making of the plans are the commands of the barracks – garrisons.

The plans of the defence should contain the following documents:

- short evaluation of the condition of the territory and the facilities
- the order for the organization of the defence and the engagement of the troops
- the list of the direct security and the engagement of the units
- the plan of the security and the engagement of the units according to their variants (graphically)

5. On the basis of the evaluation for the separated facilities the engagement of the special troops should be planned:

- a. for the watchtowers on the territory of Baranya: 3 GC for the training of the border guards and the 39<sup>th</sup> COVPIP and for the watchtowers in Slavonia; finished troops till MC from the 2<sup>nd</sup> mb of the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade.
- b. the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade will make the plan of the defence of the RRC “Papuka” and besides the 17<sup>th</sup> RIV it has to take into account the troops of the 2<sup>nd</sup> mb, Nasice garrison.
- c. the 158<sup>th</sup> mixed anti-armored artillery brigade will make the plan of the defence of the for the “Nabrdje” artillery range and besides the units of the “Nabrdje” artillery range it has to take into account the troops from the 158<sup>th</sup> mixed anti-armored artillery brigade.
- d. the 112<sup>th</sup> mixed artillery regiment will make plan for the “Vrapacani” facility and besides the troops of the 12<sup>th</sup> mixed artillery regiment and the 17<sup>th</sup> light artillery regiment it has to take into account the troops till MC from the 2<sup>nd</sup> mb of the 36<sup>th</sup> motorized brigade.

6. For the defence of the PCV PAR – the village one platoon from the 17<sup>th</sup> BV must be engaged. The command of the 17<sup>th</sup> BV will make the plan of the defence with the help of the Corps Command.

7. The command of the 92<sup>nd</sup> motorized brigade will make plans for the defence of: the “Husinska buna” barracks, the houses in the Skojevska district in the October revolution district (in the district of the “Braca Ribar” OS) and in the district Maršal Tito and GA.

For the defence the following units should be engaged: the units of the 92<sup>nd</sup> motorized brigade, the 904<sup>th</sup> rear base, the 497<sup>th</sup> engineer regiment, the 17<sup>th</sup> BV, the 17<sup>th</sup> artillery brigade and the 17<sup>th</sup> CABHO.

The command of the 497<sup>th</sup> engineer regiment will make the plan for the defence of the Kozlovac warehouse in cooperation with the command of the 92<sup>nd</sup> motorized brigade.

The OONP of the Corps Command in cooperation with the OB will make the plan for the defence of the Corps Command, the JNA center and the residential facilities in Muharem Fizovic Street. Why engage the troops of the 17<sup>th</sup> CVO and the 17<sup>th</sup> IC?

8. The 317<sup>th</sup> PV of the 1<sup>st</sup> military district will make the plans for the facilities in Bijeljina garrison and these plans will be delivered to the Corps Command according to the item 4 of

this order, if the Command of the 1<sup>st</sup> military district does not regulate it differently with its order.

9. After the plans are made the instructions for work of the bodies on duty must be updated according to the plans for the defence.

10. Only specially selected commanders will be informed about this order and they have to be engaged in making the plans for the defence. The plans must be made in the offices for the war planning.

11. During the execution of this task the measures of the protection that were established in the instruction for the making and the protection of the PU must be abided.

COMMANDER GENERAL – MAJOR SAVO JANKOVIĆ  
THE COMMAND OF THE 158<sup>TH</sup> MIXED ANTI-ARMORED ARTILLERY BRIGADE  
No. 403-2  
15 May 1991

**ANNEX 159:**

**COMMAND: OF THE 158<sup>TH</sup> MIXED ANTI-ARMORED ARTILLERY BRIGADE**

THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CORPS COMMAND

PAGE NO. 11/1596-2

4 August 1991

TO THE COMMAND: of the 158<sup>th</sup> mixed anti-armored artillery brigade

KEEP TILL THE END

On the basis of the order of the Command of the 1<sup>st</sup> military district, page no. 832/91, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 1991 and the observation of the Corps Command, in the engagement of the units for the prevention of the international conflicts in the zone of its responsibility there are frequent occurrences of the uncontrolled opening of fire with the big waste of ammunition and small or no effects of the activity evident.

The reactions and the activities are still not executed on time and adequately and there is no decisiveness in actions and that is the reason why the results are missing. One of the reasons of the inefficiency of the fire of the units is that there is not enough information and elements available for the evaluation of the troops that act against the units or close to them.

In order to avoid the unnecessary casualties and losses in the units and at the same time to achieve maximum results and activities on the armed formations that attack the units of the Corps,

I ORDER

1. All the units to intensify the reconnoitering-observing service because of establishing the locations, the way of activity, the sort of the instruments – weapons with which the paramilitary formations attack the JNA and the unprotected population. It is also necessary to find out the fire positions of the weapons and the large grouping of the paramilitary formations.

2. In case of the noticed preparations for the activity or the activity on the military facilities and units, the possible way of acting of the paramilitary formations must be quickly and

qualitatively evaluated as well as the form of the activity, when did it start and to what extent are the units endangered and according to that evaluation the decision on force, composition of the troops and on the force of the activity must be reached, but not without determining the granted quantity of used ammunition, according to the sort of the ammunition.

In the case of the great danger, the alerting activity should be performed. If the activities of the paramilitary formations do not stop then, and the endangerment of the units is increasing then the fire should be opened in order to destroy the enemy.

3. The command of the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade (if needed the 2<sup>nd</sup> command too) can ask for the engagement of the naval objects of the combat reserve formations only in the case if the units of the brigade are endangered up till the point when they are in no condition to destroy the enemy with their troops alone.

4. The command and the units of the 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade will organize the connections of cooperation with the units of the 12<sup>th</sup> Corps that were engaged in Slavonia and Baranya (Beli Manastir, Bijelo Brdo, Dalj, Erdut) with an aim to follow the paramilitary formations and to act on them together. As the part of the cooperation the general documents of the KZ should be exchanged.

5. The units of the Corps engaged in the villages and places in Slavonia must perform the evaluation and the prediction of the aims on which they intended to open fire with the adequate devices. When analyzing specific aims it is necessary to follow the changes due to the correction of the devices for opening fire. This should ensure the secure and effective fire activity on the chosen aims.

6. I put in charge of the execution of the tasks the commanders of the units.

COMMANDER GENERAL – MAJOR JANKOVIĆ personally  
THE COMMAND OF THE 158<sup>TH</sup> MIXED ANTI-ARMORED ARTILLERY BRIGADE  
No. 1225-1  
5 August 1991

DELIVER TO: 12<sup>th</sup> infantry m brigade, the 158<sup>th</sup> mixed anti-armored artillery brigade, the 12<sup>th</sup> mixed artillery regiment, the 17<sup>th</sup> light artillery \_\_\_\_, the 670<sup>th</sup> PONTB and the 51<sup>st</sup> GB. Delivered: on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1991 at 11:30 p.m. No. of telegram: 9453, way of processing: 31 Processed: on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1991 at 11:40 p.m.

Delivered: on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1991 at 11:50 p.m. (signature)

**ANNEX 160:  
WRITTEN AGREEMENT ON NATURALIZATION AND FREE EVACUATION OF THE VUKOVAR  
HOSPITAL**

During a meeting held in Zagreb on Tuesday 19.11.1991. and presided by His Excellency Ambassador Chenu of the EEC Monitoring Mission, the Authorities of the Republic of Croatia, represented by Dr. Hebrang, Minister of Health, and the Yugoslav People's Army, represented by General Rašeta, Deputy Commander of the 5<sup>th</sup> Military District, agreed to take the following decisions:

1. The compound of the civilian hospital of Vukovar is declared neutralized zone and is put under the protection of the international Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), according to the principles of Art. 15 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.
2. The neutralized zone is clearly delimited and marked by means of red crosses.
3. The access to the neutralized zone is restricted to the following categories of persons:
  - civilian persons not participating to the hostilities
  - medical and administrative staff of the hospital
  - ICRC delegates

The access of any person not corresponding to the a/m categories is subject to the authorization of the ICRC delegates.

4. No weapon is allowed inside the neutralized zone and any military material will be removed from the compound.
5. No persons residing, in whatever capacity, in the neutralized zone shall perform any work, either within or without the zone, directly connected with military operations.
6. In no circumstances may the neutralized zone be the object of attack. It shall be protected and respected at all times by the parties to the conflict.
7. The neutralized zone will continue to receive the necessary food, water and power supply to ensure its functioning. It will also be entitled to receive assistance by the ICRC or any other humanitarian organization.
8. The authorities of the Republic of Croatia and the Yugoslavian Federal Army will give all the necessary collaboration to the ICRC in order to implement the present agreement.
9. The present agreement comes into force on Tuesday 19, 1991 at 20,00 local time and will last until denounced in writing by one of the two agreeing parties with an advance notice of 12 hours.
10. The verbal agreement reached during the a/m meeting on the 19.11.1991. stands instead of a signature.

International Committee of the Red Cross

Zagreb, 19.11.1991.

**ANNEX 161:**  
**AGREEMENT BETWEEN MAJOR GENERAL DRAGOLJUB ARANĐELOVIĆ OF THE JNA AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TOWN OF ILOK AND ŠARENGRAD, 14 OCTOBER 1991**

Military Commands of the unit JNA (??) which is represented by Major General Dragoljub Arandelović and the authorized representatives of the towns of Ilok, Šarengrad, ? that are represented by Ivan Mrkšić, the mayor of Ilok, Mate ?, the commander of the police department in Ilok, Stipan Kraljević, the president of the commission for negotiations and others(?), with the presence of the representatives of the Mission of the European Community Hugh Cunningham and Petr ?, on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1991 in Šid have signed:

**AGREEMENT**

**Article 1**

On the basis of the requests of the citizens of Ilok, ? and Šarengrad, and after the completion of the referendum, it is made possible for all the citizens of this inhabited places and also for the refugees that found themselves in these places, to move out with the members of their family if they want to.

**Article 2**

It is the obligation of all citizens to, before they move out and immediately before forming a convoy, hand over their weapons and ?, in front of the bridge "25 Maj" in the house-workshop of Ivan Zec. The objects will be handed over to the unit of JNA, stationed on the bridge "25 Maj" in the presence of the officials from the Ministry of the Interior in Ilok and the members of the Mission of the European Community.

**Article 3**

The Ministry of the Interior and the units of the Territorial defence are obliged to immediately begin removing all mine-explosive and other obstacles that were set in the above mentioned inhabited places and to finish these actions until 17<sup>th</sup> October 1991 at 07.00hrs.

**Article 4**

During the preparations for moving out, and at the period of moving out, both sides, the signatories of the agreement, are bound to secure the absolute peace, that is, to place the ban on all actions and opening fire.

**Article 5**

At the moment of moving out of citizens from the above mentioned places, and before the forming of a convoy, the members of JNA with the presence of the officials from the Ministry of the Interior and the members of the Mission of EC will make an inspection (raid) of all the objects, if that would be needed.

**Article 6**

The members of JNA bind themselves to secure the personal and property safety of the citizens that are staying in the inhabited places, together with the other property of the citizens that lived in these places.

**Article 7**

The members of JNA and those from the Ministry of the Interior from Ilok will secure the safety of the convoy on its way.

The officials from the Ministry of the Interior from Ilok (about 60 of them) who possess official weapons are to keep it with themselves.

Article 8

The time of the departure of the convoy is 17<sup>th</sup> October 1991. at 1300hrs in front of the bridge "25 Maj" and it will be going from: Ilok – Principovac – Šid – Adaševci – Lipovac. From Lipovac on, the Ministry of the Interior of Croatia will take over the security of the convoy.

Article 9

Before the departure of the convoy, the officials of the Military police together with the officials of the Ministry of the Interior will make a detailed inspection of the vehicles and the persons embarking in those vehicles, in order to prevent the loading and transporting weapons, munition and other explosive devices.

Article 10

Citizens, who are rightfully suspected to have done some criminal deed, cannot leave the above mentioned places, or embark in a vehicle.

All representatives, that is, members of the National Guard must leave the above mentioned places and go with the convoy if they have not done any criminal deed, and they will be guaranteed safety, the same as the other citizens.

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TOWN OF ILOK

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE YUGOSLAV PEOPLE'S ARMY

**ANNEX 162:**

**COMMAND OF THE 1ST PROLETARIAN GUARD MECHANISED DIVISION, 4 OCTOBER 1991**

THE COMMAND OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Division

No. 58/18

4 October 1991

MILITARY SECRET

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Command Place in the region Sid COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

During 4 October 1991, the units of the division have to be engaged on the execution of the following assignments:

1. – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Proletarian Motorised Brigade: With the forces control the communication lines Vinkovci – Nuštar, enforce the scouting and the collection of the data on the enemy forces western of Vinkovci. Finish the combat deployment and secure the left side of the brigade. Establish collaboration with the 252<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Brigade. Send the POOd-3 to the region of the village Mirkovci with the assignment to be ready for the Rear Base and collaboration with the Armoured Battalion.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Brigade will carry out the mining according to the decision of the Commander of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Proletarian Guard Motorised Brigade.

2. – The 252<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Brigade with the unit "Šumadija" will continue cleaning the region Zidina and the village Marinci, and with fire control the communication lines Nuštar

– Vukovar, organise deployment and establish closer collaboration with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Proletarian Guard Motorised Brigade.

In the region Zidine establish a tank and one mechanised company, entrench them and decisively defend the object.

3. – The unit “Šumadija” is superior to the 252<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Brigade.

The Commander of the unit will inform the Commander of the 252<sup>nd</sup> Armoured Brigade in the region Negar.

4. – The 2<sup>nd</sup> Proletarian Guard Motorised Brigade: will continue to form and reinforcement of the brigade and continue to secure Tovarnik.

With one armoured battalion, “had” – 122, “Isard” PVO and collaboration with the special forces of Territorial Defence (TO) occupy the village of Bapska and the village of Sarengrad. The execution of the assignment is administered by the Commander of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Brigade.

5. – The 1<sup>st</sup> “lap” PVO: continues to secure the village of Ilaca.

6. – The 1<sup>st</sup> “map” with the current VP has to be ready to open fire according to NA plan.

7. – The 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Battalion is transferred to the village of Slakovci, establishes the command of the village secures a direct communication lines and secures the battlefield.

With one pioneer and the necessary MES reinforce the 3<sup>rd</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Brigade for mining according to the decision of the Commander of the Brigade, and later stops the mine groups in the region forest Deonica in the region of the field paths and channels.

The GOP has to be engaged on the securing of the passage Mirkovci – Orolik.

The documentation on the completed MEP have to be made in four copies and delivered to: the Local Committee (MZ) Mirkovci, the Command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Brigade, the Command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Division, and one copy must be saved at their offices.

8. – The 1<sup>st</sup> “mpoap”: has to continue the systematisation of the VP and continue to scout and well as the systematisation of the direction of arrival and the POR according to the already issued assignments of the NA.

9. – The 1<sup>st</sup> Proletarian Guard Mechanised Brigade has to continue reinforcing and forming its units.

10. – The unit “Lepenica” have to occupy the village of Djeletovci and secure the left side of the division from the direction of the village of Nijemci.

11. – The PKPo has to continue to reinforce the units of the MTS, fill the food supplies and organise a pulling out of the weapons from the battlefield and has to repair the faulty weaponry.

#### GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS

- 1) All soldiers and senior officers have to start wearing winter clothes.
- 2) In the deployment region the combat vehicles and men have to be counted.



- 3) A special effort has to be put into the building of a soldier image, order and the discipline in the unit.
- 4) With a direct involvement of the moral authority and all subjects of the unit, the military collective and the moral units have to be strengthened.
- 5) The movement of citizens, individuals, groups and units has to be forbidden on the deployment region of the unit from 20:00 until 6:00. Stronger patrol units have to be sent to the deployment region, they have to set traps which will without warning open fire on individuals who do not respect the movement curfew.
- 6) Intensify the activities of the scout units in order to collect data on the enemy with a stress on the OMJ and the backup means.
- 7) Organise daily cleaning and oiling of the common weaponry.
- 8) The Military police units have to be engaged on tasks of organising the units.

DR/BC  
 COMMANDER Major-General  
 Dragoljub Arandelović

#### ANNEX 163:

#### LETTER BY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF THE RH

THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
 MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 ZAGREB

cattle left on the farm.

In the morning of the stated day a Chetnik formation of approximately 100 members armed in heavy, infantry, and anti-armour armament, under the command of **Savo Grnović**, the son of Milan, born on 21 July 1950 in Hrvatska Kostajnica, was deployed on the north-east side of the farm and was waiting for the "JNA" tank formations to come. The "JNA" came to the farm from the east and south-east direction. Moving from the direction of the east side of the village of Tenja towards the south-west, **3-5** tanks arrived to the abandoned farm Bricin Bunar where they separated into two groups. One group went in the north-west direction towards "Orlovnjak", and the other continued to go towards the road to Stari Orlovnjak, which was also abandoned. After positioning themselves suitably, the two groups of tanks headed from the directions of Stari Orlovnjak and Bricin Bunar for Orlovnjak. At the same time they opened cannon fire at the first residential buildings (shown on the map in the supplement).

At that time there were approximately 20 civilians (men and women) and approximately 10 defenders who didn't have organized lines of defense, they were mostly used for communication and alarming the line of defense of the villages of Antunovac and Seleš. Since the road towards Seles was cut off, one group of civilians and defenders managed to get out of the farm by running through the corn fields in the north-west direction towards Antunovac.

According to their agreement, after the cannon fire was opened, from the north-east direction an infantry para-military Chetnik formation attacked the farm and shortly after occupied it.

While entering "Orlovnjak" Chetniks killed the following civilians:

Ante Perković  
Stjepan Bartolović  
Mato Škrebek  
Emil Dujmović

and the following members of the National Guard:

Darko Kišurek  
Ivo Vadalj  
Milan Gajčić

On the video-tape recorded by Chetniks (in the supplement) it is shown that all of the killed persons have wounds riddled by bullet shots on the back of head, which confirms the fact that they were murdered intentionally.

During the attack the following civilians were captured: Mato Krajina, born on 29 November 1949 in Dabar, the Sinj municipality, his wife Iva Krajina and Drago Balog, and the following members of the National Guard: Miroslav Varga, Ivica Lovrić, and Franjo Ciraki, who were taken to the village of Tenja.

On arriving in the village of Tenja, after psychological and physical molesting, civilians were locked up in the same room with the Croatian civilians from Tenja who were already there.

Stated military officials were separated and after being questioned in addition every trace of them is lost.

Imprisoned civilians were at the disposal of local commanders and political leaders such as:

Jovo Rebrača  
Dušan Rebrača  
Stevan Radaković  
Savo Grnović  
Željko Celić  
Bozo Vidaković  
Mile Jajić  
Branko Grković

The same civilians had to do housework and agricultural jobs for influential Serbs and for the rest of the time they were locked up in basements.

On 20 April 1992 the 95 Croatians remaining in Tenja were forced out of the village to the free territory of the RC.

According to the available information for the crimes committed in the village of Tenja the criminal procedure is in progress at the District court in Osijek.

206110 Zagreb, 8 September 2000 Zagreb, 8 September 2000

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Office for cooperation with the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court

to the head of the office

...

Case: War crime committed during the attack on the “Orlovnjak” farm, information – delivered.

In the supplement of the official letter we hand over to you available information and a video-tape in relation to the war crimes committed during the attack on the “Orlovnjak” farm, on 6 October 1991.

Sincerely yours,

206110

CHIEF

...

As a part of a plan of ethnic cleansing and occupation of Eastern Slavonija, formations of the so called JNA in cooperation with para-military Chetnik formations and newly formed Serbian local headquarters of Territorial Defence, tried, during the October of 1991, to completely surround the town of Osijek and by constant cannon fire create the psychosis of war and the feeling of fear in order to force the inhabitants to leave Osijek.

In order to achieve that, on 06 October 1991, Chetnik detachments of the village of Tenja, 4 kilometers removed from Osijek in the south-east direction, mostly inhabited with Serbian people, in cooperation with parts of the 12<sup>th</sup> Motorized Brigade Osijek, which partially moved away from the town to the mentioned village, attacked the housing project-farm, “Orlovnjak”. “Orlovnjak” farm is situated 4 kilometers to the south-east of Osijek between the village of Novi Seleš, in the Antunovac municipality, and the village of Tenja. The same farm was owned by the Osijek agricultural corporation, and the number of inhabitants before the war was 161. They were the employees of the Osijek AC with their families and they were different nationalities. Some of them lived in their own residences, while others lived in residences owned by the company. At the beginning of the war conflicts and at the time when barricades were set up, farm Serbs joined their fellow-countrymen in the village of Tenja as well as in the other Serbian bases. Small number of Croats stayed on the farm to take care of the great amount of (...)



**OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS**



**ANNEX 164:  
LIST OF MASS GRAVES IN VUKOVAR-SRIJEM**

Mass Grave	Date	County	Exhumed	Identified	Not Known
Lovas	2-9 Jun 97	Vukovar-Srijem	68	67	1
Lovas	11 Sep 97	Vukovar-Srijem	3	3	0
Bogdanovci	17 Oct 97	Vukovar-Srijem	5	5	0
Bogdanovci	14 Nov 97	Vukovar-Srijem	6	5	1
Bogdanovci	14 Nov 97	Vukovar-Srijem	11	11	0
Tovarnik	22 Jan 98	Vukovar-Srijem	10	7	3
Tovarnik	22 Jan 98	Vukovar-Srijem	10	10	0
Tovarnik	23 Jan 98	Vukovar-Srijem	6	6	0
Tovarnik	27 Jan 98	Vukovar-Srijem	5	5	0
Tovarnik	28 Jan 98	Vukovar-Srijem	17	16	1
Dalj	17 Feb 98	Osijek-Baranja	3	3	0
Dalj	3 March 98	Osijek-Baranja	11	2	9
Berak	25 March 98	Vukovar-Srijem	3	3	0
Ilok-Divlja-Deponija	1 Jun 98	Vukovar-Srijem	3	0	3
Sotin	7 Oct 98	Vukovar-Srijem	12	7	5
Daljski Atar-Globovac	26-28 Oct 98	Osijek-Baranja	23	16	7
Tordinci	4 May 99	Vukovar-Srijem	5	5	0
Berak-Šarviz Dola	11 May 99	Vukovar-Srijem	13	1	12
Berak	24-31 May 99	Vukovar-Srijem	16	13	3
Berak-Bunar	1 Jun 99	Vukovar-Srijem	3	3	0
Ilok-Location 11	6 Sep 99	Vukovar-Srijem	6	1	5
Ilok-Location 1	7 Sep 99	Vukovar-Srijem	5	1	4
Ilok-Location 3	8 Sep 99	Vukovar-Srijem	3	2	1
Total			247	192	55

Mass Grave	Date	County	Exhumed	Identified	Not Known
Ovčara	30 Aug-2 Oct 96	Vukovar-Srijem	200	145	55
New Cemetary Vukovar	26 Jun 98	Vukovar-Srijem	938	722	216
Vukovar, Nova Ulica	12 Oct 99	Vukovar-Srijem	10	6	4
Borovo Selo	20 Sep	Vukovar-Srijem	3	0	3
Total			1151	873	278

**ANNEX 165:  
LIST OF EXHUMED MASS GRAVES, POŽEGA-SLAVONIA**

Mass Grave	Date	County	Exhumed	Identified
Orlovnjak	18 Feb 97	Požega-Slavonia	3	3

**ANNEX 166:  
MASS GRAVES OF EASTERN SLAVONIA**

Location of Mass Grave	Date of Exhumation	Number of Exhumed	Number of Identified	Age Range ( Identified)				Gender	
				> 18	18-55	55 <	Unknown	M	F
ORLOVNJAK	18 February 1997	3	3	0	2	0	1	3	0
MARINOVCI	26 March 1997	4	4	0	4	0	0	4	0
ERNESTINOV O	24 April 1997	5	5	0	4	1	0	4	1
ANTUNOVAC	25 April 1997	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	3
BILJE	21 August 1997	7	7	0	3	4	0	6	1
BILJE	21 August 1997	3	3	0	1	2	0	1	2
BILJE	21 August 1997	5	5	0	3	2	0	3	2
BETIN DVOR	26 February 1998	7	7	0	2	5	0	4	3
DALJ	27 February 1998	3	3	0	3	0	0	3	0
DALJ	3 March 1998	11	2	0	2	0	0	11	0



Location of Mass Grave	Date of Exhumation	Number of Exhumed	Number of Identified	Age Range ( Identified)				Gender	
				> 18	18-55	55 <	Unknow n	M	F
BELI MANASTIR	15 April 1998	5	5	0	4	1	0	3	2
BELI MANASTIR	15 April 1998	3	3	0	0	2	1	2	1
ERDUT	22 October 1998	7	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
DALJSKI ATAR- GLOGOVAC	26-28 October 1998	23	16	0	4	12	0	15	8
ERDUT	1-4 February 1999.	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
OVČARA	30 August-2 October 1996	200	145	2	136	6	1	198	2
CERIĆ	11 March 1997	3	2	0	0	2	0	3	0
LOVAS	2-9 June 1997	68	67	1	46	19	1	59	9
ST. JANKOVCI	3 September 1997	3	3	0	0	0	3	1	2
LOVAS	11 September 1997	3	3	0	0	0	3	1	2
SLAKOVCI	16 October 1997	3	3	0	1	2	0	3	0
BOGDANOV CI	17 October 1997	5	5	0	0	5	0	2	3
BOGDANOV CI	14 November 1997	6	5	0	1	2	2	5	1
BOGDANOV CI	14 November 1997	11	11	0	11	0	0	11	0
PETROVCI	8 December 1997	4	3	0	3	0	0	4	0
TOVARNIK	22 January 1998	10	7	1	2	4	0	8	2
TOVARNIK	22 January 1998	10	10	0	5	5	0	8	2
TOVARNIK	23 January 1998	6	6	0	3	3	0	5	1
TOVARNIK	27 January 1998	5	5	0	2	3	0	3	2
TOVARNIK	28 January 1998	17	16	0	6	10	0	15	2
MOHOVO	30 January 1998	4	3	1	0	2	0	2	2
MARINCI	13 February 1998	6	6	0	0	5	1	4	2
MARINCI	13 February 1998	4	4	0	1	3	0	2	2
MARINCI, LOK.1	16 February 1998	4	1	1	0	0	0	4	0
MARINCI, LOK. 2	16 February 1998	4	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

Location of Mass Grave	Date of Exhumation	Number of Exhumed	Number of Identified	Age Range ( Identified)				Gender	
				> 18	18-55	55 <	Unknow n	M	F
STARI JANKOVCI	19 February 1998	4	4	0	3	1	0	2	2
NOVI JANKOVCI	19 February 1998	3	3	0	0	3	0	1	2
SVINJAREVC I	20 February 1998	3	3	0	3	0	0	2	1
SVINJAREVC I	20 February 1998	3	3	0	0	3	0	2	1
SVINJAREVC I	20 February 1998	3	3	0	1	2	0	3	0
ČELIJE	23 February 1998	14	8	0	6	2	0	13	1
BERAK	25 March 1998	3	3	0	0	1	2	1	2
BRŠADIN	14 May 1998	3	3	0	3	0	0	3	0
ILOK-DIVLJA DEPONJA	1 June 1998	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
NOVO GROBLJE VUKOVAR	28 June 1998	938	718	12	404	281	21	706	232
SOTIN	7 October 1998	12	7	0	7	0	0	12	0
NEGOSLAVC I	9 October 1998	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	1
ČELIJE	14 October 1998	16	13	0	8	5	0	16	0
MIKLUŠEVCI	19 April 1999	3	3	0	1	2	0	2	1
ANTIN, CAREV RIBNJAK	22 April 1999	8	4	0	2	2	0	7	1
TORDINCI	4 May 1999	5	5	0	4	1	0	5	0
ČAKOVCI	10 May 1999	6	3	0	3	0	0	6	0
BERAK- ŠARVIZ DOLA	11 May 1999	13	1	0	0	1	0	12	1
NEGOSLAVC I	12 May 1999	3	3	0	3	0	0	2	1
BERAK	24-31 May 1999	16	13	0	8	5	0	15	1
BERAK- BUNAR	1 June 1999	3	3	0	2	1	0	1	2
ILOK, LOK.11.	6 September 1999	6	1	0	0	1	0	6	0
ILOK LOK 1.	7 September 1999	5	1	0	0	0	1	4	1
ILOK, LOK. 3.	8 September 1999	3	2	0	1	0	1	3	0

Location of Mass Grave	Date of Exhumation	Number of Exhumed	Number of Identified	Age Range ( Identified)				Gender	
				> 18	18-55	55 <	Unknow n	M	F
VUKOVAR, NOVA ULICA	12 October 1999	10	6	2	4	0	0	5	5
BOROVO	20 September 2000	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1561</b>	<b>1186</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1245</b>	<b>316</b>

Government of the Republic of Croatia – Commission for  
Missing and Detained Persons

**ANNEX 167:  
RECORD OF DISSECTION NO.101/98 (OVERVIEW OF EXHUMED REMAINS FROM THE  
VILLAGE OF BERAK)**

First, last name: Ivica Potočki  
Occupation: ?  
Age: 25  
Date of death: 2 Sep 1991  
Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998  
Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić  
Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton, decomposed.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.14, no.228) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:**

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

**AUTOPSY:**

---

**CONCLUSION:**

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age of 23,4. Average height 179-181 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and found clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Ivica Potočki**.

The fracture of the lower jaw indicates an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of shrapnel caused by an explosive device or a projectile fired from a firearm or actions with a hard and blunt object.

Autopsy physician:

Dr. Anto Blažanović

Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.91/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Marija Manjoš

Occupation: ?

Age: 85

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Date of death: 19 Jan 1992

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: (illegible)

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.1, no.219) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age older than 70, average height 154-155 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Marija Manjoš**.

The fractures of the right shoulder blade and ribs on the right side indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician:

Dr. Anto Blažanović

Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.90/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Anka Cucić

Occupation: ?

Age: 71

Date of death: 16 Feb 1992

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: (illegible)

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.10, no.224) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age 60-70, average height 159-160 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Anka Cucić**.

Multiple fractures of the right shoulder blade and ribs on the right side indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician: Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.95/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Ljubica Marić\*

Occupation: ?

Age: 33

Date of death: 31 Oct 1992

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after six years, skeleton, partially decomposed.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.9, no.226) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age 30-32, average height 171-175 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Ljubica Marić**.

Cause of death cannot be determined due to no signs of trauma on the skeleton.

Autopsy physician:  
Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.92/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Kata Garvanović

Occupation: ?

Age: 85

Date of death: 09 Sep 1991

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.3, no.220) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age 75-85, average height 155-156 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Kata Garvanović**.

Cause of death cannot be determined due to no signs of trauma on the skeleton.

Autopsy physician:  
Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.93/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Tomislav Gvozdanić

Occupation: ?

Age: 32

Date of death: 03 Sep 1992  
Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Asst. Autopsist: Anto Bratić  
Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton, mummified.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.11, no.225) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 28-32, average height 172-173 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Tomislav Gvozdanović**.

Multiple fractures of the skull arch with a clear defect, which indicate an entrance wound indicating an **unnatural, violent death**, as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician: Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.94/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: unknown  
Occupation: ?  
Age: ?  
Date of death: ?  
Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Asst. Autopsist: Anto Bratić  
Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after six-seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.15, no.229) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 42-44.5, average height 172-173 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles the identity of the subject could not be concluded.

Multiple fractures of the skull arch with a clear defect, which indicate an entrance wound indicating an **unnatural, violent death**, as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician: Dr. Anto Blažanović, Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.95/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: unknown

Occupation: ?

Age: ?

Date of death: ?

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after six-seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.12, no.227) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 48-58, average height 161-162 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles the identity of the subject could not be concluded.

Cause of death cannot be determined due to no signs of trauma on the skeleton.

Autopsy physician: Dr. Anto Blažanović, Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.97/98



(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Ljubica Potočki

Occupation: ?

Age: 57

Date of death: 27 Dec 1991

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst. Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.1, no.218) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age 58-60, average height 161 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Ljubica Potočki**.

The fracture of the right scapula and several ribs on the right side, fracture of the right femur indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm or shrapnel from an explosive device.

Autopsy physician:

Dr. Anto Blažanović

Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.98/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Nada Juratovac

Occupation: ?

Age: 57

Date of death: 04 Oct 1991

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst. Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.7, no.222) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is female, average age 58-60, average height 158-159 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Nada Juratovac**.

Cause of death cannot be determined due to no signs of trauma on the skeleton.

Autopsy physician:

Dr. Anto Blažanović

Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.100/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Jozo Mrkonjić

Occupation: ?

Age: 27

Date of death: 02 Sep 1991

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.8, no.223) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 28, average height 176-178 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Jozo Mrkonjić**.

Multiple fractures of the skull bones indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of shrapnel from an explosive device or projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician:  
Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.99/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Ivica Ore  
Occupation: ?  
Age: 60  
Date of death: 02 Sep 1991  
Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998

Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Asst.Autopsist: Anto Bratić  
Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.6, no.221) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

AUTOPSY:

---

CONCLUSION:

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 61.2-64, average height 185-188 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Ivica Ore**.

Fracture of the pelvis, both femurs, left scapula, left fibula, sacrum and vertebrae indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of shrapnel from an explosive device or projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician:  
Dr. Anto Blažanović  
Pathologist

RECORD OF DISSECTION no.89/98

(Overview of exhumed remains from the village of Berak)

First, last name: Janko Latković

Occupation: ?

Age: 61 Autopsist: Dr. Anto Blažanović

Date of death: 14 Mar 1991 Asst. Autopsist: Anto Bratić

Date of dissection: 25 Mar 1998 Record taker: Ružica Petković

NOTE: Body exhumed after seven years, skeleton.

On 25 Mar 1998, in the village of Berak (loc.1, no.217) an exhumation was conducted of human mortal remains.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION AND AUTOPSY:**

Examination of clothing and objects:

---

**AUTOPSY:**

---

**CONCLUSION:**

Through the examination it can be concluded that the subject is male, average age 61-65, average height 172-173 cm.

Based on the examination of the skeleton and clothing articles it was concluded that the subject is **Janko Latković**.

Multiple fractures of the skull bones and the right humus indicate an **unnatural, violent death**, probably as a result of a projectile fired from a firearm.

Autopsy physician:

Dr. Anto Blažanović

Pathologist

**ANNEX 168:**

**RECORDS OF THE AUTOPSY OF THE BODIES OF THE MEMBERS OF ZNG AND MUP OF RH IN THE FILE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF OSIJEK NO. K-95/94...**

RECORD ON AUTOPSY: 335/91

The Osijek District Court

...

Name and surname: Dražen Kiš (20)

Age: 21

Occupation: member of the National Guard Corps

Date of death: 1 August 1991

Date of autopsy: 5 August 1991

NOTE: He died as a member of the National Guard Corps in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj.

EXTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

INTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

PATHOLOGICAL AND ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

*Status putrefactionis gradus gravis.*

Advanced decomposition changes.

*Vulnera sclopetaria capitis et extremitatum.*

Shot wounds in the head and limbs.

*Fractura baseos cranii, maxillae et mandibulae lateris dextri.*

The fracture of skull base and of right side of upper and lower jaw.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Vulnus sclopetarium capitis.

Shot wound in the head.

OPINION

By the external examination and autopsy of the late Dražen Kiš (20), it has been established that he died a violent death as the result of shot wound in the head.

...

RECORD ON AUTOPSY: 339/91

The Osijek District Court

...

Name and surname: Dragan Cesarec (24)

Age: 21

Occupation: member of the National Guard Corps

Date of death: 1 August 1991

Date of autopsy: 5 August 1991

NOTE: He died as a member of the Croatian National Guard Corps in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj.

EXTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...INTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

PATHOLOGICAL AND ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

*Vulnera sclopetaria capitis et thoracis.*

Shot wounds in the head and thorax.

*Stadium putrefactionis.*

The state of decomposition changes.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Vulnus sclopetaria capitis et thoracis.

Shot wounds in the head and thorax.

OPINION

According to information, Cesarec Dragan (24) died in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj as a member of the Croatian National Guard Corps.

...

All wounds are inflicted by five missiles launched from firearms from a distance, which can not be established with certainty due to the decomposition changes.

All wound are inflicted while he was still alive. He dies instantly.

He died a violent death.

RECORD ON AUTOPSY: 340/91

The Osijek District Court, Investigative Centre

...

Name and surname: Željko Roguljić (25)

Age: 27

Occupation: member of the National Guard Corps

Date of death: 1 August 1991

Date of autopsy: 5 August 1991

NOTE: He died as a member of the Croatian National Guard Corps in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj.

EXTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

INTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

PATHOLOGICAL AND ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

*Vulnera sclopetaria abdominothoracalis at extremitatum.*

Shot wounds in the abdomen, thorax and limbs.

*Fractura comminutiva femoris dextri.*

Fracture of the right upper leg.

*Fractura comminutiva pelveos lateris dextri.*

Fracture of the right side of the pelvis.

*Fractura costarum X et XI lateris dextri.*

Fracture of the tenth and eleventh right ribs.

*Laesio pulmonis dextri.*

Injury of the right lung.

*Fractura comminutiva maxillae, mandibulae osium nasarium, baseos et calvariae cranii.*

Fractures of the upper and lower jaw, nose bone, arcade and base of the skull.

#### THE CAUSE OF DEATH

*Vulnera sclopetaria abdominothoracalis.*

Shot wound in the abdomen and thorax.

#### OPINION

By the external examination and autopsy of the dead body marked with no. 25 (it was subsequently identified as Roguljić Željko), it has been established that he died a violent death as the result of shot wound in the abdomen and thorax...

...

By the external examination, serious destruction of the whole face and front part of the arcade and base of the skull were established. This injury was most probably caused by the shrapnel, which were released from a large shell that exploded.

RECORD ON AUTOPSY: 322/91

The Osijek District Court

...

Name and surname: Josip Kraštek (7)

Age: 21

Occupation: reservist of the MUP

Date of death: 1 August 1991

Date of autopsy: 5 August 1991

NOTE: He died as a member of the reservist unit of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior (MUP) in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj.

#### EXTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

#### INTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

#### PATHOLOGICAL AND ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

*Vulnera sclopetaria capitis thoracis thoracis et extremitatum.*

Shot wounds in the head, body, and limbs.

Fractura comminutiva cranii.

Fracture of the arcade and base of the skull.

Fractura costarum VII-IX dextri et I-IX sinistri.

Serial fracture of the ribs on the both sides.

Fractura vertebrae thoracalis VII-X.

Fracture of the breast spinal column from VII-X.

Fractura pelveos lateris sinistri.

Fracture of the left side of the pelvis.

Laesio pulmonum et aortae thoracalis.

Injury of both lungs and aorta.

Laesio intestini tenui et hepatis.

Injury of the small intestine and liver.

#### THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Vulnera sclopetaria capitis et thoracis.

Shot wounds in the head and thorax.

#### OPINION

By the external examination and autopsy of the dead body marked with no. 7 of Josip Kreštak, it has been established that he died a violent death as the result of shot wounds in the head and thorax...

...

RECORD ON AUTOPSY: 330/91

The Osijek District Court

...

Name and surname: Ivan Dizdar (15)

Age: 24

Occupation: member of the National guard Corps

Date of death: 1 August 1991

Date of autopsy: 5 August 1991

NOTE: He died as a member of the Croatian National Guard Corps in a conflict with the terrorists in Dalj.

#### EXTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

#### INTERNAL MEDICAL FINDINGS

...

#### PATHOLOGICAL AND ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

*Vulnera sclopetaria capitis thoracis, abdominis et extremitatum.*

Shot wounds in the head, thorax, abdomen and limbs.

Fractura calvariae et baseos cranii.

Fracture of the arcade and base of the skull.

Fractura rami dextri mandibulae.

Fracture of the right side of the lower jaw.

Fractura femoris dextri.

Fracture of the right femur.



Status putrefactionis gradus gravis.

Advanced decomposition changes.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH

Vulnus sclopetarium capitis.

Shot wound in the head.

OPINION

By the external examination and autopsy of the late Disdar Ivan (15), it has been established that he died a violent death as the result of shot wound in the head...

(...)

**ANNEX 168A:  
UNHCR LIST OF EXPELLED PERSONS FROM BAPSKA, 29 JUNE 1995**

NAME	DOB	POB
1. SCHLEINKEFER, Filip Family members in Croatia: S.M., ...		
2. DRENOVSKI, Stevo		
3. DRENOVSKI, Ana Family members in Croatia: B.K., ...		
4. ŽERAVICA, Stjepan		
5. ŽERAVICA, Bozica		
6. ŽERAVICA, Ilija Family members in Croatia: Ž., I., ...		
7. TOMAŠIĆ, Mihael		
8. TOMAŠIĆ, Ana		
9. TOMAŠIĆ, Domagoj		
10. TOMAŠIĆ, Anka Family members in Croatia: C., D., ...		
11. RUKOVANJSKI, Marica Family members in Croatia: none, R., I., ...		
12. TUSTANJIĆ, Ivan		
13. TUSTANJIĆ, Marija		
14. TUSTANJIĆ, Ferdinand Family members in Croatia: none		
15. ADAMEC, Ivan		
16. ADAMEC, Marija Family members in Croatia: A., J., ...		

17. ŠKARICA, Ivan  
 18. ŠKARICA, Eva  
 Family members in Croatia S., A., ...
19. RUMBERGER, Tomislav  
 20. RUMBERGER, Lukrecija  
 21. RUMBERGER, Josipa  
 22. RUMBERGER, Katarina  
 23. RUMBERGER, Marko  
 24. RUMBERGER, Ivana  
 Family members in Croatia: R., Z., ...
- ...
25. ZOVKO, Stjepan  
 26. ZOVKO, Božica  
 27. ZOVKO, Milenko  
 28. ZOVKO, Ljiljana  
 29. ZOVKO, Josip  
 Family members in Croatia: none
30. MIHALJEVIĆ, Katica  
 31. MIHALJEVIĆ, Pavo  
 Family members in Croatia: R., R., ...
32. MANDIĆ, Manda  
 33. MANDIĆ, Ivica  
 Family members in Croatia: P., S., ...
34. KRSTAVAC, Ivan  
 Family members in Croatia: K., E. ...
35. DASOVIĆ, Nikola  
 36. DASOVIĆ, Ana  
 Family members in Croatia D., M., ...
37. ĐURAKOVIĆ, Antun  
 38. ĐURAKOVIĆ, Marija  
 Family members in Croatia: Đ., M., ...
39. ASIĆ, Josip  
 Family members in Croatia: A., R., ...
40. BOHNIČKA, Josip  
 Family members in Croatia: B., M., ...
41. KOLAK, Ana  
 42. JURINA, Katica

43. TOMAŠEK, Marija  
Family members in Croatia: none
44. GRLIČIĆ, Vladimir
45. GRLIČIĆ, Josip
46. GRLIČIĆ, Ana  
Family members in Croatia G., D. ...
- ...
47. DUVNJAK, Božo
48. DUVNJAK, Božica  
Family members in Croatia: D., M. ...
49. MAJAČIĆ, Djuro
50. MAJAČIĆ, Marija
51. MAJAČIĆ, Monika
52. MAJAČIĆ, Adam
53. ĐUĐAR, Vlado  
Family members in Croatia: M., D. and M., A., ...
54. DRENOVSKI, Josip
55. DRENOVSKI, Marija
56. DRENOVSKI, Marija  
Family members in Croatia none L., A. ...
57. JANEGA, Josip  
Family members in Croatia: J.Z. ...: M., A., ...  
in ...
58. VUCEMILOVIĆ – VRANJIĆ, Marija ...  
,Croatia  
Family members in Croatia: R. J. ...
59. RUKAVINA, Mihajla
60. SUKNOVIĆ, Evica
61. SUKNOVIĆ, Stjepan  
Family members in Croatia: R., J. ...
62. RORA, Marijan
63. RORA, Ana  
Family members in Croatia: R., S. and A., ...  
...in ... and ... in ...
64. CVITKOVIĆ, Šima
65. CVITKOVIĆ, Marko

Family members in Croatia none

66. SUKNOVIĆ, Marija  
67. SUKNOVIĆ, Franjo  
Family members in Croatia S., K., ...

68. GRLIČIĆ, Ana.  
69. GRLIČIĆ, Marijan.  
Family members in Croatia B., K. ...

...

**ANNEX 168B:  
EXHUMATION DOCUMENT – LOVAS**

**THE RECORD**

From June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

was drawn up in the name of the District Court in Osijek in connection to a criminal subject against the accused Ljuban Devetak and others, on account of a criminal offence under article 120 sub-section 1, article 121 and article 130 of OKZRH, concerning the performed excavation of the mass grave at Lovas village and the exhumation of the dead bodies of inhabitants of the village Lovas, that were killed off one by one in October of 1991 after units of the former Yugoslav People's Army and irregular Chetnik formations had entered the village, and that were buried in the mass grave in the local cemetery.

PRESENT ON BEHALF OF THE COURT:  
THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGE: VLADIMIR ZOBUNDŽIJA

Commencement at 9.00 AM

It is established that the procedure of exhumation lasted from June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997 till finally June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997.

On every day of those days at 8.00 AM they were going from a control point UNTAES Vinkovci – Mirkovci to the local cemetery at Lovas. The work continued until 5.00 PM when all of the work stopped, the tools were put in order and they returned to Vinkovci using the same road.

The work began at around 9.00 AM and that is how long the journey from Vinkovci to the scene of the exhumation lasted.

On Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997 the work continued until 6.00 PM.

PRESENT:  
THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

Stjepan Peričak – an authorized official, was present on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997 and on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997

Robert Hostonski – an authorized official, was present on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

Branko Mikulić – a criminal technician, was present the whole time during the exhumation

Ante Lovrić – a criminal technician, was present the whole time during the exhumation

#### THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONFINED AND MISSING PERSONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Ivan Grujić – the chairman of the Commission, was present on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

Petar Kljaić – a member of the Commission, was present on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997

Ante Kujić – a member of the Commission, was present every day except June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997

Višnja Bilić – a member of the Commission, was present on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

Tonći Blagajić – a member of the Commission, was present on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997

#### THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Mr. Sc. Dr. Drinko Baličević – a pathologist, a doctor-expert, was present the whole time during the exhumation. In terms of article 235 subsection 1 of the Criminal Law Proceedings, before the beginning of the exhumation a doctor-expert has to carefully examine the subject of the expert opinion. He/she has to state everything that he/she observes and discovers and he/she has to expound his/her opinion impartially and in keeping with the regulations of science or skill. The expert is warned that giving a false testimony is a criminal offence.

Izidor Skec – an assistant of the doctor-expert, was present the whole time during the exhumation

#### THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Branko Bekavac – a captain, was present the whole time during the exhumation

Mladen Neralić – a leader of the team in charge of the exhumation, was present the whole time during the exhumation as well as members of the team:

Slavko Radoš  
 Josip Šantek  
 Ivica Vitez  
 Josip Zugaj  
 Damir Zak  
 Zoran Bajš  
 Boris Bastaga

#### THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT FOR THE TERRITORY OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA – HAGUE

mr. John Gerb – a forensic doctor, was present the whole time during the exhumation

Clint Williamson – an investigative judge, was present on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997 and on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997

dr. Šimona Vuletić – an interpreter, was present the whole time during the exhumation

#### THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FOR MONITORING MISSION ( ECMM )

Inger Elisabeth Guddal – was present the whole time during the exhumation

Gerard Navrille – was present on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997

Manuel Antonio – was present on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997

Ksenija Škreblin – an interpreter, was present on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997

Gordana Makilić – an interpreter, was present on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997

Mira Medić – an interpreter, was present on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

#### THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ( ICRC )

Pierre Gentile – was present on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997

Tanja Šibinčić – an interpreter, was present on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997

#### THE CIVIL POLICE UNITS OF THE UNTAES – SPECIAL PROJECTS

Kelly Patrick – was present every day during the exhumation

Allison Chapman – was present on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997

Ann-Marie Kelly – was present on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1997, on June 7<sup>th</sup> 1997 and on June 8<sup>th</sup> 1997

Biljana Ledeničan – an interpreter, was present the whole time during the exhumation

A formation of the Jordan's battalion, as a component of the International forces, extends the security.

Marijana Živković, an employee of the District Court in Osijek, writes the record.

The mass grave is to be found on the local cemetery at the village of Lovas.

There is a chapel at the local cemetery. It is placed approximately in the center of the cemetery. The entrance of the chapel is facing north.

There is a concrete path leading from the chapel and along the northern side of the cemetery.

The southeast corner of the chapel is taken as a fixed point for following measurements.

For further measurements, a vertical 18,80 meters long is extended from the fixed point to the west. There is a vertical 18,00 meters long extended from that point to the north, that is in the direction of the above-mentioned concrete path. That point is taken as a starting point for further measurements. The excavation began from that place. A width of 3,10 meters was dug to the west. It was dug 35,90 meters to the north.

The whole excavation was 35,90 meters long, the starting point for further measurements is the southeast corner of the very grave.

When 4,10 meters were measured vertically from the starting point to the west, it comes upon a point from where an axis was extended along the west side of the excavation to the north. That is the axis for further measurements.

Through the middle of that width of 3,10 meters, there is a hummock that starts at 4,50 meters along the concrete path and leads to the south. The hummock is at its bottom 1,10 meters wide and at its upper part is 0,70 meters wide. There are natural flowers planted on the hummock and there are artificial flowers. There are no weeds on the hummock – it is clean. The hummock is high – up to 0,50 meter. On the right side and on the left side of the hummock the grass is cleaned from the area of 1,40 meters wide, so that the area is completely clean, and the bleak ground can be seen.

During the excavation of the mass grave, which is to be found on the place where the above-described hummock is – according to facts that were gathered as a preliminary, the ground is carefully taken off from the whole width of 3,10 meters. When the first dead bodies were found, it was established that they are lying on the width from 0,80 meters to 1,00 meter and that they were probably buried in a shaft that was dug by an excavator. After that, a canal towards the concrete path is dug on both sides of the place where the dead bodies are. Therefore, the ground, where the excavator dug a shaft in which dead bodies were buried, stayed in the middle between two drainage ditches. In this way, it was easier to observe dead bodies and to exhume them afterwards.

The excavation was performed, as it was above mentioned – from the south to the north, by using an excavator and, as circumstances required hand tools.

Before the removing of earth, bodies were labeled with ordinal numbers only for the records. At some parts of the excavation piles of dead bodies were come across and it was suspected that between them more dead bodies, that were covered with those that could be seen, were to be found. Those dead bodies that weren't spotted will get an ordinal number if and when they are found.

During the exhumation, every dead body will be labeled with a unique number for the entire Republic of Croatia, with a number of the location and a name of the location. Then it will be transported, in a black plastic bag with a label, to the Institute for Forensic Medicine at the Medical School in Zagreb in order to make the autopsy and the identification.

During the excavation on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1997 11 dead bodies were come across that were marked with ordinal numbers from 1 to 11.

During the excavation on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997, 25 dead bodies were found. Those that were found on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1997 were marked with ordinal numbers from 12 to 25.

During the excavation on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997 52 dead bodies were come across. Those that were found on June 4<sup>th</sup> 1997 were marked with ordinal numbers from 26 to 52.

On 4<sup>th</sup> 1997, the excavation was completed and the depth of 1,70 meters was reached.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> 1997, the exhumation of dead bodies began.

Before the beginning of the exhumation, General Klein came together with his escort. A Catholic priest that was in the general's escort prayed on the mass grave for the dead in English and Croatian.

Representatives of the Ministry of Justice from Washington were also present. They were John Deangelis and Steve Hargrof.

After the ceremony of prayer that lasted a few minutes had finished and after Mr. Klein with his escort and representatives of the Ministry of Justice from Washington had examined the mass grave closely, the exhumation began.

It is headed from the north towards south because it was estimated that this direction is more suitable for the exhumation.